



The
ACTS
OF THE APOSTLES

The image features a central graphic of a stylized flame in shades of orange and red. The word "The" is written in a white, cursive font above the flame. The word "ACTS" is written in large, bold, orange block letters, with the flame graphic integrated into the letter "A". Below "ACTS", the words "OF THE APOSTLES" are written in a smaller, white, serif font. The background is a dark, textured brown with stylized, wavy patterns in a lighter brown color, suggesting flames or smoke.



Today's Scripture Reading

Acts 21:17-27



¹⁷ When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. ¹⁸ On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

¹⁹ After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. ²⁰ And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law,



²¹ and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs. ²² What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. ²³ Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; ²⁴ take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law.



²⁵ But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.” ²⁶ Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them. ²⁷ When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him,



The
ACTS

OF THE APOSTLES



¹⁷ When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us **gladly**.



¹⁸ On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. ¹⁹ After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.



¹⁹ After greeting them, he related **one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.**



QUESTION

When people ask you about MACC how do you answer?

Do you simply speak about MACC or
do you speak on what God is doing through MACC?



²⁰ And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. **They are all zealous for the law,**



²¹ and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, **telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.**



American Evangelical Zealotry

CONSERVATIVE ZEALOTRY

SOCIAL JUSTICE ZEALOTRY



²² What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. ²³ Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; ²⁴ take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law.



²⁵ But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.”



²⁶ Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.



²⁷ When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him,



PHILIPPIANS 2:5-9: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted himself and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,



JOHN 17:20-23: “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they may also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.



STRIVE FOR UNITY

STRIVE TO UNDERSTAND

STRIVE TO BE GRACEFUL

STRIVE TO WALK IN UNITY



APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Is there any type of **RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL, OR ETHNIC AFFECTION** you have that Satan can use to attack this local body?

How does **HUMILITY PRACTICALLY PLAYS ITSELF OUT** when dealing with brethren who you differ with on social, and cultural issues?



The
ACTS
OF THE APOSTLES

The image features a central graphic of a stylized flame in shades of orange and red. To the right of the flame, the word "The" is written in a white, elegant script font. Below "The", the word "ACTS" is written in large, bold, orange block letters. Underneath "ACTS", the words "OF THE APOSTLES" are written in a smaller, white, serif font. The background is a dark, textured brown with large, stylized, light-colored wave-like shapes at the top and bottom.