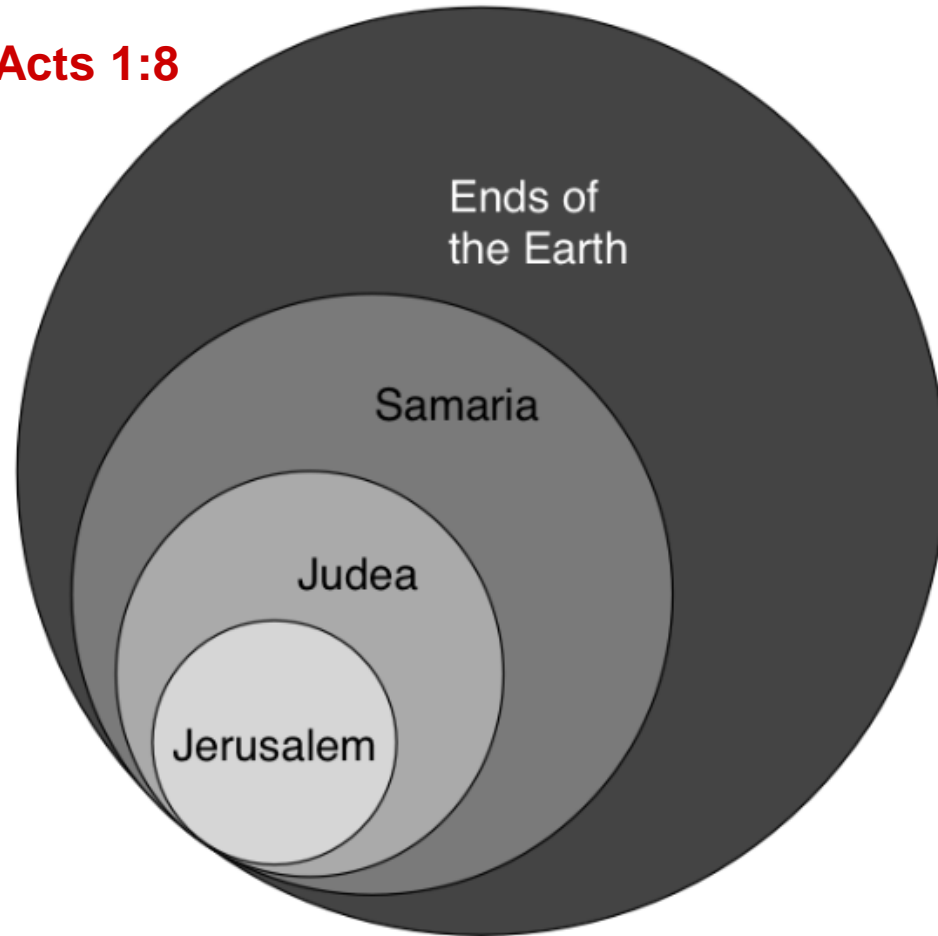


The Book of Acts

“You Shall Be My Witnesses”

