

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

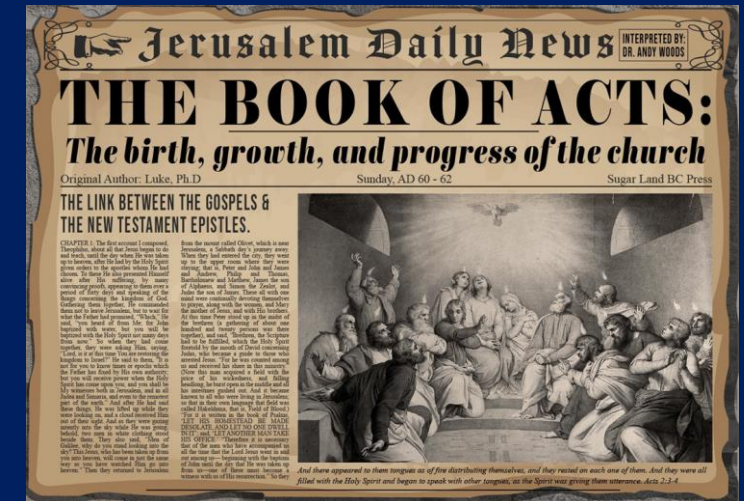
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Acts 8:5-40

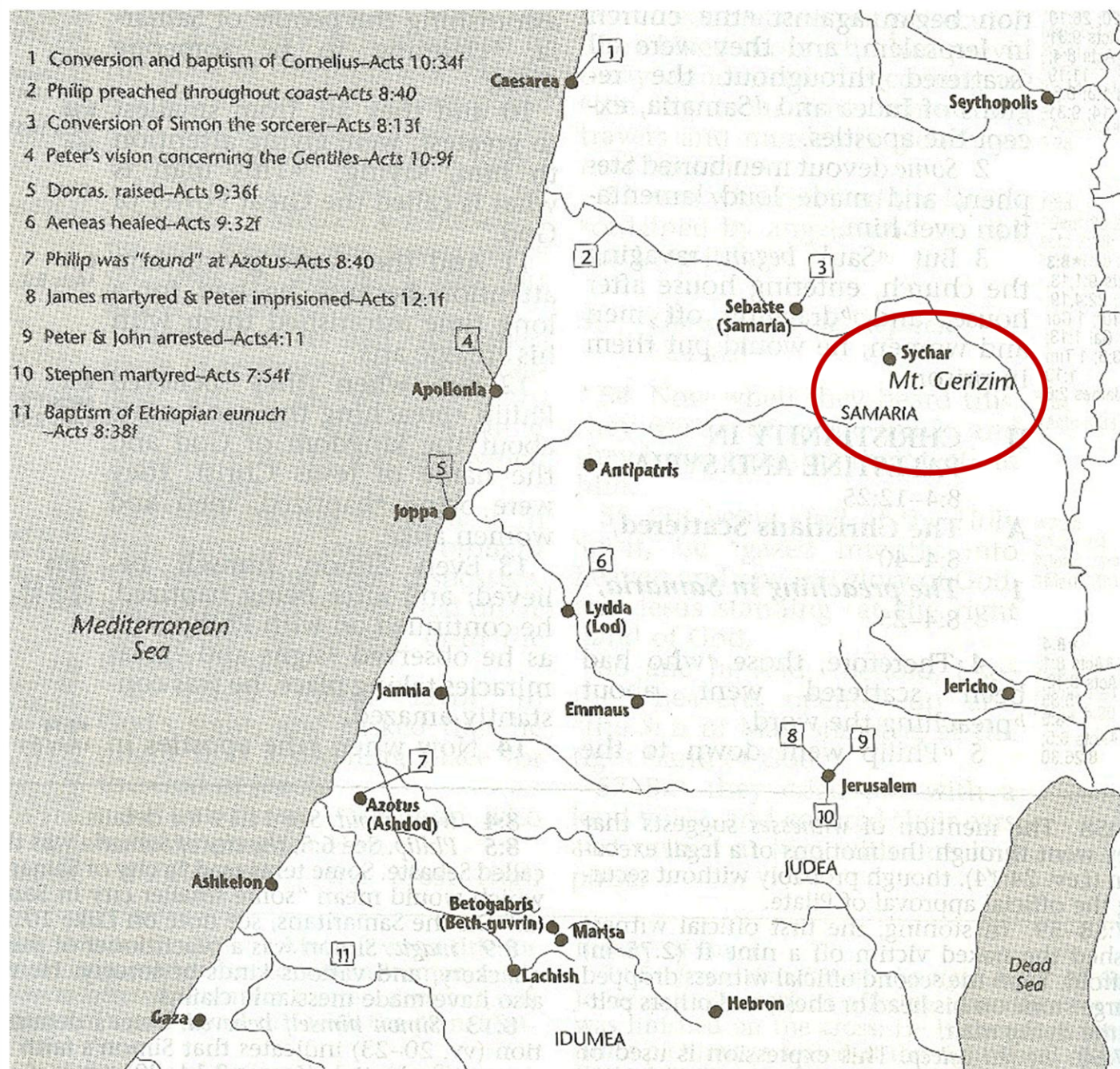
Philip's Ministry

I. Samaria (8:5-25)

II. Judea (Acts 8:26-40)



- 1 Conversion and baptism of Cornelius—Acts 10:34f
- 2 Philip preached throughout coast—Acts 8:40
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I. Ministry in Samaria

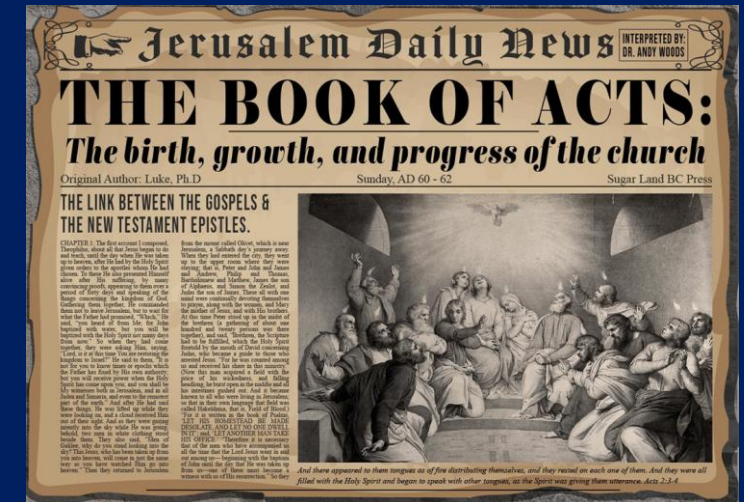
Acts 8:5-25

A. Evangelization in Samaria (5-8)

B. Simon's conversion (9-13)

C. Peter & John lay hands on the Samaritans (14-17)

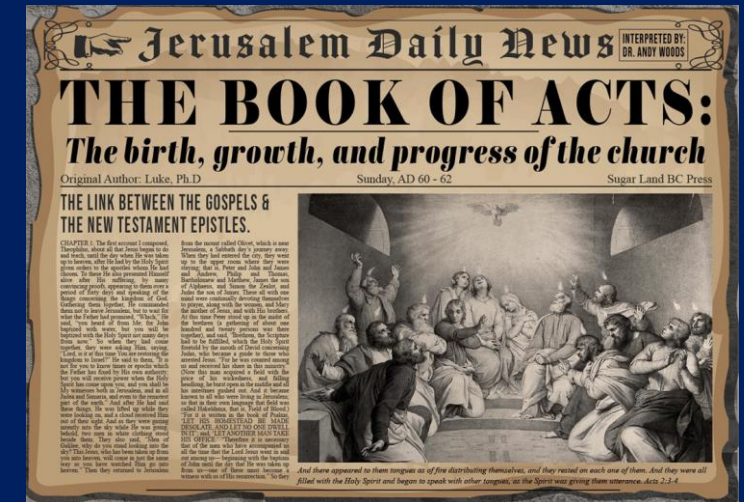
D. Peter rebukes Simon (18-25)



B. Acts 8:9-13

Simon's Conversion

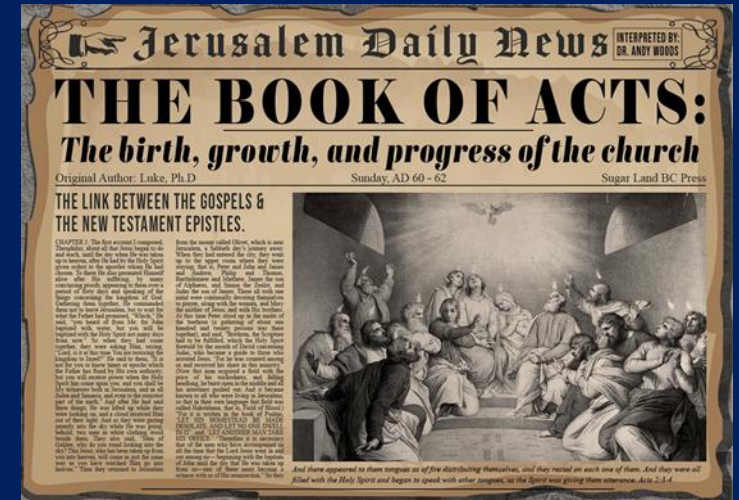
1. Simon's deception (9-11)
2. Samaria's response to Philip's preaching (12)
3. Simon's response to Philip's preaching (13)



3. Acts 8:13

Simon's Response to Philip's Preaching

- a) Faith (13a)
- b) Baptism (13b)
- c) Followed Philip (13c)



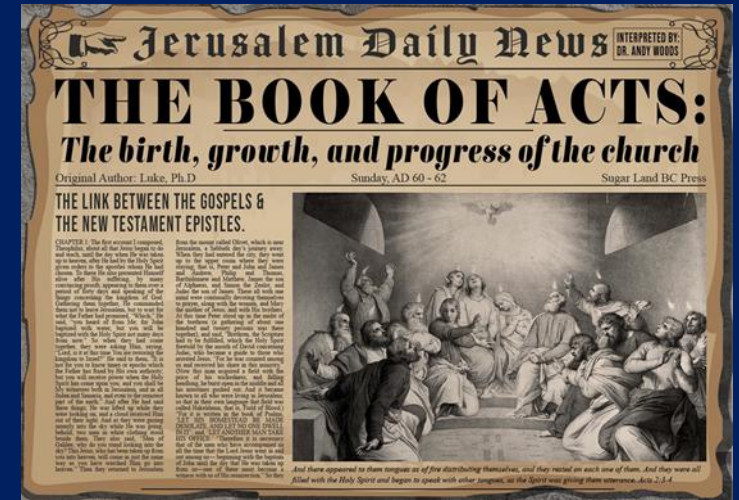
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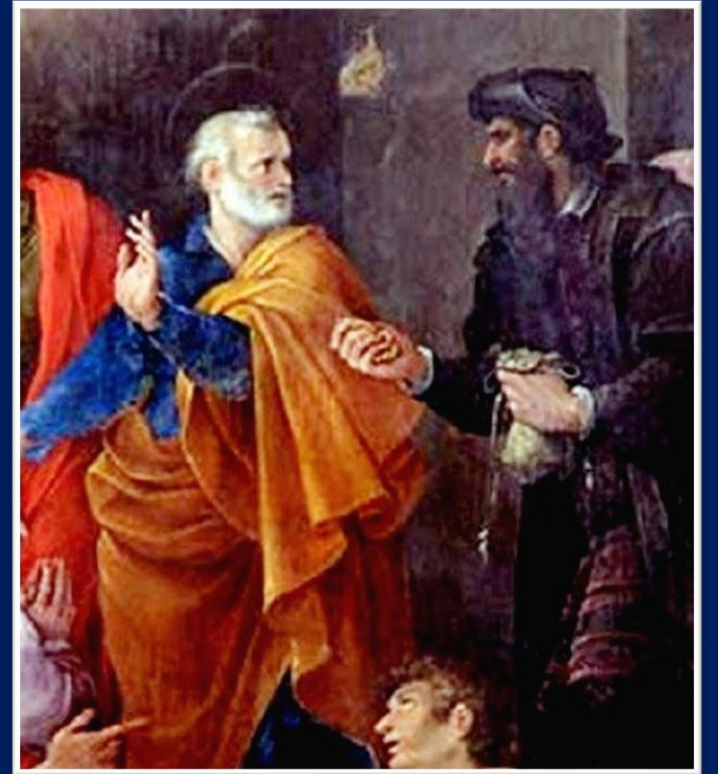
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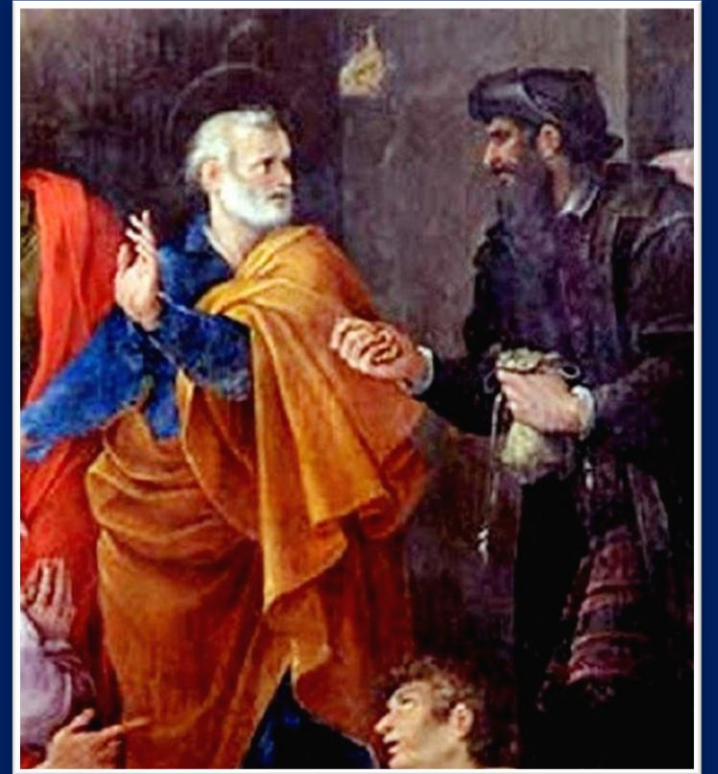
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1. Simon believed (Acts 8:12, 13)
2. Simon was baptized (Acts 8:12, 13)
3. Simon experienced remorse (Acts 8:24)



