

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



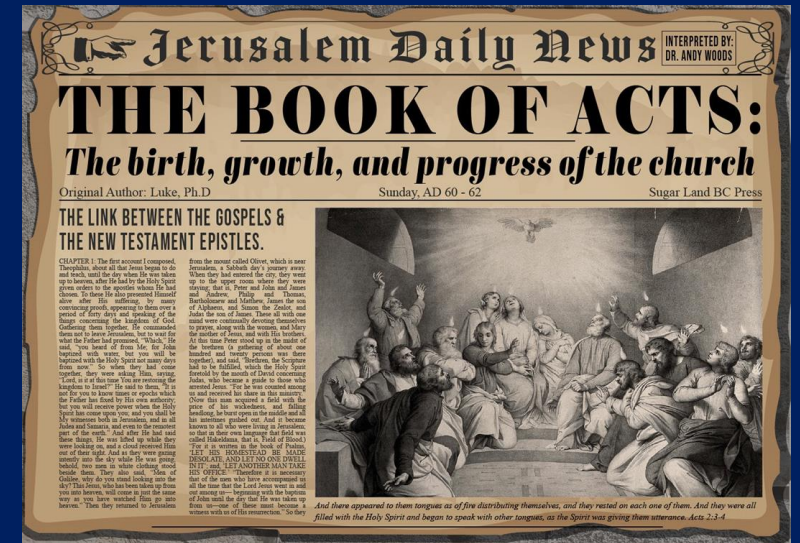
Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Acts 2

Chapter Summary

- I. Coming of the Holy Spirit (1-4)
- II. Holy Spirit's Impact (5-13)
- III. Peter's Sermon (14-36)
- IV. Sermon's Impact (37-47)



IV. Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:37-47

A. Salvation (37-41)

B. Church (42-47)

Jerusalem Daily News INTERPRETED BY DR. ANDY WOODS


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CHAPTER 1: The first account completed, Theophilus, about all the Jews 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. It came to pass in those days that there were gathered together in one place about a hundred and twenty brethren in Jerusalem. They were all with one accord agreeing to give up the Holy Spirit and to have Barnabas and Manasse, the son of Amphimus, and Theophilus, and Titus Justus the son of Jesus, these all with one mind were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with the brethren in a gathered assembly of about one hundred and twenty persons, were there together, and said, "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit said by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who crucified Jesus: 'For he was counted among us and increased his share in this ministry.' Close that man's ears, and he will not hear, and his eyes will be dimmed, and he will wander about like a ghost, and all who hear him will shake their heads. And it became known to all who were living in Jerusalem, and that he died a horrible death; and he was buried in a tomb, and he was laid in a sepulchre with the Jews. For he was counted among us and increased his share in this ministry." Therefore it is necessary that one of the men who have accompanied us all the time that Jesus lived with us and who was with us all the time that he was taken up to heaven, will come in just the same way as you have received Jesus from heaven. Then they returned to Jerusalem.



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

A. Acts 2:37-41

Salvation

1. Conviction (37)
2. Repentance & Baptism (38-39)
3. Consequence of Repentance (40)
4. Result (41)


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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

Acts 2:41

“So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.”

Just Believe



John 1:12

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name.”