**The Establishment and Growth
of the Lord’s Church**

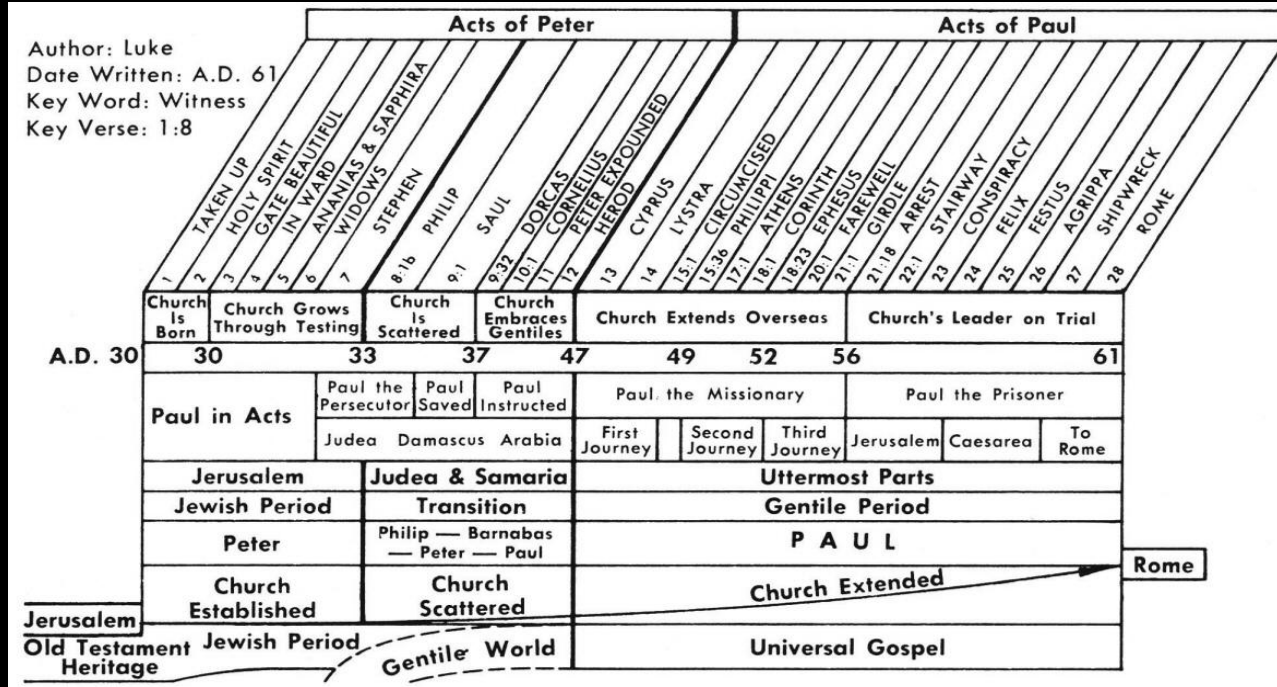
Acts 1:8



Outline of the Book

“You Shall Be My Witnesses”

(Acts 1:8)

