

THE BOOK OF ACTS:

The birth, growth, and progress of the church

Original Author: Luke, Ph.D

Sunday, AD 60 - 62

Sugar Land BC Press

THE LINK BETWEEN THE GOSPELS & THE NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLES.

CHAPTER 1: The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen. To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me, for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem

from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying: that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons was there together), and said, "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was counted among us and received his share in this ministry." (Now this man acquired a field with the price of his wickedness, and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out. And it became known to all who were living in Jerusalem; so that in their own language that field was called Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'LET HIS HOMESTEAD BE MADE DESOLATE, AND LET NO ONE DWELL IN IT'; and 'LET ANOTHER MAN TAKE HIS OFFICE.' Therefore it is necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us—beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection." So they



And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Acts 2:3-4



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

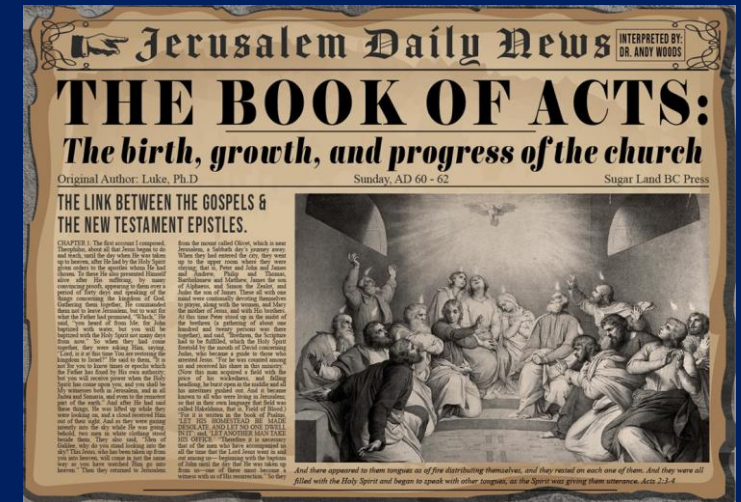
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Acts 6:1–15

First Deacons & Stephen's Arrest

I. Appointment of the First Deacons (6:1-7)

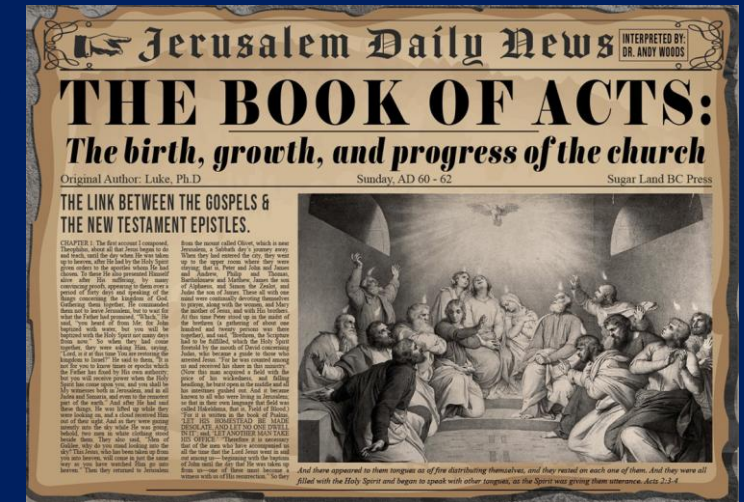
II. Stephen's Arrest (6:8-15)



First Deacons & Stephen's Arrest

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II. Stephen's Arrest (6:8-15)



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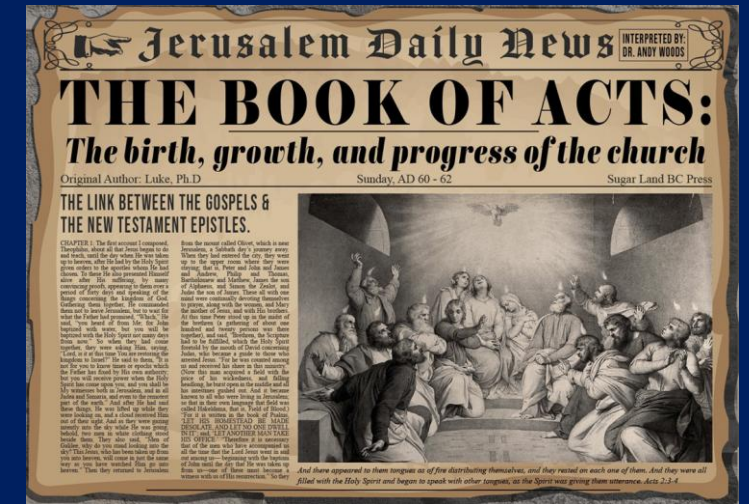
Acts 6:1-7

A. Occasion (1)

B. Apostles' advice (2-4)

C. Appointment (5-6)

D. Results (7)



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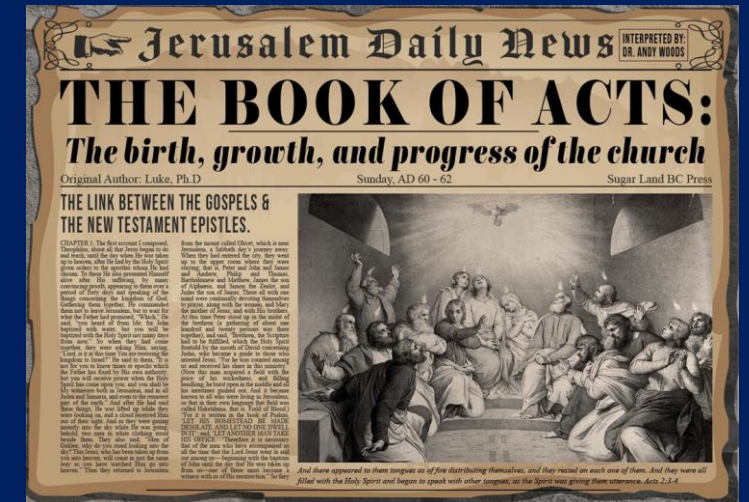
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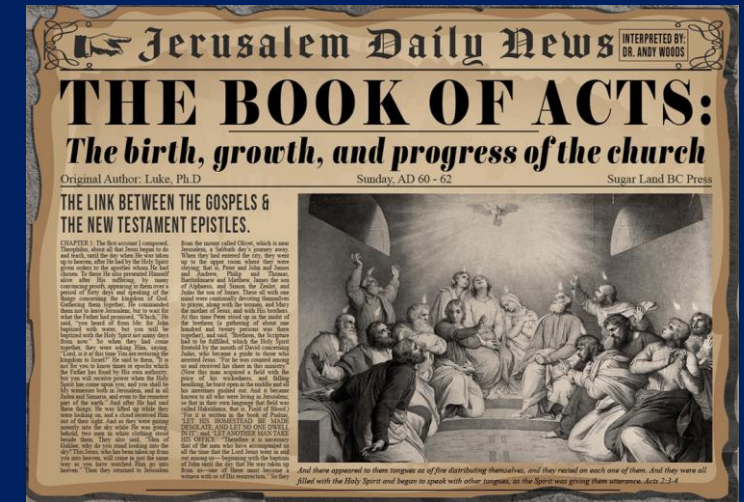


A. Acts 6:1

Occasion

1. Timing (1a)

2. Circumstances (1b)

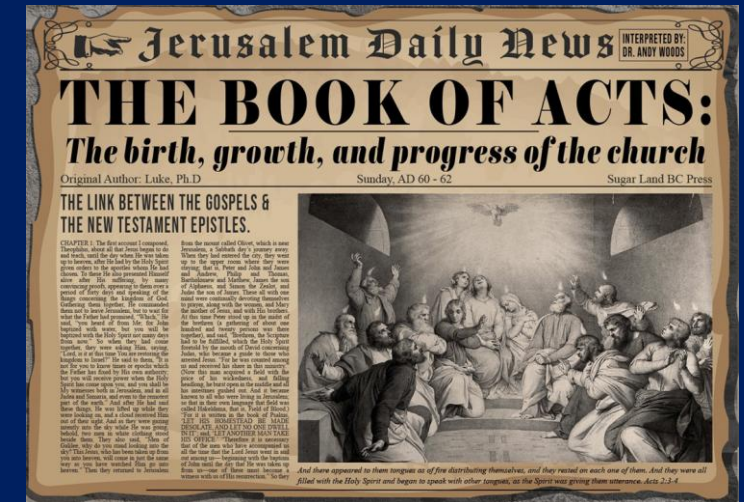


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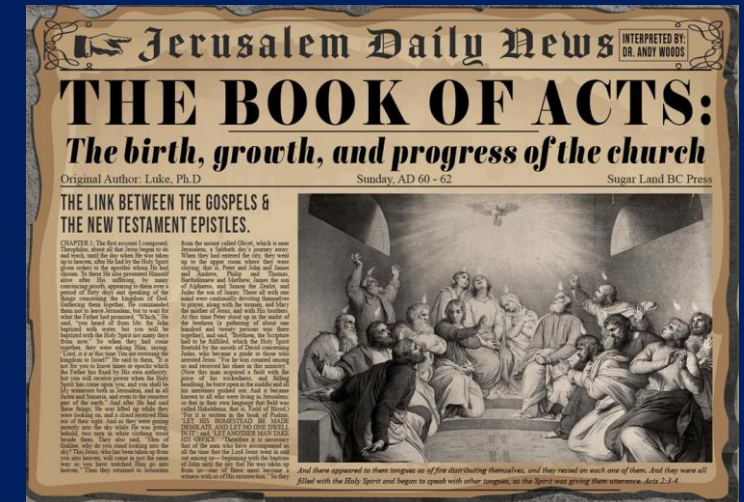


A. Acts 6:1

Occasion

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2. Circumstances (1b)



Purposes of the Local Church



- Glorify God (Eph 3:21)
- Edify the saints (Eph 4:11-16)
- Fulfill the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20)

Three Tenses of Salvation

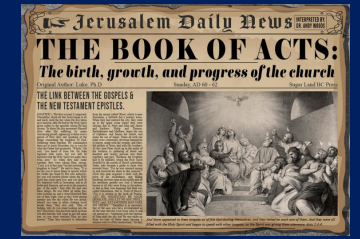
Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

Matthew 16:18

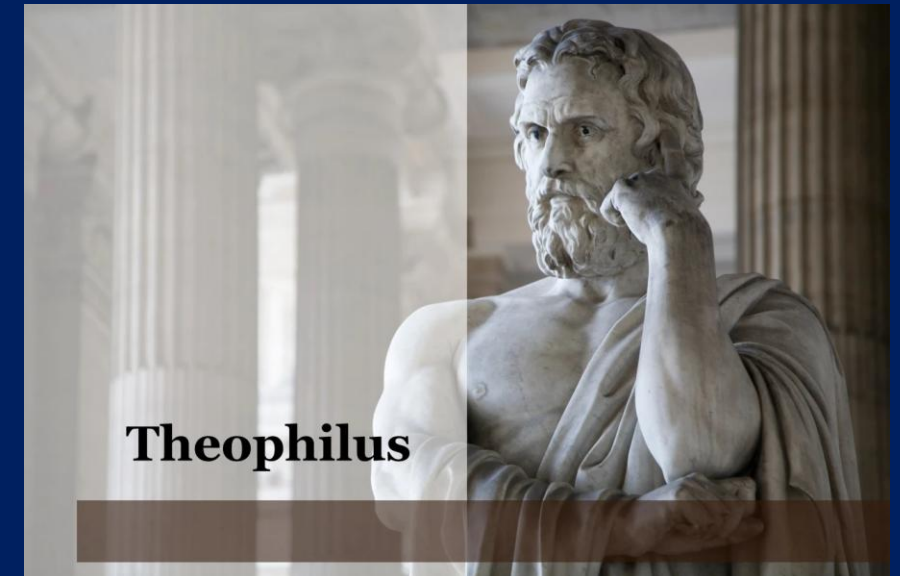
“I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock **! WILL build** [*oikodomeō*] My church; and the gates of Hades **WILL NOT overpower** it.”



