



*The*  
**ACTS**  
OF THE APOSTLES

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## **Biblical Overview** – *Themes of Scripture*

1. Love / Salvation of Creation
2. The Glory of God

# OVERVIEW: THE ACTS of the APOSTLES

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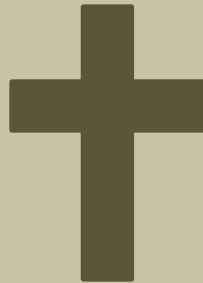


## Biblical Overview – *Themes of Scripture*

**Old Testament** 

*Looks forward to the Messiah*

*49 books*



**New Testament** 

*Looks backward at the Promises of God*

*27 books*

# OVERVIEW: SEGMENTS of the N.T.

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1. Christ —————→ *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*
2. Church History —→ *Acts*
3. Church Letters —→ *Romans - Revelation*

# OVERVIEW: THE ACTS of the APOSTLES



58 - Romans

50 - James

66 - 2 Timothy, Mark

64 - **ACTS**

90 - Epistles  
of John

55 - 1+2 Galatians

68 - 1+2 Peter,  
Jude

57 - 1+2 Corinthians

85 - John

52-53 - Thessalonians

67 - Matthew, Hebrews

65 - 1 Timothy, Titus

62-63 - Philippians  
Colossians, Philemon,  
Ephesians, Luke

# CONTEXT: The ROMAN EMPIRE



- Military Expansion
- Cultural Influence
- Imperial Rule
- Integration
- Public Works
- Caesar and Religion





## Agreements

- Affirmation of the Jewish *ethnic* identity
- Affirmation of some Jewish *religious* customs
- Respected Jewish leaders
  - *The Church resisted only when ordered to disobey God by Jewish leadership*

## Disagreements

- Jesus
- Interpretation of the Hebrew Scriptures
- View of Gentiles

# OVERVIEW: DATE and PLACE

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The events take place during 36-63 AD

**Roman Emperors**

Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, and Nero

Date Written: 62-63 AD



The Gospel of Luke  
+  
The Acts of the Apostles  
=  
**One Volume**

**Author:** "the beloved" physician named **Lucian**

- (**COLOSSIANS 4:14**)
1. Brought to Christ by Paul?
  2. The only Gentile writer in the New Testament
  3. Luke joined Paul on some missionary trips
  4. Luke is not witness to Jesus ministry

# OVERVIEW: CONTINUED

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**Audience:**      The Greeks (*Gentiles*)

- Specifically to Theophilus, a friend of Luke's and a Roman official

# OVERVIEW: THE PURPOSE of ACTS

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Key Phrase: **ACTS 1:8**

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“But you will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **ends of the earth.**”

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1. To “bridge” the Gospels and the Epistles
2. To establish the history of the early church
3. To strengthen Theophilus in his belief in Jesus

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4. The resurrection of Jesus is the key to salvation
  - **ACTS 1:8,22 | 2:24-32 | 5:30-32 | 10:40 | 13:30-39 | 17:18, 31 | 26:23**
5. The Coming and Activity of the Holy Spirit
6. Prayer (or a form of it) is used 35 times in Acts

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7. The ministry of the apostles (**Paul** and **Peter**)
- Validity of Paul’s Apostleship
  - Gentile inclusion into the new kingdom
    - Judea **ACTS 1-7**
    - Samaria **ACTS 8-12**
    - Ends of the World **ACTS 13-28**

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8. The Advance of Christianity

9. Women mentioned/emphasized frequently

10. Old Testament Referenced in Acts

# OVERVIEW: THE PURPOSE of ACTS

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Paul carried the Gospel to numerous cities, in 3 different missionary trips, over 13,000 miles!

1st missionary trip

ACTS 13:4 - 14:28

2nd missionary trip

ACTS 15:36 - 18:22

3rd missionary trip

ACTS 18:23 - 21:17



# First Missionary Journey



# Second Missionary Journey



# Third Missionary Journey



# Paul's Journey to Rome





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