just. Believe



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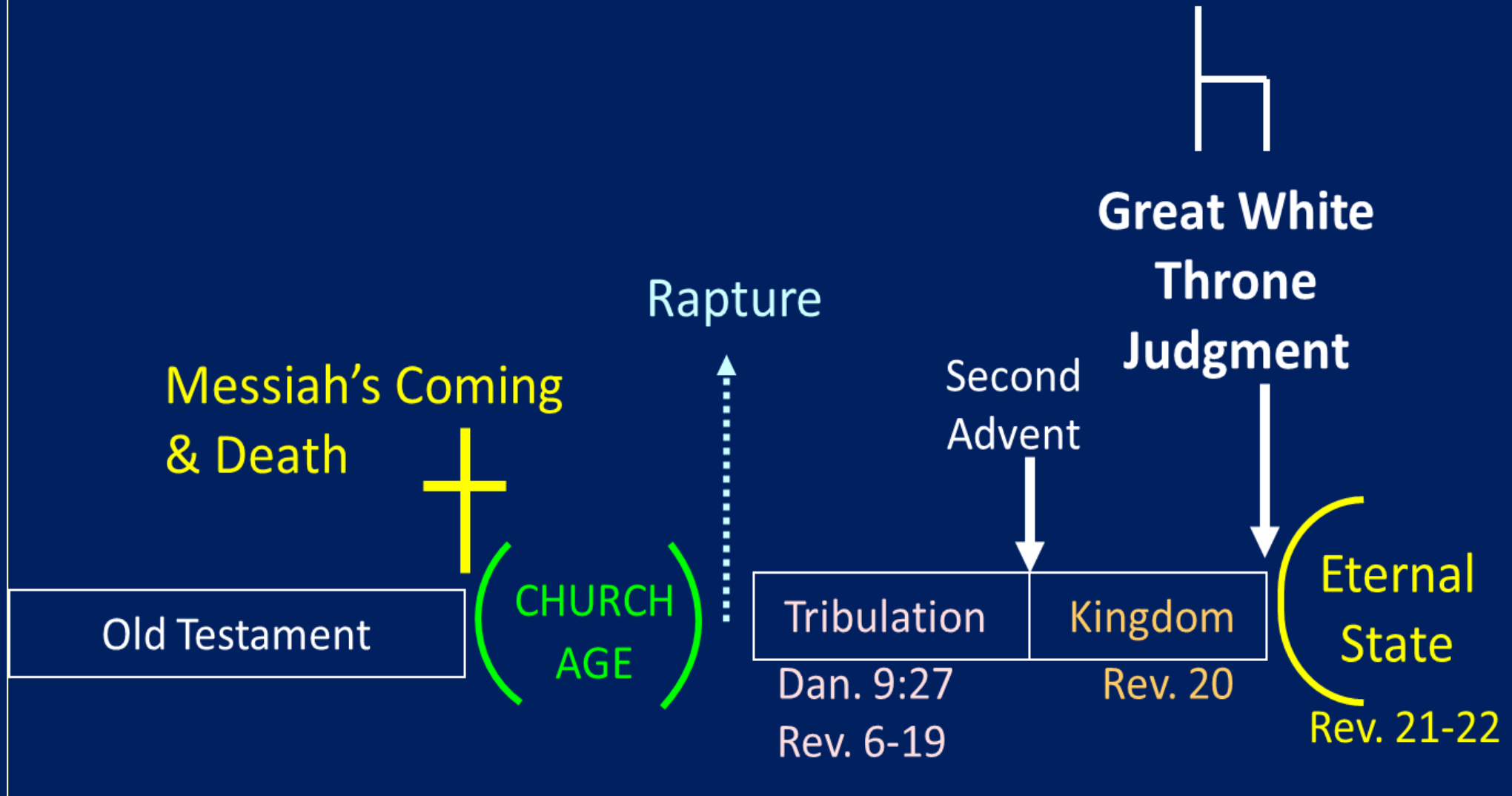


Reasons for Understanding 1000 Literally

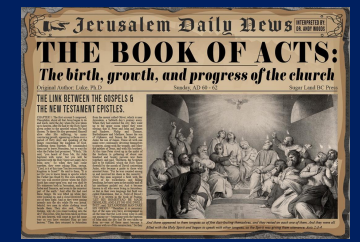
(Revelation 20:1-10)

- John's use of indefinite concepts elsewhere
 - Revelation 20:3,8
- Exception to the “# of years” examples?
- Other numbers are taken literally
 - Two witnesses (11:3), 7000 people (11:13), 4 Angels (7:1) 7 Angels (8:6), 144,000 Jews (7:4), 42 months (11:2), 1260 days (11:3)
- Not always a symbolic interpretation
 - (Rev. 17:18)

Prophecy Panorama



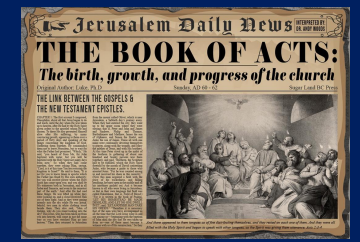
Message



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



Progress Reports



- Clearest: Acts 2:47; 6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:5; 19:20; 28:30-31
- Less clear: Acts 1:13, 15; 2:41; 4:4, 31; 5:14, 42; 8:25, 40; 11:21; 13:49; 17:6