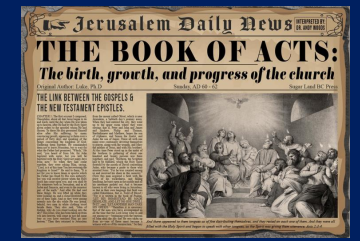
Purpose



- To present Theophilus with an orderly account of the birth and growth of the church so as to affirm him in what he has believed.



Message



- Birth and growth of the church numerically, geographically, ethnically.
- Components
 - Numerically (progress reports)
 - Geographically (From Jerusalem to Rome)
 - Ethnically (From Judaism to Gentile domination)



THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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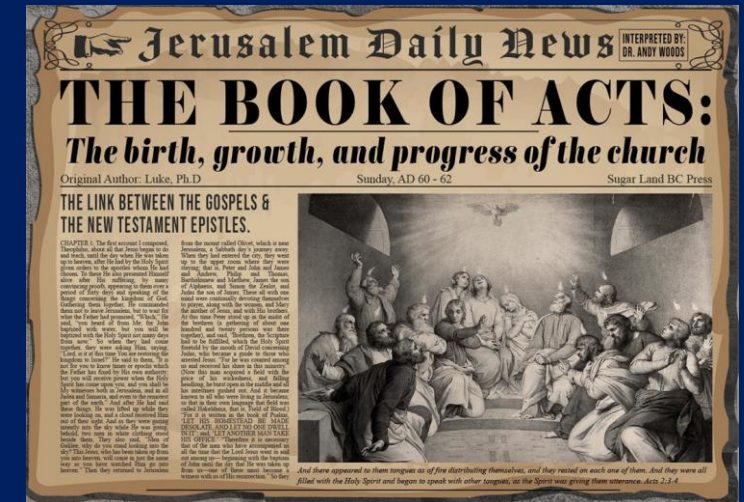
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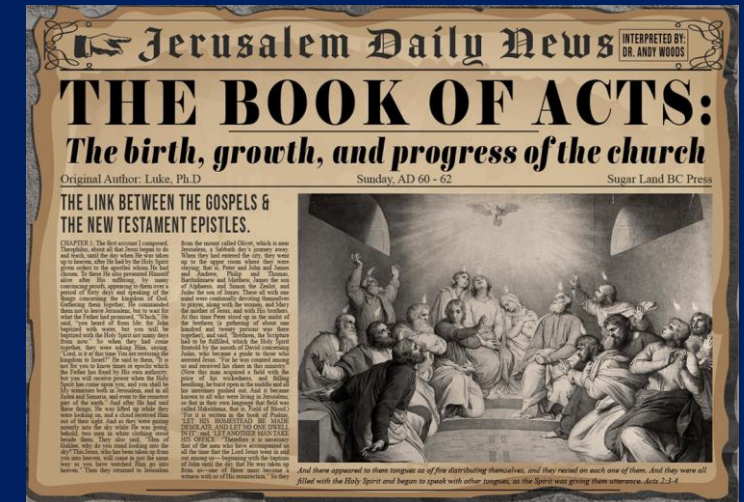
B. Acts 6:2-4

Apostolic Advice

1. Advice (2)

2. Qualifications (3)

3. Apostolic responsibility (4)



Local Church Government

- Episcopalian/bishop rule – Acts 15:2, 6
- Congregational rule – Acts 6:1-7
- Presbyterian/elder rule – Acts 20:28; 1 Tim 5:17; 4:14

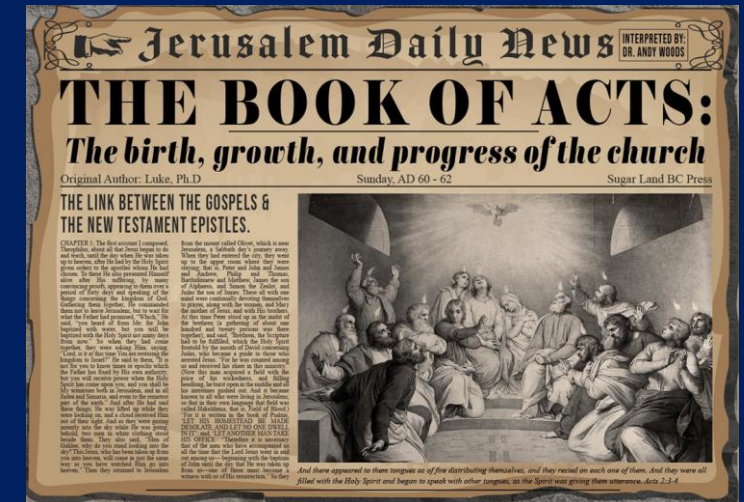
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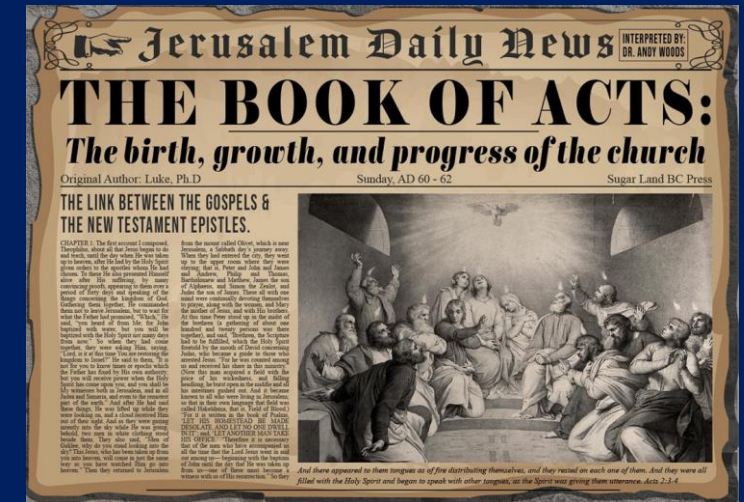
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Acts 6:3a

Deacon Qualifications

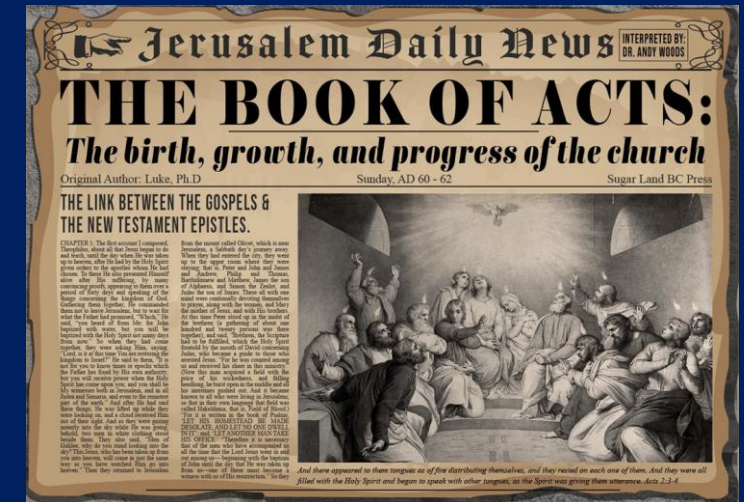
1. Believers
2. Males
3. Reputable
4. Spiritual
5. Wise



Acts 6:3a

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1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (NKJV)

¹ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to **spiritual people** but as to **carnal**, as to **babes** in Christ. ² I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it*, and even now you are still not able; ³ **for you are still carnal**. For where *there are* envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you **not carnal** and behaving like *mere men*?



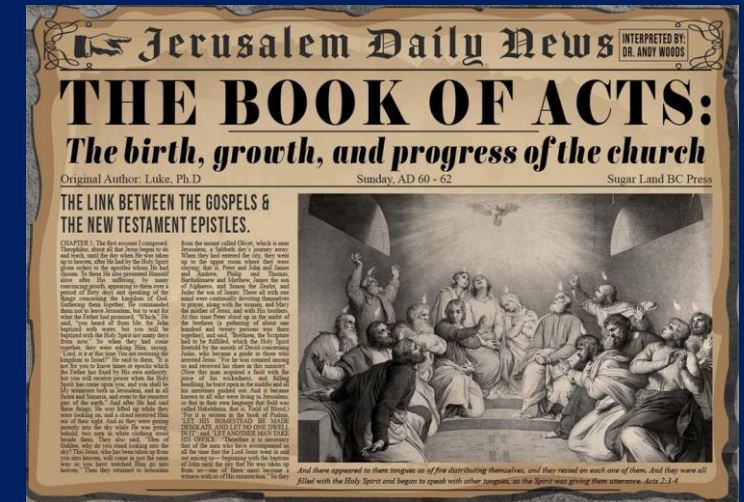
4 Kinds of People from 1 Corinthians 3:1-3



Acts 6:3a

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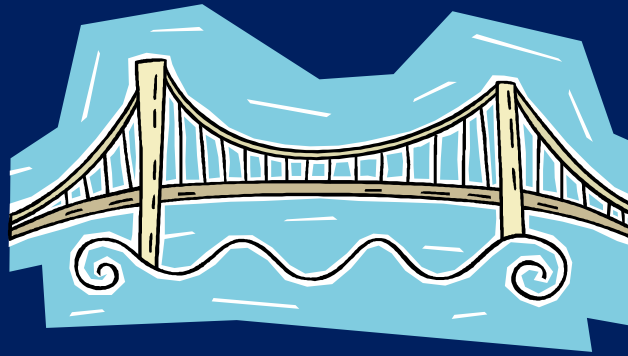
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Ephesians 4:1

Therefore...

1-3



4-6

EPHESIANS: WHAT IS INSIDE?

