

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



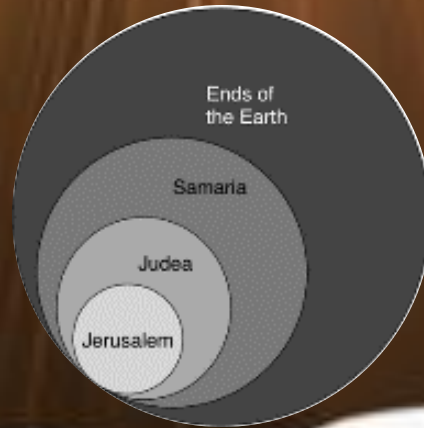
Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

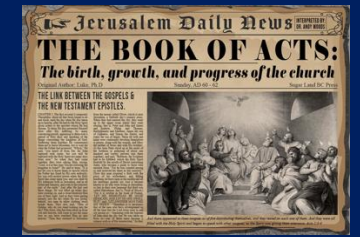
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Acts 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)



II. Declarations

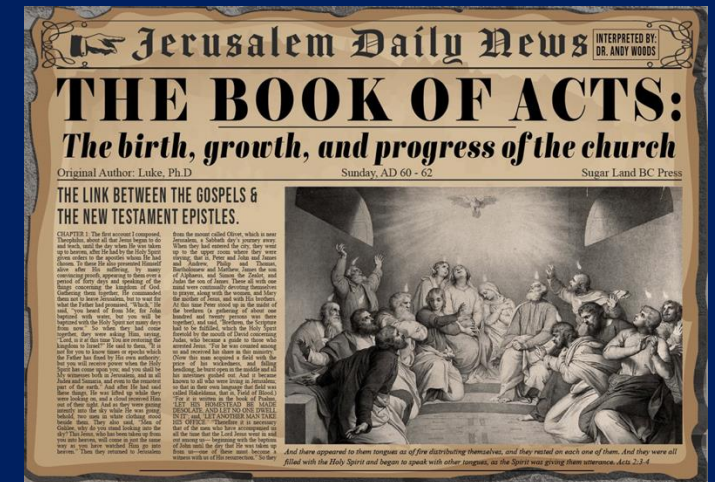
Acts 15:6-21

A. Meeting convened (6)

B. Peter's address (7-11)

C. Barnabas' & Paul's testimony (12)

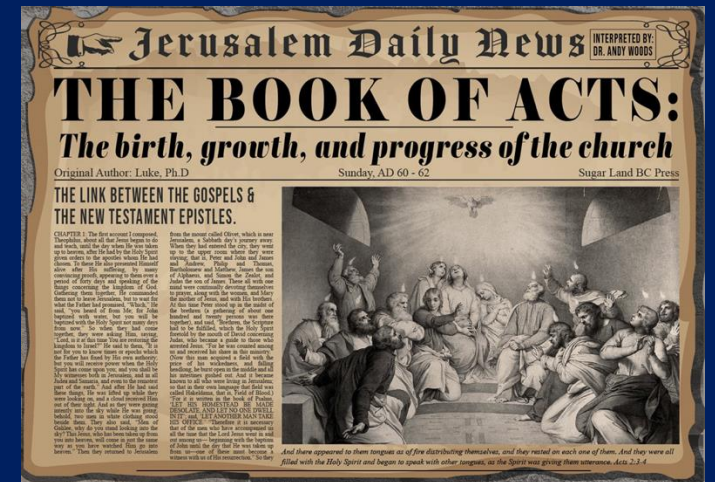
D. James' address (13-21)



B. Acts 15:7-11

Peter's Address

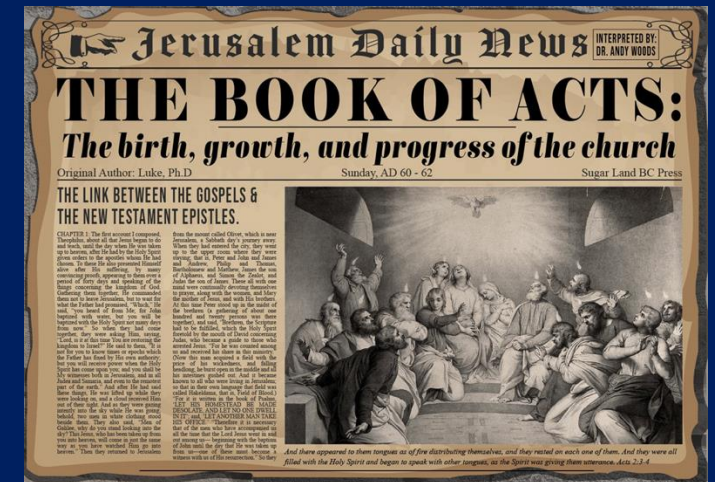
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From Peter to Paul

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)

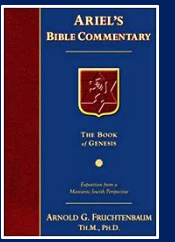
Raises Eutychus (20:9-12)

Jailed and miraculously freed (16:25-34)



Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

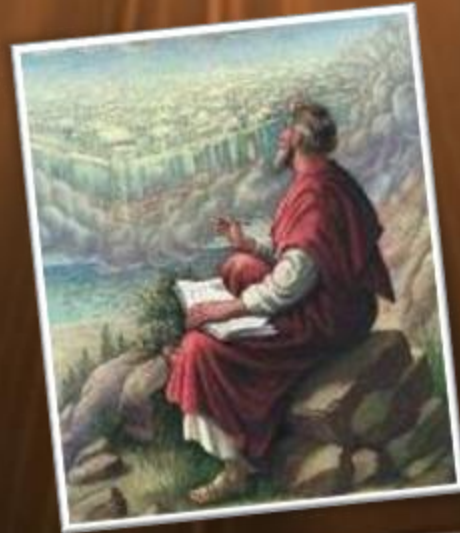
The Book of Acts, 276



“After having spoken to the disciples, Peter departed, and went to another place (v. 17b). He fled out of Jerusalem. Luke chose not to disclose where Peter went, but we do know something about Peter’s travels from other passages. According to I Corinthians 9:5, he had an itinerant ministry; according to I Corinthians 1:12, he spent some time in Corinth; according to Galatians 2:11, he was in Antioch of Pisidia; according to I Peter 1:1, he was in Asia Minor; and according to I Peter 5:13, he was in Babylon.”

1 Peter 5:13

“She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and *so does* my son, Mark.”





Galatians 2:7-8

“⁷ But on the contrary, seeing that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised ⁸ (for He who effectually worked for Peter in his apostleship to the circumcised effectually worked for me also to the Gentiles).”