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Belief – God’s One Condition for Justification



“...because upwards of 150 passages of Scripture condition salvation upon believing only (cf. John 3:16; Acts 16:31).”

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

Belief – God's One Condition for Justification

Gen 15:6

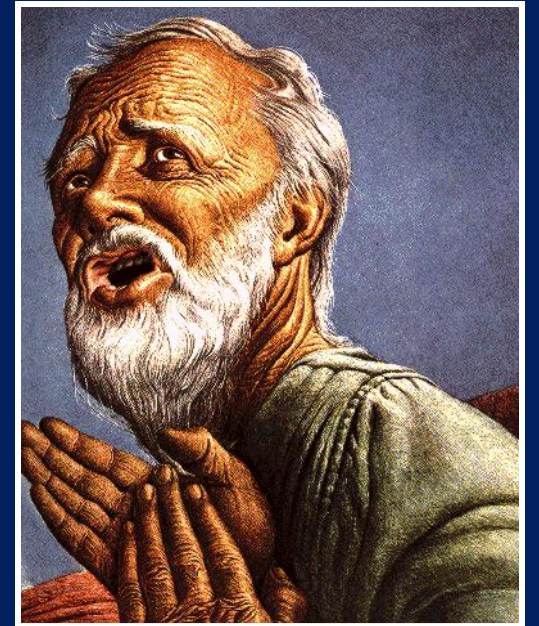
Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

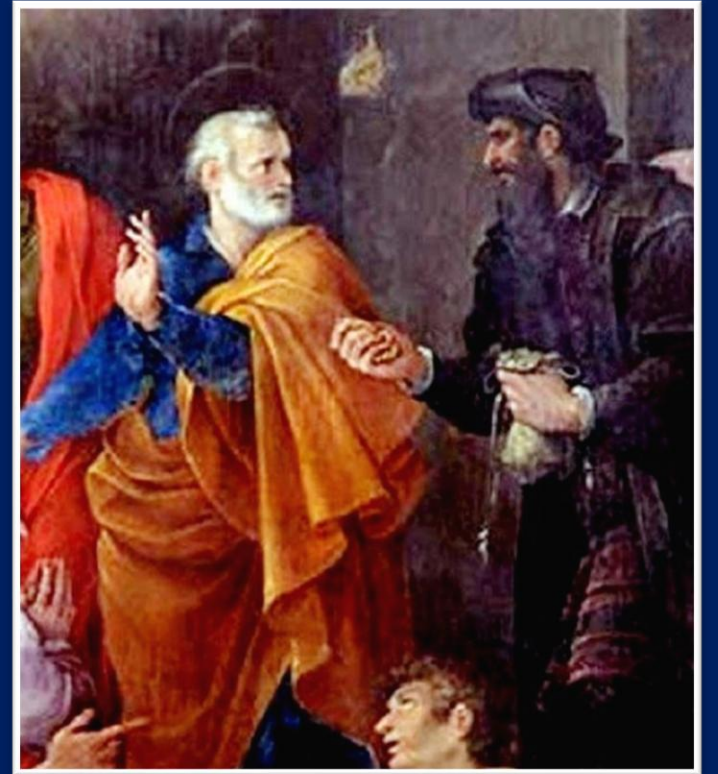
Acts 16:30-31

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..."



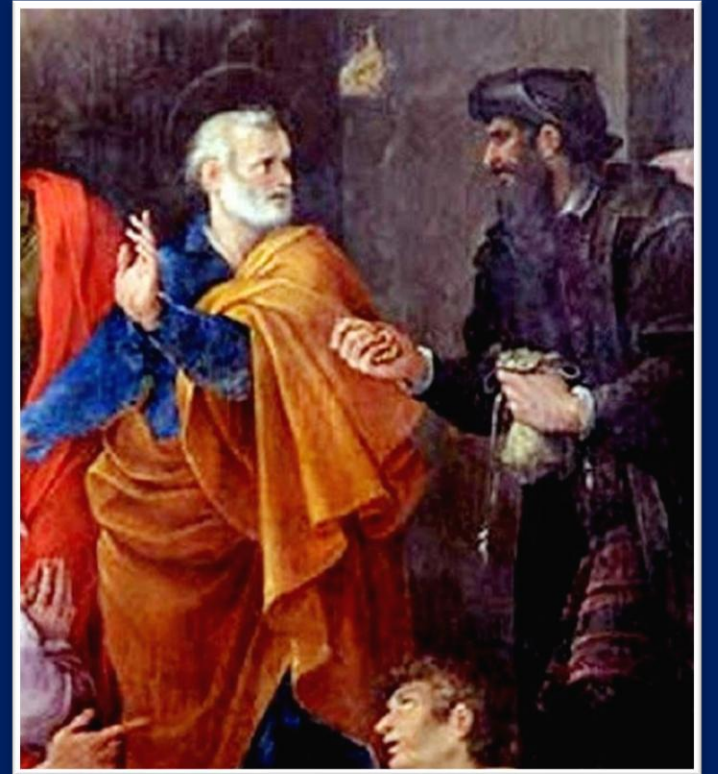
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Illegitimate Faith

1. Spurious faith (Luke 8:13; Jas. 2:19)
2. Miracle faith (John 2:23-25)
3. Repent (2 Pet. 3:9)
4. Perish (John 3:16)
5. Description of the Lost (Acts 8:21, 23)
6. Simon never received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17-18)
7. Founder of Gnosticism

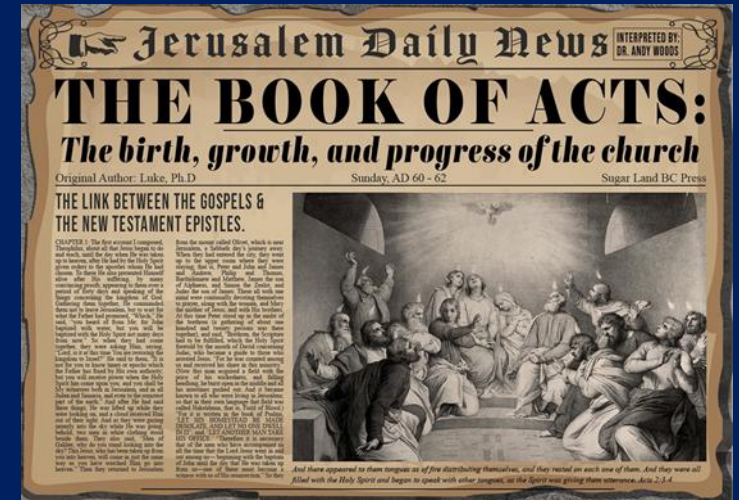
Answering Illegitimate Faith Arguments

1. Spurious faith (Luke 8:13; Jas. 2:19) – Angels
2. Miracle faith (John 2:23-25) – *pistueō eis*
3. Repent (2 Pet. 3:9) – Rev. 2–3
4. Perish (John 3:16) – Temporal
5. Description of the Lost (Acts 8:21, 23) – No time for Sanctification
6. Simon never received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17-18) – Argument from silence
7. Founder of Gnosticism – *Sola Scriptura*

3. Acts 8:13

Simon's Response to Philip's Preaching

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1 Corinthians 12:13

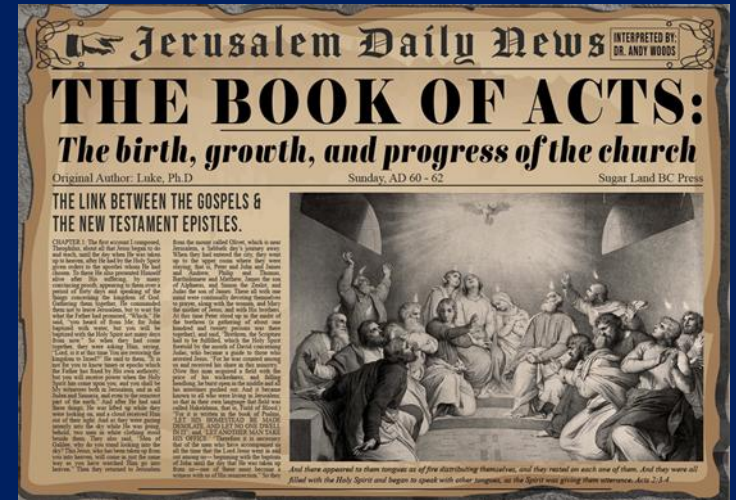
“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”



3. Acts 8:13

Simon's Response to Philip's Preaching

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Three Tenses of Salvation

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

Romans 12:2

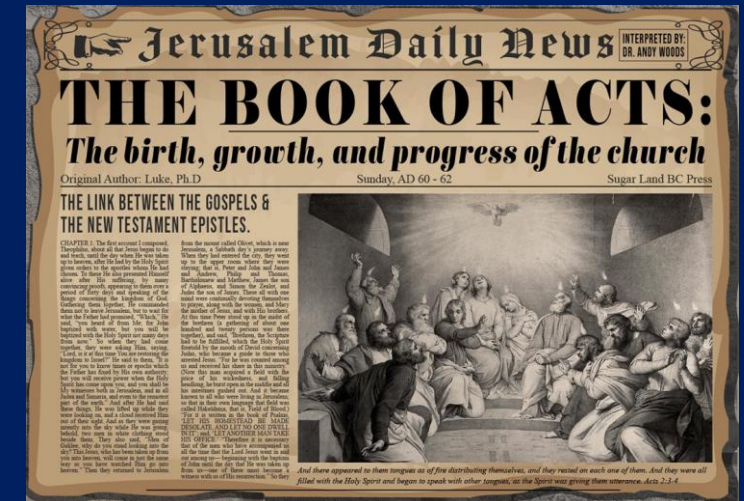
“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”