1–3

Relationship

Doctrine

Orthodoxy

Knowledge

Belief

Position

Privileges

4–6

Responsibility

Deed

Orthopraxy

Wisdom

Behavior

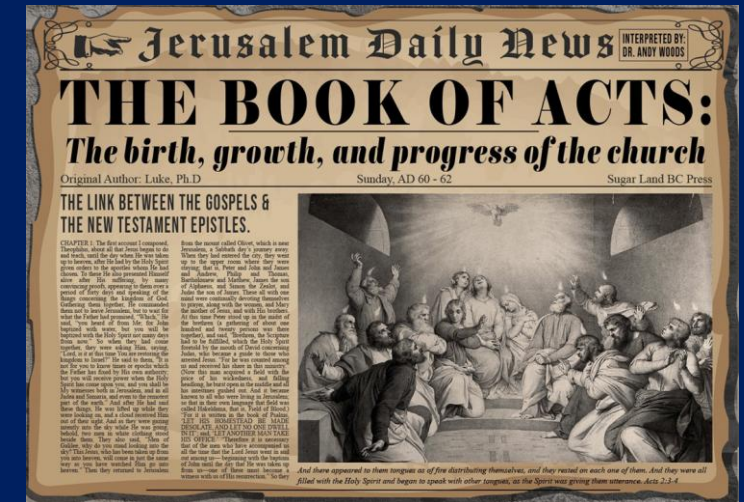
Practice

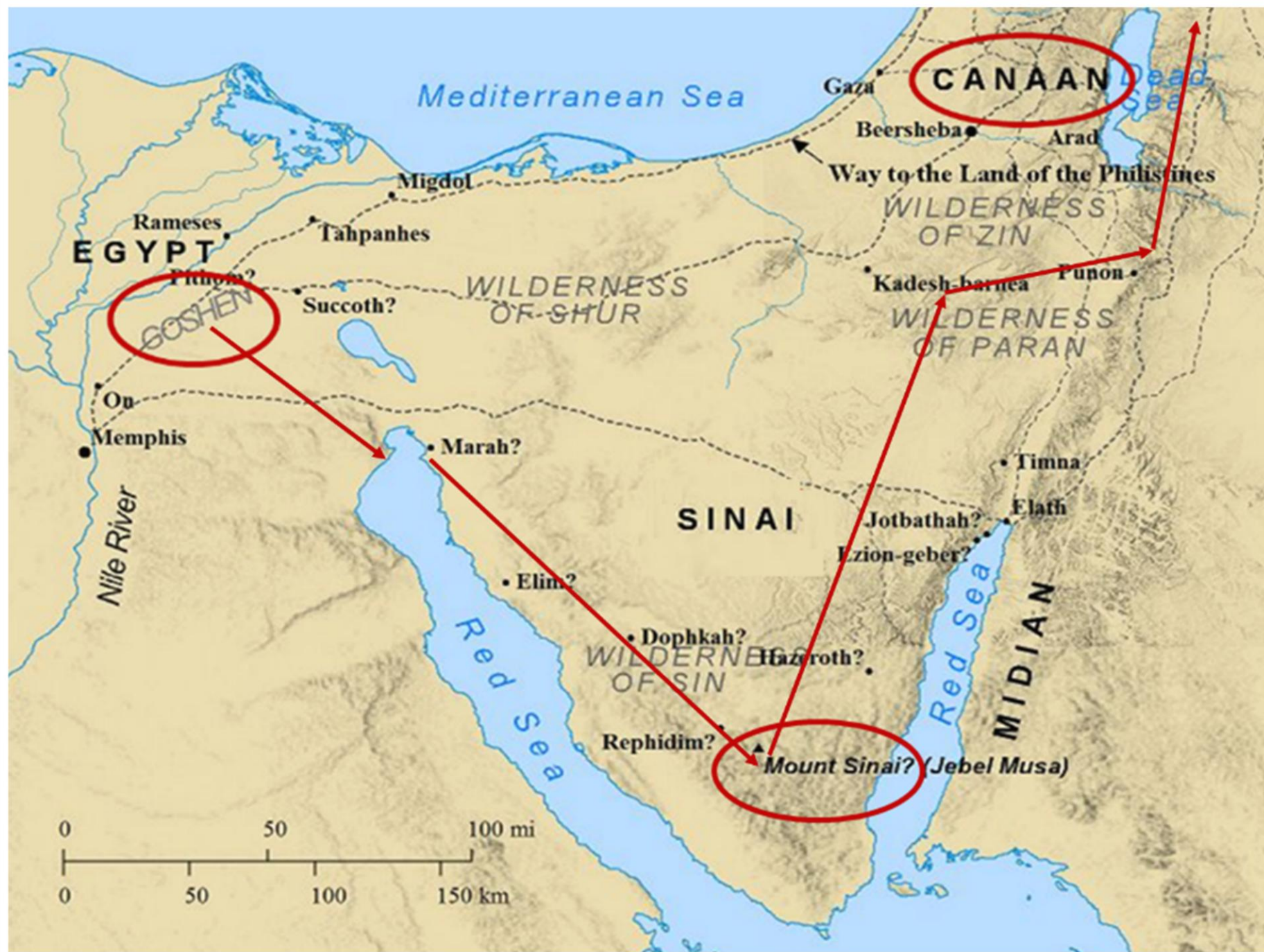
Responsibility

B. Acts 6:2-4

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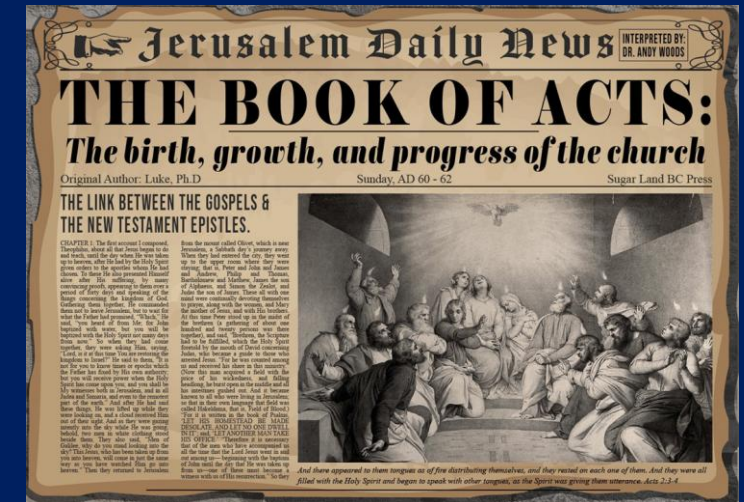
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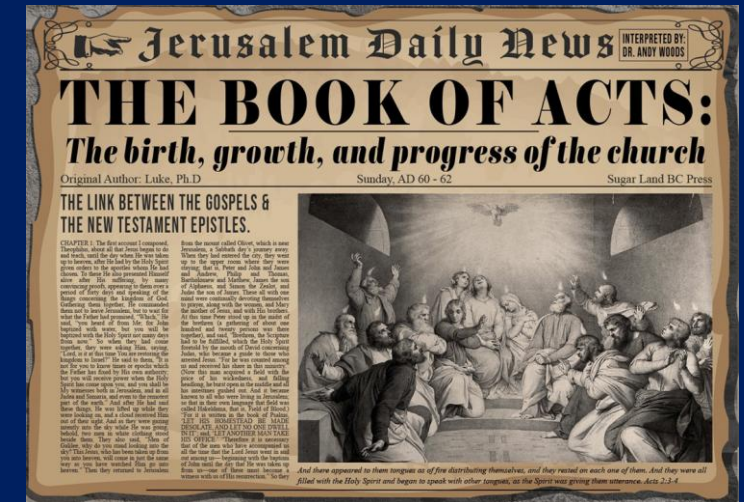
D. Results (7)



C. Acts 6:5-6

Appointment

1. Approval (5a)
2. Enumeration (5b)
3. Appointment (6)



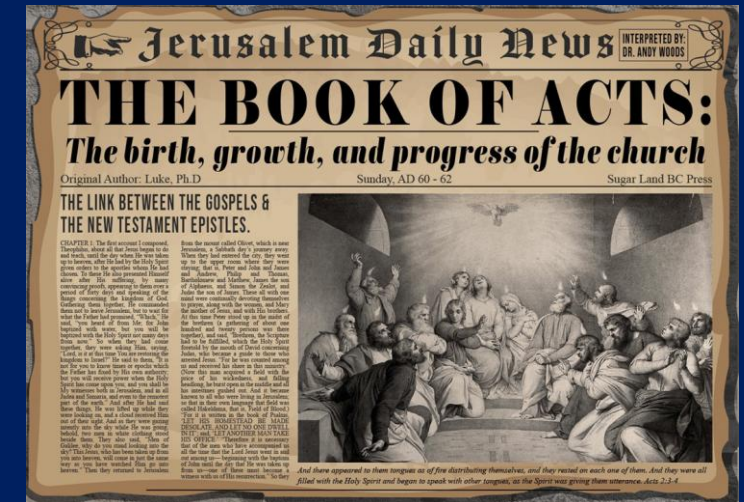
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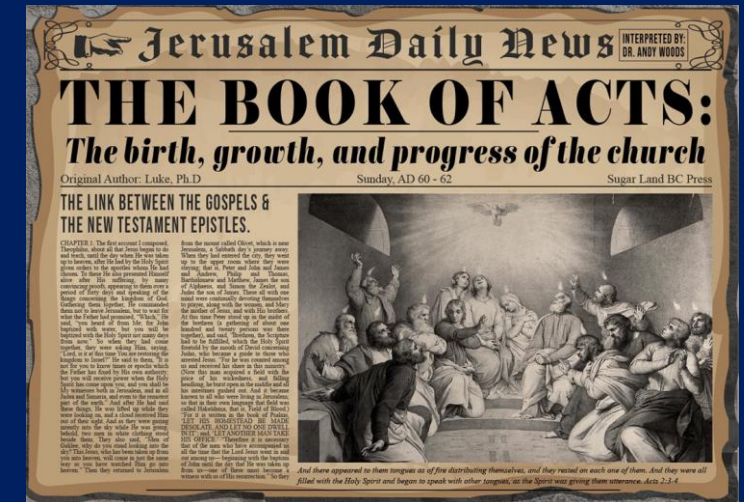
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4 Kinds of People from 1 Corinthians 3:1-3



Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles



The 7 Churches in Revelation

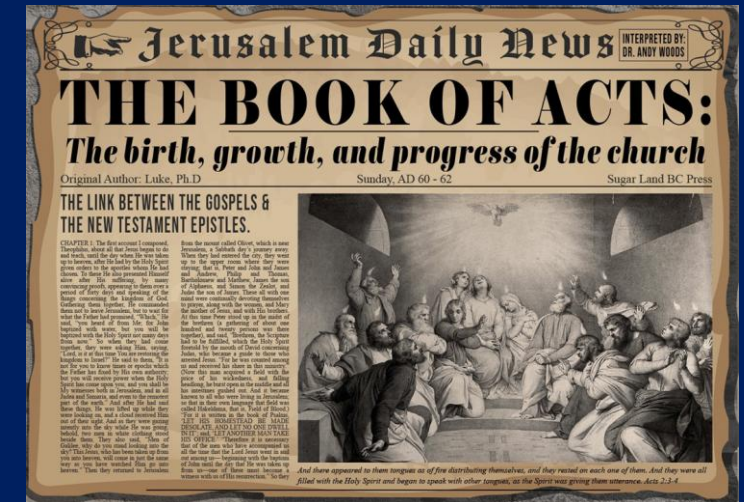
Rev. 1: 11



C. Acts 6:5-6

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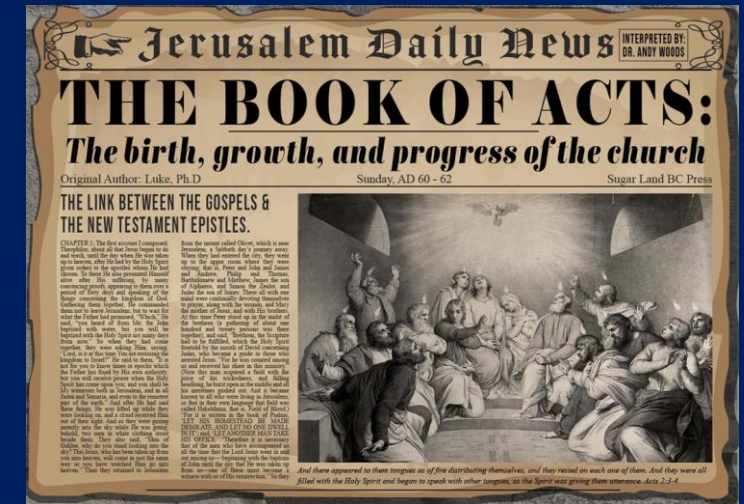
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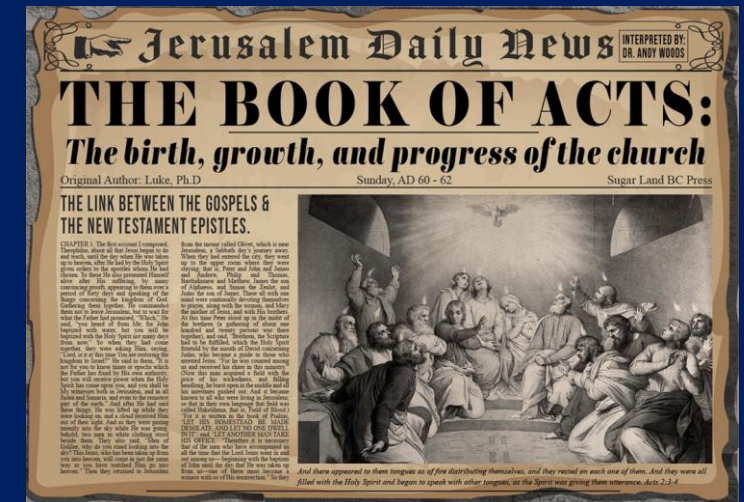
C. Appointment (5-6)

