

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

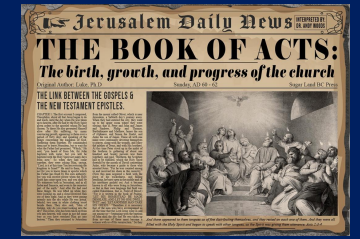


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Introductory Matters



- Title
- Authorship
- Biography
- Place of writing
- Recipient
- Purpose
- Message
- Method
- Sources
- Date
- Structure
- Scope
- Themes
- Unique characteristics

Acts 1

Chapter Summary

- I. Prologue (1-5)
- II. Jesus' Ascension (6-11)
- III. Return to Jerusalem (12-14)
- IV. Matthias Chosen (15-26)



Pro-Matthias Point:
They prayed and cast lots, an approved Old Testament method to determine God's will. God did not say otherwise, so the choice stands.

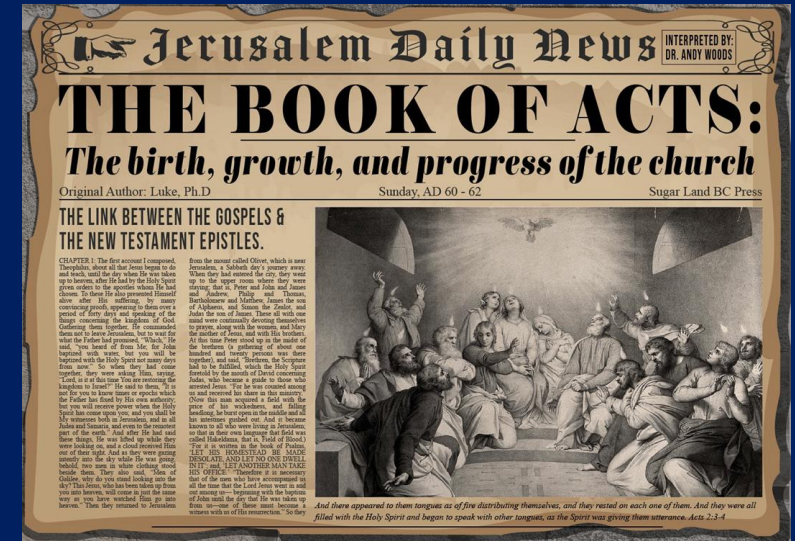
IV. Matthias Chosen

Acts 1:15-26

A. Peter's Proposition (15-20)

B. Apostolic Qualifications (21-22)

C. Matthias Selected (23-26)



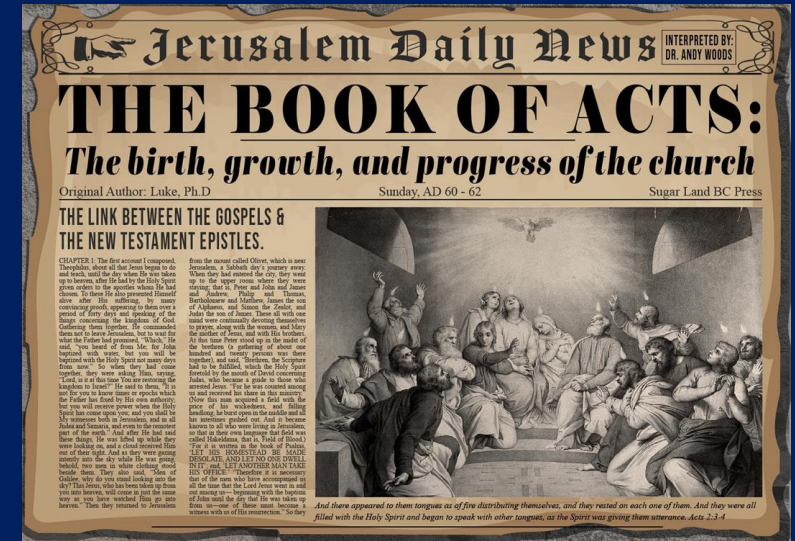
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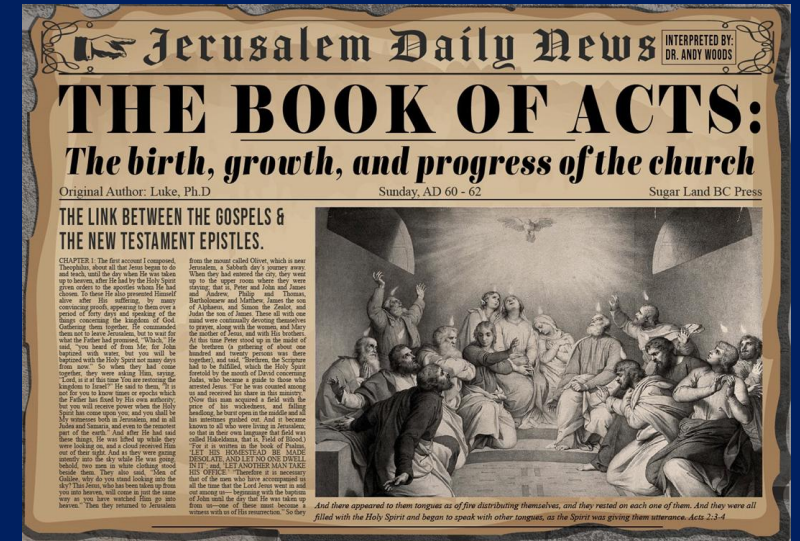
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Ephesians 2:20