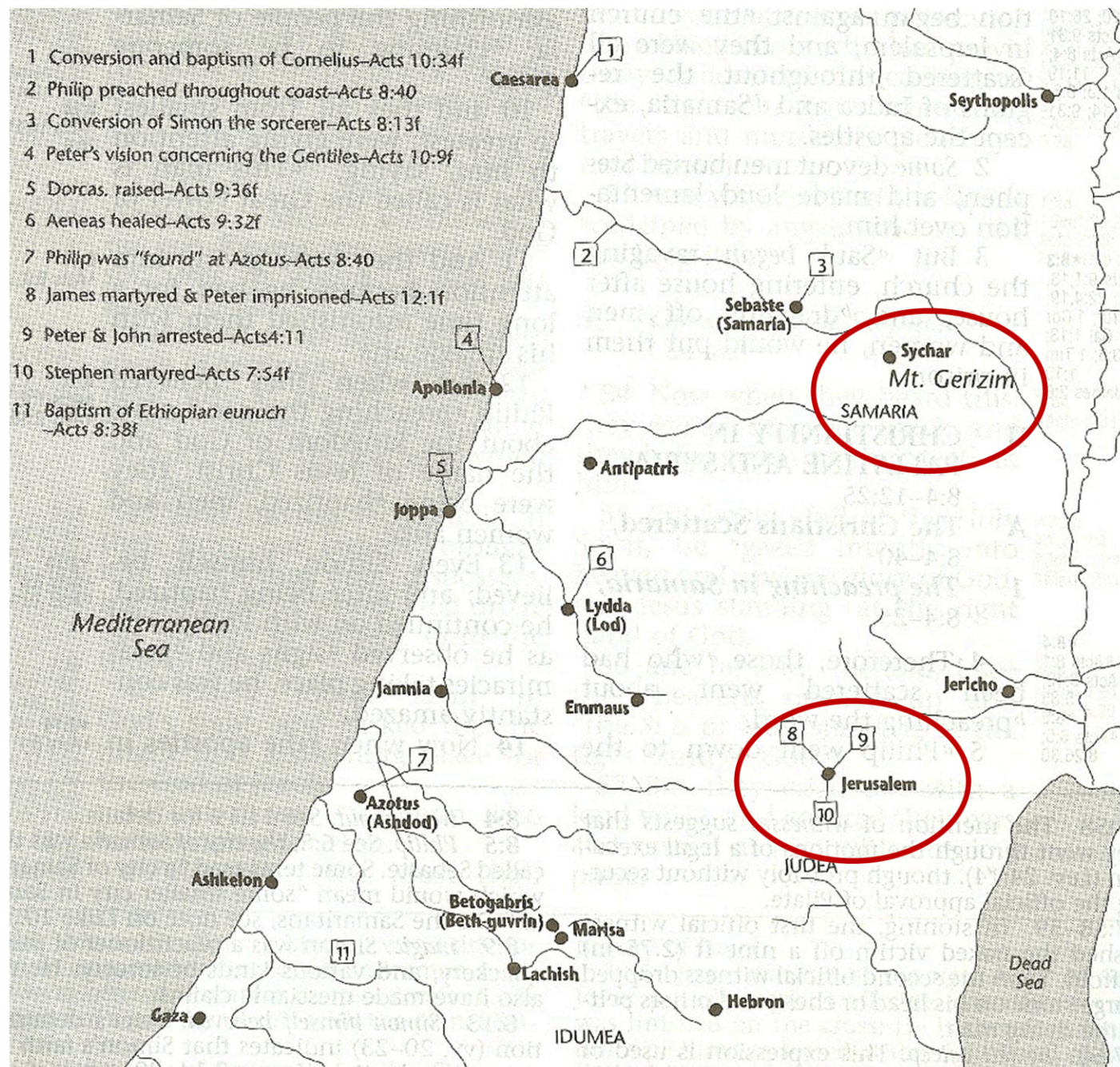
C. Acts 8:14-17

Peter & John Lay Hands on the Samaritans

1. The concern (14)
2. The problem (15-16)
3. The solution (17)



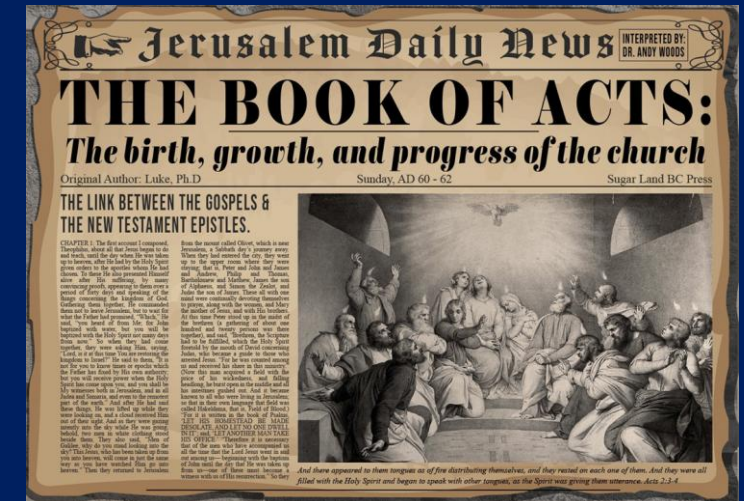
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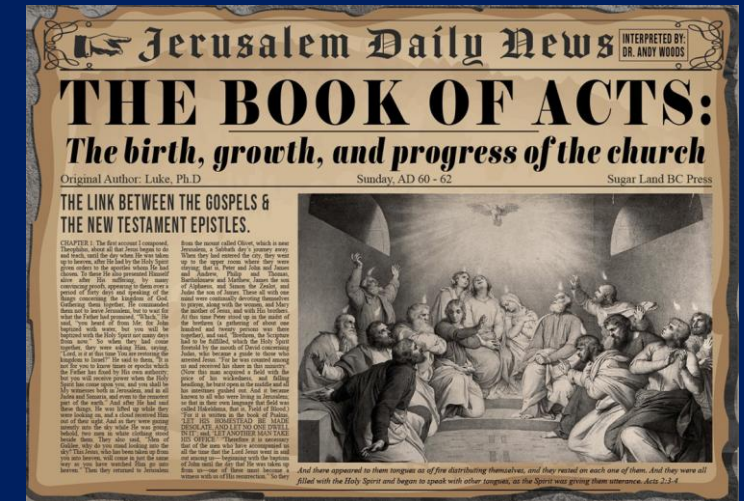
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Acts 1:5

“for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”



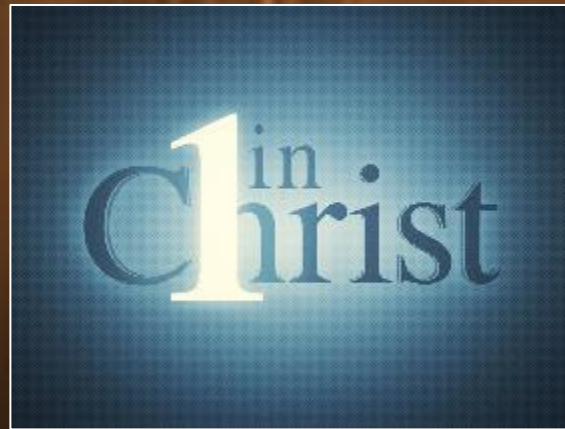
1 Corinthians 12:13

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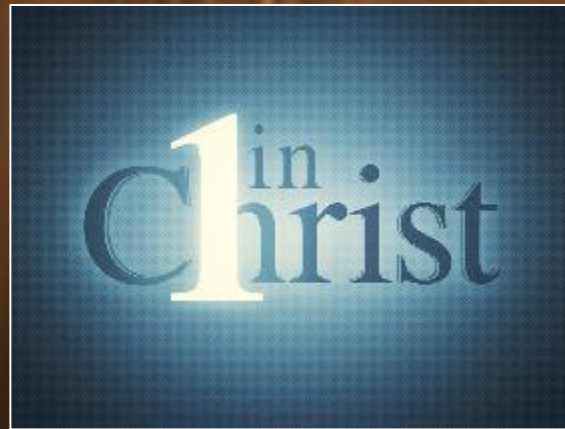
Galatians 3:28

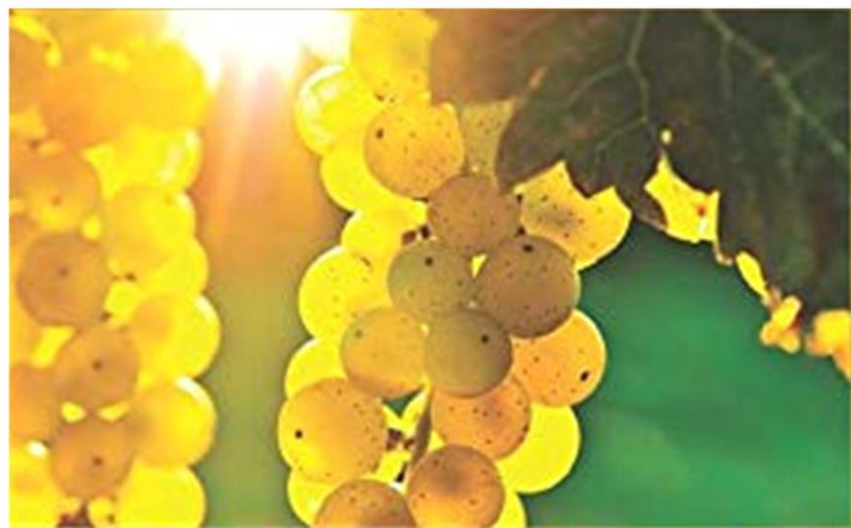
“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”



Ephesians 2:14

“For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall.”





NEW WINE

A STUDY OF
TRANSITION
IN THE
BOOK OF
ACTS

J. DWIGHT PENTECOST

I. Ministry in Samaria

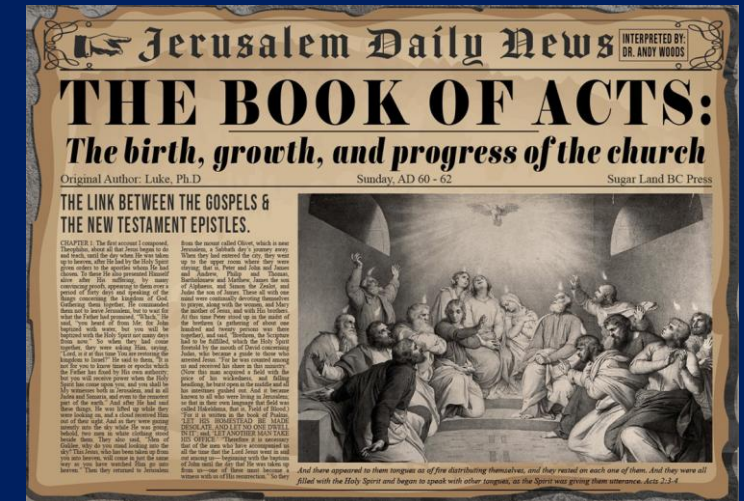
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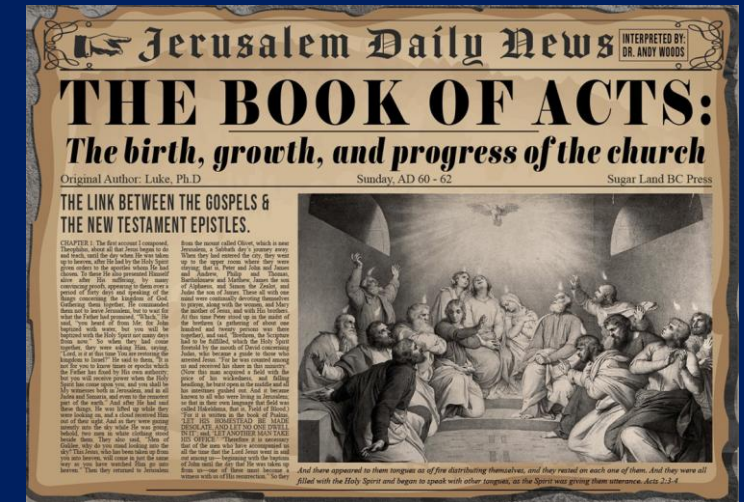
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1. Acts 8:18-19