D. Results (7)



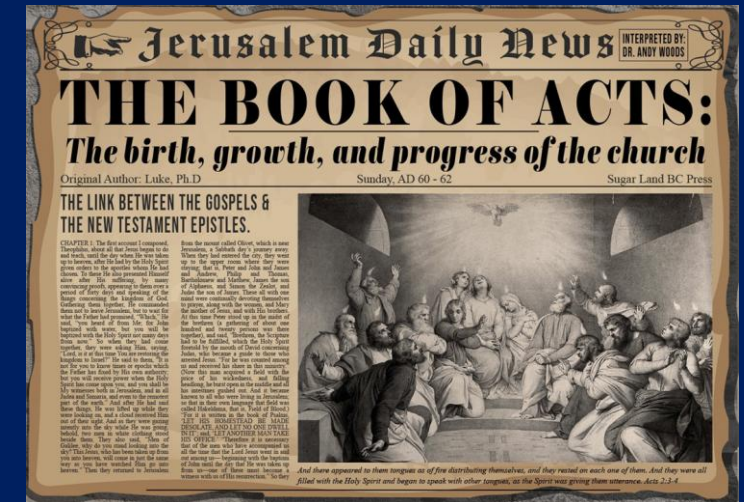
D. Acts 6:7 Results

1. Word increased (7a)
2. Disciples increased (7b)
3. Priestly converts increased (7c)



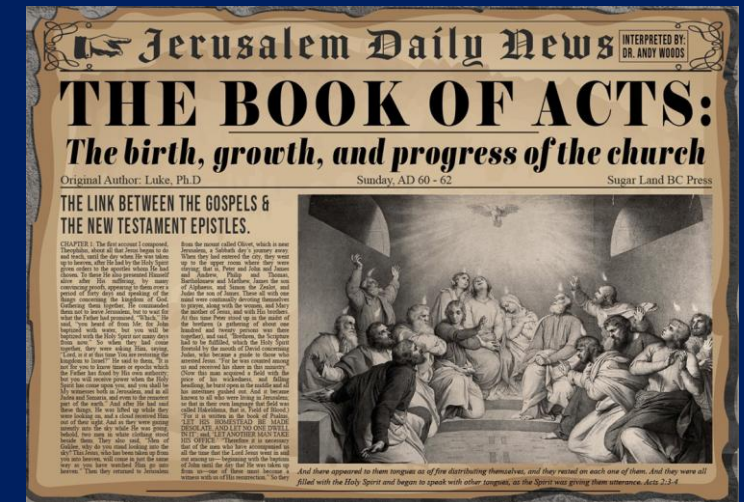
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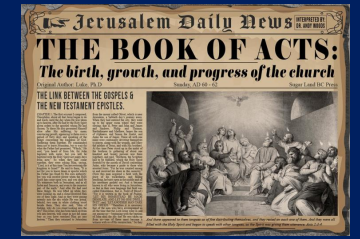


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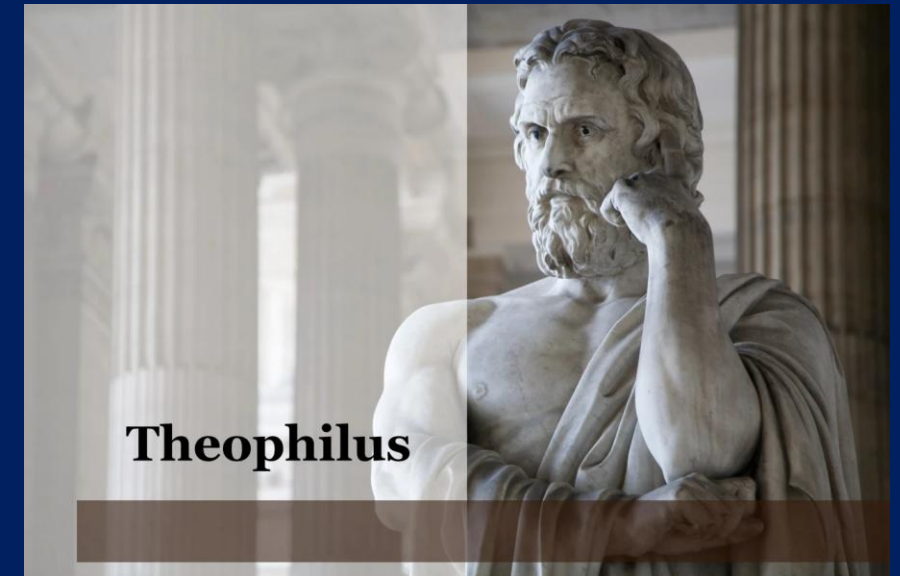
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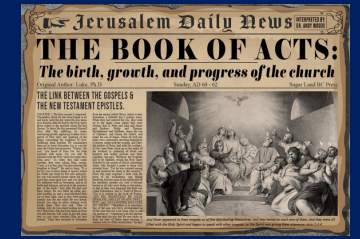
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- To present Theophilus with an orderly account of the birth and growth of the church so as to affirm him in what he has believed.



Message



- Birth and growth of the church numerically, geographically, ethnically.
- Components
 - Numerically (progress reports)
 - Geographically (From Jerusalem to Rome)
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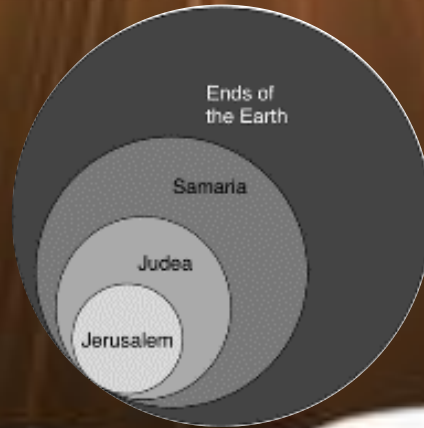
Matthew 16:18

“I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock **! WILL build** [*oikodomeō*] My church; and the gates of Hades **WILL NOT overpower** it.”

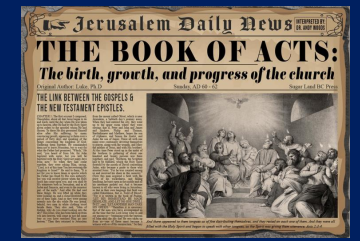


Acts 1:8

“but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”



Structure (Acts 1:8)

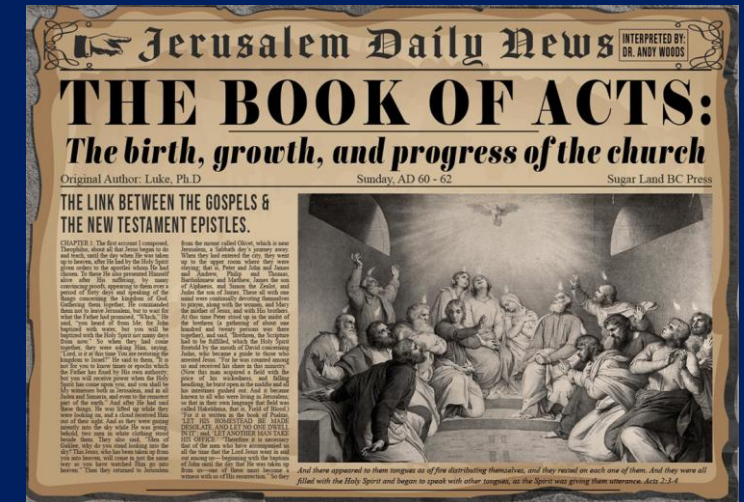


- Jerusalem (Acts 1–7)
- Judea and Samaria (Acts 8–12)
- Remotest part of the earth (Acts 13–28)
 - 1st missionary journey (Acts 13–14)
 - Jerusalem council (Acts 15:1-35)
 - 2nd missionary journey (Acts 15:36 –18:22)
 - 3rd missionary journey (Acts 18:23–21:17)
 - Trip to Rome (Acts 21:18–28:31)



D. Acts 6:7 Results

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John 3:36

“The one who believes in the Son has eternal life; but the one who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.”

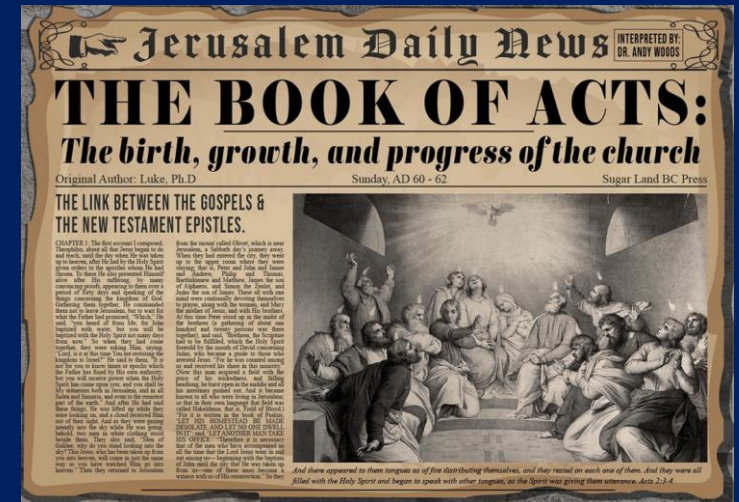


Acts 6:1–15

First Deacons & Stephen's Arrest

I. Appointment of the First Deacons (6:1-7)

II. Stephen's Arrest (6:8-15)



From Peter to Paul

Reference	Center	Person	Place	Outreach
Acts 1–12	Jerusalem	Peter	Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria	Jewish
Acts 13–28	Antioch	Paul	Uttermost parts	Gentiles

From Peter to Paul

Peter

Heals a man lame from birth (3:1-11)

Heals by shadow (5:15-16)

Success is a cause of jealousy (5:17)

Confronts a sorcerer (8:9-24)

Raises Dorcas (9:36-41)

Jailed and miraculously freed (12:3-19)

Paul

Heals a man lame from birth (14:8-18)

Heals by handkerchief (19:11-12)

Success is a cause of jealousy (13:45)

Confronts a sorcerer (13:6-11)

Raises Eutychus (20:9-12)

Jailed and miraculously freed (16:25-34)

II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

A. Description of Stephen (8)

B. Disputations against Stephen (9-10)

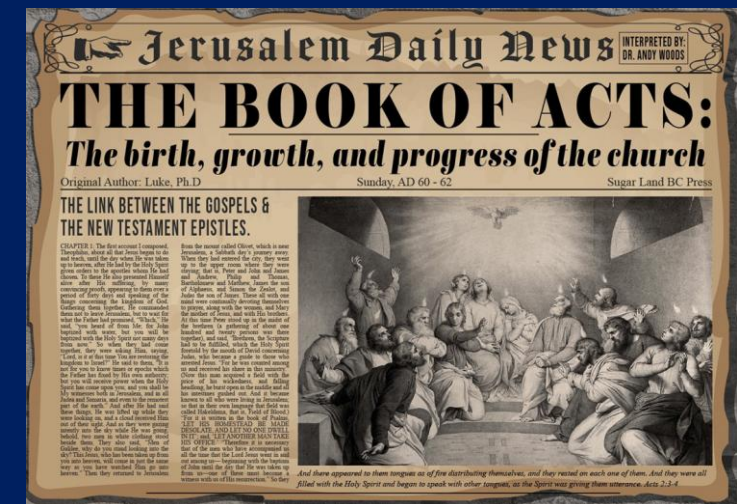
C. Conspiracy against Stephen (11)

