

The acts of Jesus continued...

2019-1-19 by Ben Deaver at Tallgrass Church on Acts 1:1-14

Mingle Question: What's your favorite Jesus story?

- This is awesome! 12:30pm, we'll end just in time for a little pre-game and then kickoff!
- Lean in with me as we open the Scriptures together!

Acts 1:1-3 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

PRAY!

Luke tells the story!

"In the first book..."

- **Luke 1:1-4** Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, ²just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, ³it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.
- **Our King and Kingdom: The Gospel According to Luke**
- **The Upside-Down Kingdom of God**
 - Manhattan skyline.
 - Connect to the Acts logo.
- **From the Little Apple to the Big Apple!**
- They could've been written separately because each book was maxing out a typical scroll.
 - Luke would've been about 35 feet long. Luke has 19,482 words in it.
 - Acts would've been about 32 feet long. Acts has 18,450 words in it.
 - Total = 37,932 words – 27% of the NT
 - Compared to all of Paul's letters which equaled 32,408 words. – 23% of the NT
- We like to preach through books of the Bible. Thus far we've tackled 1st Timothy and Luke. Eventually we'd like to get through the whole Bible!
- Acts links the Bible. Without Acts we have no clue who Paul is.
- Acts is a great book to study for a church plant, or really for any church at any time.
- Acts helps us understand why we're here.
- Dave and I are excited about Acts.

"...I..."

- The author of Luke and Acts was the beloved physician Luke!
- Beloved physician—Colossians 4:14
- Luke traveled with Paul.—the "we" passages (Acts 16:10–17; 20:5–15; 21:1–18; 27:1–37; 28:1-16)
- Luke was a premier historian. He includes several synchronisms that alert as to the historicity of his writing.
 - Luke 1:5; 2:1-2; 3:1-2; Acts 5; 11; 12; 18; 21-26
 - Luke 1:5—In the days of Herod, king of Judea
 - Luke 2:1-2—In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

- Luke 3:1-2—In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas
- Acts 5—Gamaliel’s speech
- Acts 11—the famine under Claudius
- Acts 12—the reign of Herod Agrippa
- Acts 18—the expulsion of Jews from Rome and Paul’s encounter with Gallio
- Acts 21-26—the reigns of Felix and Festus

“...O Theophilus...”

- Who is Theophilus? “lover of God” “friend of God”
- Theophilus was of some high standing in society as Luke referred to him as “most excellent” at the beginning of Luke.
- Theophilus was a real person who most likely funded Luke’s research and writing.
- Luke and Acts weren’t just intended for Theophilus though. He wanted these events to be properly recorded and then shared broadly. Surely that’s why he funded this awesome endeavor.
- Wealthy people can use their wealth for significant Kingdom contribution!

“...all that Jesus began to do and teach...”

- **Luke 3:23a** Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age...
- **Luke 4:17** And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,
- **SLIDE Luke 4:18-19 (Isaiah 61:1-2)** ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”
- **Luke 4:20-21** ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

“...to the apostles...”

- Some have called this book the Acts of the Apostles. They wouldn’t be wrong.

“...through the Holy Spirit...”

- Some folks call this book the Acts of the Holy Spirit. They wouldn’t be wrong.
- Jesus’ ministry was led by the Holy Spirit. The same Holy Spirit that led Jesus leads us!

“He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs...”

- Jesus proved that He was physically resurrected, and not a ghost.
- We have proof of the resurrection in the same way that we can prove other historical events.
- MORE HERE?!?!
- *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus* by Gary R. Habermas and Michael R. Licona (2004)
- *The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach* by Michael R. Licona (2010)

“...speaking about the kingdom of God...”

- **SLIDE Luke 24:44-45** ⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures...”
- **Luke 24:46-47** ⁴⁶“...and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

What’s the purpose of Luke-Acts?

- Luke-Acts is historical narrative that captures the world-changing events brought about by the words and deeds of Jesus Christ as planned and initiated by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! This historical narrative invites us in to keep making history by advancing the Kingdom of God!
- “The manner in which Luke writes this narrative is from a theological point of view, for Luke believes that it is God, and God’s salvation plan, that is the engine that drives and connects the various facets of his account. If there is any dominant actor in the book of Acts. It is God in the person of the Holy Spirit who guides and directs the words and deeds especially of the main protagonists in the narrative (cf., e.g., Acts 15:7, 28: 16:6). In fact, the focus of *both* Luke and Acts is primarily theocentric and, as a subset of that fact, also Christocentric. We are talking about the mighty deeds of God performed on the stage of history by and through Jesus and his followers.” –Witherington III, Ben. *The Acts of the Apostles: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1998, p. 21.