Simon's Request

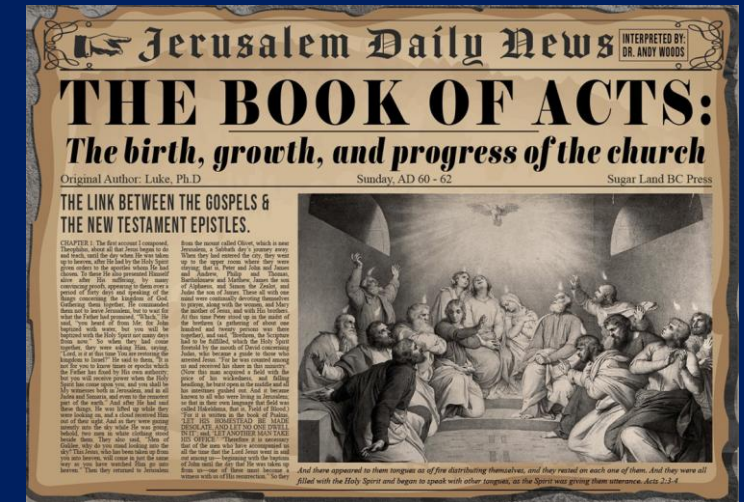
- a) Simon's observation (18a)
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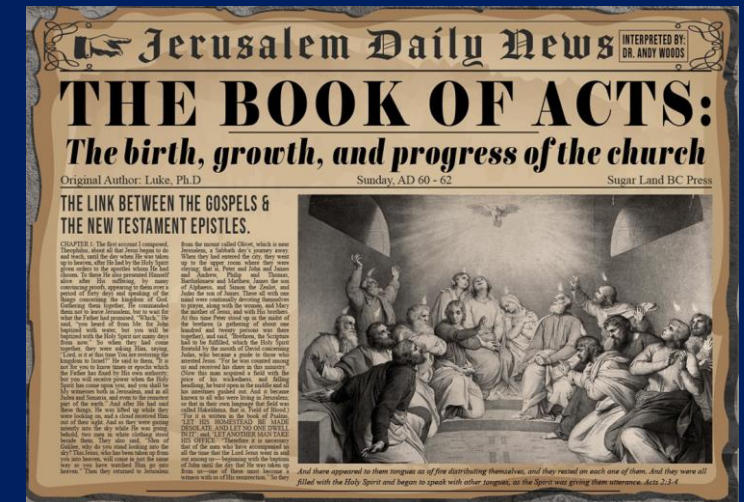
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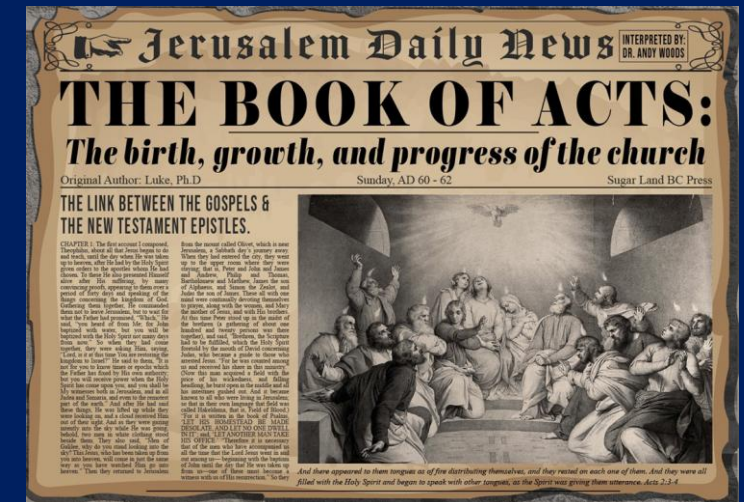
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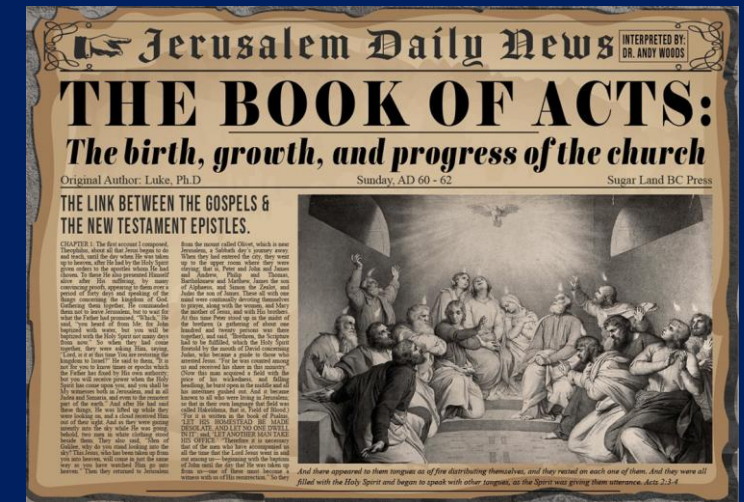
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D. Acts 8:18-25

Peter Rebukes Simon

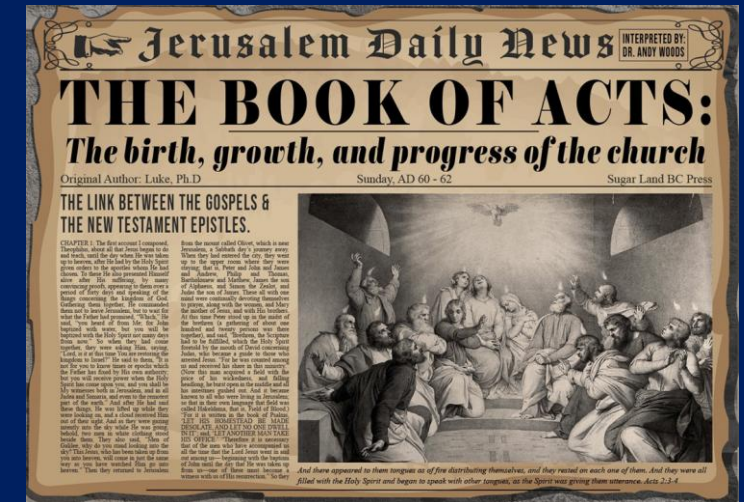
1. Simon's request (18-19)
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4. Conclusion (25)



2. Acts 8:20-23

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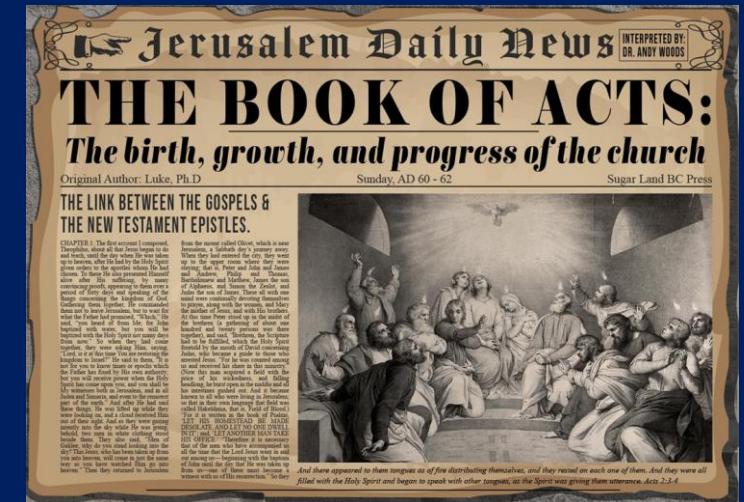
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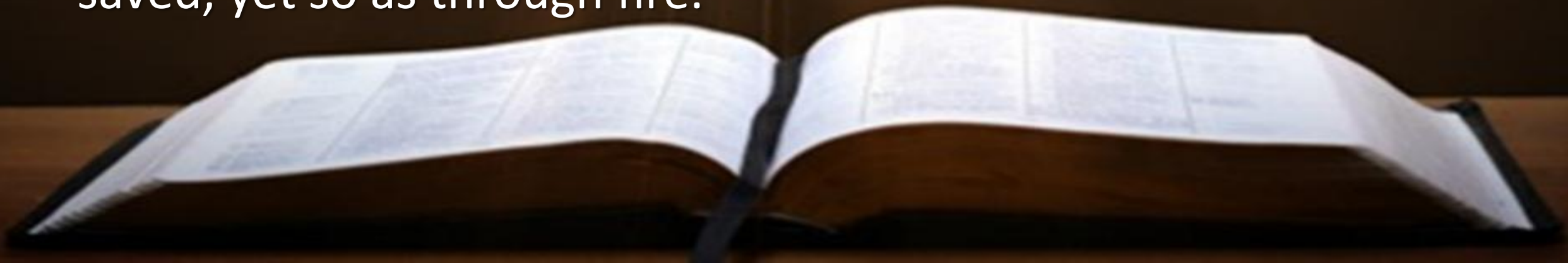
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1 Corinthians 3:10-15

“¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw.... ¹⁴ If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.”



1 Corinthians 9:24-27

“²⁴ Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but *only* one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. ²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then *do it* to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; ²⁷ **but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.**”



2 John 8

“Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.”



Revelation 3:11

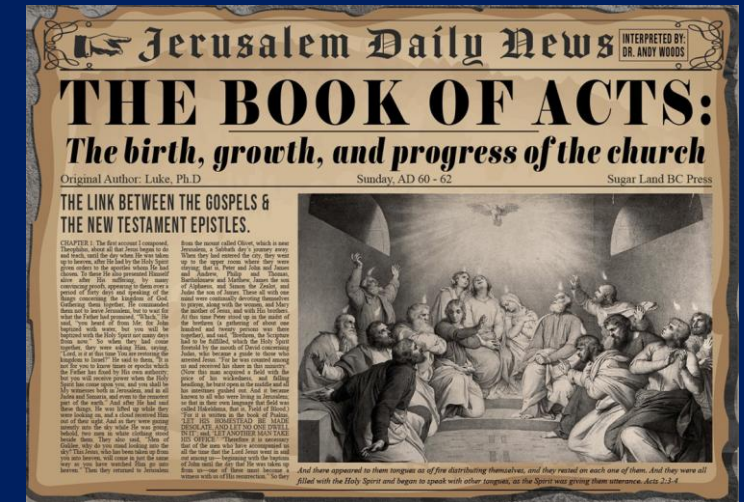
“I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.”



2. Acts 8:20-23

Peter Rebukes Simon

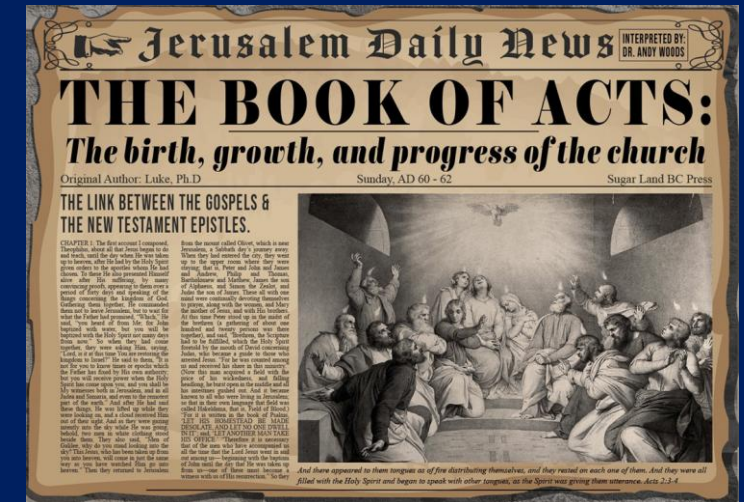
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The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



Revelation 3:19

CONSEQUENCES

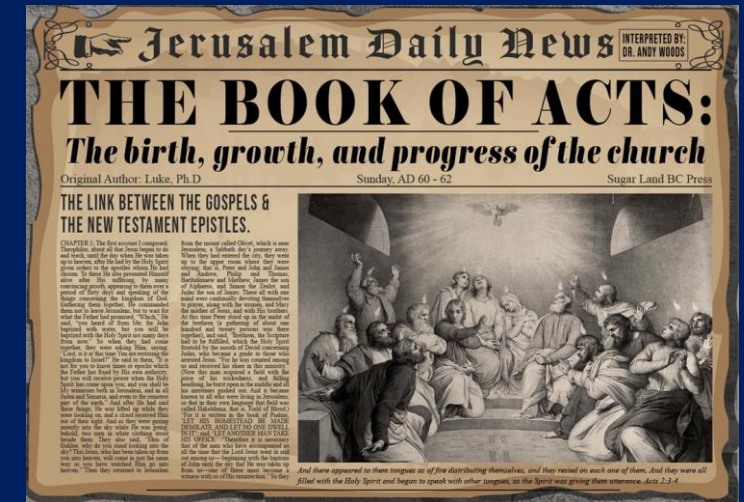
“Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.”