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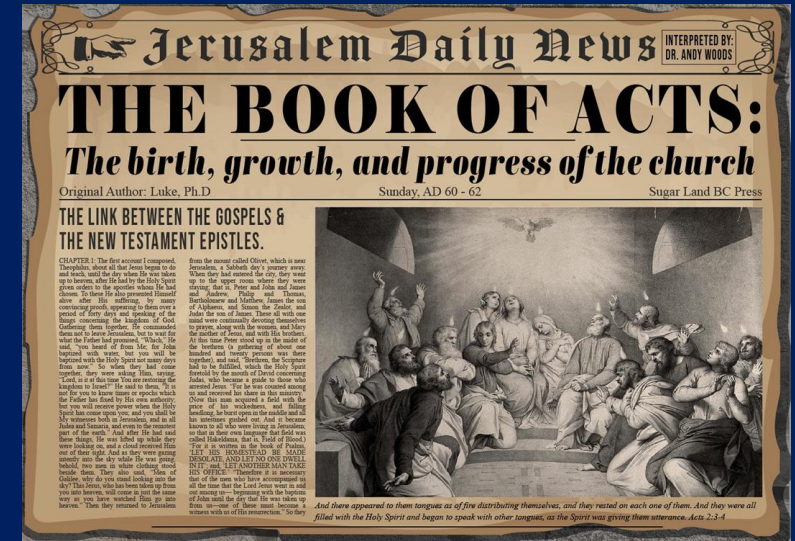
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2 Thessalonians 2:3

“Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy [*apostasia*] comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction.”