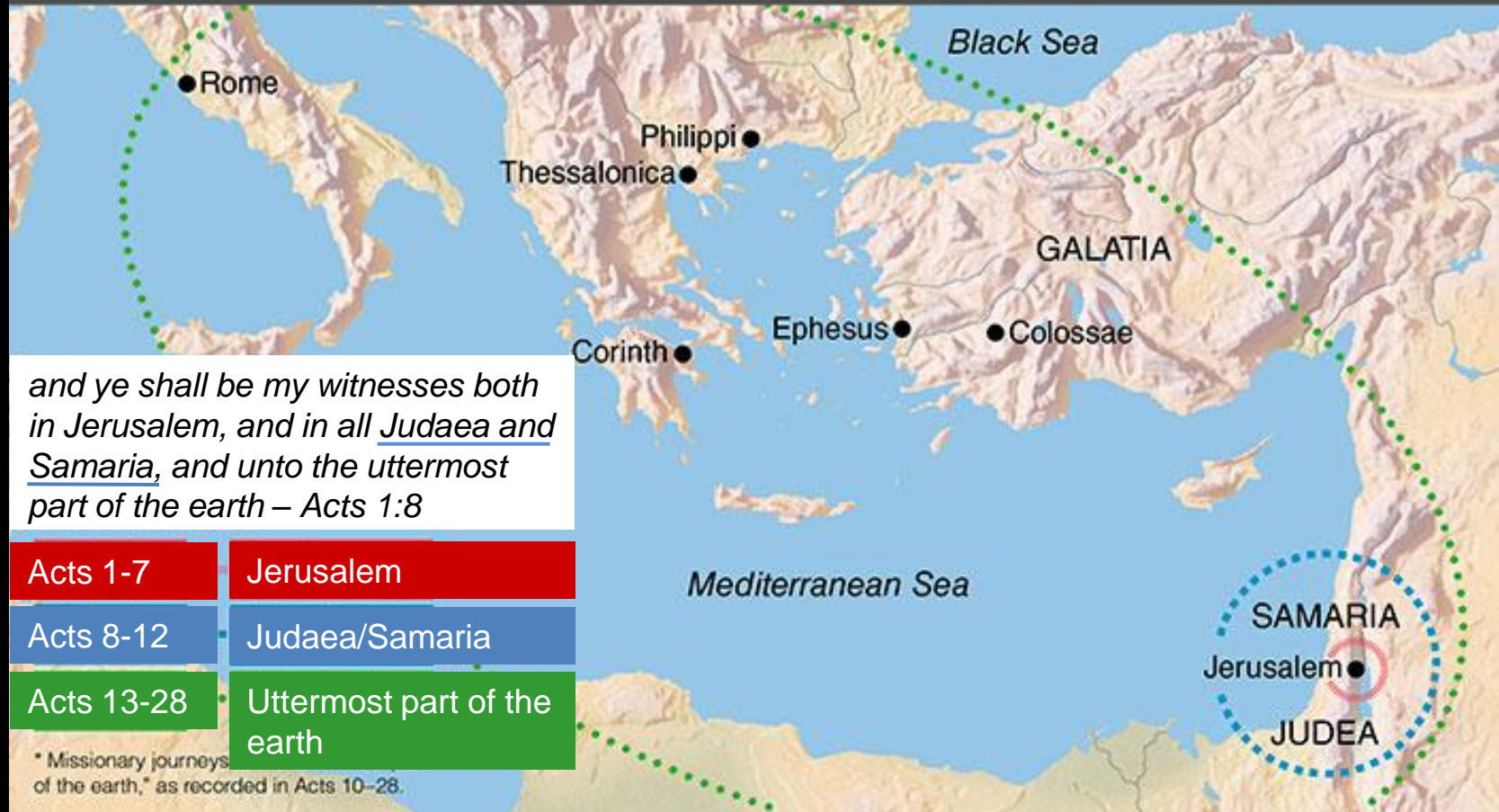


ACTS

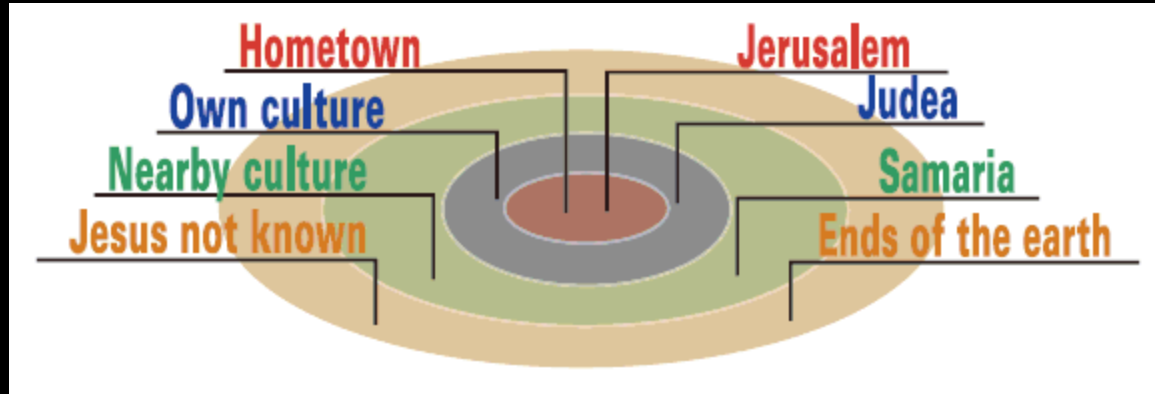
	The Church Established at “Jerusalem” The church is . . . born tested purified strengthened <i>CHAPTERS</i> 1–7	The Church Enlarged to “Judea and Samaria” The gospel is . . . spreading multiplying changing lives breaking traditions <i>CHAPTERS</i> 8–12	The Church Expanded to “the Ends of the Earth” The witness is . . . extended received and rejected changing lives unifying Jews and Gentiles <i>CHAPTERS</i> 13–28		
Leaders	The apostle Peter		The apostle Paul		
Emphasis	Jewish evangelism	Transition	Gentile evangelism		
Time	AD 33 (1:1–2:47)	AD 36 (8:1)	AD 40 (9:32)	AD 46 (13:1)	AD 57 (21:18)
Scope	City evangelism	National evangelism		Cross-cultural evangelism	
Theme	In the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus’s followers carry the good news of Christ to the world.				
Key Verse	1:8				
Christ in Acts	Jesus is the glorified, enthroned Savior, who continues His ministry in the world by means of the Holy Spirit working through His disciples until He returns (1:7–9).				

