Acts: The Holy Spirit at Work -- Session 1:

The Book of Acts: The Gospel Sequel

**SEQUEL:** an event that follows or comes afterward: result.: a book, motion picture, or television program that continues a story begun in a preceding one. <a href="https://www.merriam-webster.com">www.merriam-webster.com</a>

The opening statement in Acts—"In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach" (Acts 1:1)—notifies readers at the outset that Acts is the sequel to the Gospels. -- Wood, G. O. (2010). Acts: The Holy Spirit at work in believers

#### In Acts We Find:

- A Great Resource For Understanding Our Spiritual Roots
- "Where We Came From And Where We Are Going"
- The Formation And Decision Making Of The Early Church

We Must Learn And Study Like The Bereans (Acts 17:11)

Everything Changed With Christ's Death And Resurrection

- He Prepared And Sent His Disciples A Means To Receive The Ongoing Presence Of His Spirit.
- Our Study Book : The Holy Spirit At Work In Believers.
- Dr. George O. Wood A/G -- Global University

Acts is a book of action.

Acts is about people

• Acts is about the growth of the church.

Above all, Acts is about the Holy Spirit.

### **How Do We Approach Acts?**

- The Name "Acts" Speaks Of "Actions, Deeds, Happening, Transactions, Business
- The Great Focus Is On Two Apostles: Peter And Paul
- The Holy Spirit Is Mentioned More Than Any Of The Apostles

 The Book Records Both The Actions Of The Apostles And The Actions Of The Holy Spirit

### We Approach Acts By Finding Out Who Wrote Acts?

There are several reasons to believe Luke wrote Acts.

- 1. The writer identifies himself as one of those who traveled with Paul
- 2. The writer of Acts also wrote another book about Jesus
- 3. Both Luke and Acts are written to the same person, Theophilus
- 4. The church has always believed that the former book mentioned in Acts 1:1 is Luke's Gospel.
- 5. Luke and Acts work together as a historical set -- best understood together -- In fact, Luke and Acts are organized alike.

### **The Date of Acts**

Most Bible teachers believe Luke wrote Acts around AD 63

 After Luke wrote the book of Acts – Paul remained in prison in Rome where he wrote the prison epistles: 1 & 2
Timothy and Titus before he died.

### Why Do We Appreciate Acts?

- Acts Gives Us A History Of The First 30 Years Of The Church.
- Acts Traces The Growth Of The Church
  - Acts Guides Faith And Apologetics
    - Acts Emphasizes The Holy Spirit For Witnessing

### How Do We Analyze The Book Of Acts

- 1. We Can Outline It Geographically
- 2.We Can Outline It Based On The Ministry Of Peter And Paul
- 3.We Can Outline It According To Its Great Messages

#### THE BOOK OF ACTS:

• God gave us this book as more than just a history of the early church.

- It is a guide for Christian living and for a Spirit-filled church
- It clearly reveals what the church must be and do in any generation as it continues Jesus' ministry in the Pentecostal power of the Holy Spirit
- -- The Fire Bible

- 1. The book of Acts had no title until
- □ AD 50.
- □ AD 150.
- □ AD 250.
- □ AD 500.

- 2. The book of Acts was written around
- □ AD 63.
- □ AD 70.
- □ AD 75.
- □ AD 83.

- 3. The book of Acts serves as a bridge between the
  - Old and New Testaments.
- Pauline epistles and the book of Revelation.
- Gospels and Paul's letters.
- ☐ Gospels and the pastoral epistles.

- 4. The church grew from
  - Antioch to Rome.
  - oxdot Jerusalem to Samaria.
- Samaria to Antioch.
- ☐ Jerusalem to Rome.

- 5. The church grew in its mission by
- Philip preaching to the Samaritans.
- Philip preaching to the Ethiopian eunuch.
- ☐ Peter preaching to Cornelius and his household.
- □ doing all of the above.

- 6. Luke's greatest purpose of the book of Acts was perhaps to
- defend Paul and his ministry.
- ☐ show the spread of the gospel.
- ☐ emphasize the ministry of the Holy Spirit through believers.
- $oldsymbol{\square}$  do all the above.

- 7. Luke emphasized the Holy Spirit
- $\square$  30 times.
- $\square$  55 times.
- $\square$  63 times.
- $\square$  75 times.

8. The book of Acts can be divided into three parts based on Acts

- $\square$  1:4.
- □ 1:8.
- □ 2:4.
- <u>2:38</u>.

- 9. Acts can be considered in two divisions based upon the ministries of
- oxdot Peter and Paul.
- ☐ the apostles and Paul.
- Peter and the apostles.
- the early church and Peter

- 10. Acts can be organized according to its great messages, including those from
- Peter, James, and Luke.
- ☐ Paul, Stephen, and Peter.
- ☐ Peter, Paul, and King Agrippa.
- ☐ Stephen, Paul, and Luke.