2. Acts 8:20-23

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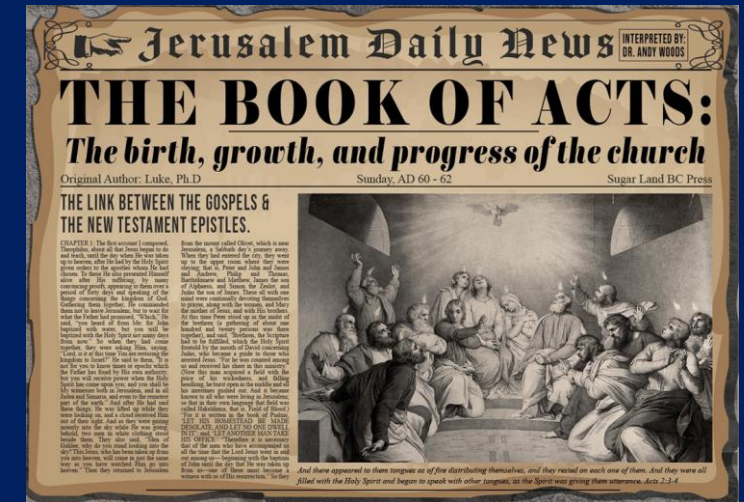
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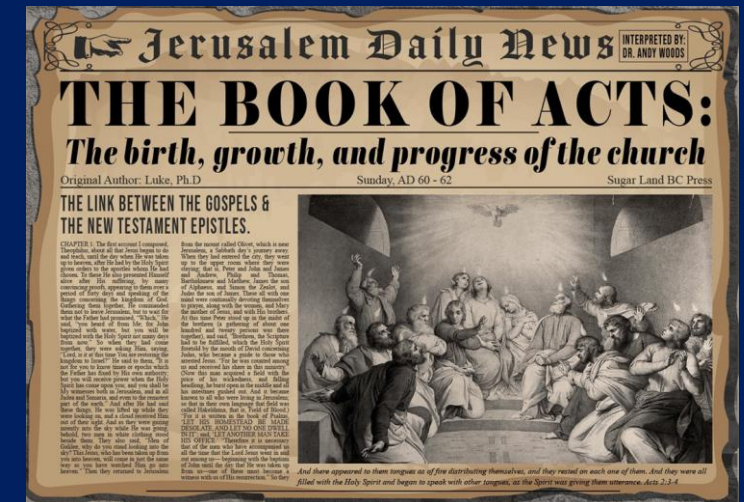
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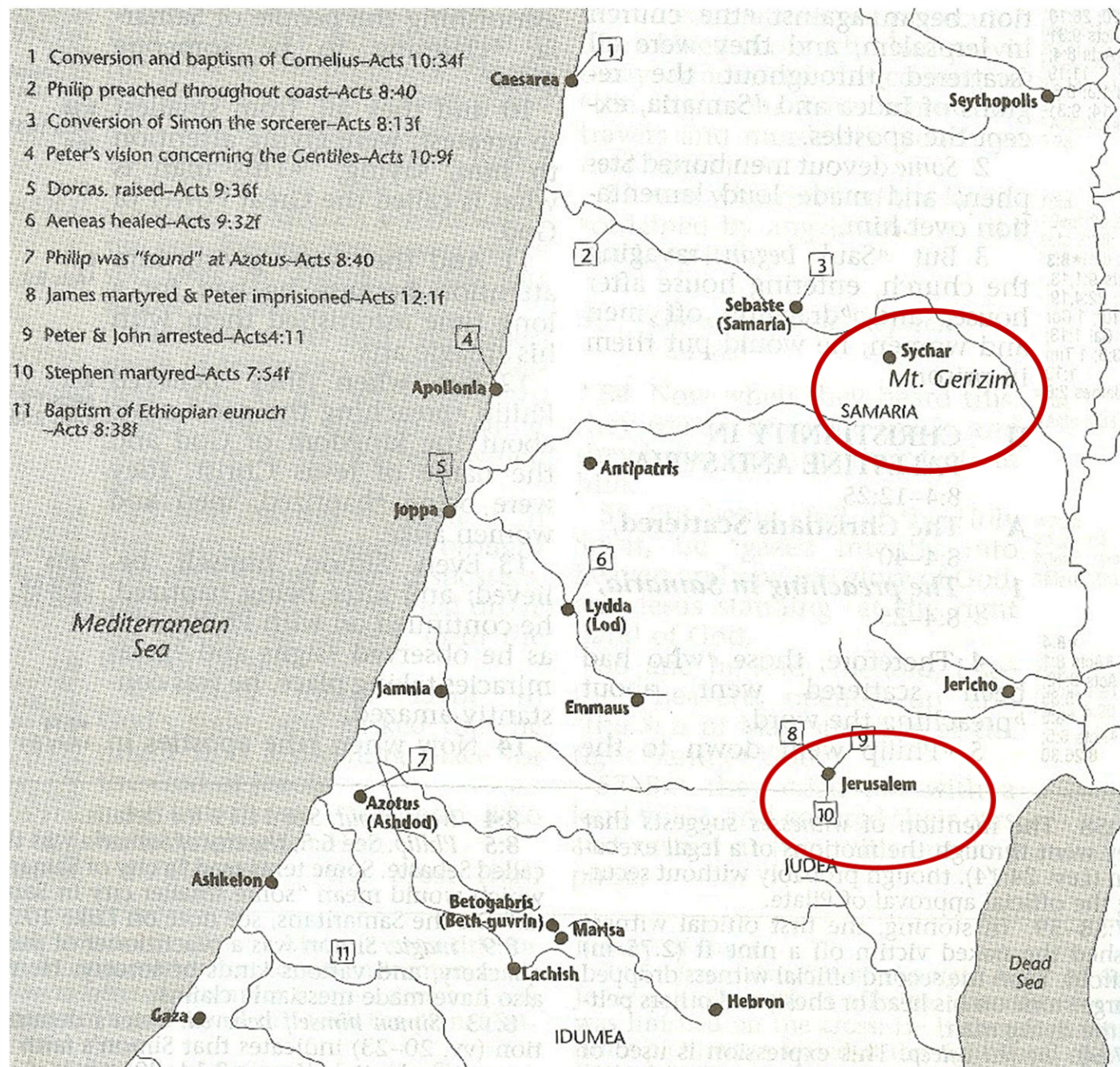


The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1: 11



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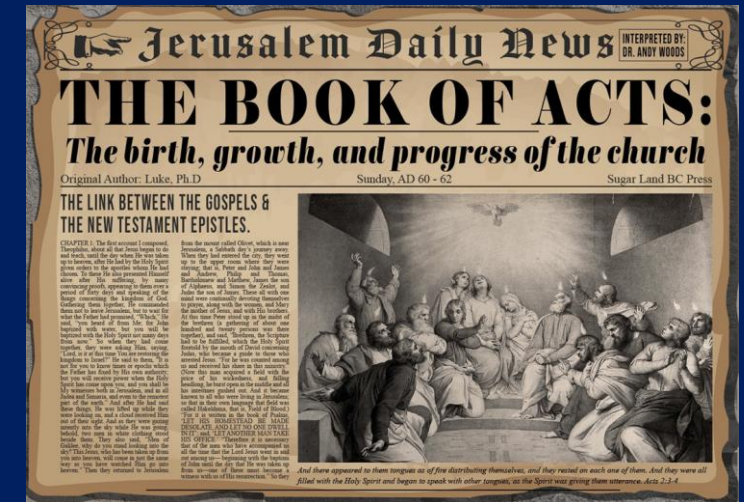


Acts 8:5-40

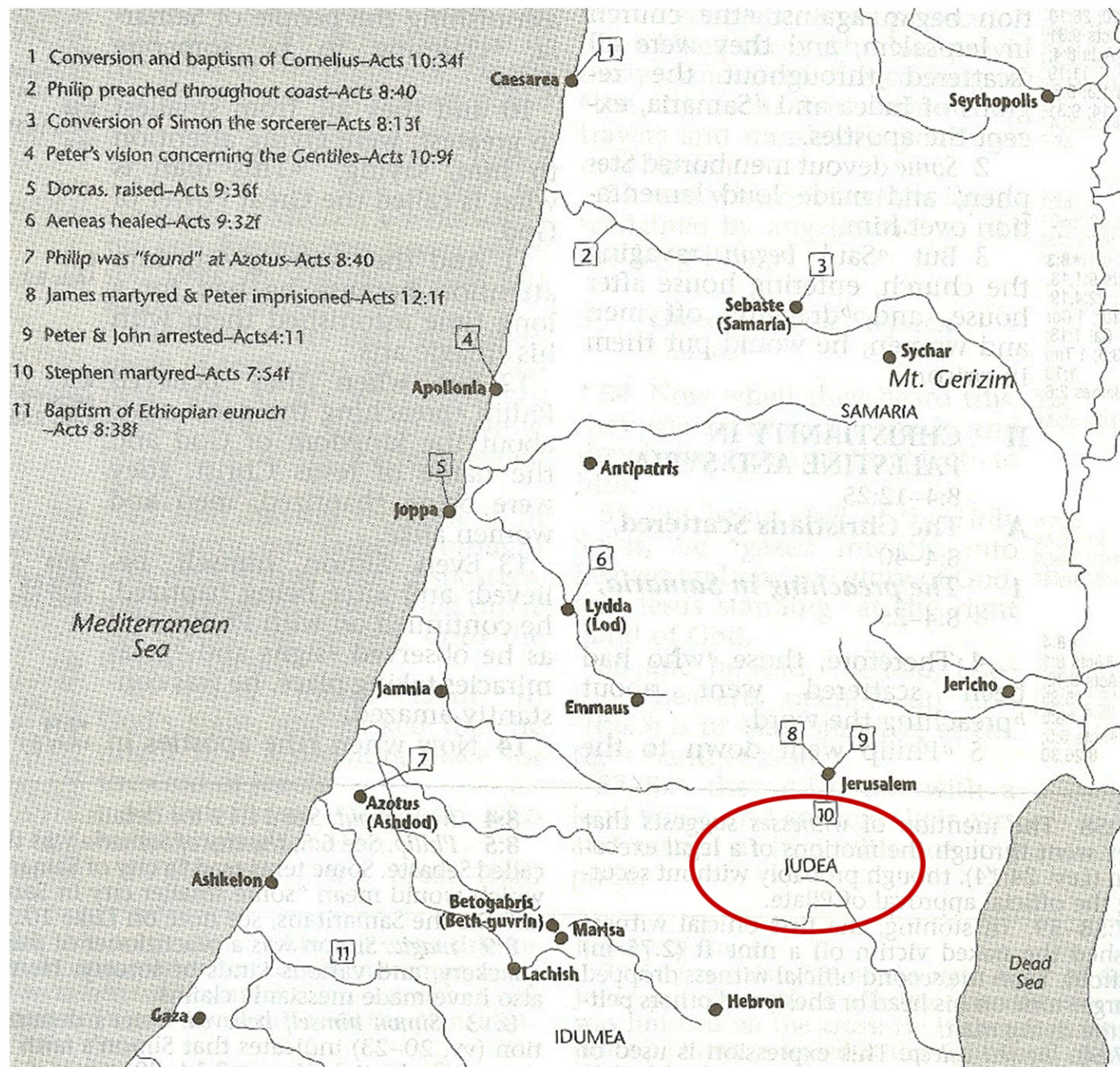
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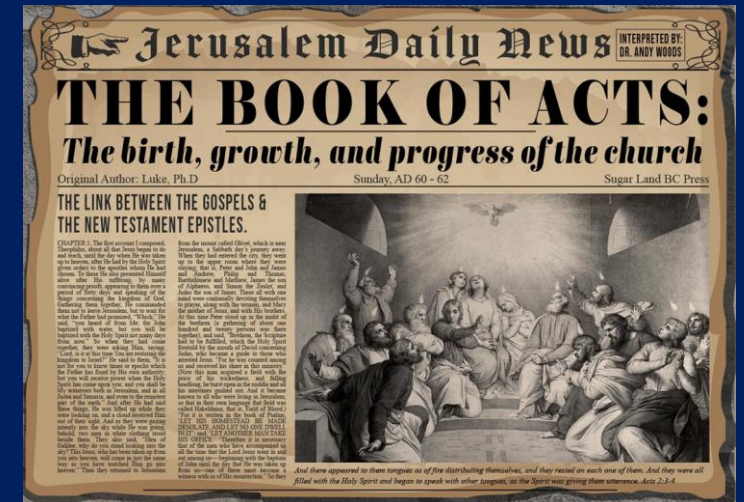
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II. Ministry in Judea

Acts 8:26-40

- A. Angel directs Philip (26)
- B. Philip's obedience (27a)
- C. Ethiopian Eunuch's introduction (27b-28)
- D. Holy Spirit directs Philip (29)
- E. Philip's witness to the Eunuch (30-35)
- F. Eunuch's conversion & baptism (36-38)
- G. Philip's separation from the Eunuch (39)
- H. Philip's evangelization of the Coastal Plain (40)