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Overview of the Acts of the Apostles



Will We Take the Gospel to the Lost?



Approximate Chronology of Acts

Date	Chapter in Acts	Event	NT Books Written
A.D. 45-49	13-14	Paul's 1st preaching trip from Antioch	Galatians (?)
A.D. 50	15	Jerusalem meeting	
A.D. 50-54	15:36 – 18:22	Paul's 2nd preaching trip from Antioch	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians (from Corinth)
A.D. 54-58	18:23 – 21:17	Paul's 3rd preaching trip from Antioch	1 Corinthians (from Ephesus) 2 Corinthians (from Macedonia) Romans (from Corinth)



Paul & Barnabas receive great Jewish opposition to the Gospel

Paul & Barnabas flee to avoid being killed

Paul & Barnabas mistaken for gods
Paul stoned

The Church at Antioch sends Paul & Barnabas on a missionary journey

Proconsul Sergius Paulus converted

Jerusalem Conference
c. 49-50 AD

c. A.D. 45-49

0 100 200 Miles
0 100 200 Kilometers

PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 13 & 14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches" - Rev. 2-3
- Paul's Route

ConfirmingToJesus.com

Acts 13

Lessons for Today

1. Church members should be spending time ministering to the Lord (13:1-3; Eph. 6:21; Col. 4:7). It is also good if preachers can leave the local church and do (foreign) evangelism from time-to-time in other areas (13:2-5; see also 14:26; Mk. 16:15; Mt. 28:19).

Acts 13

Lessons for Today

2. The “word of God” (13:5, 7) is the same as “the faith” (13:8), “the right ways of the Lord” (13:10), and the “teaching of the Lord” (13:12).
3. We should never turn away people from “the faith” by our words or actions (13:7-9; Mal. 2:8).

Acts 13

Lessons for Today

4. Let us always be ready to preach the gospel when invited to do so (13:15; Rom. 1:15; 1 Pet. 3:15).
5. We, like David, need to be a man after God's own heart (13:22; 1 Chron. 17:19).

Acts 13

Lessons for Today

6. You can hear God's word repeatedly and still not comprehend or understand it (13:27; Eph. 5:17).
7. Jesus is our "Savior" (13:23) who provides "remission of sins" (13:38; Tit. 3:6; 2 Pet. 2:20; 3:18).

Acts 13

Lessons for Today

8. New Christians should “continue in the grace of God” and never fall from it (13:43; 2 Cor. 6:1).
9. When people reject the truth, go to others who may accept it (13:46, 51; Mt. 10:14).