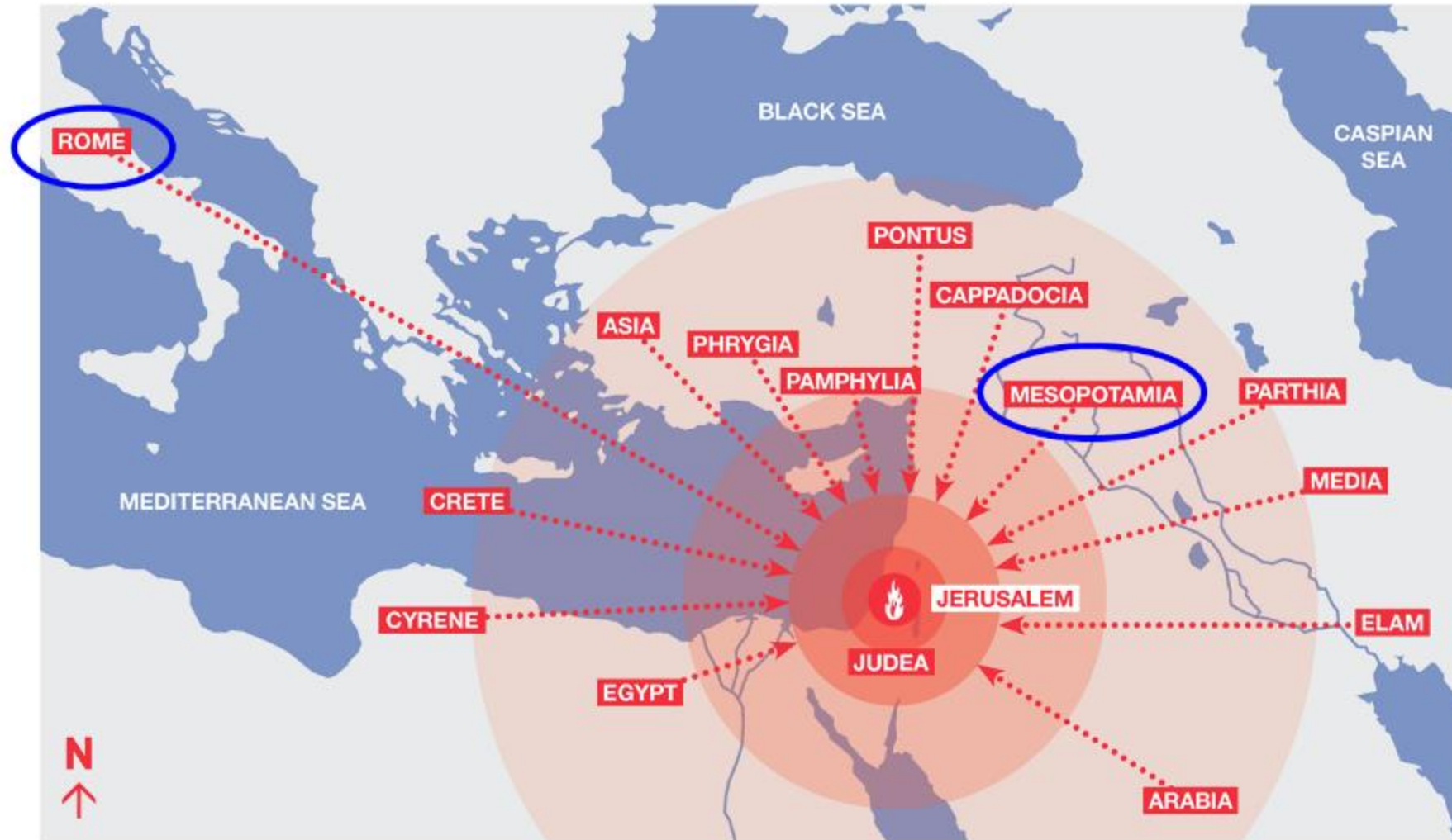
Acts 2:9–11

⁹ “Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.”



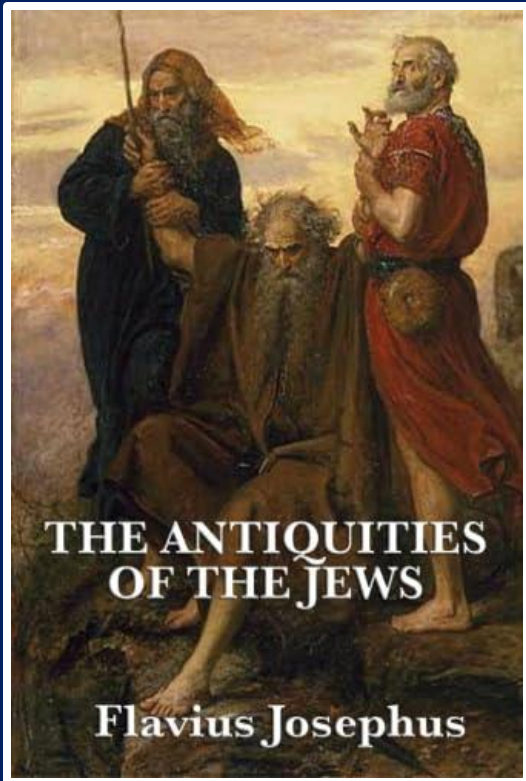
THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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Josephus

Antiquities, 15.2.2



“But when Hyrcanus was brought into Parthia the king Phraates treated him after a very gentle manner, as having already learned of what an illustrious family he was; on which account he set him free from his bonds, and *gave him a habitation at Babylon, where there were Jews in great numbers. These Jews honored Hyrcanus as their high priest and king, as did all the Jewish nation that dwelt as far as Euphrates*; which respect was very much to his satisfaction...”

TYPES OF PHARISEES

TYPE	OVERTHROWN
Justification	Matthew 5:20
Sanctification	Galatians 3:3
Ecclesiology	Acts 15



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

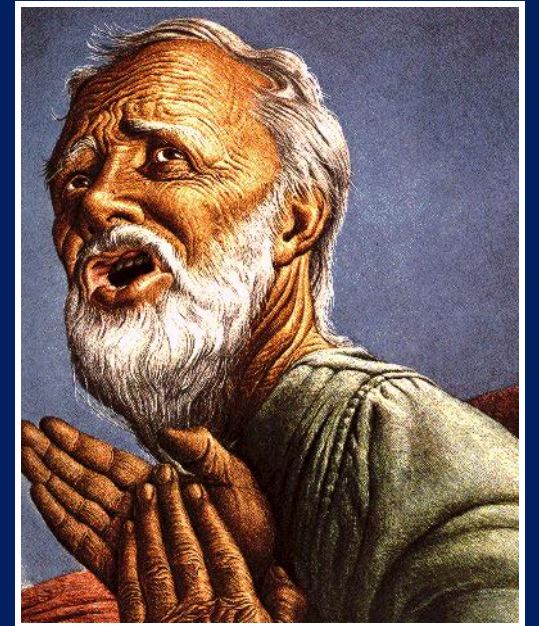
Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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..."



Acts 11:15-16

“¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’”



Ephesians 2:15-16

“¹⁵ by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, *which is the Law of commandments contained* in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.”



Jeremiah 31:31-34

“³¹ Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. ³³ “But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the Lord, I will put My law. . .