D. Arrest of Stephen (12)

E. Charges against Stephen (13-14)

F. Face of Stephen (15)

G. Opportunity of Stephen (7:1)



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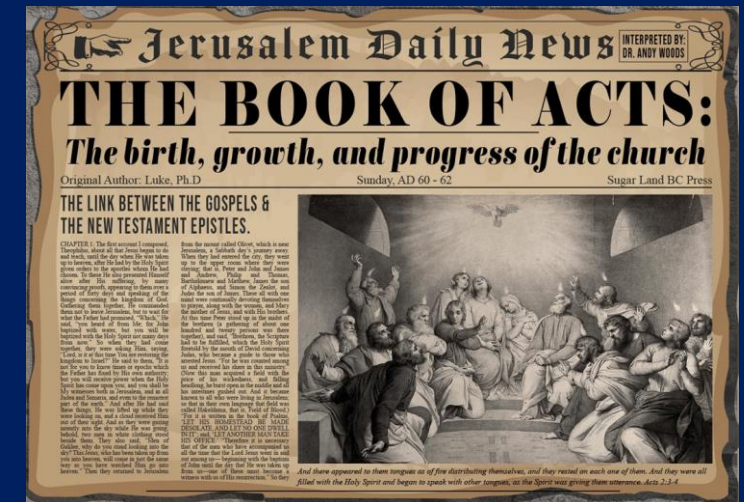
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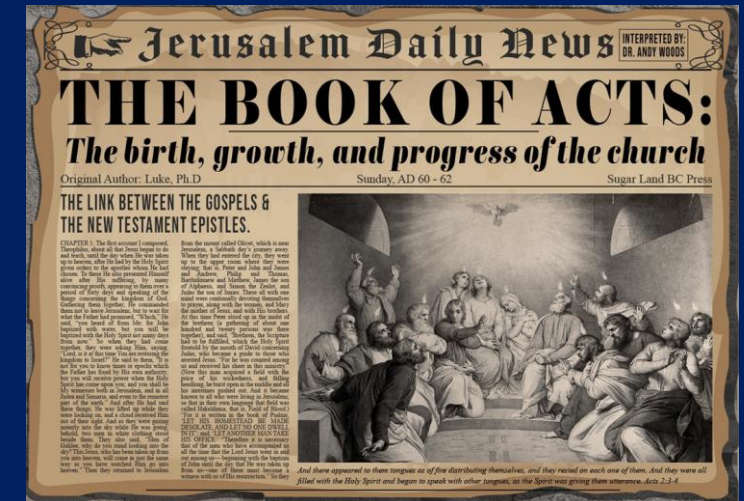
G. Opportunity of Stephen (7:1)



A. Acts 6:8

Description of Stephen

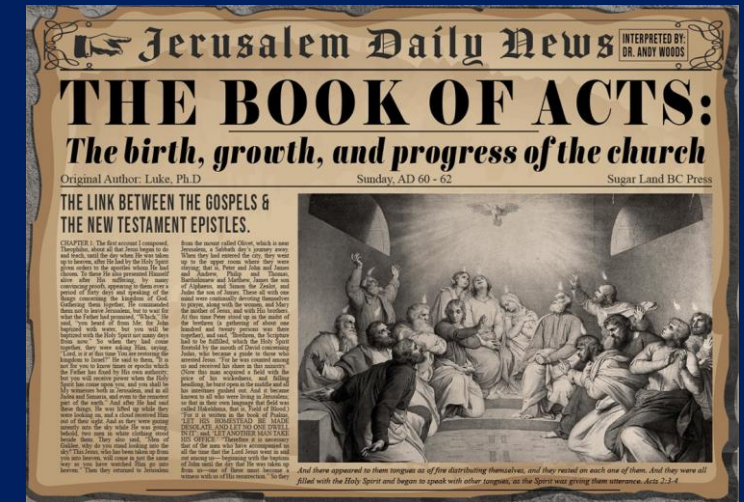
1. Grace (8a)
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A. Acts 6:8

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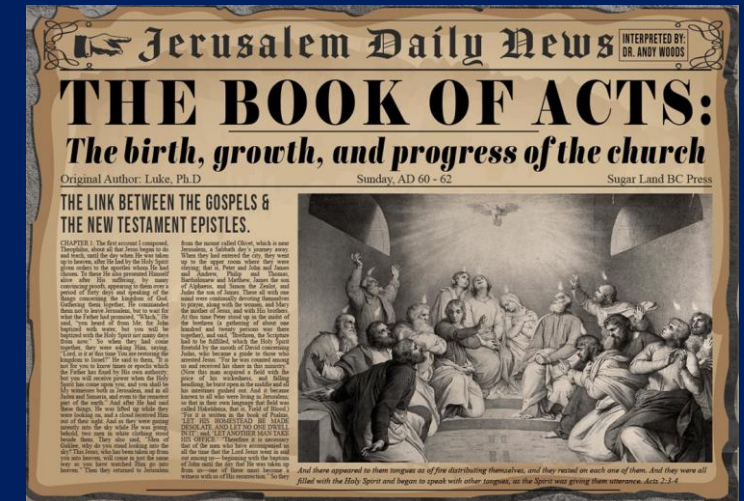
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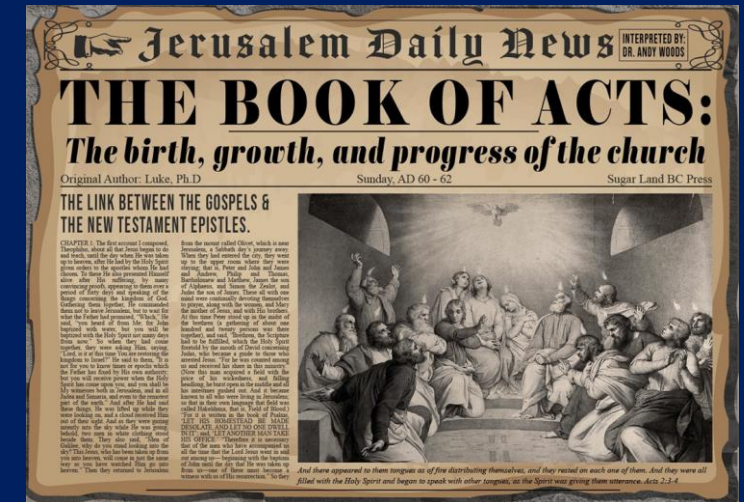
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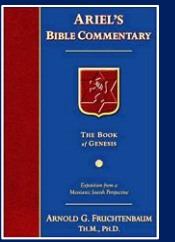
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Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

The Book of Acts, 129



“Verse 12 provides evidence of apostolic authority. The account of the second persecution of the church begins by describing the apostolic signs (v. 12a). Again it is important to note that in the book of Acts, only the apostles and the apostolic [de]legates, who were appointed by the apostles by the laying on of hands, were able to perform miracles, signs, and wonders (e.g. Acts 6:8).[113] This fact has come out four times before (Acts 2:43; 3:6-7; 4:22, 33), and now it is repeated once again in this verse.”

II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

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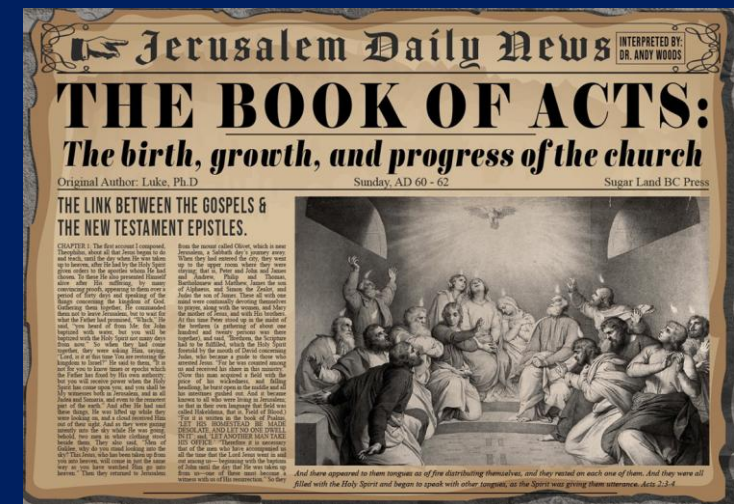
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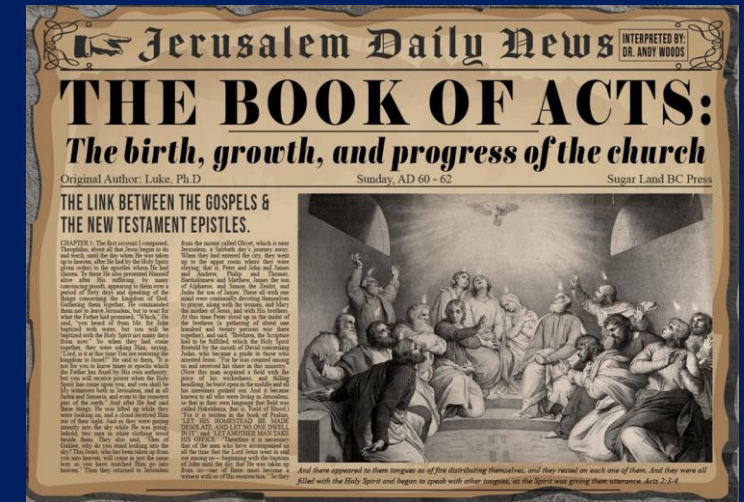


B. Acts 6:9-10

Disputations Against Stephen

1. Sources of the attack (9)

2. Failure of the attack (10)

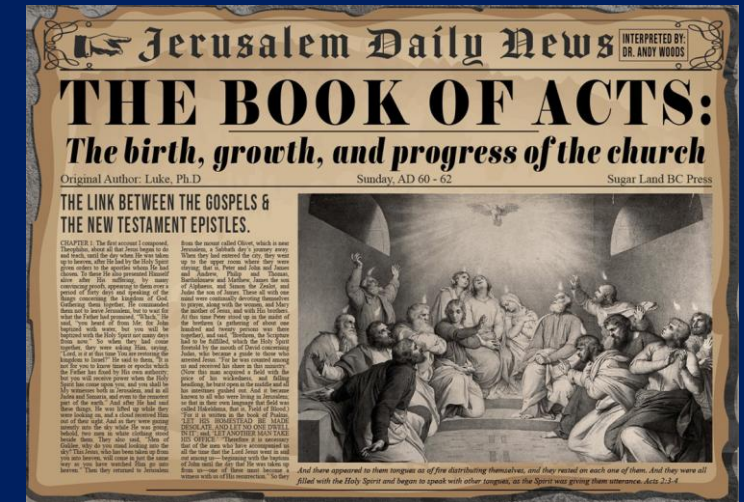


B. Acts 6:9-10

Disputations Against Stephen

1. Sources of the attack (9)

2. Failure of the attack (10)



THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

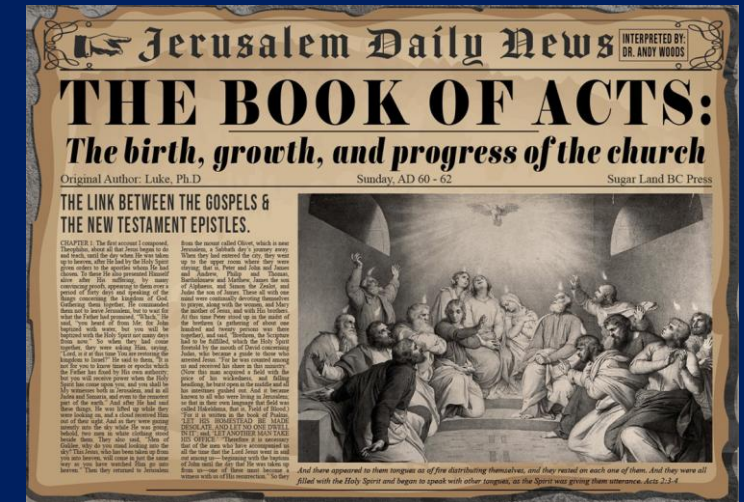
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1. Acts 6:9

