



Go for God!

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Introduction & Chapter 1

“The ACTS of the HOLY SPIRIT!”

- **Author:** *Luke, the physician, (personal experience “we” – Acts 16:1-17; 20:5 – 20:18; 27:1 – 28:16)*

- **Date:** *A.D. 33 – 62*

- **Theme:** *The ACTS of the HOLY SPIRIT upon believers for the worldwide witness of JESUS CHRIST!*

- **Key Verses:** *Acts 1:8 – Jesus said, “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

Acts 2:42-47 - And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

- **Key Chapter:** *Acts Chapter 2 (Pentecost, Holy Spirit power, evangelism, Church blueprint.)*

> Acts Outline:

Chapters	Who	To Whom	Witness	When
<i>1—7</i>	<i>Peter</i>	<i>To Jews</i>	<i>In Jerusalem</i>	<i>2yrs. - A.D. 33-35</i>
<i>8-12</i>	<i>Philip</i>	<i>To Samaritans</i>	<i>In Judea & Samaria</i>	<i>13yrs. - A.D. 35-48</i>
<i>12-28</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>To Gentiles</i>	<i>Uttermost</i>	<i>14yrs. – A.D. 48-62</i>

> ACTS insight:

- *The Holy Spirit is referred to more than fifty times in this one book, particularly in relation to baptism with the Holy Spirit, being filled with the Holy Spirit, and being led by the Holy Spirit.*

- *The Word of God is taught, shared, or preached some forty times throughout the Book of ACTS!*

- *ACTS begins with Luke’s second account of the ascension of the Lord and terminates with Paul’s residence in Rome as a prisoner covering a period of more than thirty years.*

The ACTS of the APOSTLES
CHAPTER 1
“The Promise, the Power, & the Prayer!”

> (v1-7) RECEIVE THE PROMISE!

(v1-3) Forty days of infallible proofs! – Paul explains the overwhelming evidence in 1 Corinthians 15:1-8.

(v4-5) *“the promise of the Father”* – Turn to Luke 24:44-53.

> The person and work of the HOLY SPIRIT:

- Personal Work #1 – The Holy Spirit provides a SPIRITUAL BIRTH!

John 3:1-19 – *“You must be born again” of the Holy Spirit!*

- Personal Work #2 – The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of TRUTH!

John 14:15-17 - *“If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever — the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”*

- Personal Work #3 – The Holy Spirit TEACHES and brings things to our REMEMBRANCE!

John 14:26 - *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”*

- Personal Work #4 – The Holy Spirit will testify Jesus Christ!

John 15:26 - *“But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.”*

- Personal Work #5 - He will convict the world of SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS, and JUDGMENT!

John 16:7-11 - *It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”*

- Personal Work #6 - He will GUIDE you into TRUTH. and tell you THINGS TO COME; He will GLORIFY JESUS!

John 16:13-14 - *“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.”*

- Personal Work #7 – The Holy Spirit produces FRUIT!

Galatians 5:22-23 - *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.*

- Personal Work #8 – The Holy Spirit distributes SPIRITUAL GIFTS!

1 Corinthians 12:11 - *But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

(v6-7) Concerning the time for the *Kingdom of Israel*--God only knows! It's not for these disciples to know.

> (v8-11) TESTIFY IN POWER!

(v8) *Power (dunamis)* – “ability, power, miracle” – The purpose of the Holy Spirit in you is to be a WITNESS JESUS CHRIST!

- This command, specifying geographical areas to be evangelized, was carried out in exactly the order prescribed here. The work of evangelizing in Jerusalem began at 2:1; in Judea and Samaria, at 8:5; and throughout the remainder of the earth, at 8:26.

(v9-11) JESUS WILL COME AGAIN! When? Bible scholar C.I. Scofield writes, “Taken together, the N.T. teachings concerning the return of Jesus Christ may be summarized as follows:

(1) That return is an event, not a process, and is personal and corporeal. (Matthew 23:39; Matthew 24:30; Matthew 25:31; Mark 14:62; Luke 17:24; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; Philippians 3:20; Philippians 3:21; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17)

(2) His coming has a threefold relation: to the church, to Israel, to the nations.

(a) To the church the descent of the Lord into the air to raise the sleeping and change the living saints is set forth as a constant expectation and hope (Matthew 24:36; Matthew 24:44; Matthew 24:48-51; Matthew 25:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51; 1 Corinthians 15:52; Philippians 3:20; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; 1 Timothy 6:14; Titus 2:13; Revelation 22:20).

(b) To Israel, the return of the Lord is predicted to accomplish the yet unfulfilled prophecies of her national regathering, conversion, and establishment in peace and power under the Davidic Covenant (Acts 15:14-17 with Zechariah 14:1-9).

(c) To the Gentile nations the return of Christ is predicted to bring the destruction of the present political world-system (Daniel 2:34; Daniel 2:35 "Revelation 19:11"), the judgment of Matthew 25:31-46 followed by world-wide Gentile conversion and participation in the blessings of the kingdom (Isaiah 2:2-4; Isaiah 11:10; Isaiah 60:3; Zechariah 8:3; Zechariah 8:20; Zechariah 8:23; Zechariah 14:16-21).

> (v12-26) SEEK IN PRAYER!

(v12-14) Here we see about 120 believers waiting for the “promise of the Father.” Notice the emphasis on the believers being in “*one accord*,” this term of unity is found 6 times throughout the ACTS; thus, we find them in “*prayer and supplication*.” We also discover this to be the last mentioned of Mary, the mother of Jesus, in the Bible. The disciples prayers are always petitioned through Jesus Christ, not Mary; Jesus said in John 14:13-14 - *And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.*

(v15-21) Fulfilled prophecies regarding Judas Iscariot – *Betrayed by a friend* (Ps. 41:9; 55:12-14); *for thirty pieces of silver and his price being given for a potter's field* (Zechariah 11:12-13).

(v22-26) The ancient historian Eusebius claims *Matthias (Gift of God)* was among the seventy in Luke 10:1.

- Jesus' half-brothers, named in Mark 6:3 as James, Joses, Judas, and Simon. James was the leader of the Jerusalem church (12:17; 15:13–22) and author of the epistle that bears his name. Judas (Jude) wrote the epistle of Jude. At this time, they were new believers in Jesus as God, Savior, and Lord, whereas only 8 months earlier John had mentioned their unbelief (John 7:5).

Conclusion: The PROMISE AND POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE IS ONLY A PRAYER AWAY! RESPOND – RECEIVE – RE-ACT FOR JESUS CHRIST!