Jeremiah 31:31-34

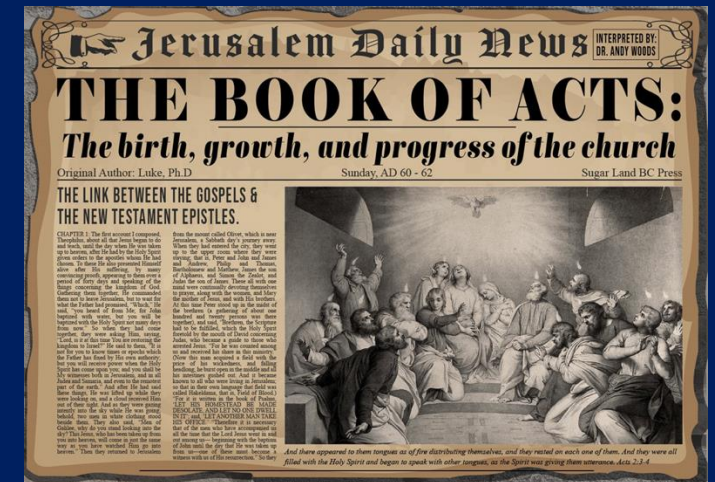
. . . within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."



B. Acts 15:7-11

Peter's Address

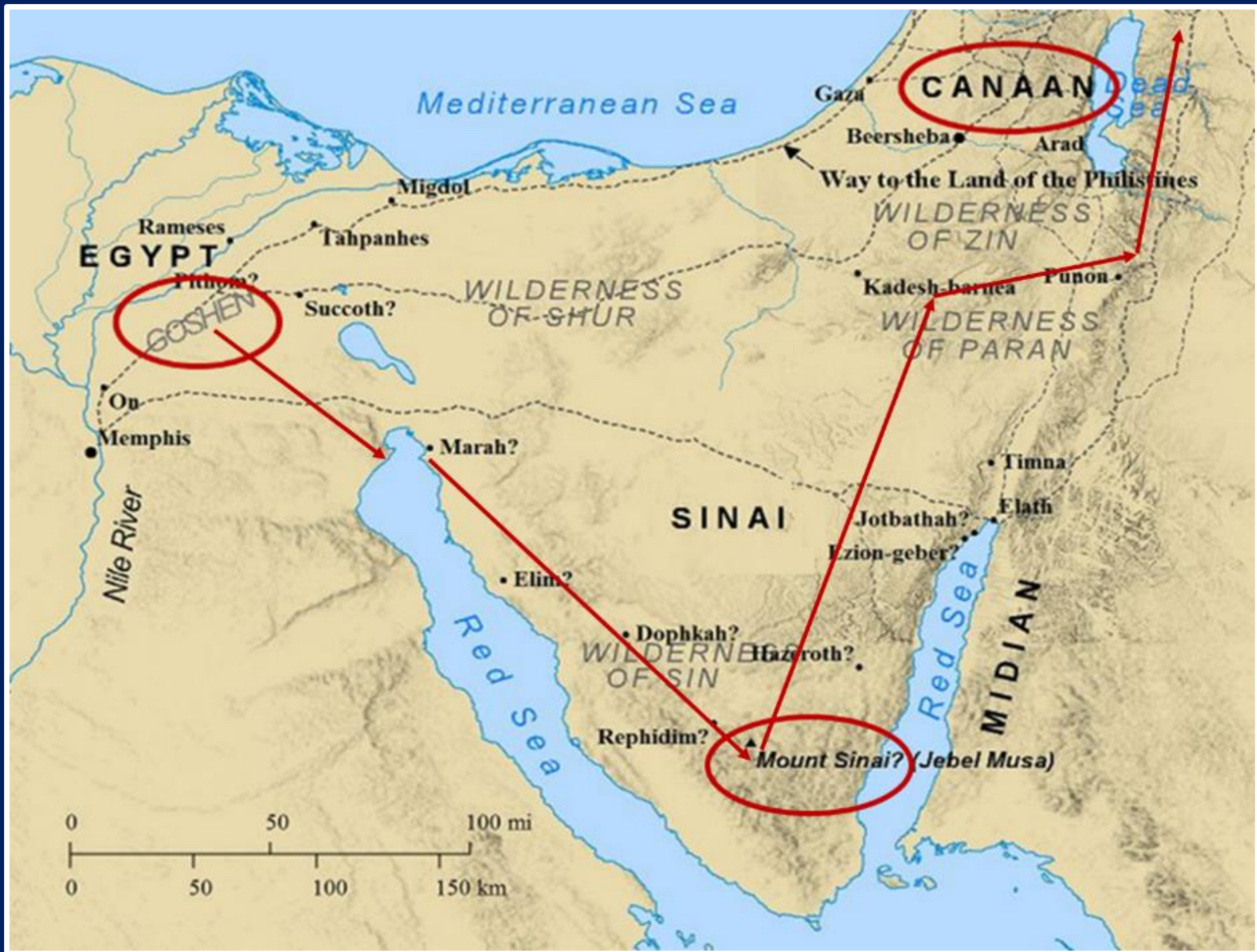
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Justification	Matthew 5:20
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Six Parts of a Suzerain-Vassal Treaty in Deuteronomy

- Preamble (1:1-5)
- Prologue (1:6–4:40)
- Covenant obligations (5–26)
- Storage and reading instructions (27:2-3; 31:9, 24, 26)
- Witnesses (32:1)
- ***Blessings and curses (28)***



ISRAEL'S JUDGMENTS

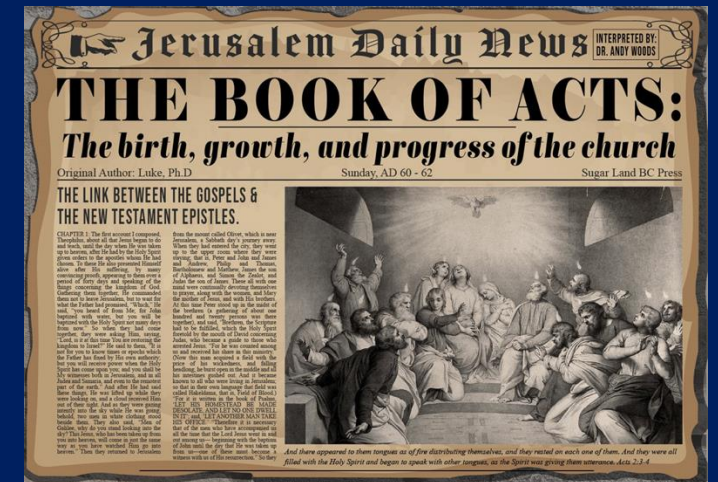
- Division of the kingdom in 931 B.C. (1 Kgs. 12)
- Assyrian judgment in 722 B.C. (2 Kgs. 17)
- Babylonian captivity in 586 B.C. (2 Kgs. 25)
- Rome *Diaspora* in A.D. 70 (Luke 19:41-44)



B. Acts 15:7-11

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Acts 2:38

“Peter *said* to them, “Repent [metanoeō], and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for (eis) the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

μετανοέω

metanoeō / change one's mind; repent



Acts 2:38

“Peter *said* to them, ‘Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for (*eis*) the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”



Matthew 12:41

“The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it because they repented **at [in the face of/because of] (*eis*)** the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.”