IV. Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:37-47

A. Salvation (37-41)

B. Church (42-47)

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From the moment called Christ, which is seen 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 accord were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with the brothers. At the time Peter stood up to the multitude of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons were there together), and said, "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Jesus, who became a guide to those who would believe. For he was counted among us and increased his share in this ministry. Close that man's eyes, and with his hands he laid open in the middle, and all his members quaked, and he became known to all who were living in Jerusalem, so that they saw him lying dead and were buried. He did not even keep his face from being hidden from them, in the tomb of Troas. LET US, THEREFORE, MY BRETHREN, RECALL THESE THINGS: Therefore it is necessary that one of the men who have accompanied us all the way from the Lord's going up and out among us—bearing with the testimony of what we have seen and heard—be taken up to know us—one of these men because a witness with us of the 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

B. Acts 2:42-47
Church

- 1. Priorities (42)
- 2. Miracles (43)
- 3. Unity (44)
- 4. Communal living (45)
- 5. Lord's Table (46)
- 6. Evangelism (47)

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from the ancient called *Over*, which is now 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 consent were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. At that time there stood up to the multitude the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons were there together), and said, "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who captured Jesus. For he was counted among us and received his share in this ministry. Close that man's ears, if had with his sword, he burst open in the middle, and all his contents poured out. And it became known to all who were living at Jerusalem, so that their own hearts had been persuaded that he had shed his blood.

LET US, THEREFORE, UNITE OURSELVES TOGETHER AND LET US DEVOTE OURSELVES TO PRAYER, ALONG WITH THE WOMEN, AND MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS, AND WITH HIS BROTHERS.

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B. Acts 2:42-47

Church

1. Priorities (42)

2. Miracles (43)

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6. Evangelism (47)



Activities of the Local Church

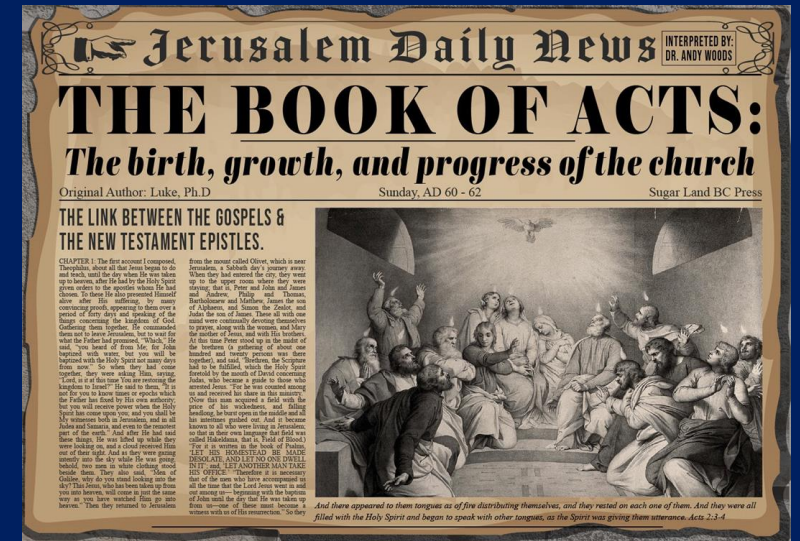
(Acts 2:41-47)

- Doctrine (Acts 2:42)
- Ordinances (Acts 2:41-42, 46)
- Prayer (Acts 2:42)
- Evangelism (Acts 2:47)
- Worship (Acts 2:47)
- Benevolence (Acts 2:44-45)
- Fellowship (Acts 2:42, 46-47)

B. Acts 2:42-47

Church

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Antichrist's Satanic Miracles

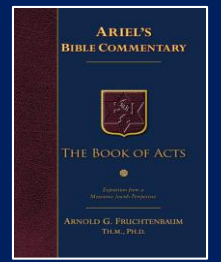
(2 Thessalonians 2:9)

MIRACLE	GREEK	CHRIST'S MINISTRY
Powers	<i>Dynamis</i>	Matt. 11:20
Signs	<i>Semēion</i>	John 20:30
Wonders	<i>Teras</i>	Acts 2:22



Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

The Book of Acts, 83



“The apostles did many signs and wonders. In fact, the only ones who performed miracles in the book of Acts were the apostles or their delegates, such as Stephen (Acts 6:8). These apostolic legates were appointed by the laying on of hands by the apostles. Signs and wonders were not performed by the believers at large.”

Ephesians 2:20

“having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*.”