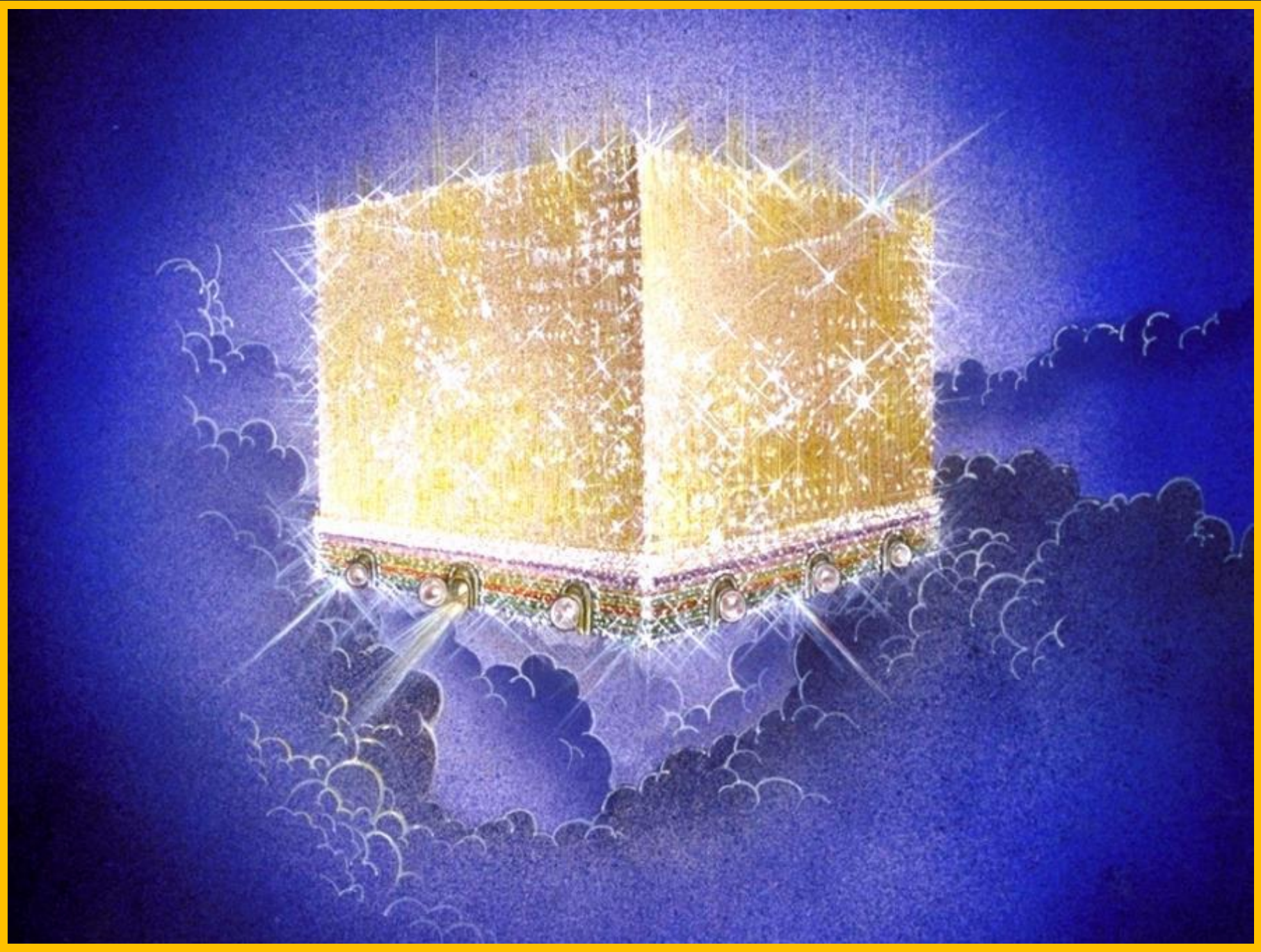


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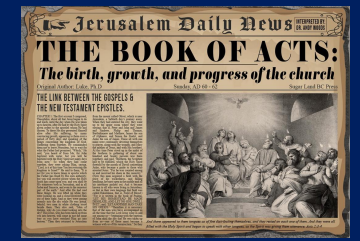
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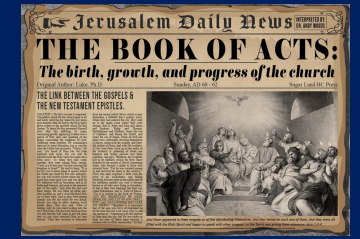
Message



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



Mistaken Replacement?



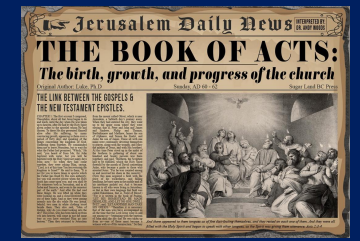
Pro

- No Spirit yet
- Lots
- Matthias disappears
- Paul

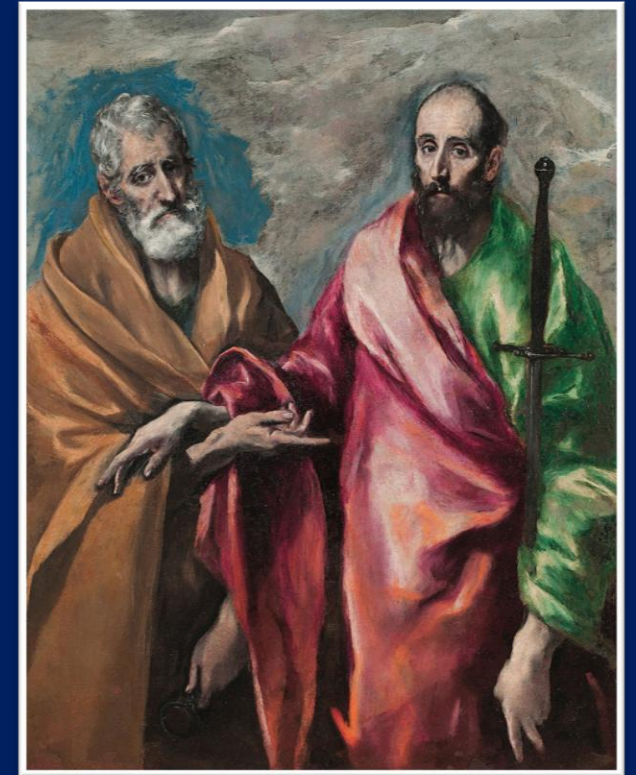
Con

- No textual indication of an error
- Twelve esteemed (2:14; 6:2)
- God's choice (1:24)
- Prov 16:33
- Paul unqualified (1:21-22)
- Focus on Peter & Paul

Title



- Acts of the Apostles
- Misleading?
 - Acts of the Holy Spirit
 - Geographical expansion
 - Two apostles: Peter and Paul



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 (3:15-16)

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)

Conclusion

Acts 1

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