Acts 11:15-16

“¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’”



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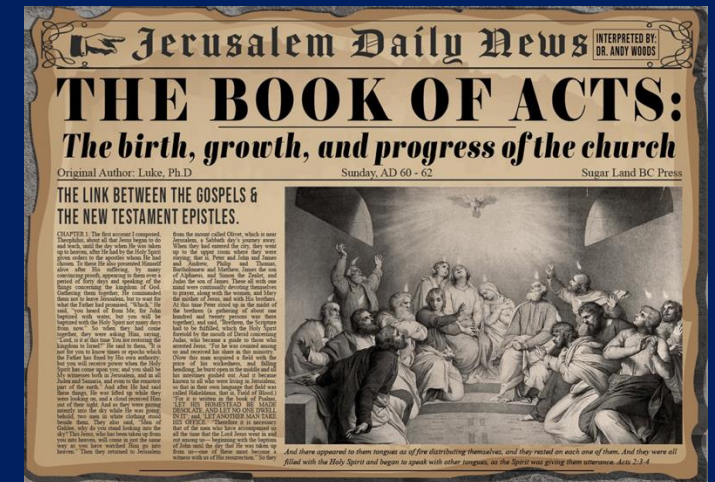
Acts 15:6-21

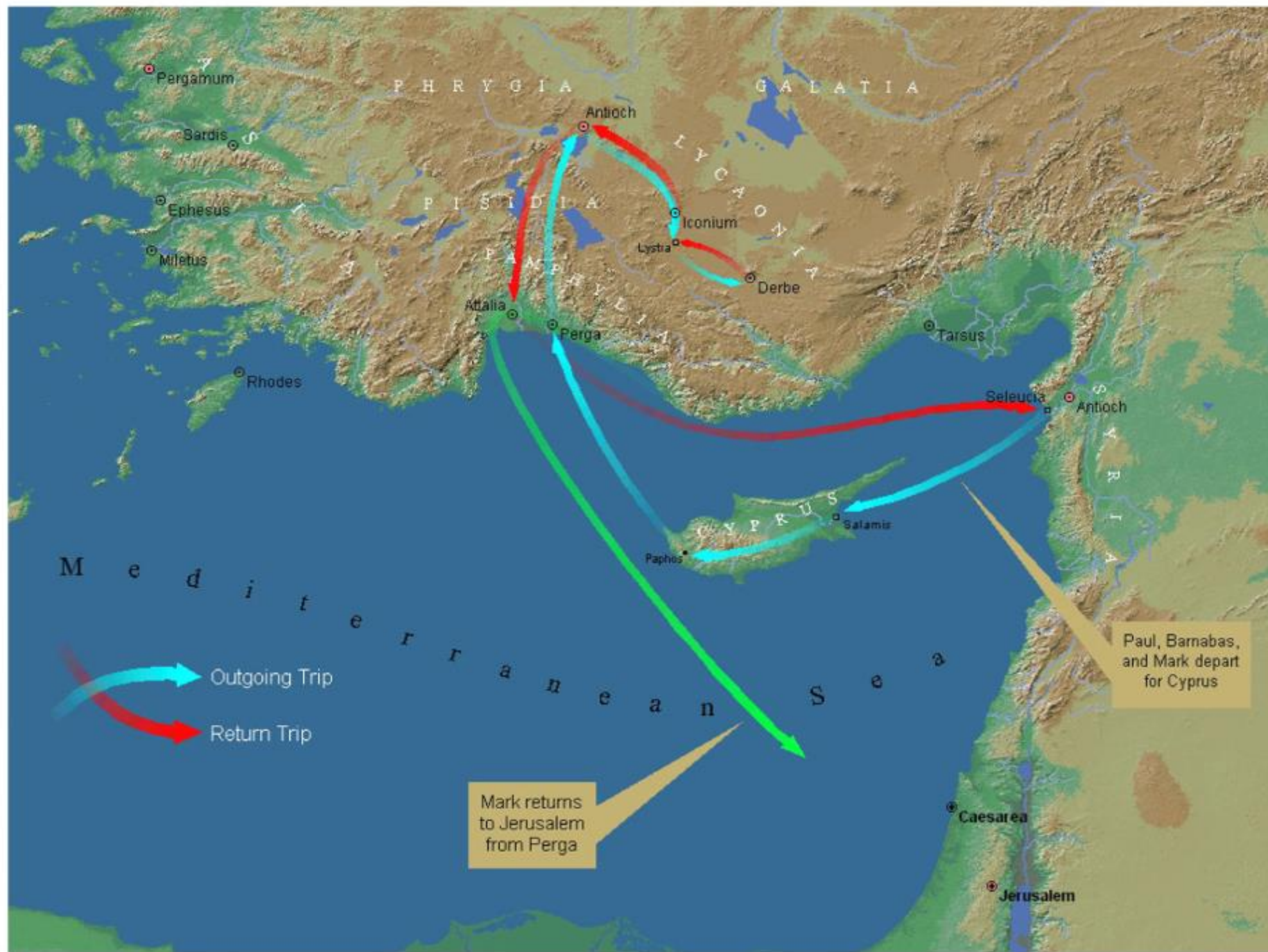
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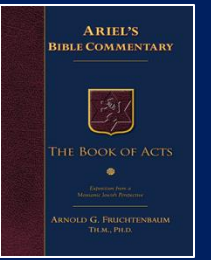






Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

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 delegates 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*.”



II. Declarations

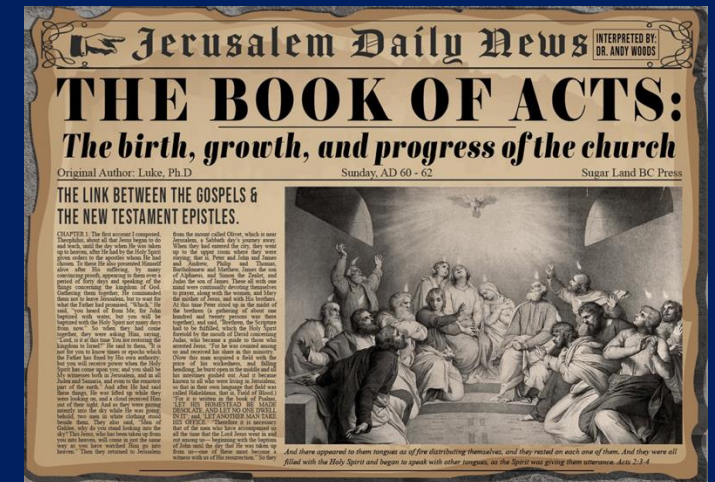
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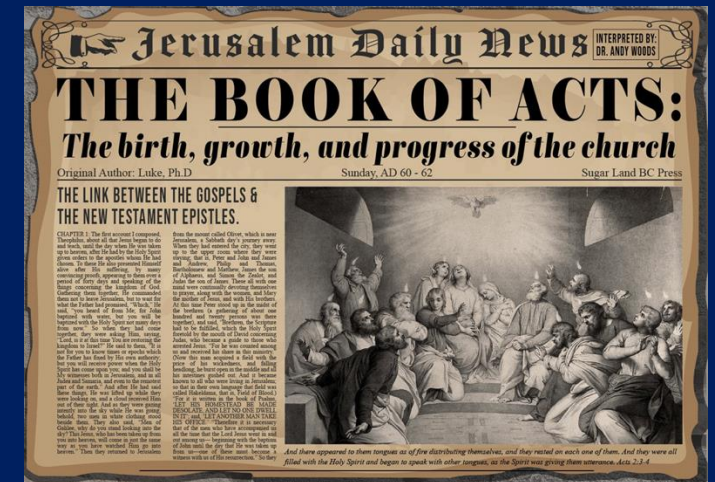
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D. Acts 15:13-21