Miracle Clusters In Scripture

NUM.	ERA	AUTHENTICATION
1.	Moses	Law
2.	Joshua	Conquest
3.	Elijah-Elisha	Prophet
4.	Christ	Kingdom offer
5.	Apostles	Church
6.	Tribulation & Millennium	Kingdom establishment

2 Timothy 4:20

“Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.”

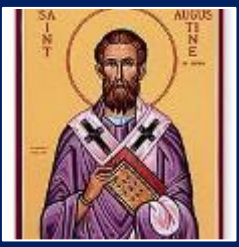




Chrysostom (A.D. 345–407)

Patriarch of Constantinople, Chrysostom, Homily 29 on First Corinthians.

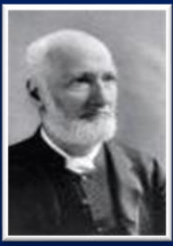
“This whole place is very obscure: but the obscurity is produced by our ignorance of the facts referred to and by their cessation, being such as then used to occur but now no longer take place. And why do they not happen now? Why look now, the cause too of the obscurity has produced us again another question: namely, why did they then happen, and now do so no more?”



Augustine (A.D. 354–430)

Bishop of Hippo, *Homily 6:10 on the First Epistle of John*.

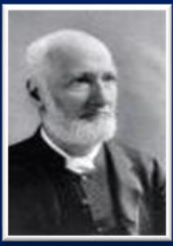
“In the earliest times, the Holy Ghost fell upon them that believed: and they spoke with tongues, which they had not learned, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:4 These were signs adapted to the time. For there behooved to be that betokening of the Holy Spirit in all tongues, to show that the Gospel of God was to run through all tongues over the whole earth. That thing was done for a betokening, and it passed away. . . . If then the witness of the presence of the Holy Ghost be not now given through these miracles, by what is it given, by what does one get to know that he has received the Holy Ghost?”



Philip Schaff

History of the Christian Church, vol. 1 , p. 236-37.

“We do not know how long the glossolalia, as thus described by Paul, continued. It passed away gradually with the other extraordinary or strictly supernatural gifts of the apostolic age. It is not mentioned in the Pastoral, nor in the Catholic Epistles. We have but a few allusions to it at the close of the second century. Irenæus (*Adv. Haer.* 1. v. c. 6 § 1,) speaks of ‘many brethren’ whom he heard in the church having the gift of prophecy and of speaking in ‘diverse tongues’ (παντοδαπαῖς γλώσσαις), bringing the hidden things of men (τὰ κρύφια τῶν ἀνθρώπων) to light and expounding the mysteries of God (τὰ μυστήρια τοῦ θεοῦ). It is not clear whether by the term ‘diverse,’ which does not elsewhere occur, he means a speaking in foreign languages, or in . . .



Philip Schaff

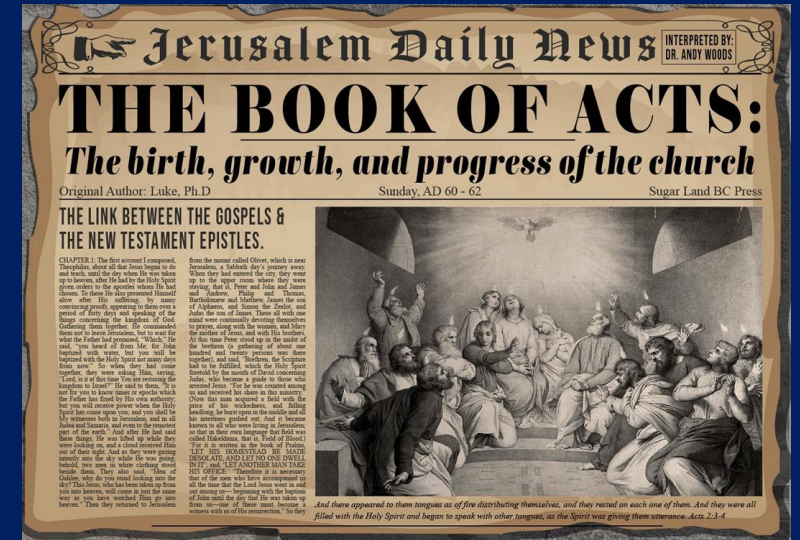
History of the Christian Church, vol. 1 , p. 236-37.