Meanwhile...

Acts 1:4-5 ⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

- **Luke 24:50-53** ⁵⁰And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with **great joy**, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.
- Review two weeks ago—Seek Truth, Seek Jesus, Rejoice exceedingly with great joy, Worship King Jesus!
- The next verses in Acts go into greater detail about what happened here.

Acts 1:6-8 ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- “Jesus is the Promised Messiah!” Jesus dies. “Jesus isn’t the Promised Messiah!” Jesus rises again. “Jesus is the Promised Messiah! It’s go time.” Jesus responds, “Now hold your horses! Don’t worry about the times or seasons that the Father has set up. Rather, you have new marching orders! The same power that raised me from the dead will be given to you. And then you’ll do what I’ve been doing throughout the world!”
- They had been waiting for the Messiah to restore the Kingdom to Israel for a looooooong time!
- We’ve been waiting for the Chiefs to restore the Vince Lombardi Trophy to Chiefs Kingdom for 50 years....and that feels like forever!
- **Curse of the Kingdom: Rise of Mahomes**
 - There’s emotion connected to this man Mahomes!
 - Watch the hype videos. Watch the video of Melba, the 100-year-old Chiefs fan, who gets to go to the home opener this year and get the game ball from Patrick Mahomes. There is emotion connected to this man. Could he be the one to restore Chiefs Kingdom?!?!
- The Jews had been waiting for the Messiah to restore glory back to the Kingdom of Israel for 1000 years! That’s twenty times longer than we’ve been waiting...
- These new marching orders are to continue the acts and words of Jesus back *then and there*.

- These marching orders remain the same for us today *here and now*.
- The Jews have been waiting now 3000 years for the restoration of the Kingdom of Israel!

“...you will be my witnesses...”

- Witnesses—Acts 1:8; 3144; literally, one who remembers (Matt 18:16; 26:65; Mark 14:63; Acts 7:58; 2 Cor 13:1; 1 Tim 5:19; Heb 10:28)
- Ambassador
 - **2 Corinthians 5:20** Therefore, we are *ambassadors* for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
 - And by implication of the Gospel, be reconciled one to another. The great legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. to try to reconcile black and white in our country flows directly out of our role as ambassadors for Christ, and our ministry of reconciliation.
- Royal Priesthood—**1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a *royal priesthood*, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- Image—**Romans 8:29a** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the *image* of his Son...
- **Genesis 1:26a, 27-28a** ^{26a} Then God said, “Let us make man in our *image*, after our likeness...”
²⁷ So God created man in his own *image*,
 in the *image* of God he created him;
 male and female he created them.
^{28a} And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth...”

MAP—Outline based on Acts 1:8

- Jerusalem (*Chapters 1-7*)
- Judea and Samaria (*Chapters 8-12*)
- to the end of the earth—Gentile Territories (*Chapters 13-28*)

Acts 1:9-11 ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

- No more fear when angels show up!
- Physical life, physical death, physical resurrection, physical ascension, physical return.
- SIGHT WORDS—They were EYEWITNESSES!—looking on; out of the their sight; gazing into heaven; looking into heaven; saw him

Acts 1:12-14 ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, 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 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

- We hear a lot about Peter in the upcoming chapters and some about the others.
- Eventually we're introduced to another guy whose ministry will be the focal point of the rest of the book of Acts, Saul of Tarsus.
- **MAP of Apostles' travels**
- “...to the end of the earth...”
 - Rome wasn't the end of the earth at that time. It was probably considered more the center of the known earth. It became a new launch point for the mission of Jesus.

“...with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer...”

- This has been Jesus’ vision for the church since 33AD and still is 1,987 years later in 2020!
- “For church leaders and for the church as a whole, prayer is not a duty – it is a joyful privilege; it is not a chore that can be taken care of by one-liners between praise songs, but a passionate desire for the presence of God.” –Schnabel, Eckhard J. *Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*. Zondervan, 2012, p. 89.
- The Gospel spread like wildfire in the early years of the church! The Gospel COULD spread like wildfire TODAY!!!
- Today...the end of the earth...from Jerusalem...is actually right here!
- The Gospel spread incredibly rapidly early on. Then it began slowing down big time as the church got away from being with one accord and devoted to prayer.

The acts of Jesus continue...