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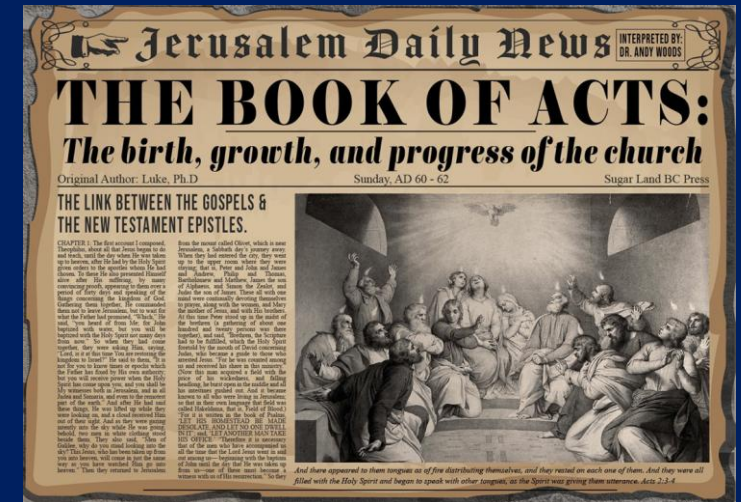
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Stanley D. Toussaint

Bible Knowledge Commentary, p. 374

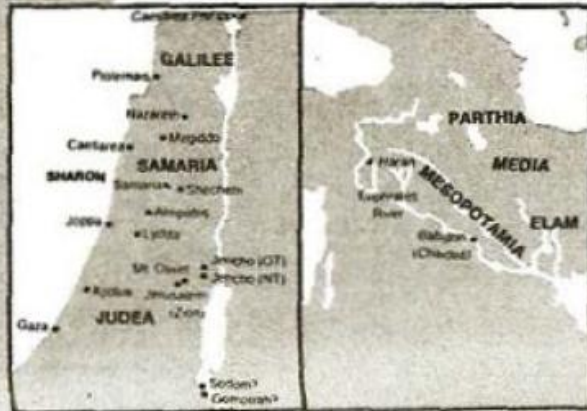
“Though Luke gave no record of God’s commanding Philip to preach to the Samaritans (v. 5), God did sovereignly direct Philip toward Gaza . . . The highway is referred to as the desert road. The expression may refer to a desert road or a desert city. Ancient Gaza was destroyed in 93 B.C. and the city was rebuilt nearer the Mediterranean in 57 B.C. The old city was called Desert Gaza. The Greek for the angel’s command could be translated, ‘Arise and go to the south to the road . . . that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza. This is desert.’ This reference to the road in 8:36 may imply that the road, not the city, was in a deserted area.”

Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles

This map illustrates the geographical locations mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles. It covers the Eastern Mediterranean, including Italy, Greece, Asia Minor, and the Middle East. Key locations are marked with dots and labeled. A red circle highlights Ethiopia in the bottom right corner.

Regions and Cities shown on the map:

- Italy:** Rome, Three Taverns, Forum of Appius (Market), Puteoli, Sicily, Syracuse, Rhagium, Malta.
- Greece:** Macedonia (Philippi, Neapolis, Apollonia, Thessalonica, Berea), Thrace (Amphipolis, Troas), Mysia (Assos, Adramyttium, Pergamum), Bithynia, Asia (Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia), Phrygia, Galatia (Iconium, Lystra, Derbe), Cilicia (Tarsus, Antioch, Seleucia), Syria (Salamis, Paphos, Sidon, Tyre, Damascus, Ptolemais, Caesarea, Jerusalem).
- Asia Minor:** Pontus, Cappadocia, Lyconia, Pisidia, Pamphylia, Lycia (Perga, Attalia, Myra, Patara), Rhodes, Cnidus, Laodicea, Colossae, Hierapolis, Ephesus, Smyrna, Chios, Samos, Patmos, Miletus, Goss, Aegean Sea, Achaia (Greece) (Corinth, Cenchrea), Athens, Nicopolis, Mytilene, Troas.
- Middle East:** Parthia, Media, Elam, Mesopotamia, Cyrenaica, Libya, Syria, Arabia, Midian, Egypt (Alexandria), Cyrene, Phoenix, Lasea, Salomone, Fair Havens, Crete, Judea (Jerusalem, Bethany, Jericho, etc.), Galilee (Nazareth, Capernaum, etc.), Samaria, Sharon, Gaza, Sodom, Gomorrah, Mt. Sinai, Red Sea, Ethiopia (circled in red).



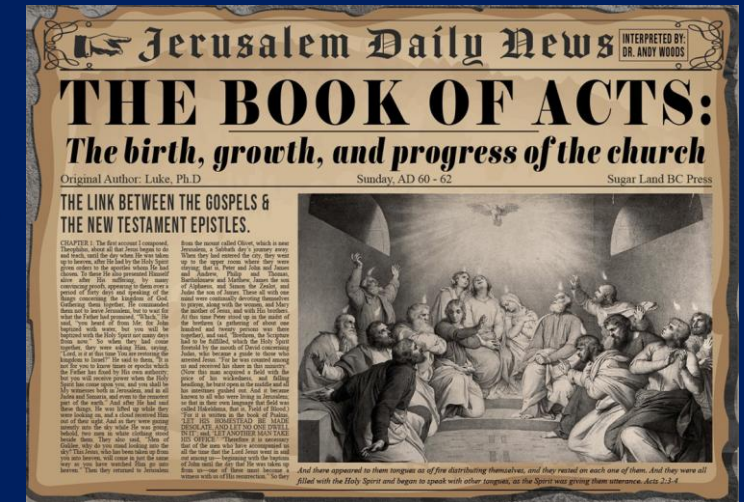
Second Missionary Journey



II. Ministry in Judea

Acts 8:26-40

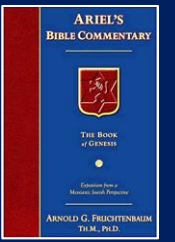
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Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

The Book of Acts, 200-201

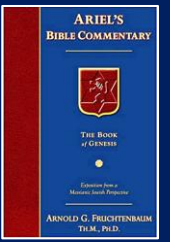


“The text states that he was a eunuch. Eunuchs were often employed by oriental rulers in positions of high office. They were also male servants of female dignitaries, but only placed in such positions after having been castrated... Politically, he was a highly influential official under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. ‘Candace’ (*Kandakēs*, in Greek) was not a proper name, but the title of the queen of Ethiopia, much like the word ‘Kaiser’ was the title of the king of Germany and ‘Czar’ was a title of the king of Russia.”



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The Book of Acts, 200-201

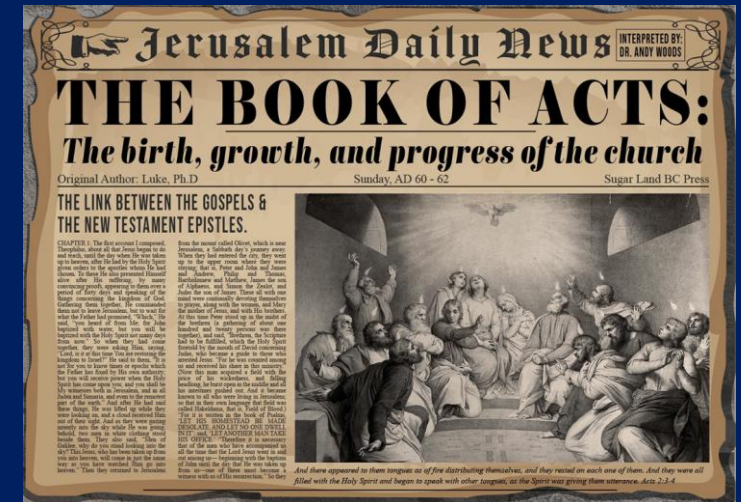


“Because the king of Ethiopia was considered to be a child of the sun and therefore a person too sacred to be involved with secular functions of the royal court, all such duties fell to the queen mother, who had the title of ‘Candace.’ As a result, she was the real power behind the throne, and Ethiopia was a de facto matriarchy. The eunuch was in charge of her treasure, which means he held one of the highest governmental positions. His influence in Ethiopia would therefore have been very considerable.”