“...diversities of tongues altogether peculiar, like those meant by Paul.” The latter is more probable. Irenæus himself had to learn the language of Gaul. Tertullian (*Adv. Marc. V. 8; comp. De Anima, c. 9*) obscurely speaks of the spiritual gifts, including the gift of tongues, as being still manifest among the Montanists to whom he belonged. At the time of Chrysostom it had entirely disappeared; at least he accounts for the obscurity of the gift from our ignorance of the fact. From that time on the glossolalia was usually misunderstood as a miraculous and permanent gift of foreign languages for missionary purposes. But the whole history of missions furnishes no clear example of such a gift for such a purpose.”

B. Acts 2:42-47

Church

1. Priorities (42)
2. Miracles (43)
3. Unity (44)
4. Communal living (45)
5. Lord's Table (46)
6. Evangelism (47)





Lewis Sperry Chafer

vol. 7, *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 265-66.

“This vital newness of mind is a part of believing, after all, and therefore it may be and is used as a synonym for believing at times (cf. Acts 17:30; 20:21; 26:20; Rom. 2:4; 2Tim. 2:25; 2 Pet. 3:9). Repentance nevertheless cannot be added to believing as a condition of salvation, because upwards of 150 passages of Scripture condition salvation upon believing only (cf. John 3:16; Acts 16:31).”

John 17:20-23

²⁰ “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²² The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; ²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.”



1 Corinthians 12:13

“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”





Lewis Sperry Chafer

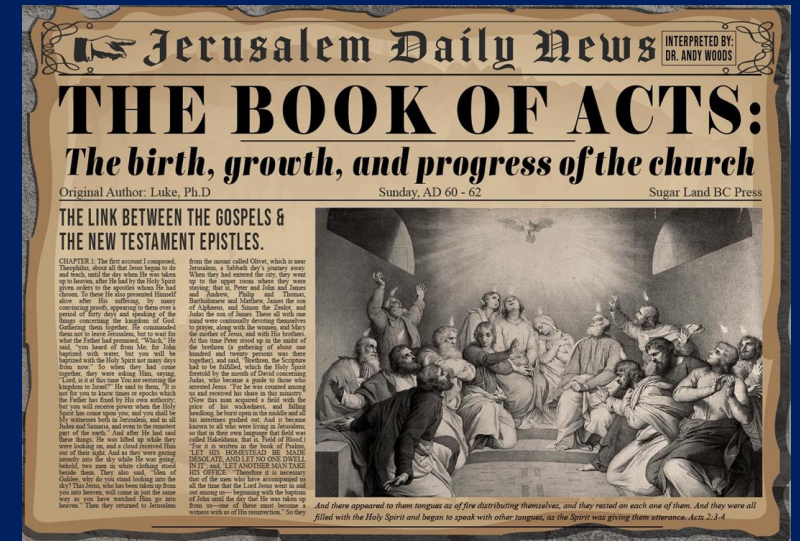
vol. 5, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 158.

“Thoughtless and absurd is the modern notion that Christ was praying that denominations which exist in this remote time and in a country then unknown might become organically united in one, and therefore it is the duty of all sects to unite and thus help to answer this prayer. As indicated before, this unity is sought at the hand of the Father, indicating that it is a divine undertaking. It is that, and it results in a unity as organic and vital as that between the Father and the Son. This prayer began to be answered on the Day of Pentecost when believers were by the Spirit baptized into one Body, and is constantly answered whenever a soul is saved and thus joined as a member to the Body of Christ by the same baptism of the Spirit.”