- What’s the timeframe of Luke-Acts? 4BC–62AD

1. Neighbor—live out Acts 1:8 (aka Represent Jesus in your neighborhood!)

- a. Tallgrass Mission Statement: Because God first loved us, we exist to love God and love our neighbors.
- b. What’s your Jerusalem? Your Judea and Samaria? Your end of the earth?
- c. What step can you take to be Jesus’ witness in your neighborhood this year?
- d. Examples:
 - i. Kassi living this out in her neighborhood
 - ii. Ricky and Renberg living this out in the workplace
 - iii. Orphan Helpers living this out in Central America
 - iv. Tallgrassians in New Zealand
 - v. Other stories???
- e. Helping International Students—Have an international student friend and live this out right here!

2. 2020 Strategic Priorities

- a. What is a strategic priority? And why are these our strategic priorities?
- b. These are key areas of growth for our church! We’re not elevating these things over other important things. These strategic priorities will actually aid our other areas of emphasis.
- c. There are like WOTYs for our church.
- d. Look for these strategic priorities throughout Acts.
- e. “...with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer...”

Strategic priorities:

1. Gathering Centrally
 - i. We want to be the church gathered AND scattered!
2. Corporate Prayer
 - ii. Tuesday mornings weekly
 - iii. Monthly evening gathering? Poll Tallgrassians.
 - iv. Become a church where people come to get prayed for
 - v. Pray more together in Central Gathering for one another
3. Discipleship
 - vi. *The Gospel Centered Life* by Robert Thune
 - vii. Search for *discipleship* at tallgrass.church:
 1. *Personal Discipleship - Practical Tips* by Gary DeLashmutt
 2. *Organic Discipleship* by Dennis McCallum
 - viii. Discipleship Goals Worksheet from Xenos--look on Slack
 - ix. Creativity in discipleship--What might this look like for you today?

3. Study Acts

- a. Why studying the Word of God important vs. just finding life hacks and putting them into practice?
 - i. God created you and longs to have a relationship with you. In fact that is your purpose for existence, to be in relationship with God and other beings who are in relationship with God. We were created for relationship. So the most practical thing we can do is invest in those relationships. God has spoken to us through His Word. That's why we engage with the Word of God, because of relationships. All the practical life hacks about how to live better are to serve relationships.
- b. Engage with the Living Word
- c. Read, Study, Memorize
- d. Acts and Epistles Chronological Reading Plan
 - i. Read a chapter a day, or a story a day.
- e. Handwrite the upcoming passage
- f. Print of a copy of Acts without chapter and verse markings and explore on your own.
- g. Read Acts in one setting. Would've been read aloud in community!
 - i. Read all of Acts aloud. That should take you 2.25 hours.
 - ii. Better yet read all of Luke and then Acts aloud. That should take you 4.75 hours.
 - iii. <https://jamedders.com/how-long-does-it-take-to-read-each-book-of-the-bible/>
- h. Themes through Acts—corporate prayer, gatherings, discipleship, Jews AND Gentiles, stories told, geography, women, repentance, baptism, money, the poor AND the wealthy
- i. Scripture Memory Card
- a. Resources
 - i. Acts videos by The Bible Project
 - ii. *Thirty Years That Changed the World: The Book Acts for Today* by Michael Green
 - iii. *The Acts of the Apostles: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary* by Ben Witherington III
 - iv. John Lennox sermon series
 - v. Xenos sermon series
 - vi. *Members of One Another: How to build a biblical ethos into your church* by Dennis McCallum

Q&R&Testimonies

- Ask questions.
- Share neighboring stories.
- Share how you engage with the Scriptures.

The Chopping Block:

- When was it written?
 - While Paul was in prison?
 - After the destruction of the Temple in 70AD?
- Paul's Missionary Journeys—<https://www.jesusfilm.org/blog-and-stories/missionary-journeys-paul.html>
 - 1st—Acts 13-14
 - 2nd—15:36-18:22
 - 3rd—18:23-21:14
- Sermons in Acts—<https://www.leadershipresources.org/blog/list-of-sermons-in-acts/>

Holy Spirit

- **Luke 1:15** for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the **Holy Spirit**, even from his mother's womb.
- **Luke 1:35** And the angel answered her, "The **Holy Spirit** will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called **holy**—the Son of God.
- **Luke 1:41** And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the **Holy Spirit**,
- **Luke 1:67** [*Zechariah's Prophecy*] And his father Zechariah was filled with the **Holy Spirit** and prophesied, saying,
- **Luke 2:25** Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.
- **Luke 2:26** And it had been revealed to him by the **Holy Spirit** that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
- **Luke 3:16** John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit** and fire.
- **Luke 3:22** and the **Holy Spirit** descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
- **Luke 4:1** [*The Temptation of Jesus*] And Jesus, full of the **Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was led by the **Spirit** in the wilderness
- **Luke 10:21** [*Jesus Rejoices in the Father's Will*] In that same hour he rejoiced in the **Holy Spirit** and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- **Luke 11:13** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to those who ask him!"
- **Luke 12:10** And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the **Holy Spirit** will not be forgiven.
- **Luke 12:12** for the **Holy Spirit** will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."
- **Acts 1:1** [*The Promise of the Holy Spirit*] In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach,
- **Acts 1:2** until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the **Holy Spirit** to the apostles whom he had chosen.
- **Acts 1:5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the **Holy Spirit** not many days from now."
- **Acts 1:8** But you will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
- **Acts 1:16** "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the **Holy Spirit** spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.