Sources of the Attack

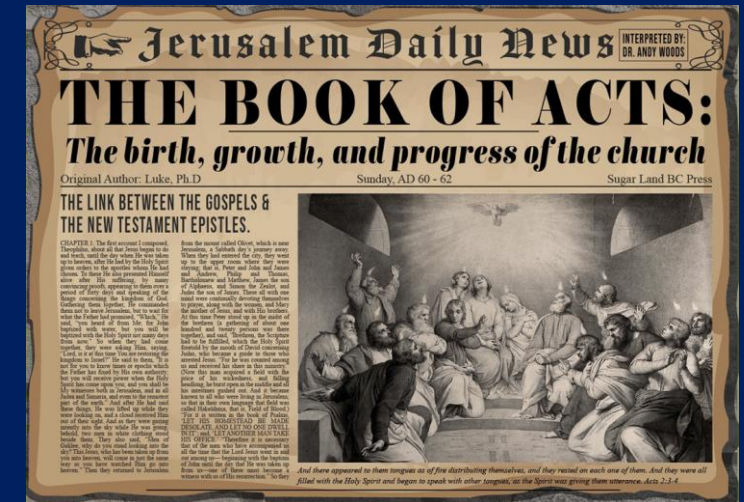
- a) Libertine (9a)
- b) Cyrene (9b)
- c) Alexandria (9c)
- d) Cilicia (9d)
- e) Asia (9e)



1. Acts 6:9

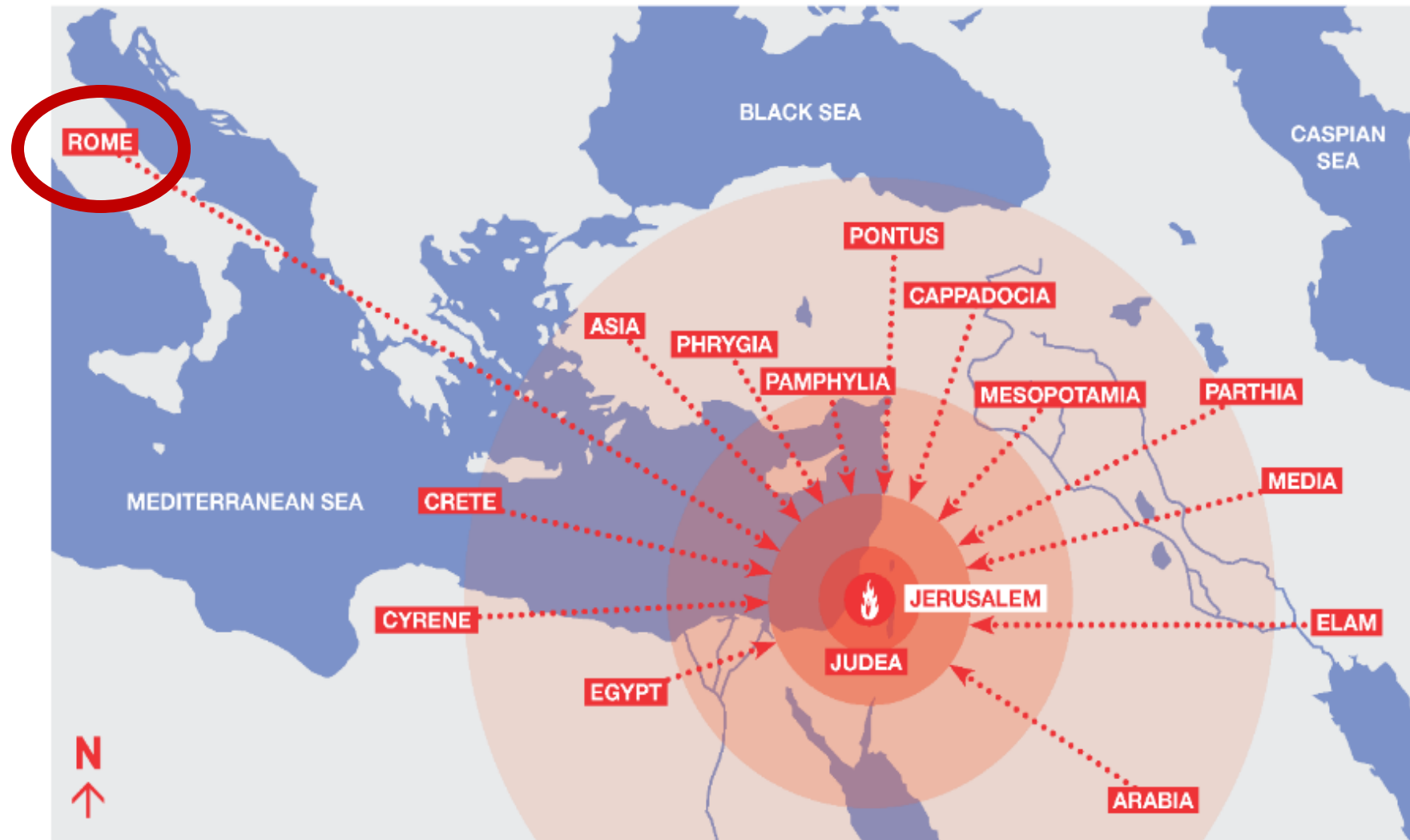
Sources of the Attack

- a) Libertine (9a)
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THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

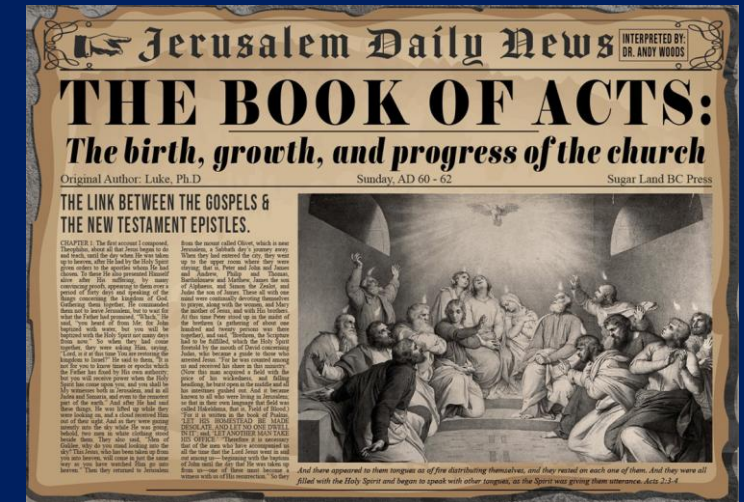
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1. Acts 6:9

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- a) Libertine (9a)
- b) Cyrene (9b)**
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THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

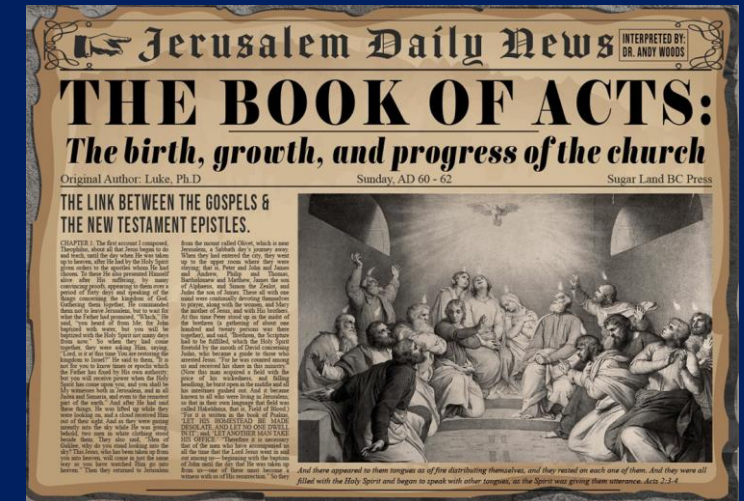
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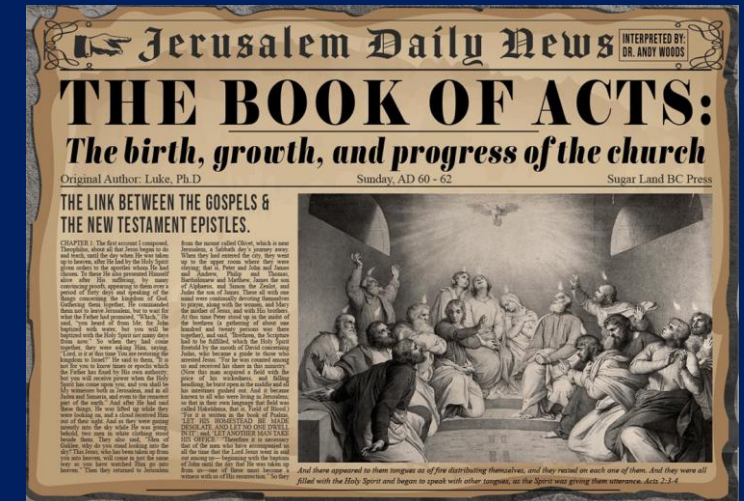
Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles



1. Acts 6:9

Sources of the Attack

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- b) Cyrene (9b)
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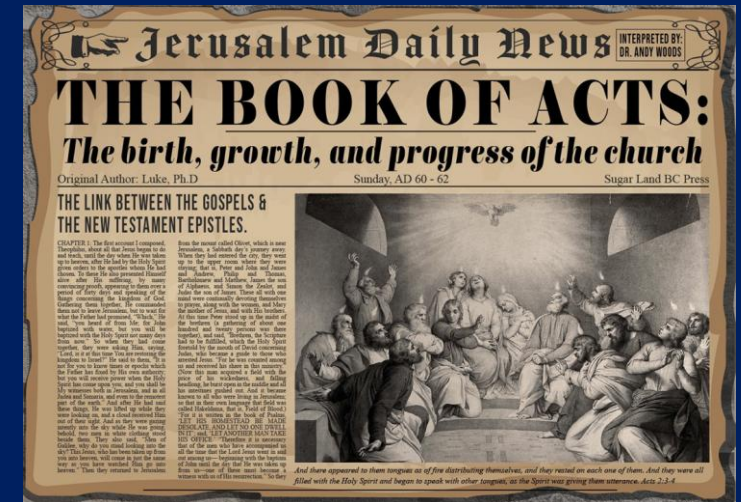
Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles



1. Acts 6:9

Sources of the Attack

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THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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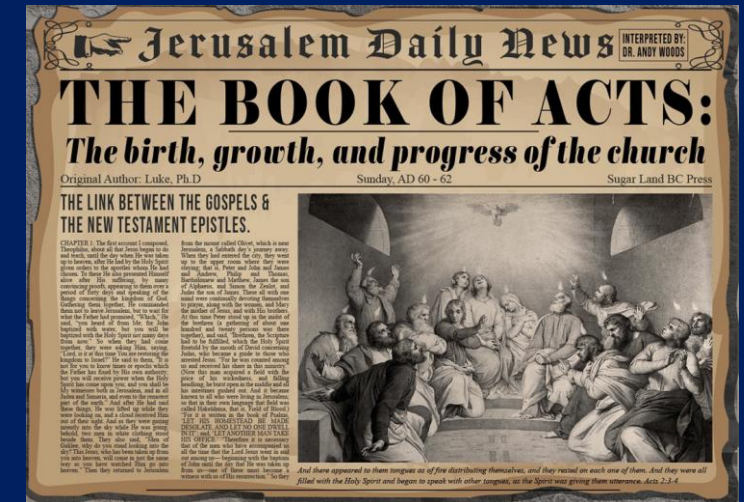
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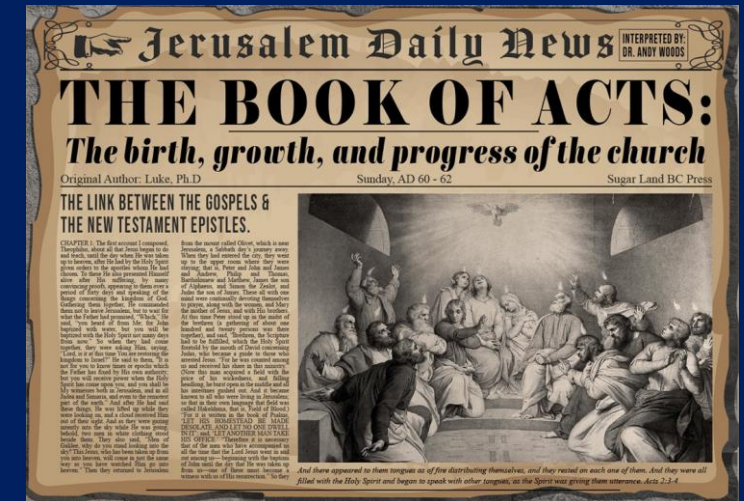