B. Acts 2:42-47

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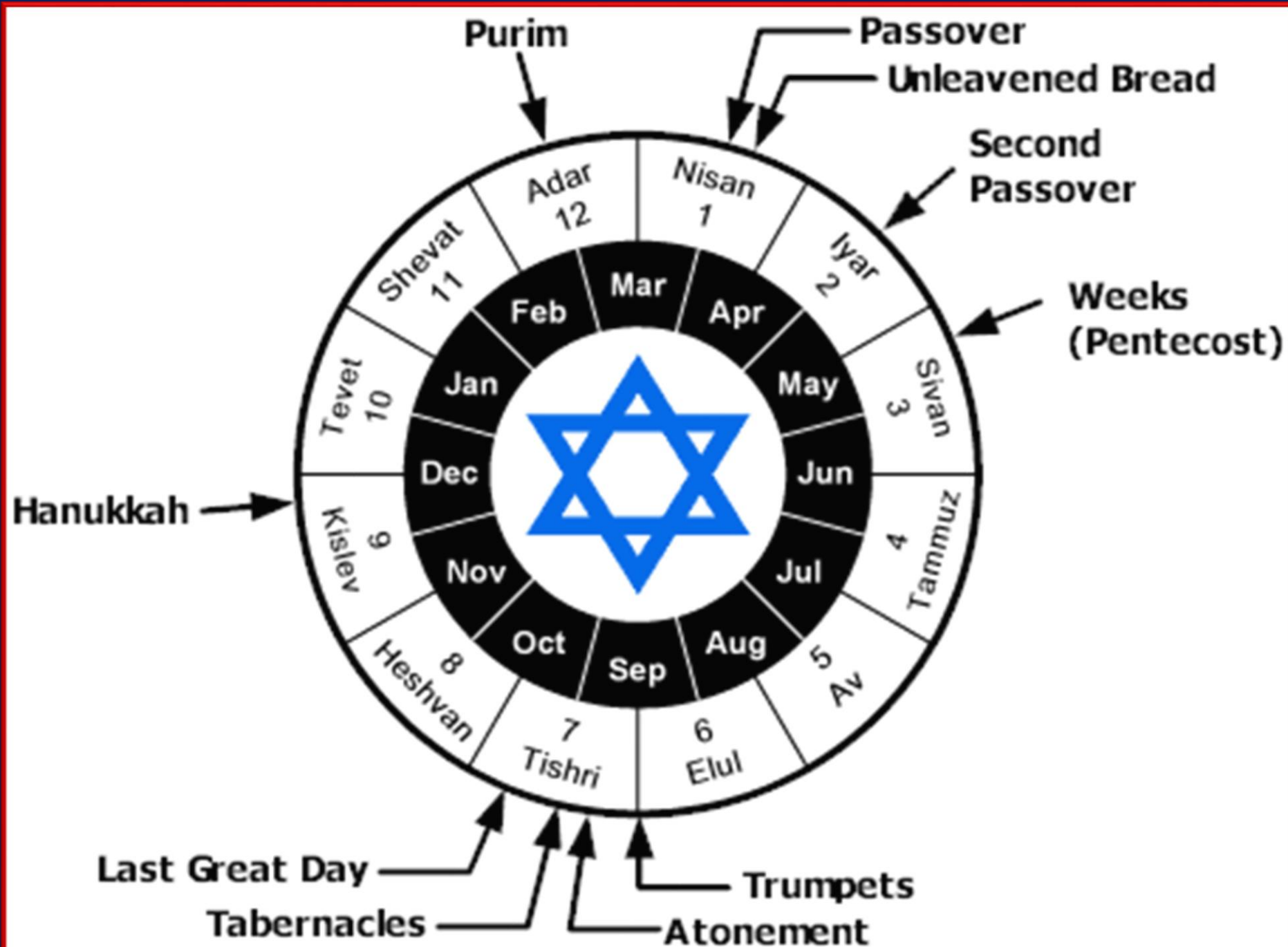