James' Address

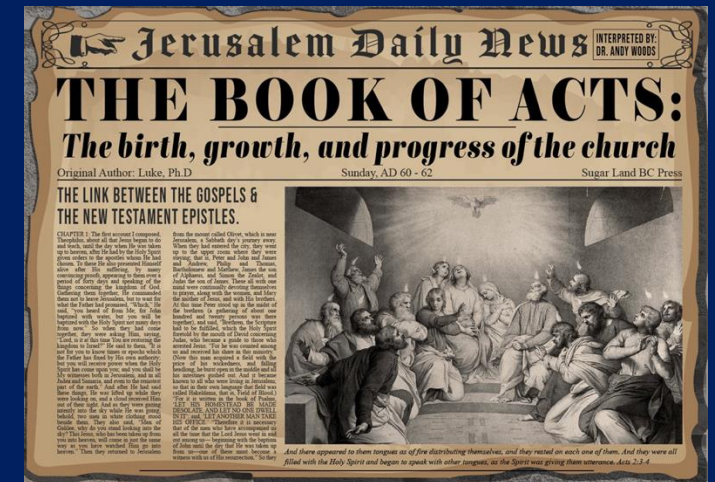
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Acts 1:13-14

“¹³ 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.¹⁴ 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.”



JAMES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Father of Judas (not Iscariot)
- The son of Alphaeus
- The son of Zebedee and brother of John
- The half brother of Christ

Which James?

- Father of Judas (not Iscariot)
- The son of Alphaeus
- The son of Zebedee and brother of John
- **The half brother of Christ**



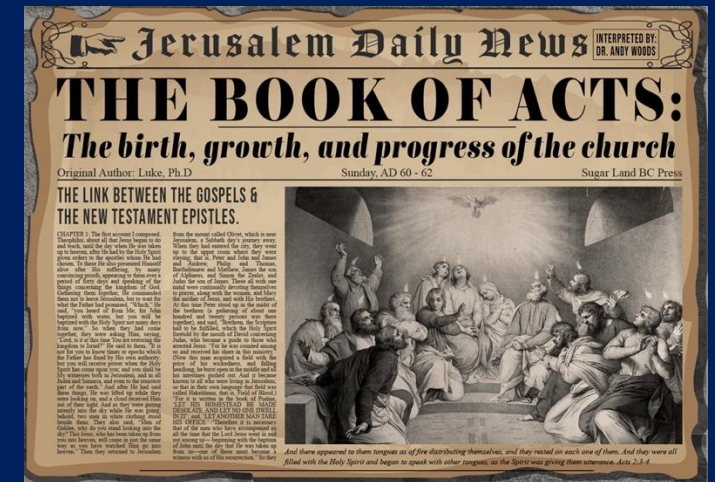
SIMILARITIES WITH ACTS 15

	James	Acts 15
Greetings	1:1	15:23
Visit	1:27	15:14
Listen	2:5	15:13
Turn	5:19-20	15:19
Being called by God's name	2:7	15:17

D. Acts 15:13-21

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TYPES OF PHARISEES

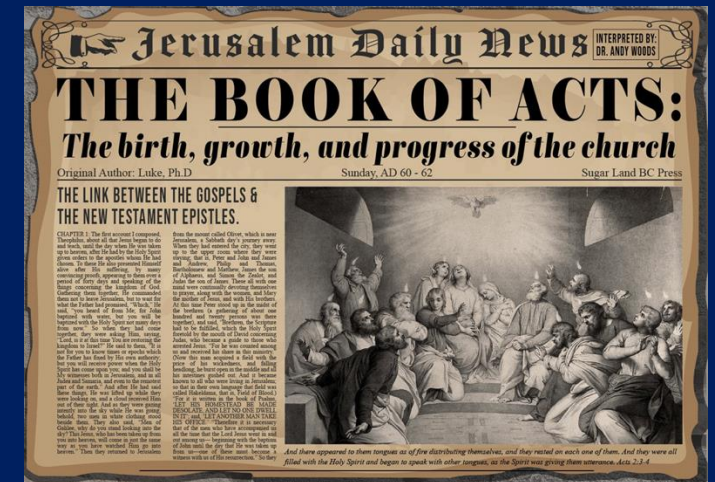
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Matthew 16:18

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



Acts 15:14

“Simeon has related how God first concerned Himself about taking from among the Gentiles a people for His name.”



Romans 11:25-26

“²⁵For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;²⁶and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, ‘The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will remove ungodliness from Jacob.’”