II. Ministry in Judea

Acts 8:26-40

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Trinity

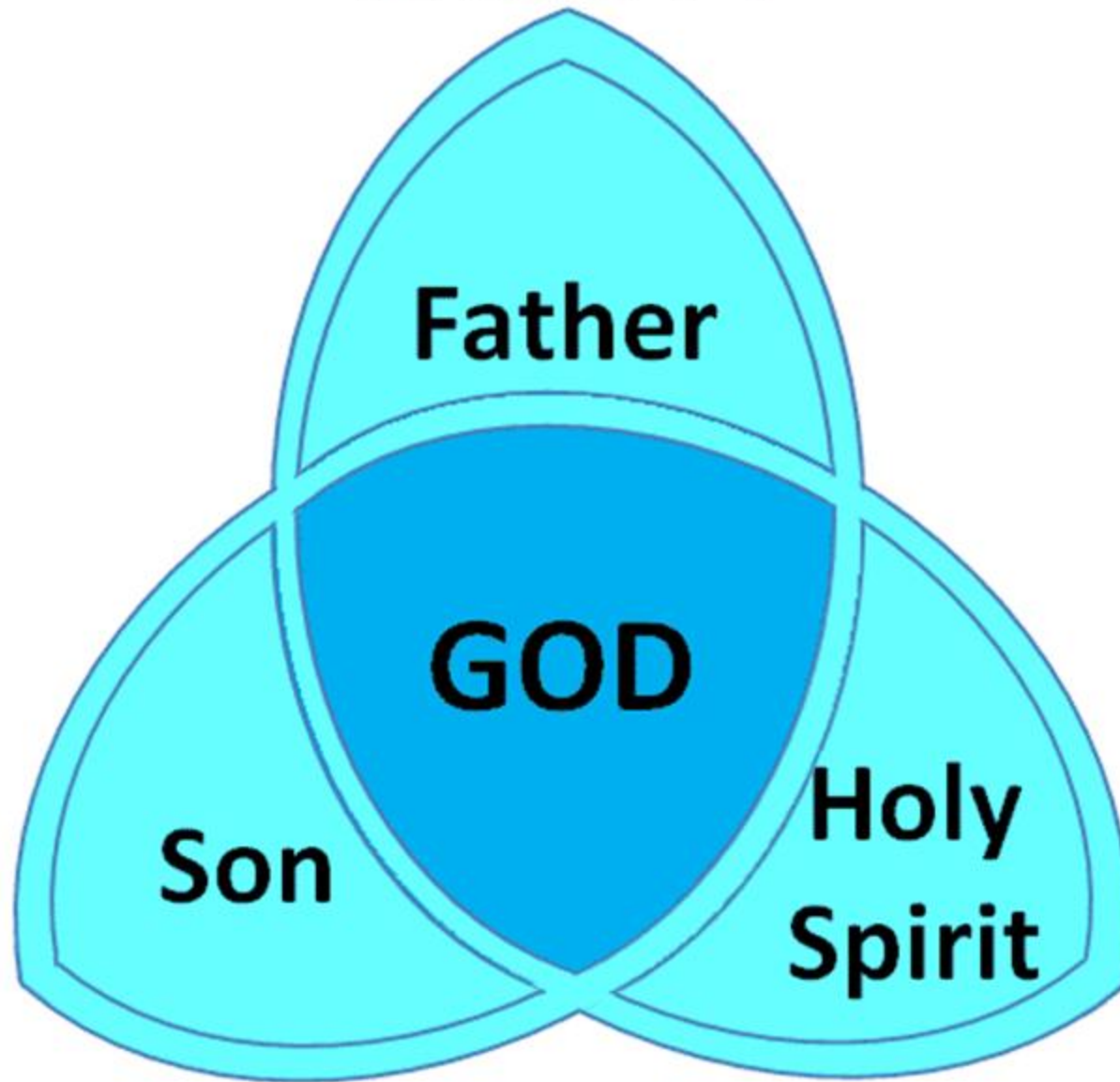
Father

Son

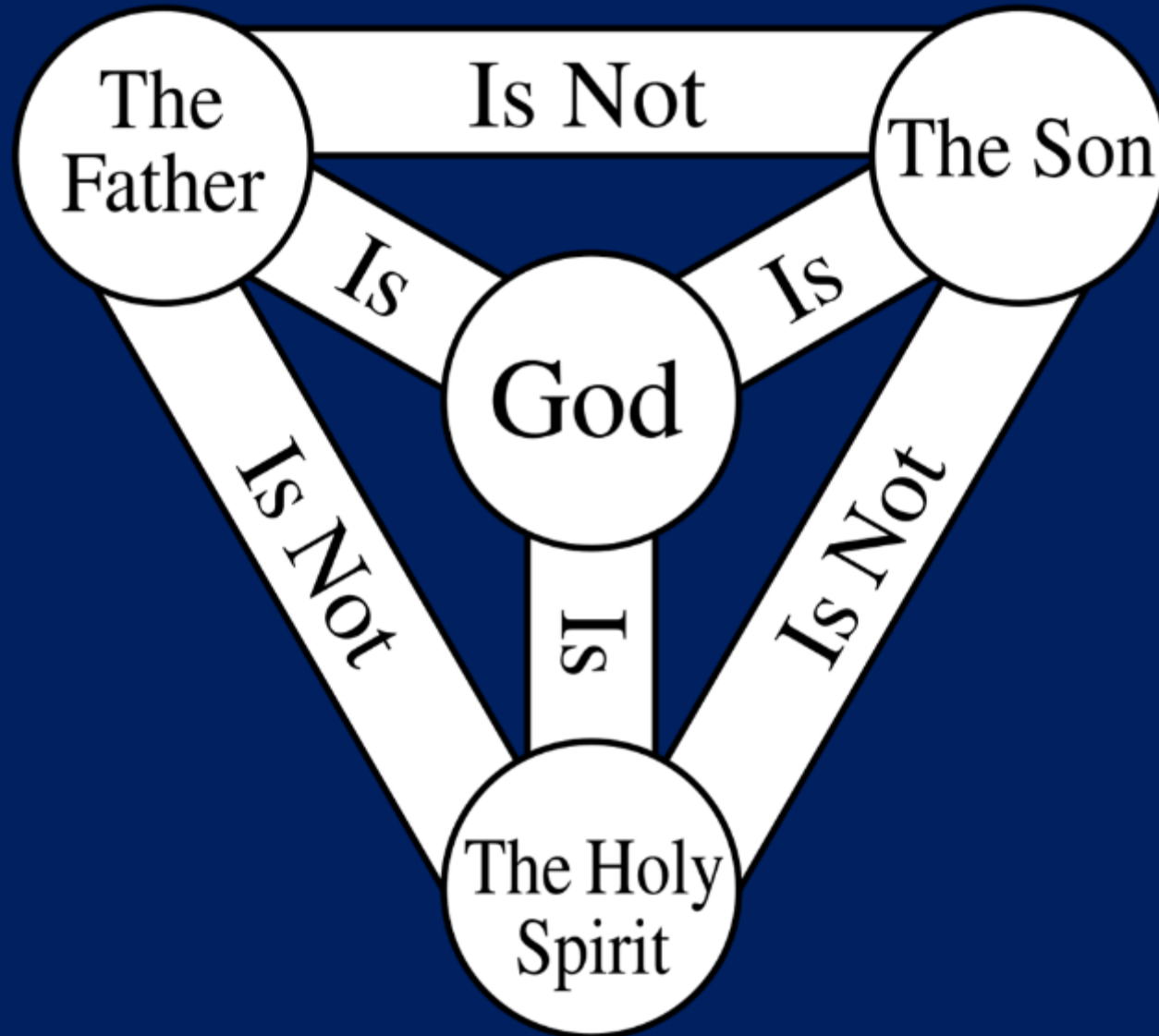
Holy
Spirit



TRINITY



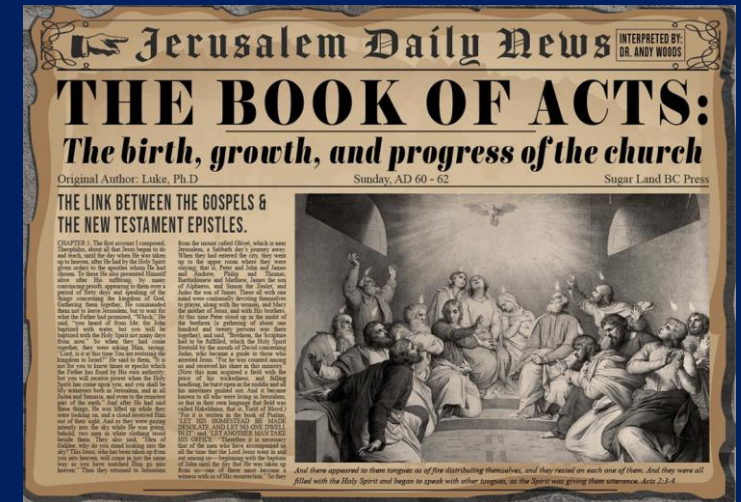
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II. Ministry in Judea

Acts 8:26-40

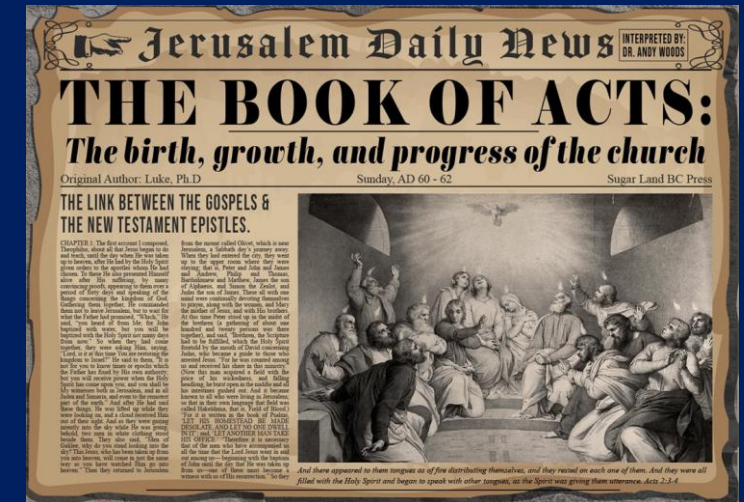
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E. Acts 8:30-35

Philip's Witness to the Eunuch

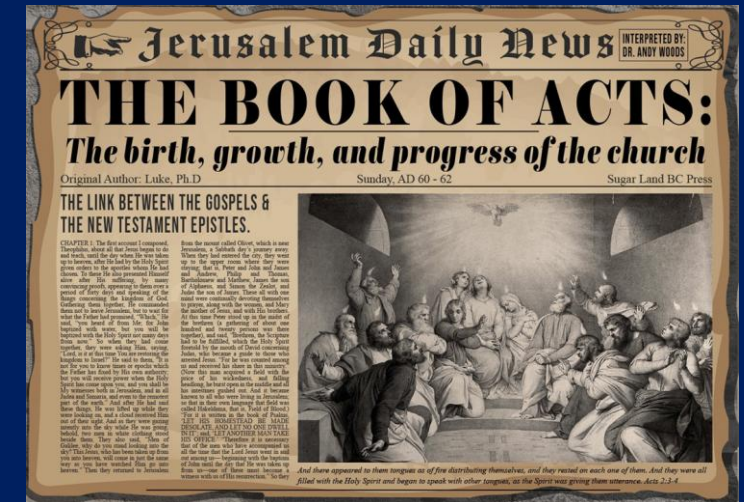
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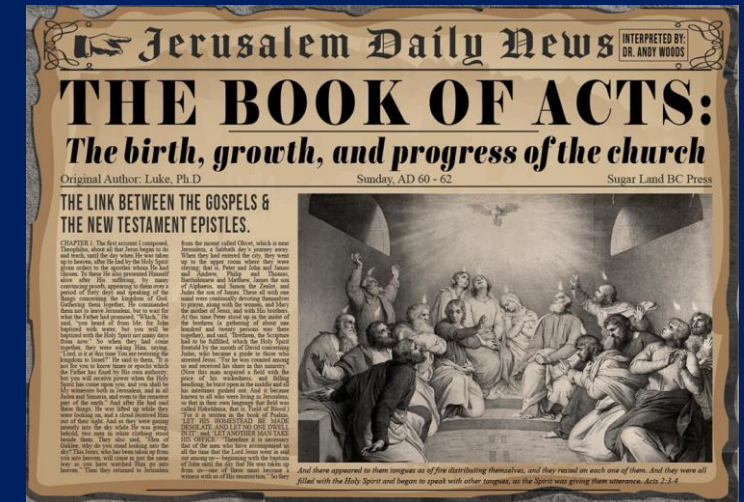
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Ephesians 4:11-16

“¹¹ And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by. . .



Ephesians 4:11-16

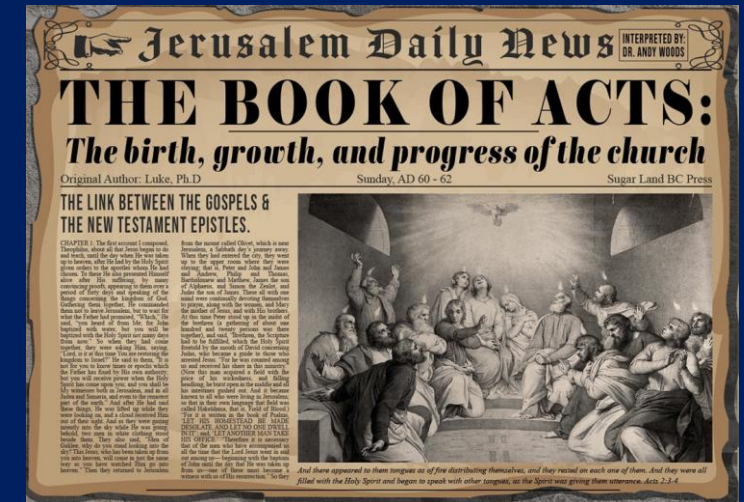
“ . . . waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;
¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, even Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.”



E. Acts 8:30-35

Philip's Witness to the Eunuch

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Isaiah 53:3–6

³ He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our...



Isaiah 53:3–6

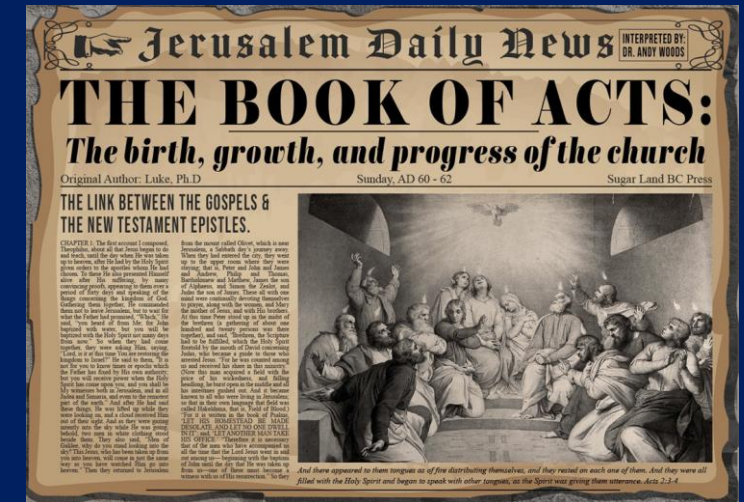
...iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. ⁶ All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.



E. Acts 8:30-35

Philip's Witness to the Eunuch

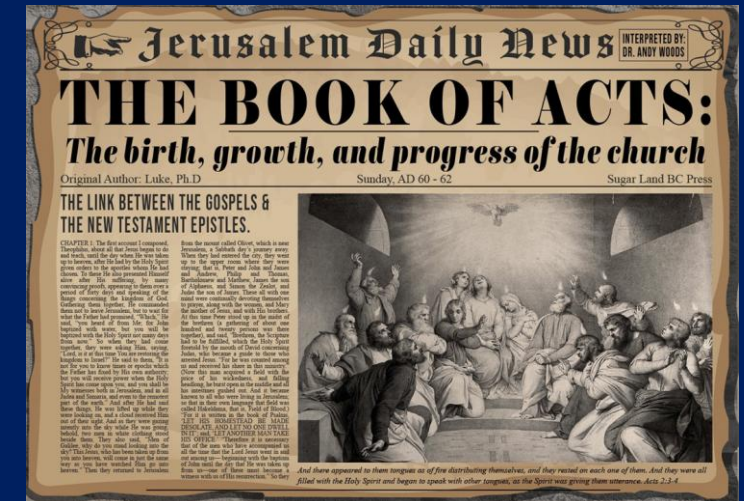
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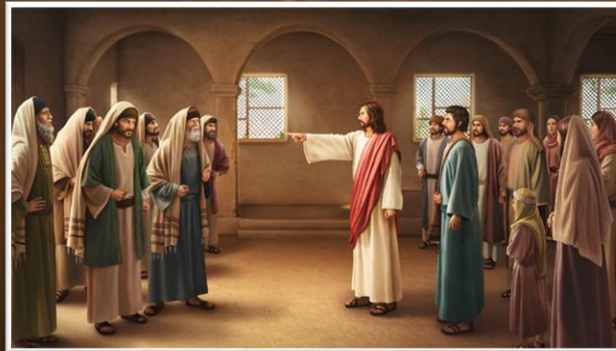
Luke 24:27, 44

“²⁷Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures...⁴⁴ Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’”



John 5:39, 46

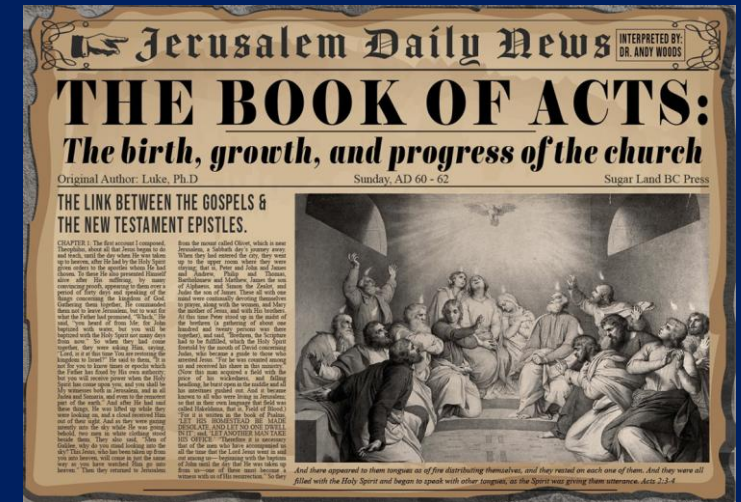
“³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me. . . ⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me.”