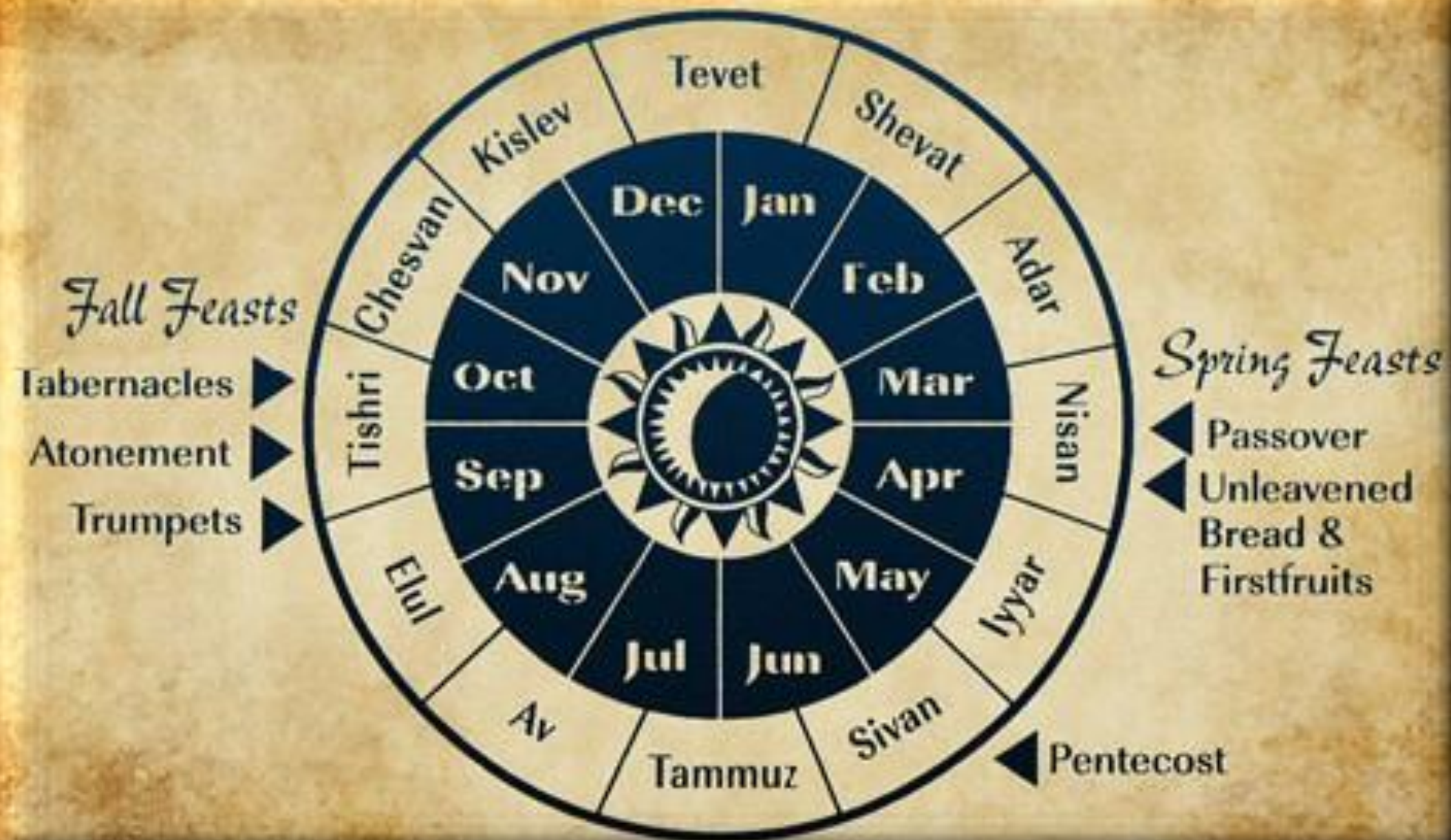
John Adams

John Adams, *A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America*, 3 vols., American Constitutional and Legal History, ed. Leonard W. Levy (London: Dilly, 1787; reprint, NY: Da Capo, 1971), 3:217



“The moment the idea is admitted into society, that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If ‘Thou Shalt Not Covet,’ and ‘Thou Shalt Not Steal’ were not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society before it can be civilized or made free.”

