

The Acts in Action & The Letters of Paul

The Challenge of Moving Out

What The Acts is About



Part 2 of
Luke's account
~
"Gospel of the
Holy Spirit"



To All Nations
*God so
loved the
world*



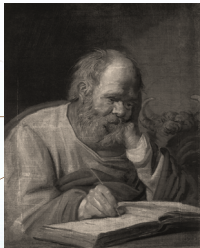
Interesting
People
~
Fantastic
Stories

Features of Luke's Writing

Extensive Vocabulary
Written in "elegant Greek"

Big on Details
Supplies credence and vividness

Dramatic
Reported speech used often. Major speeches included throughout the record



Drama
In contrasted ideas, events

Trustworthy
Reports the BAD and the GOOD

"Progress Reports"
To indicate a new phase or turning point in the narrative

•
Quotes O.T.
Presents the Gospel as the proper fulfillment of Israel's religion

Topics In This Study

Choice of the 7
Stephen
~
The Scattering of Believers
Philip's Ministry
Saul's Conversion


Stephen

His witness...
In the tradition of a recital of O.T. history,
and reminds them of their repeated rejection of God

52 verses...
11 refer to life in the promised land
Most refer to life in other countries
2 vs. refer to the Tabernacle
2 vs. refer to the Temple

BUT...
God does not dwell in temples made with hands.

The Death of Stephen



Acts 7:54-60
"asleep"
he saw the glory of God and Jesus

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!"

"Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Dramatic Introduction

Saul

Acts 8:1-3

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ² Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

Philip

To Samaria



Joy!

*8:4-8

Another of Luke's Themes

To Gaza



A great story!!

8:31-39

"rejoicing"
Baptism
Holy Spirit

Returning to Saul...



Who was he?

Had he met Jesus before?

Why persecuting the church so vehemently?

Explain the quick turn-around?

Barnabas – how important?

The Church continues,
encouraged by the Holy Spirit.

