



The
ACTS
OF THE APOSTLES

The image features a central graphic of a 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 a landscape or a stylized background.



Today's Scripture Reading

Acts 24:10-27



¹⁰And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied: “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. ¹¹ You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, ¹² and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the city. ¹³ Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. ¹⁴ But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets,



¹⁵ having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. ¹⁶ So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. ¹⁷ Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings. ¹⁸ While I was doing this, they found me purified in the temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia—¹⁹ they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me. ²⁰ Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council,



²¹ other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: ‘It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.’” ²² But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, “When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.” ²³ Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.



²⁴ After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵ And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you.” ²⁶ At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. ²⁷ When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.



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APPLICATION: THE OVERCOMER

ACTS 24:16

¹⁶ So I ALWAYS TAKE PAINS TO HAVE A CLEAR CONSCIENCE TOWARD BOTH GOD AND MAN.



APPLICATION: THE SEEKER

LUKE 12:13-20

...¹⁶ AND HE TOLD THEM A PARABLE, SAYING, “THE LAND OF A RICH MAN PRODUCED PLENTIFULLY, ¹⁷ AND HE THOUGHT TO HIMSELF, ‘WHAT SHALL I DO, FOR I HAVE NOWHERE TO STORE MY CROPS?’” ¹⁸ AND HE SAID, ‘I WILL DO THIS: I WILL TEAR DOWN MY BARNs AND BUILD LARGER ONES, AND THERE I WILL STORE ALL MY GRAIN AND MY GOODS. ¹⁹ AND I WILL SAY TO MY SOUL, “SOUL, YOU HAVE AMPLE GOODS LAID UP FOR MANY YEARS; RELAX, EAT, DRINK, BE MERRY.”” ²⁰ BUT GOD SAID TO HIM, ‘FOOL! THIS NIGHT YOUR SOUL IS REQUIRED OF YOU, AND THE THINGS YOU HAVE PREPARED, WHOSE WILL THEY BE?’” ²¹ SO IS THE ONE WHO LAYS UP TREASURE FOR HIMSELF AND IS NOT RICH TOWARD GOD.”



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