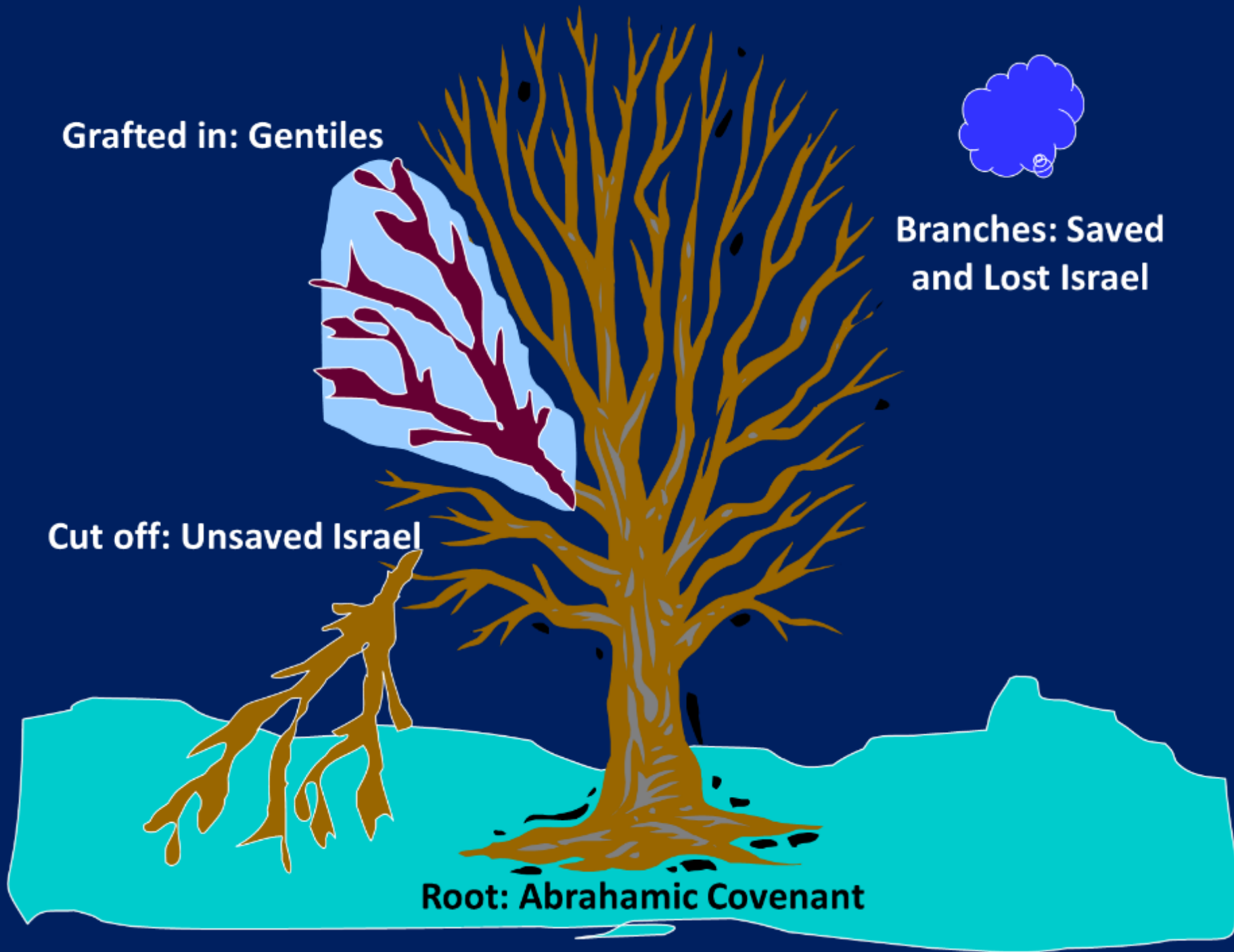
Grafted in: Gentiles



**Branches: Saved
and Lost Israel**

Cut off: Unsaved Israel

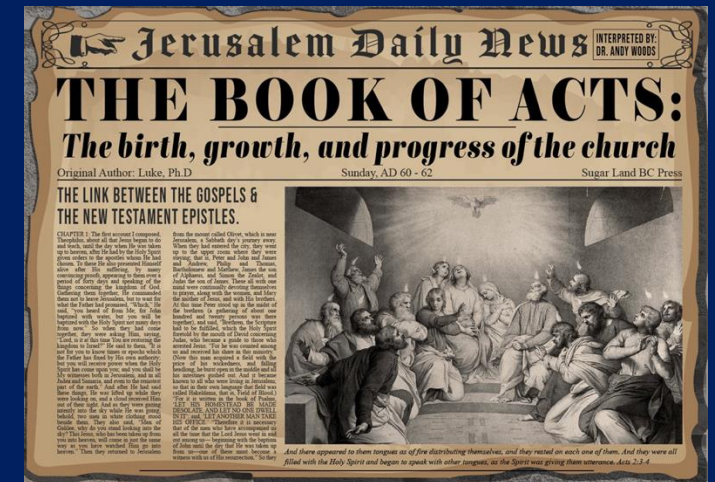
Root: Abrahamic Covenant



D. Acts 15:13-21

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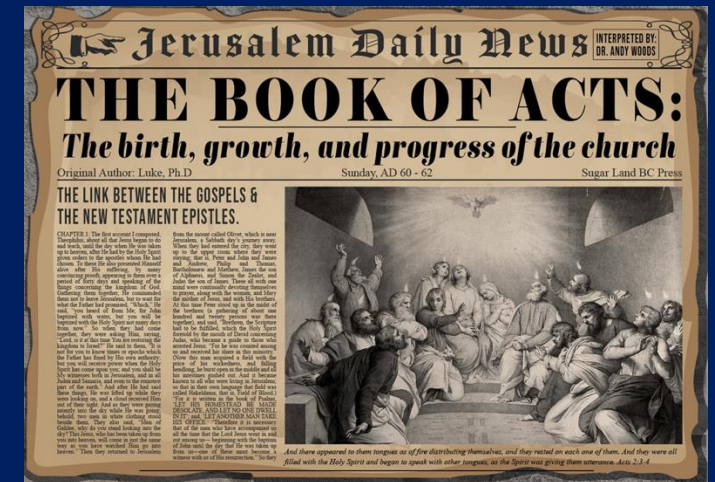


4. Acts 15:15-18

Old Testament Citation

a) Introduction (15)

b) Amos 9:11-12 (16-18)

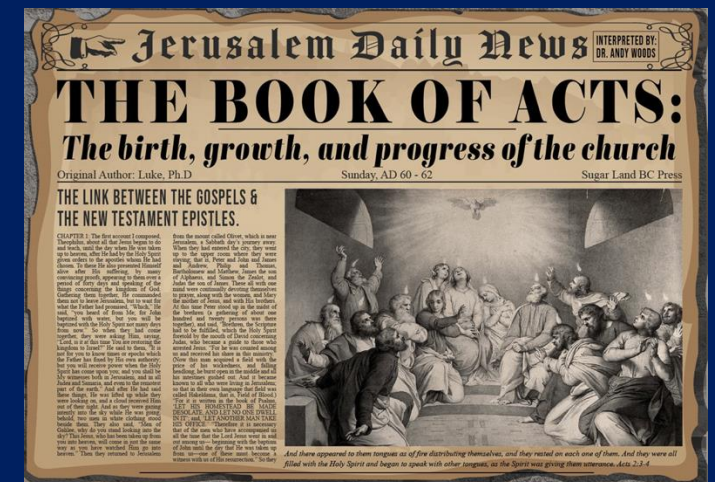


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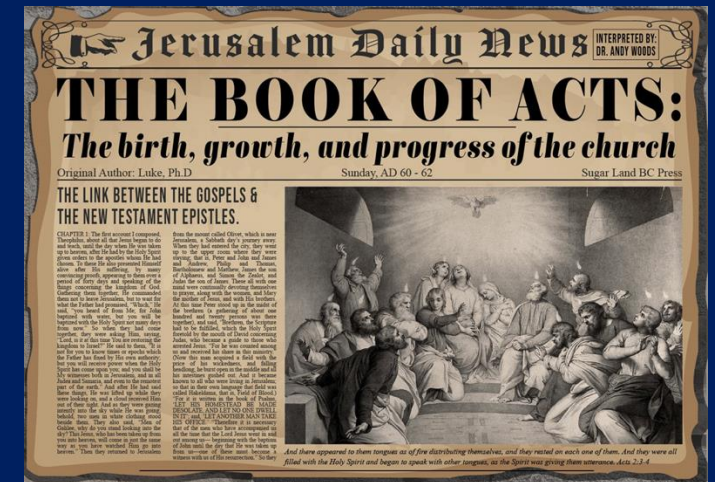