Acts 13

Lessons for Today

10. Let us always be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit (13:52; 2 Tim. 1:4).

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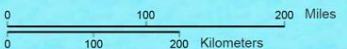
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c. A.D. 45-49



PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY
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Paul's Persecutions in Acts 13-14

²³ Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as one beside himself) I more; in labors more abundantly, in prisons more abundantly, in stripes above measure, in deaths oft. ²⁴ Of the Jews five times received I forty *stripes* save one. ²⁵ Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day have I been in the deep; ²⁶ *in* journeyings often, *in* perils of rivers, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils from *my* countrymen, *in* perils from the Gentiles, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren; ²⁷ *in* labor and travail, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. ²⁸ Besides those things that are without, there is that which presseth upon me daily, anxiety for all the churches. - 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

Paul's Persecutions in Acts 13-14

¹⁰ But thou didst follow my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings; what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: and out of them all the Lord delivered me. ¹² Yea, and all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. – 2 Timothy 3:10-12

Acts 14

Lessons for Today

1. The preaching of the gospel will bring two results: belief and disbelief (14:1-2; Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 28:24; 1 Pet. 2:7).
2. Keep preaching the word even in the face of opposition (14:3-7, 21; see also 13:51; Mt. 10:14).

Acts 14

Lessons for Today

3. We are all mere humans, not gods, and we should never be worshipped (14:13, 15, 18; Acts 10:26).
4. We serve a living God who is good to all mankind (14:15-17; 1 Tim. 4:10; Heb. 3:12; 10:31).

Acts 14

Lessons for Today

5. New Christians need confirming and exhortation to stay strong (14:22; Acts 15:32, 41).
6. Christians will pass through many tribulations to enter into the kingdom of God (14:22; Rom. 12:12; Rev. 7:14).

Acts 14

Lessons for Today

7. Elders (a plurality) are to be appointed in every church (14:23; Tit. 1:5).
8. The grace of God will help us to do God's work in God's way (14:26; Eph. 3:8).

Acts 14

Lessons for Today

9. God opens doors of faith for people to believe, but we must do our part to walk through those doors and take the gospel to them (14:27; 1 Cor. 16:9; 2 Cor. 2:12; Col. 4:3; Rev. 3:8).

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Acts 15 and Bible Authority

(Three Apostolic Arguments)

Necessary Inference	Approved Examples	Direct Statements
Peter (15:5-7)	Paul and Barnabas (15:12)	James (15:13-21)
Peter implied that the Gentiles do not need to be circumcised because the H.S. was given to them in Acts 10 (see also 11:1-18)	Paul and Barnabas gave examples of how God worked miracles among the Gentiles <u>through them</u> in Acts 13-14 without the Gentiles being cir.	James made a direct statement from scripture (Amos 9:11-12) showing the Gentiles are saved without circumcision

Lesson from These Three Addresses

1. Rational argumentation was used to the answer error being spread by the false teachers
2. Rational argumentation was understood by all
3. Rational argumentation unified the church

Acts 15

Lessons for Today

1. Never add conditions or anything to the word of God (15:1, 5; Rev. 22:18-19).
2. Debate against false teaching is a good thing (15:2; Jude 3).

Acts 15

Lessons for Today

3. Hearing that people have been converted to the Lord should make us joyful (15:3-4; Lk. 15:5-6, 9-10; Acts 11:18).
4. The truths of God's word are established by necessary inference (15:7-11), apostolic example (15:12), and direct statement (15:14-21).

Acts 15

Lessons for Today

5. Teaching what is false without divine authority does nothing but trouble brethren (15:24; Gal. 1:7)?
6. Like Barnabas and Paul, we need to be willing to sacrifice for the gospel and hazard (risk) our lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (15:26; 2 Cor. 11:23-33; Phil. 2:30).

Acts 15

Lessons for Today

7. Brethren who have been troubled by the teaching of error need to be exhorted with the teaching of the truth (15:30-35; Heb. 13:22).
8. It is good to check on Christians who are “young in the faith” to see how they are doing and give them confirmation in the word of God (15:32, 36, 41; Acts 14:22).

Acts 15

Lessons for Today

9. When you disagree with your brother over matters of opinion, press your point, but don't divide; keep doing the Lord's work together (15:37-41; Col. 4:10; Philemon 24; 2 Tim. 4:11).