

The Book of Acts  
The **PROMISE** of the Father  
Acts 1-2

- Author: Luke, the beloved physician – Colossians 4:14
- Date: 63 AD (the time of Paul’s imprisonment in Rome)
- Period: Acts covers approximately 30 years of history: 33 AD – 63 AD
- Purpose: Written to the body of Christ so we can know our roots and follow the course.
- Literary: Luke’s historical accounts are written superbly; he is a master with the Greek language; no other N.T. author compares.
- Key Verse: *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth* – Acts 1:8
- Division: I. The Ministry of the Apostles in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria – Acts 1-12 (Highlighted through Peter)
- II. The Ministry of the Apostles to the Gentile World – Acts 13-28 (Highlighted through Paul)
- I. The Ministry of the Apostles in **Jerusalem**, Judea, and Samaria – Acts 1-12 (Highlighted through Peter)
- 1A. The **PROMISE** of the Father – 1:1-2:47
- 1B. The **PREFACE** to Theophilus – 1:1-3
- 1C. Dedicated to a **SPECIAL** person – 1. Addressed to Theophilus = lover of God; *Theos* – “God” + *philos* – “friend of or lover of” – 1; 1 Jn. 4:19.
- 2C. Acts is the **SEQUEL** to the Gospel of Luke “*the former treatise*” (Lk. 1:1-4) – 2
- 3C. Luke **SUMMARIZES** 40 days with Christ – 3

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Note: *many infallible proofs or convincing proofs* (NASB) – Greek *tekmerion* “refers to evidential proof credible on its own merits.”<sup>1</sup>

2B. The **PROMISE** of the Father – 1:4-8

1C. Our Lord’s **COMMANDS** – 4-5; Is. 44:3; John 14:15-17; Luke 24:49.

Note: in our text, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is when the Holy Spirit comes into your heart and transforms and empowers your life to live for Christ and be His witness (Greek word from which derives martyr) – John 14:17; Titus 3:5-6

2C. The **COMING** Messianic Kingdom – 6-7

Note: God promised king David that he would have a Son that would sit on his throne forever – 2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17; Psalm 89 & 132. They were fully aware that the Messiah would establish His reign on the earth in Israel – Is. 2:1-4; 9:6-7; 65:17-25. (c.f. 1 Thessalonians 5)

3C. The **COMFORTER** – 8 – *Paraclete, Helper* – Jn. 14:16

Note: The Holy Spirit is given to us in order to help us live like Christ. Jesus prayed that the Father would send the Holy Spirit. The word “another” is “another of equal quality. Jesus teaches us that the Holy Spirit is equal to Himself. The Paraclete witnesses of Christ and glorifies Him – Jn. 16:7. He is fulfilling the will of Christ in us – making us more like Jesus all the time – 2 Cor. 3:18.

3B. Our ever **PRESENT** Lord Jesus – 1:9-11

1C. The **SHEKINAH** cloud – 9; Ex. 13:21-22; 1 Ki. 8:10-11; Matt. 26:64

2C. Jesus is out of **SIGHT** – 9; Jn. 20:29; 1 Pet. 1:8

3C. The angels **SPEAK** – 10-11; Matt. 24:30; Rev. 1:7.

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<sup>1</sup> Balz, H. R., & Schneider, G. (1990-). *Exegetical dictionary of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans.

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4B. The **PRAYER** meeting – 1:12-14

Note: Jesus will walk up the Mount of Olives and declare victory over the world after He returns to Bozrah – Is. 63:1-6; Zech. 14:4.

5B. The apostolic **POSITION** of Matthias – 1:15-22

1C. The **REPLACEMENT** for Judas – 15-20

2C. The **REQUIREMENTS** for apostolic office – 21

3C. God **REVEALS** His will – 22-24

Note: the importance of the Scriptures in the apostles' decision making process. These men did not neglect the Scriptures; they studied them and based their decisions upon them (c.f. Acts 6:4 & 15:15). They had great respect for the written Word of God.