C. Acts 6:11

Conspiracy Against Stephen

1. Bribery (11a)

2. Charges (11b-c)

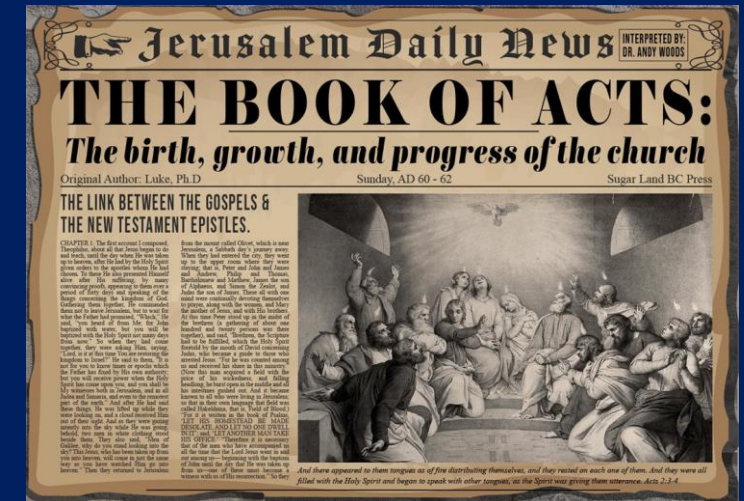


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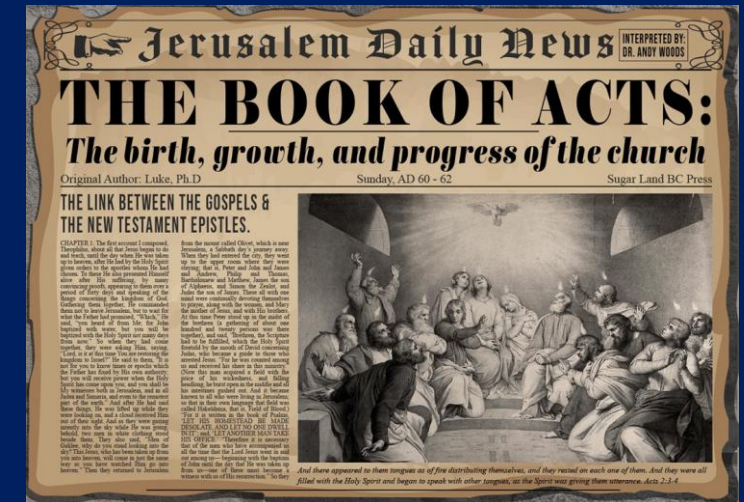


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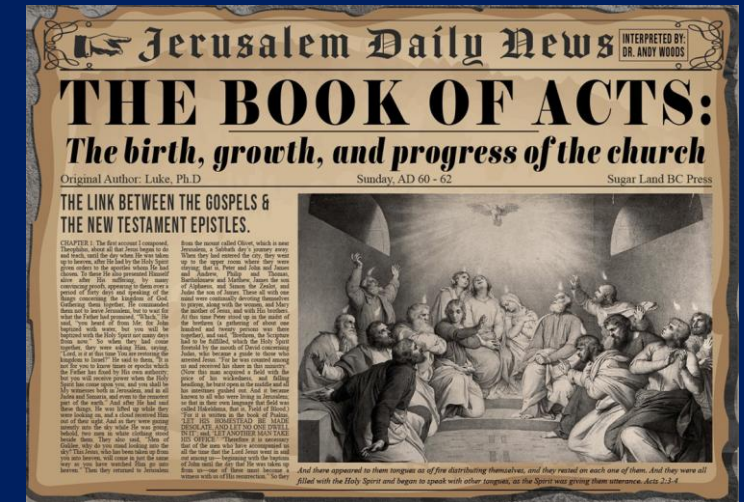


2. Acts 6:11b-c

Charges

a) Speaking against Moses (11b)

b) Speaking against God (11c)

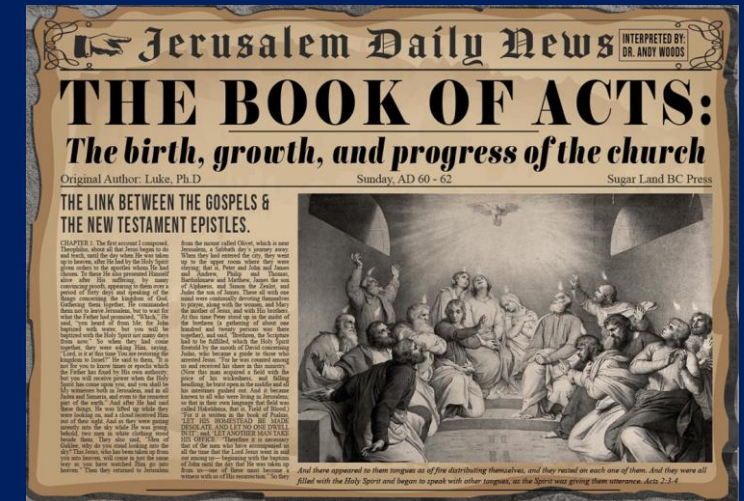


2. Acts 6:11b-c

Charges

a) Speaking against Moses (11b)

b) Speaking against God (11c)

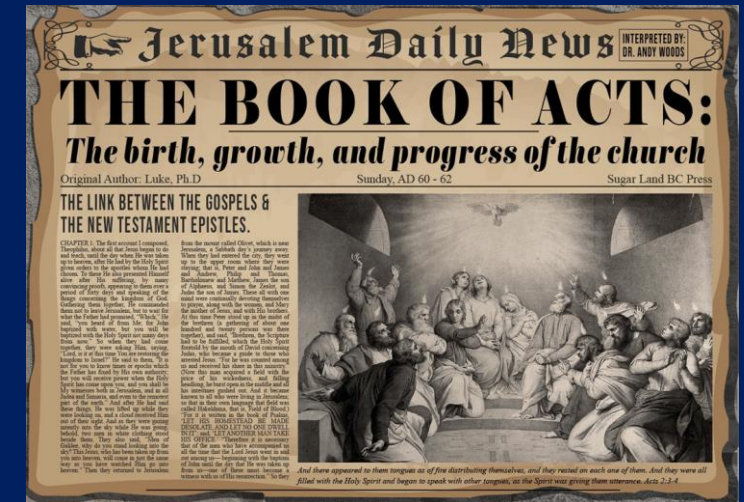


2. Acts 6:11b-c

Charges

a) Speaking against Moses (11b)

b) Speaking against God (11c)



II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

A. Description of Stephen (8)

B. Disputations against Stephen (9-10)

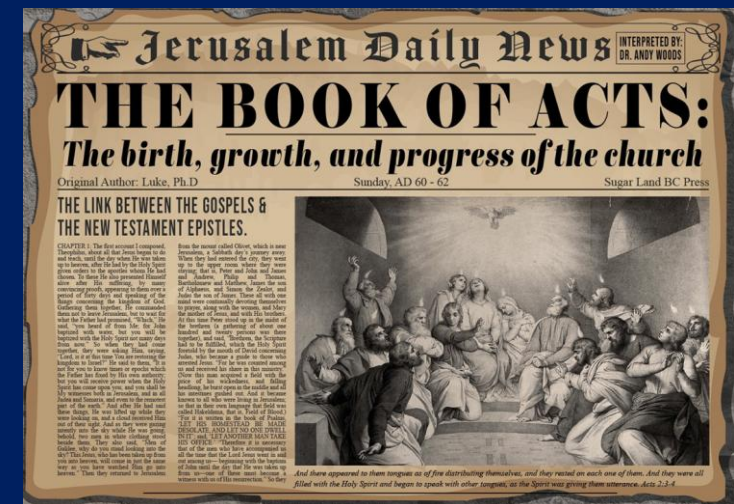
C. Conspiracy against Stephen (11)

D. Arrest of Stephen (12)

E. Charges against Stephen (13-14)

F. Face of Stephen (15)

G. Opportunity of Stephen (7:1)



II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

A. Description of Stephen (8)

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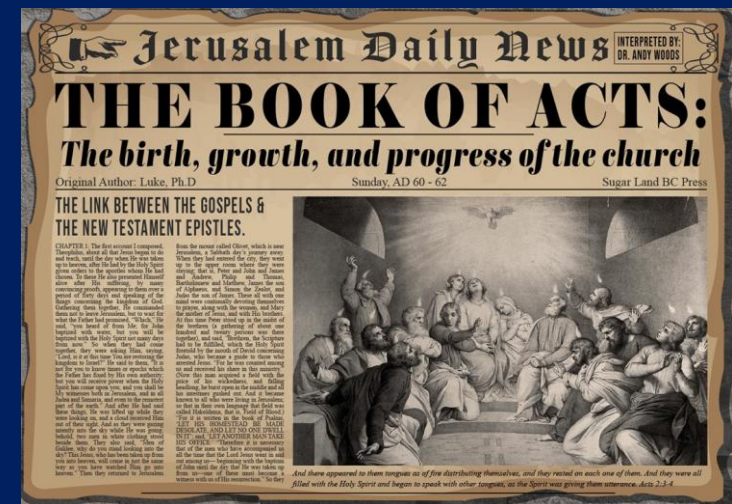
C. Conspiracy against Stephen (11)

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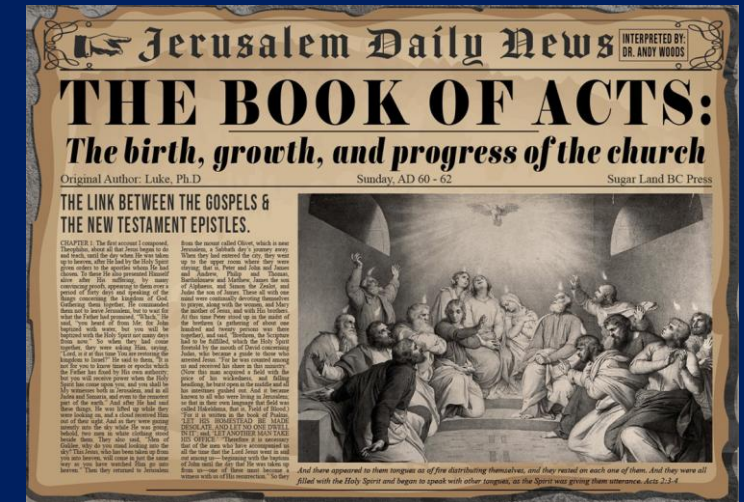


D. Acts 6:13-14

Charges Against Stephen

1. Charge (13)

2. Substantiation of charges (14)

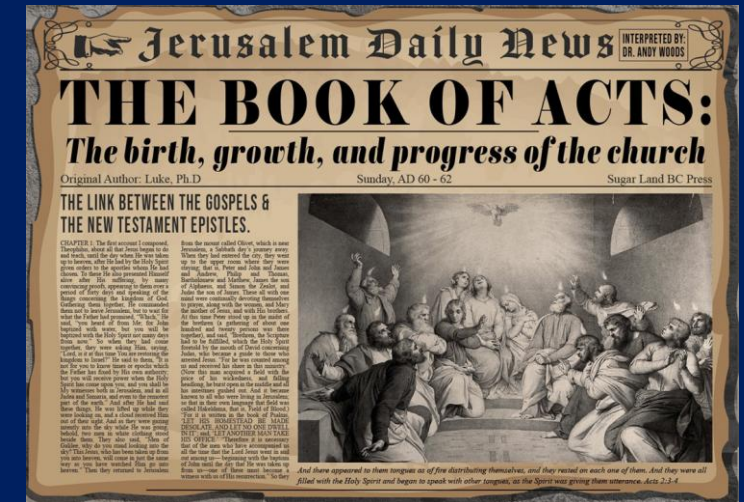


D. Acts 6:13-14

Charges Against Stephen

1. Charge (13)

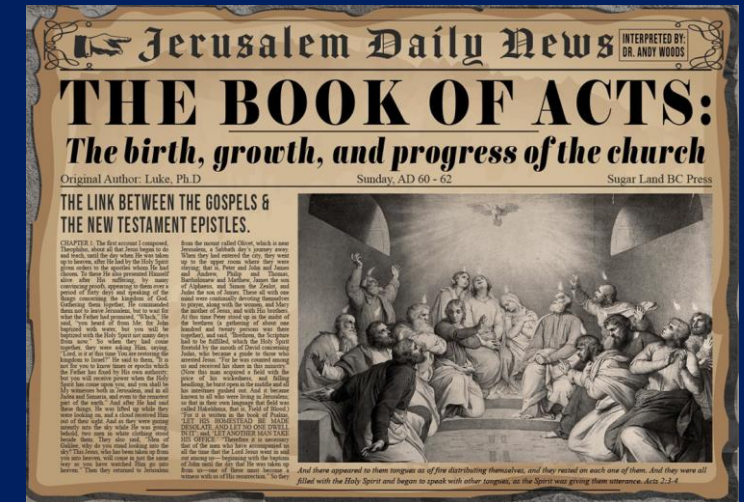
2. Substantiation of charges (14)