- **Acts 2:1** [*The Coming of the Holy Spirit*] When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.
- **Acts 2:4** And they were all filled with the **Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the **Spirit** gave them utterance.
- **Acts 2:33** Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the **Holy Spirit**, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.
- **Acts 2:38** And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the **Holy Spirit**."
- **Acts 4:8** Then Peter, filled with the **Holy Spirit**, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders,
- **Acts 4:25** who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the **Holy Spirit**, "'Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?"
- **Acts 4:31** And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the **Holy Spirit** and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.
- **Acts 5:3** But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the **Holy Spirit** and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?"
- **Acts 5:32** And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the **Holy Spirit**, whom God has given to those who obey him."
- **Acts 6:5** And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the **Holy Spirit**, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.
- **Acts 7:51** "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the **Holy Spirit**. As your fathers did, so do you.
- **Acts 7:55** But he, full of the **Holy Spirit**, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.
- **Acts 8:15** who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the **Holy Spirit**,
- **Acts 8:17** Then they laid their hands on them and they received the **Holy Spirit**.
- **Acts 8:19** saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the **Holy Spirit**."
- **Acts 9:17** So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the **Holy Spirit**."
- **Acts 9:31** So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the **Holy Spirit**, it multiplied.
- **Acts 10:38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the **Holy Spirit** and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
- **Acts 10:44** [*The Holy Spirit Falls on the Gentiles*] While Peter was still saying these things, the **Holy Spirit** fell on all who heard the word.
- **Acts 10:45** And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the **Holy Spirit** was poured out even on the Gentiles.
- **Acts 10:47** "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the **Holy Spirit** just as we have?"
- **Acts 11:15** As I began to speak, the **Holy Spirit** fell on them just as on us at the beginning.
- **Acts 11:16** And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the **Holy Spirit**.'
- **Acts 11:24** for he was a good man, full of the **Holy Spirit** and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.
- **Acts 13:2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the **Holy Spirit** said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."
- **Acts 13:4** [*Barnabas and Saul on Cyprus*] So, being sent out by the **Holy Spirit**, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

- **Acts 13:9** But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the **Holy Spirit**, looked intently at him
- **Acts 13:52** And the disciples were filled with joy and with the **Holy Spirit**.
- **Acts 15:8** And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the **Holy Spirit** just as he did to us,
- **Acts 15:28** For it has seemed good to the **Holy Spirit** and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements:
- **Acts 16:6** [*The Macedonian Call*] And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the **Holy Spirit** to speak the word in Asia.
- **Acts 19:2** And he said to them, “Did you receive the **Holy Spirit** when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a **Holy Spirit**.”
- **Acts 19:6** And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the **Holy Spirit** came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.
- **Acts 20:23** except that the **Holy Spirit** testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.
- **Acts 20:28** Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the **Holy Spirit** has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.
- **Acts 21:11** And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, “Thus says the **Holy Spirit**, ‘This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’”
- **Acts 28:25** And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The **Holy Spirit** was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet:

Acts and Epistles Chronological Reading Plan

- Acts 1:1—11:24
- James
- Acts 11:25-14:28
- Galatians
- Acts 15:1-18:17
- 1 Thessalonians
- 2 Thessalonians
- Acts 18:18-19:10
- 1 Corinthians
- Acts 19:11-20:1
- 2 Corinthians
- Acts 20:2
- Romans
- Acts 20:3-28
- Ephesians
- Colossians
- Philemon
- Philippians
- 1 Timothy
- Titus
- 2 Timothy
- Hebrews

Week	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Acts 1	Acts 2	Acts 3	Acts 4	Acts 5	Acts 6	Acts 7
2	Acts 8	Acts 9	Acts 10	Acts 11:1-24	James 1	James 2	James 3
3	James 4	James 5	Acts 11:25-12:25	Acts 13	Acts 14	Galatians 1	Galatians 2