II. Ministry in Judea

Acts 8:26-40

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Sprinkling or Immersion?

- Sprinkling? Other words (1 Pet. 1:12; 2 Tim. 4:6)
- Immersion?
 - Christ's baptism (Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:10)
 - Ethiopian eunuch's baptism (Acts 8:38-39)
 - Best symbolizes our union with Christ (Rom. 6:3)
 - Symbolizes a new creation (Gen. 1:6, 9; 2 Pet. 3:5; 2 Cor. 5:17)



Exemption from Death

(1 Cor 15:54-56)

- Enoch (Gen 5)
- Elijah (2 Kings 2)
- Christ (Acts 1:11; Rev 12:5)
- Philip (Acts 8:39)
- Paul (2 Cor 12:2, 4)
- John (Rev 4:1-2)
- Two witnesses (Rev 11)



1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will . . .



1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

...descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words."

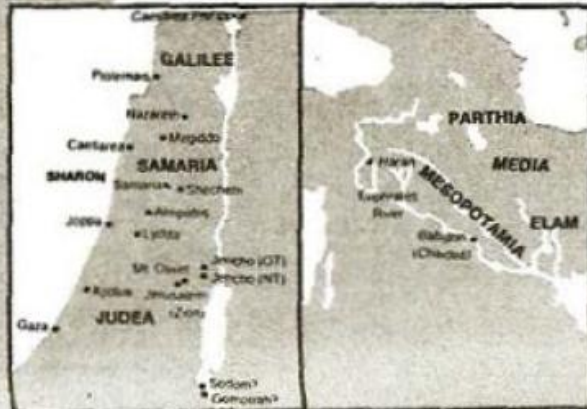


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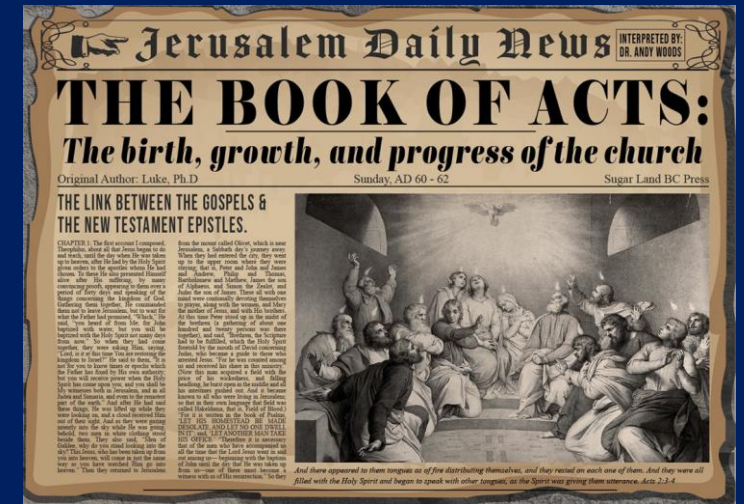
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- Other locations:** Spain, Dalmatia (Illyricum), Crete (Fair Havens, Phoenix, Lasea, Salomone), Cyrenaica, Syria, Egypt, Arabia, Midian, Ethiopia (circled in red), Red Sea, Mt. Sinai.



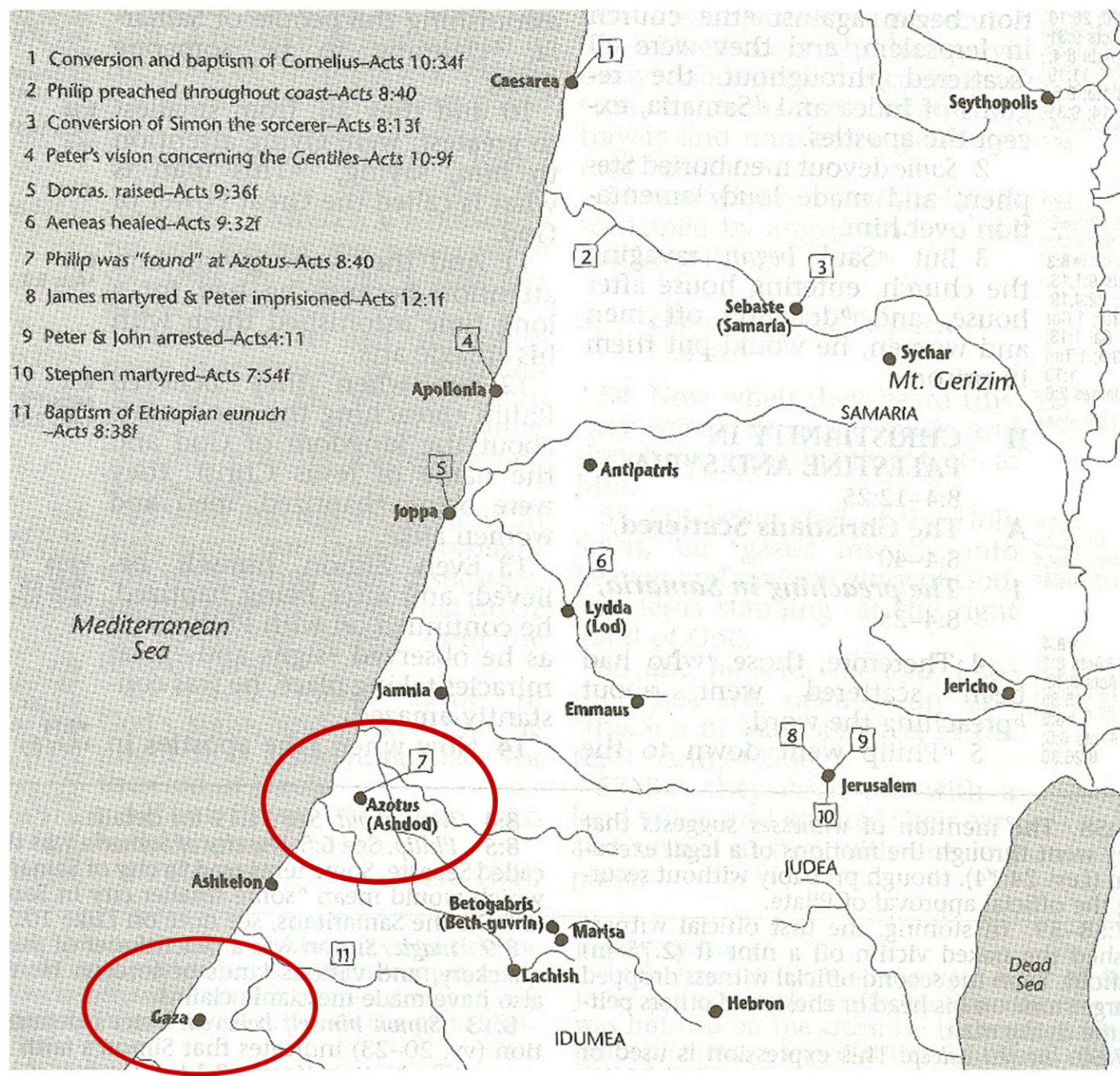
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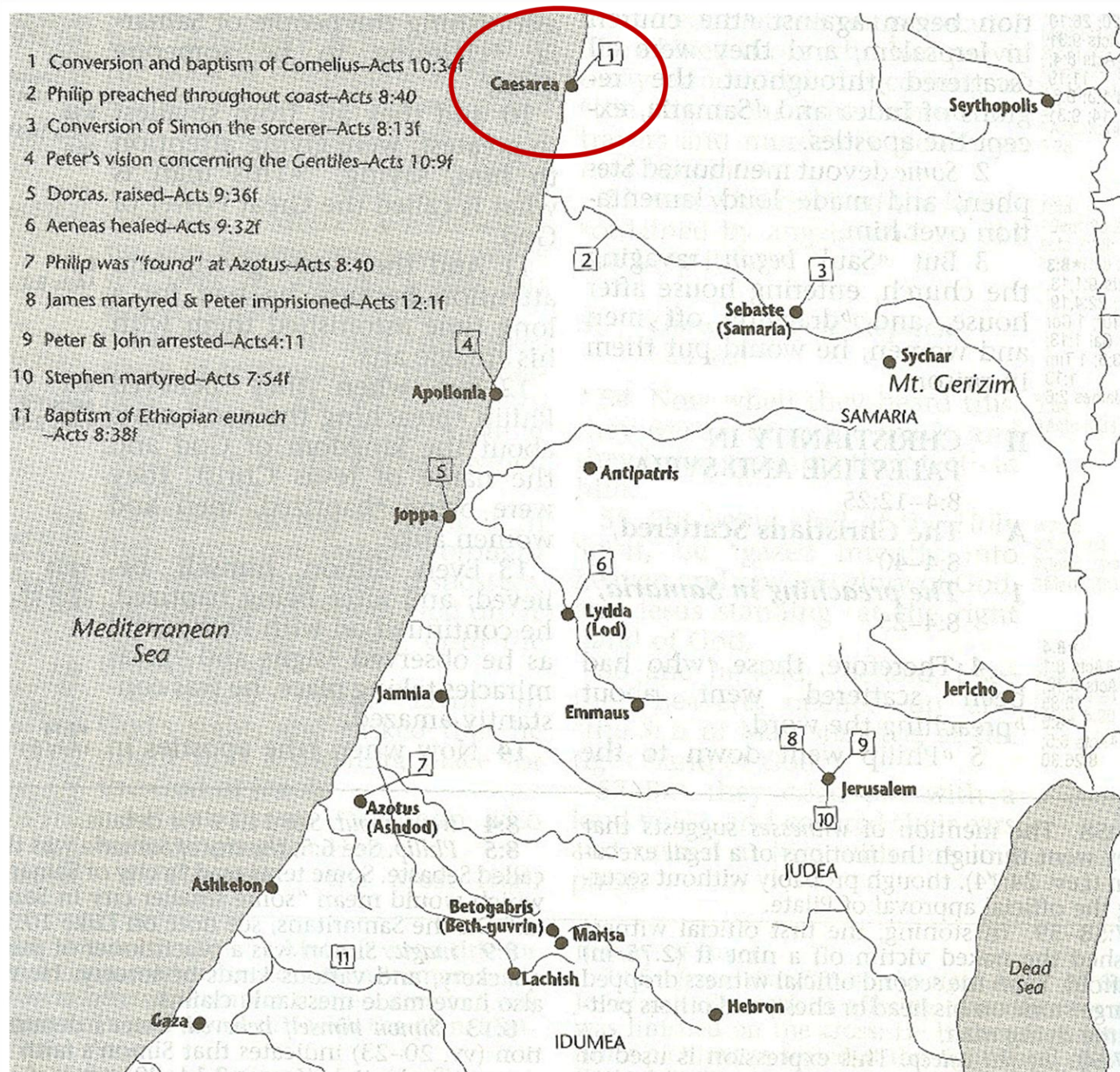
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- 7 Philip was "found" at Azotus—Acts 8:40
- 8 James martyred & Peter imprisoned—Acts 12:1f
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Conclusion

Acts 8:5-40

Philip's Ministry

I. Samaria (8:5-25)

II. Judea (Acts 8:26-40)