1. Acts 6:13

Charges

- a) Speaking Against the Temple (13a)
- b) Speaking Against the Law (13b)

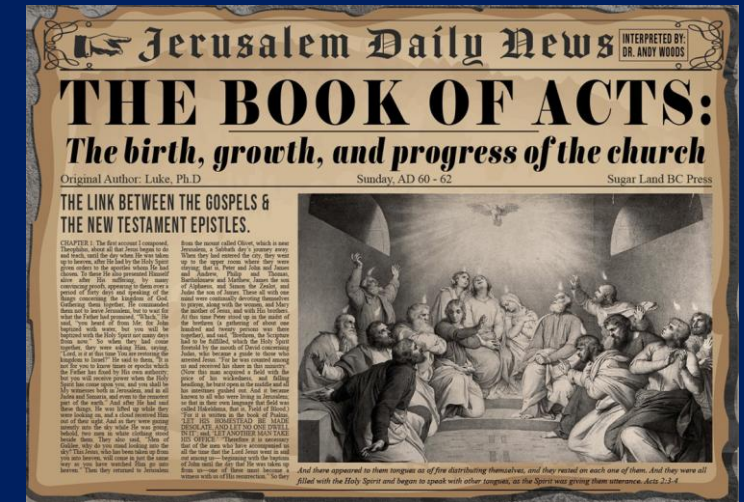


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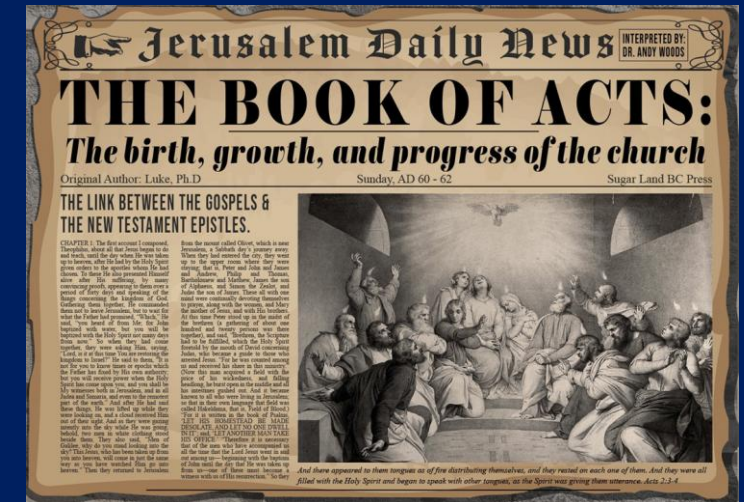


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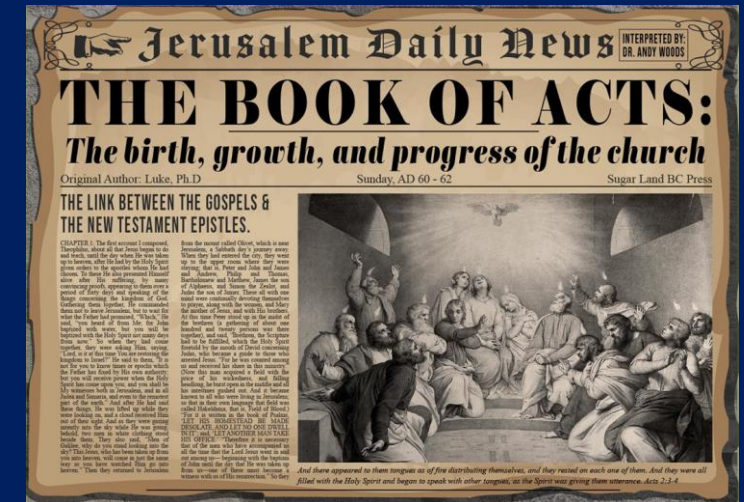


2. Acts 6:14

Substantiation of the Charges

a) Against the Temple (14a)

b) Against the Law (14b)

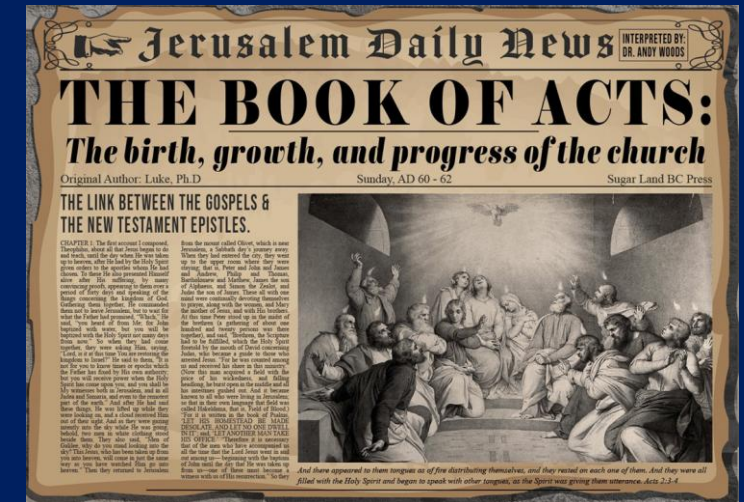


2. Acts 6:14

Substantiation of the Charges

a) Against the Temple (14a)

b) Against the Law (14b)



Matthew 24:1-2

“¹ Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. ² And He said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.”



Luke 19:41-44

⁴¹ “When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, “If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you when **your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on . . .**



Luke 19:41-44

... every side,⁴⁴ and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”



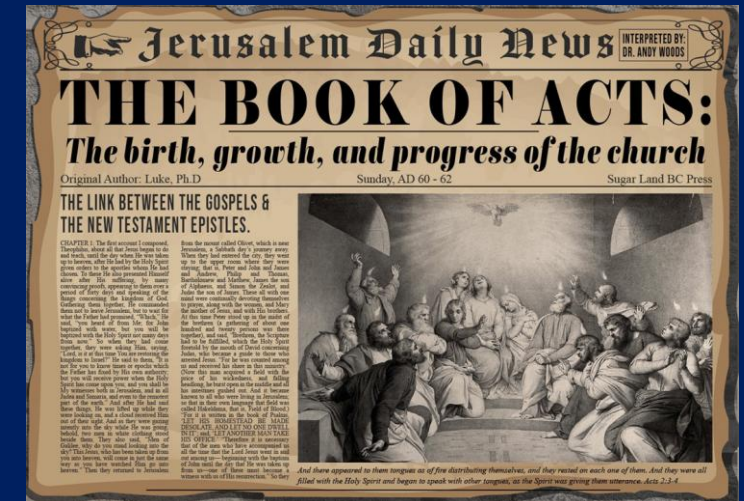


2. Acts 6:14

Substantiation of the Charges

a) Against the Temple (14a)

b) Against the Law (14b)



II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

A. Description of Stephen (8)

B. Disputations against Stephen (9-10)

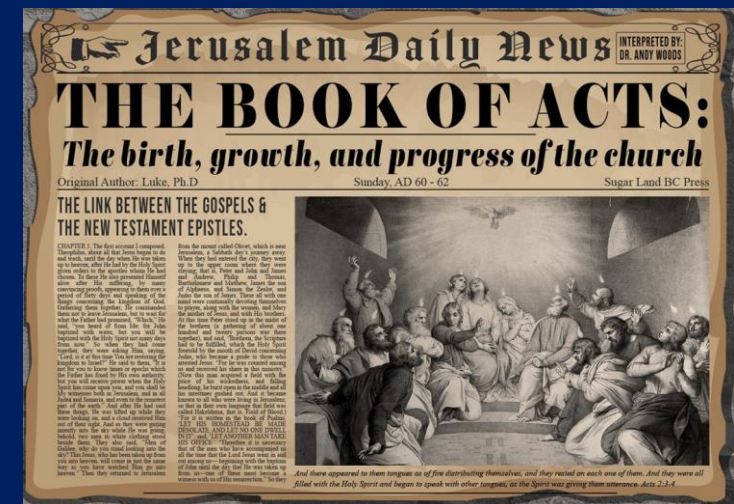
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G. Opportunity of Stephen (7:1)



Charles Ryrie

Dispensationalism (Chicago: Moody Press, 1965), 86.



Literal interpretation “...might also be called plain interpretation so that no one receives the mistaken notion that the literal principle rules out figures of speech.”

Literal Interpretation

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graph TD; A[Literal Interpretation] --> B[Plain Literal]; A --> C[Figurative Literal]; B --> D[One Meaning]; C --> D;
```

One Meaning

Plain Literal

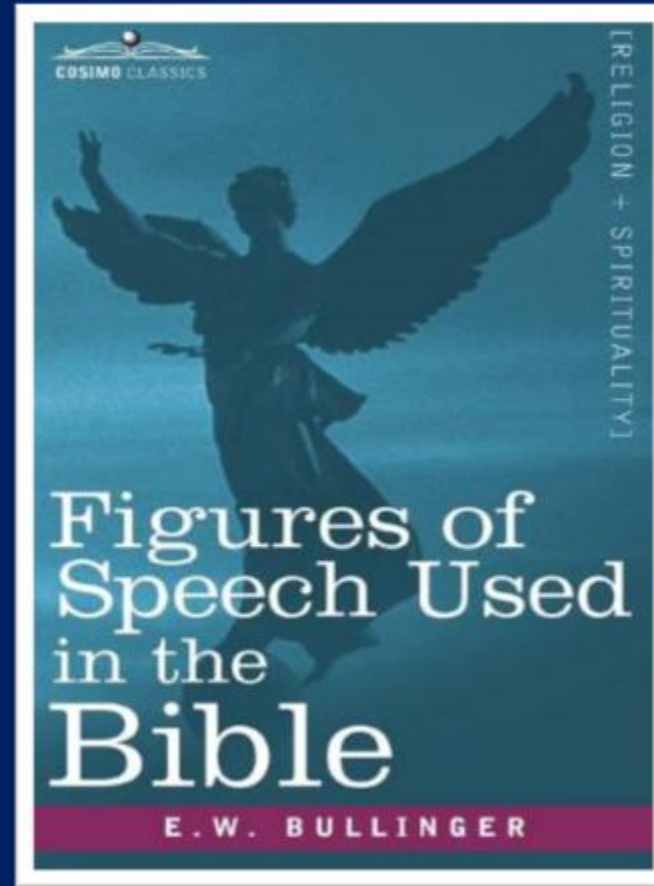
The literal interpretation is the explicit assertion of the words—**DENOTATIVE**

Figurative Literal

The literal interpretation is the specific intention of the figure—**CONNOTATIVE**

Chart by Earl Radmacher

E.W. Bullinger (1837–1913)



Conclusion

Acts 6:1–15

First Deacons & Stephen's Arrest

I. Appointment of the First Deacons (6:1-7)

II. Stephen's Arrest (6:8-15)