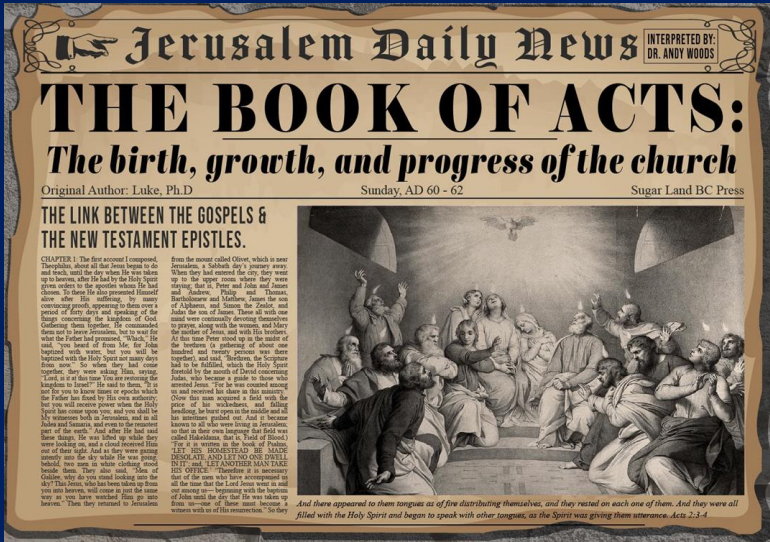




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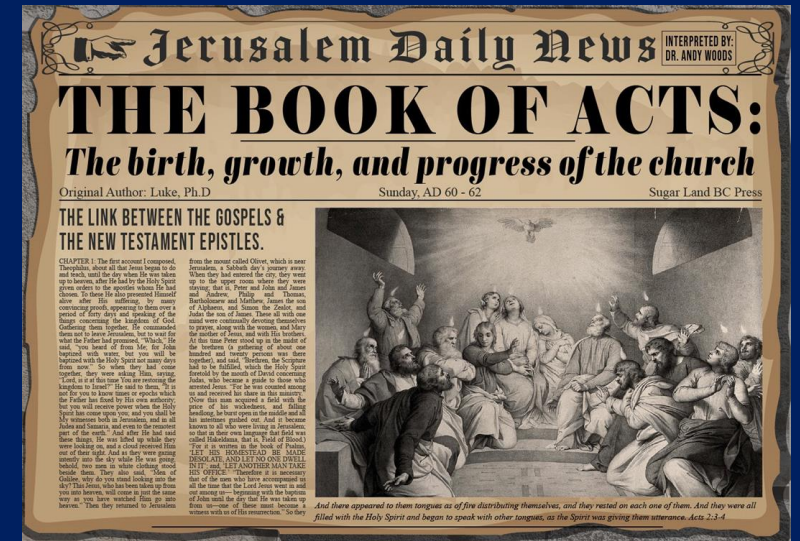
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B. Acts 2:42-47 Church

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Matthew 16:18

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



Acts 2:47

“praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (NASB)

“praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” (NKJV)

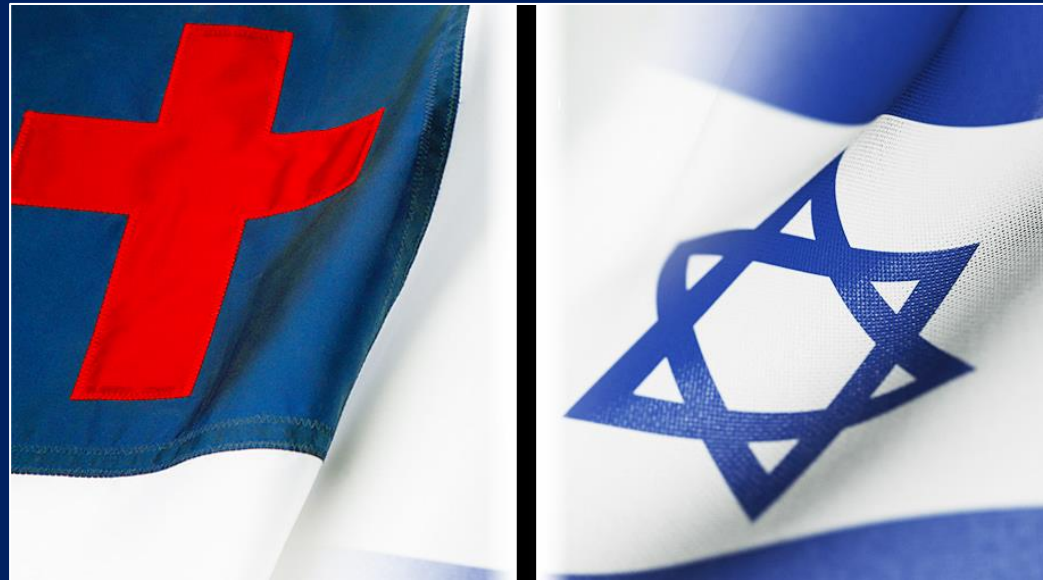




Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, "Israel and the Church," in *Issues in Dispensationalism*, ed. Wesley R. Willis and John R. Master (Chicago: Moody, 1994), 118.

“In the book of Acts, both Israel and the church exist simultaneously. The term *Israel* is used twenty times and *ekklēsia* (church) nineteen times, yet the two groups are always kept distinct.”



Conclusion

Acts 2

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I. Coming of the Holy Spirit (1-4)

II. Holy Spirit's Impact (5-13)

III. Peter's Sermon (14-36)

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