4. Acts 15:15-18

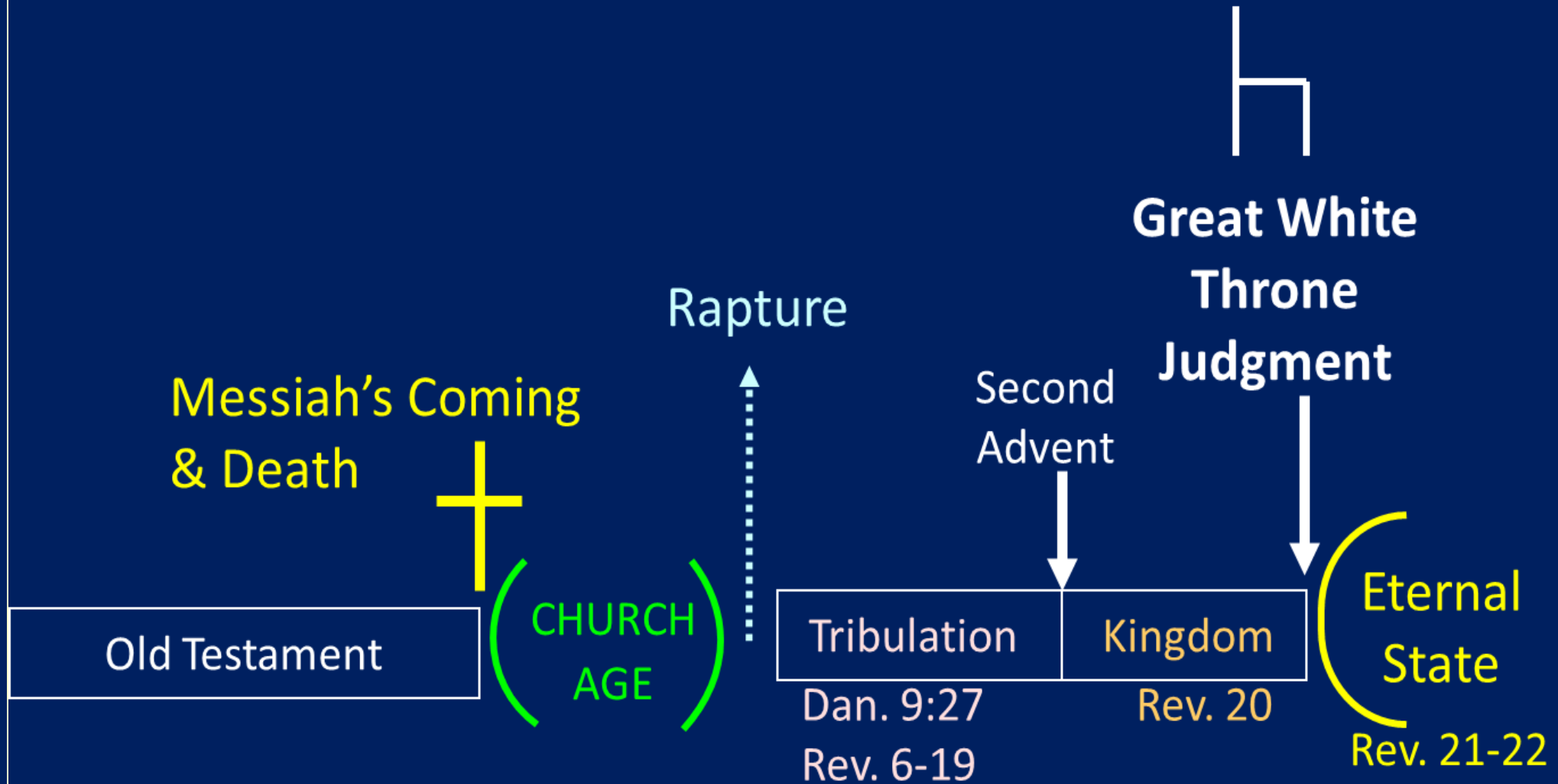
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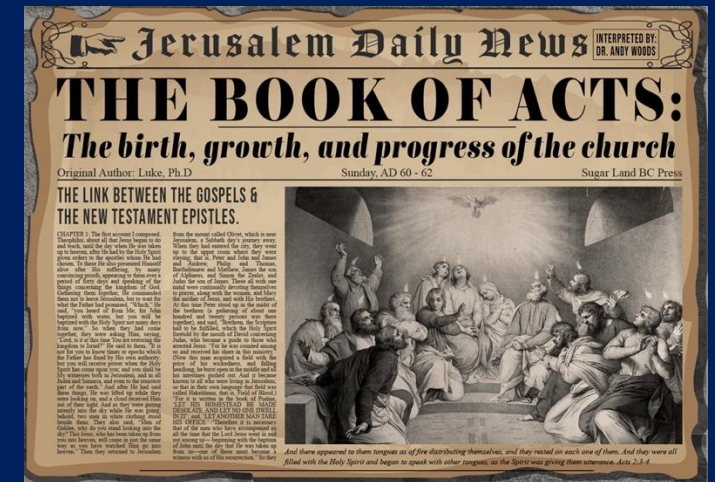
Prophecy Panorama



D. Acts 15:13-21

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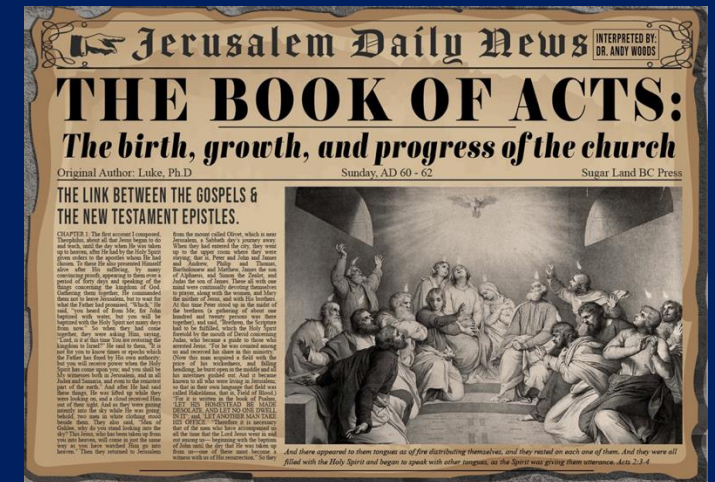


5. Acts 15:19-21

Conclusions

a) Concerning the Gentiles (19-20)

b) Concerning Moses (21)

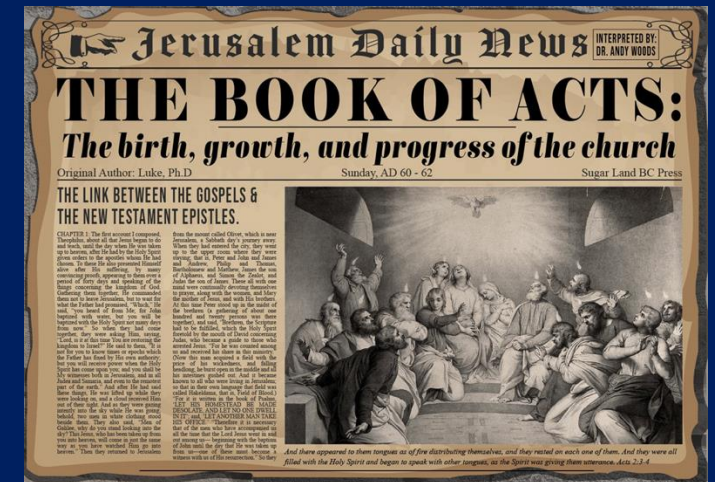


5. Acts 15:19-21

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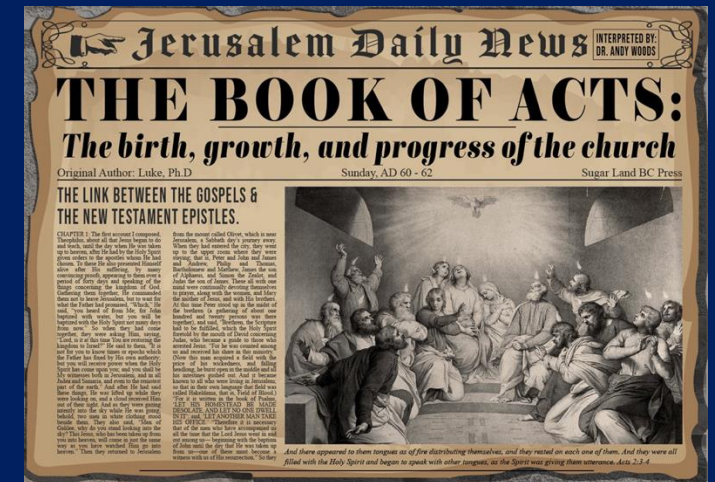
b) Concerning Moses (21)



a) Acts 15:19-21

Concerning the Gentiles

- 1) Adherence to OT Law not required (19)
- 2) Abstentions to avoid offence (20)

