

ACTS

*Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in **consecutive order**, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught Luke 1:1-4*

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. 1:1-4

BOOK STRUCTURE

TWO MAIN PARTS:

Jews – Jerusalem – Peter

Apostle to the Jews (with James and John)
chapters 1 through 12

The spread of the gospel from Jerusalem, to Judea, and to Samaria.
“... you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria ...” Acts 1:8

Gentiles – Antioch – Paul

Apostle to the Gentiles (with Barnabas and Silas)
chapters 13-28

“... and even to the remotest part of the earth.” Acts 1:8

But on the contrary, seeing that I [Paul] had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised (for He who effectually worked for Peter in his apostleship to the circumcised effectually worked for me also to the Gentiles), and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we might go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. Galatians 2:7-9

BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

Beginning of

- Christ’s reign at the right hand of God.
- the work of the Holy Spirit.
- the preaching of the Gospel (Good News of salvation) to the world.
- beginning of the church (body of believers).
- beginning of opposition and persecution against the church.
- beginning of internal problems within the church.
- beginning of “the family of God” composed of people from all nations.

BOOK OF CONVERSIONS

Conversion of:

- Jews
- Samaritans
- Jewish proselyte (man from Ethiopia)
- Saul (Jew who became Apostle to the Gentiles)
- Roman believer in God– Cornelius
- Gentiles in Asia
- Greeks in Europe
- Romans

BOOK OF THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The “Holy Spirit” or “Spirit” is mentioned 66 times in 64 verses.

All the promises which Christ made concerning the Holy Spirit are shown to have been fulfilled.

By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ has been fully established.

The Holy Spirit’s work is evident in inspiration, miraculous outpouring (power to speak in tongues, heal the sick and lame, raise the dead), and in the lives of those converted.

ONE CHURCH

Promised by God . . . Built by Jesus Christ . . . Through the Work of the Holy Spirit

The calling of the Gentiles, as well as the Jews, is revealed and illustrated. This event, so frequently foretold by the prophets and by Christ himself, is here presented. By bring together both Jew and Gentile, by the power and grace of God, the church was founded and thus the kingdom of God was established among men.