4	Galatians 3	Galatians 4	Galatians 5	Galatians 6	Acts 15	Acts 16	Acts 17
5	Acts 18:1-17	1 Thess 1	1 Thess 2	1 Thess 3	1 Thess 4	1 Thess 5	2 Thess 1
6	2 Thess 2	2 Thess 3	Acts 18:18-19:10	1 Cor 1	1 Cor 2	1 Cor 3	1 Cor 4
7	1 Cor 5	1 Cor 6	1 Cor 7	1 Cor 8	1 Cor 9	1 Cor 10	1 Cor 11
8	1 Cor 12	1 Cor 13	1 Cor 14	1 Cor 15	1 Cor 16	Acts 19:11-20:1	2 Cor 1
9	2 Cor 2	2 Cor 3	2 Cor 4	2 Cor 5	2 Cor 6	2 Cor 7	2 Cor 8
10	2 Cor 9	2 Cor 10	2 Cor 11	2 Cor 12	2 Cor 13	Acts 20:2; Rom 1	Rom 2
11	Rom 3	Rom 4	Rom 5	Rom 6	Rom 7	Rom 8	Rom 9
12	Rom 10	Rom 11	Rom 12	Rom 13	Rom 14	Rom 15	Rom 16
13	Acts 20:3-28	Acts 21	Acts 22	Acts 23	Acts 24	Acts 25	Acts 26
14	Acts 27	Acts 28	Eph 1	Eph 2	Eph 3	Eph 4	Eph 5
15	Eph 6	Col 1	Col 2	Col 3	Col 4	Philemon	Phil 1
16	Phil 2	Phil 3	Phil 4	1 Tim 1	1 Tim 3	1 Tim 3	1 Tim 4
17	1 Tim 5	1 Tim 6	Titus 1	Titus 2	Titus 3	2 Tim 1	2 Tim 2
18	2 Tim 3	2 Tim 4	Heb 1	Heb 2	Heb 3	Heb 4	Heb 5
19	Heb 6	Heb 7	Heb 8	Heb 9	Heb 10	Heb 11	Heb 12
20	Heb 13						

Chronology of Acts and the Epistles

Event	Reference	Year (AD)
Descent of the Holy Spirit	Acts 2:1-13	30
Setting Up of the Church	Acts 2:40-47	30
First Persecutions (Illustration)	Acts 4:1-22 ; 5:21-42 ; 7:1-60	35
Philip at Samaria	Acts 8:4-13	35
Conversion of Saul (Illustration)	Acts 9:1-9	36
First Gentile Converted	Acts 10:1-48	40
Founding of Church at Antioch	Acts 11:19-30	43
Writing of Matthew's Gospel	Matthew	43
James Killed by Herod	Acts 12:1-25	45
Paul's Call	Acts 13:1-3	47
His First Missionary Journey Begun (Map)	Acts 13:4-14:28	48
Council at Jerusalem	Acts 15:6-35	50
Second Missionary Journey Begun (Map)	Acts 15:39-18:22	51
Writing of I Thessalonians	I Thessalonians	52
Writing of II Thessalonians	II Thessalonians	53
Third Missionary Journey Begun (Map)	Acts 18:23-21:17	54
Writing of I Corinthians	I Corinthians	57
Writing of Galatians	Galatians	57
Writing of II Corinthians	II Corinthians	58
Writing of Romans	Romans	58

Event	Reference	Year (AD)
Writing of Luke's Gospel	Luke	59
Paul's Arrest at Jerusalem	Acts 21:26-22:29	58
Paul at Caesarea	Acts 23:23-26:32	59
Paul Starts for Rome	Acts 27:1-2	60
Paul Reaches Rome	Acts 28:11-16a	61
Paul's Imprisonment at Rome	Acts 28:16-31	62
Paul Writes Ephesians	Ephesians	62
Paul Writes Philippians	Philippians	62
Paul Writes Colossians	Colossians	62
Paul Writes Philemon	Philemon	62
James Writes his Epistle	James	62
I Peter Written	I Peter	63
Acts Written	Acts	63
Paul is Acquitted	-	63
Paul Visits Various Places	-	63
Paul Writes Hebrews	Hebrews	63
Paul Writes I Timothy	I Timothy	63
Paul Writes Titus	Titus	63
Writing of Mark's Gospel	Mark	64
II Peter Written	II Peter	65
Paul's Second Imprisonment at Rome	-	65
II Timothy Written	II Timothy	66
Martyrdom of Paul	-	66
Destruction of Jerusalem	-	71
Jude's Epistle Written	Jude	75
Writing of John's Gospel	John	85
Writing of John's Three Epistles	I John; II John; III John	90
John's Visions at Patmos	Revelation 1:9	96
Revelation Written	Revelation	97
Death of John	-	100