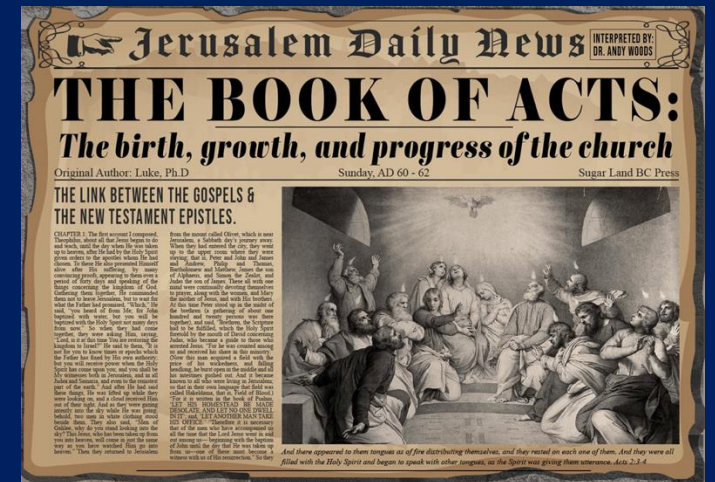


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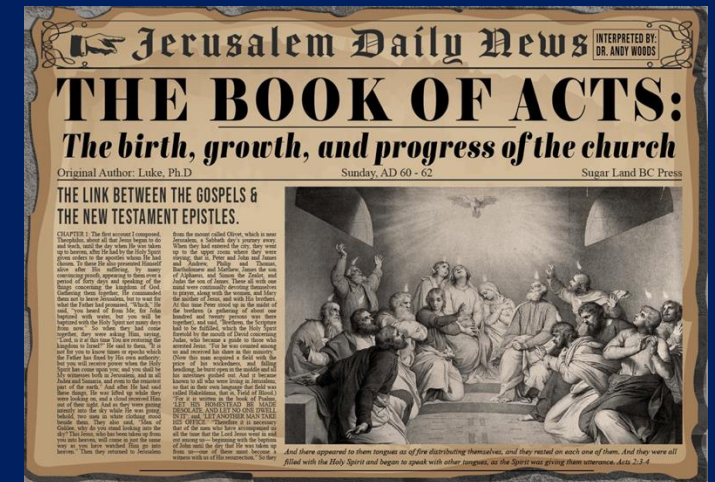
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a) Acts 15:19-21

Concerning the Gentiles

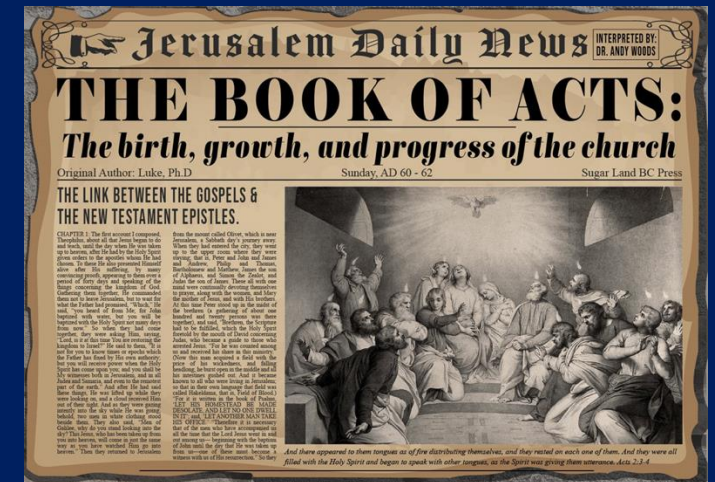
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2) Acts 15:20

Abstentions Reiterated

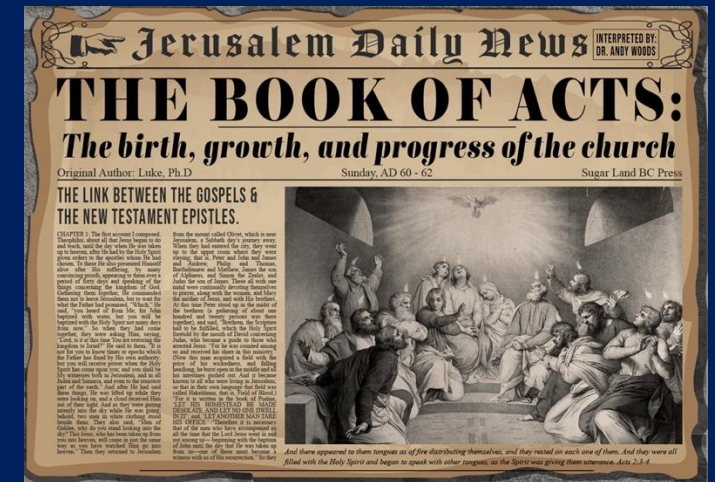
- a. Food sacrificed to idols (20a)
- b. Fornication (20b)
- c. Things strangled (20c)
- d. Blood (20d)



2) Acts 15:20

Abstentions Reiterated

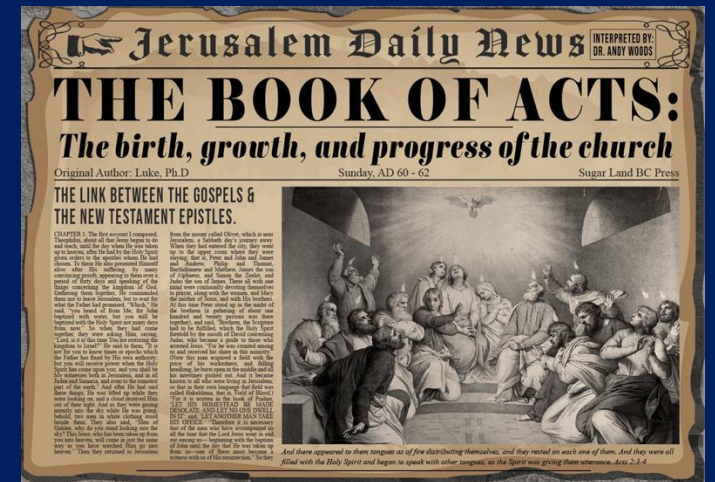
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5. Acts 15:19-21

Conclusions

a) Concerning the Gentiles (19-20)

b) Concerning Moses (21)

