

THE BOOK OF ACTS

PART ONE

ACTS 1 - 12



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THE BOOK OF ACTS

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THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON ONE

INTRODUCTION

1. ACTS is the **first church history** -- it is inspired.
 - (1) It is the history of the church from its beginning in 33 A.D. through two years of Paul's imprisonment in Rome - 62 A.D.
2. The **author** of the book of Acts is **Luke**, the beloved physician (Col. 4:14).
3. The book of Acts was **written about 63 A.D.**, at the end of Paul's imprisonment.
 - (1) Written before the outcome of Paul's trial.
4. It is a **thirty (30) year history of the spread of the gospel** throughout the world.
 - (1) In the thirty years of this inspired record the gospel was preached from Jerusalem to Rome -- Paul said the gospel had been preached to every creature under heaven (Col. 1: 23).
5. It is a **record of the great commission being carried out** (Mark 16: 15 - 16).
6. Jesus tells **the order that the gospel was to be carried into the world** in Acts 1:8:
 - (1) Jerusalem (Acts 1:1 - 8:3)
 - (2) Judaea (Acts 8:4 - 11: 8)
 - (3) Samaria (Acts 8:4 - 11:8)
 - (4) Uttermost part of the earth (Acts 13: - 21:23)
7. The **two main personalities** in the book of Acts are **Peter** and **Paul**.
8. It has been said that there are **110 personal names** in the book.
9. What was the **purpose of the author**?
 - (1) The book of Acts is a comprehensive work.
 - (2) Its themes are many.
 - (3) We will notice some of them.
10. **Themes** in Acts:
 - (1) The establishment of the church -- Acts 2.
 1. When it was established.
 - (2) The work of the Holy Spirit in revealing and confirming the Word.
 1. Baptism of the Holy Spirit -- two cases:
 - (1) Acts 2: 1 - 4, 33
 - (2) Acts 10: 44 - 48; 11:15
 2. We see the fulfillment of Mark 16: 17 - 20 as demonstrated throughout Acts ("*cast out devils; . . . speak with new tongues; . . . take up serpents; . . . drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; . . . lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.*")
 - (1) The apostles spoke with other tongues (Acts 2: 4, 6).
 - (2) They did many signs (Acts 2:43).
 - (3) Peter healed the man who was lame from his mother's womb (Acts 3: 2, 7 - 8).
 - (4) A divine judgment befell Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5: 1 - 11).
 - (5) The apostles were delivered from prison by an angel (Acts 5:19).
 - (6) Many signs and wonders were wrought by the apostles (Acts 5:12).
 - (7) Philip worked miracles in Samaria:
 1. Cast out unclean spirits (Acts 8:7).
 2. Healed many who were taken with palsies, and the lame (Acts 8:7).

- (8) Spiritual gifts were imparted by the laying on of the apostle's hands (Acts 8: 14 - 19).
 - (9) The angel of the Lord put Philip in contact with the eunuch (Acts 8: 26); the Holy Spirit also helped (Acts 8:29).
 - (10) Peter healed Aeneas of palsy (Acts 9: 33 -34).
 - (11) Peter raised Dorcas from the dead (Acts 9: 40).
 - (12) Elymas was stricken with blindness (Acts 13: 8 - 11).
 - (13) Peter was delivered from prison by an angel (Acts 12: 7).
 - (14) An angel smote Herod (Acts 12:23).
 - (15) Paul healed a man who was crippled from his mother's womb (Acts 14: 8 - 10).
 - (16) Paul cast a demon out of a girl (Acts 16:18).
 - (17) An earthquake opened the jail at Philippi (Acts 16:26).
 - (18) Paul raised Eutychus from the dead (Acts 20: 11).
 - (19) Paul shook off a poisonous viper without harm (Acts 28: 4 - 5).
 - (20) The father of Publius was healed (Acts 28:8).
 - (21) Many were healed of all kinds of diseases on the island of Melita (Acts 28:9).
- (3) The book of Acts gives us an account of Jewish persecution against the church.
- 1. Some mocked the apostles on Pentecost (Acts 2: 13).
 - 2. Peter and John (Acts 4: 1 - 4) were jailed illegally -- no charge was placed against them.
 - 3. They were threatened in Acts 4: 1 - 17.
 - 4. The apostles were put in the common prison (Acts 5: 18).
 - 5. They were beaten (Acts 5: 40).
 - 6. They stoned Stephen (Acts 7: 58).
 - 7. They decided to kill Paul (Acts 9:23).
 - 8. They constantly harassed Paul as he preached the gospel (Acts 13: 45 - 46).
- (4) It is a book of Conversions:
- 1. 3,000 on Pentecost (Acts 2:41).
 - 2. The Samaritans (Acts 8: 12).
 - 3. Simon (Acts 8:13).
 - 4. The Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:35).
 - (1) Eunuchs were forbidden the enjoyment of full religious privileges under the law (Deut. 23:1; Isa. 56: 3 - 5).
 - 5. Cornelius (Acts 10: 47 - 48).
 - 6. Sergius Paulus (Acts 13: 12).
 - 7. Lydia (Acts 16:15).
 - 8. The Philippian Jailer (Acts 16:33).
 - 9. The Corinthians (Acts 18:8).
- (5) Parallels between the lives of Paul and Peter:
- 1. Both, at an early point in their ministries, healed lame men (Acts 3: 2ff; 14: 8ff).
 - 2. Both cast out demons (Acts 5:16; 16:18).
 - 3. Both have triumphant encounters with sorcerers (Acts 8:18ff; 13: 6ff).
- (6) The geographical progression of Christianity is one of Luke's clearly discernible themes.
- 1. Acts 1:8

2. The gospel being preached in Jerusalem (Acts 1: - 8:4).
3. The gospel being preached in Judaea and Samaria (Acts 8:5 - 11:18).
4. The gospel being preached in the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 11:19 - to the end of the book).

(7) Peter and the keys of the kingdom:

1. Matt. 16:19; 18:18 all the apostles.
2. On Pentecost Peter used the keys to announce the terms of entry into the kingdom or church (Acts 2: 38).
3. Peter announced the terms of restoration for a "backslider" (Acts 8:22).
4. Peter opened the door of hope for the Gentiles by commanding the baptism of Cornelius (Acts 10: 47 - 48).

(8) The Missionary tours of Paul are also a major theme of the book.

1. First Journey -- Acts 13:1 - 14:28 (Acts 26: 15 - 20).
2. Second Journey -- Acts 15:40 - 18:22.
3. Third Journey -- Acts 18:23 - 21:23.

(9) The apostolic observance of the Lord's Supper is an important theme of Acts.

1. The early church faithfully observed the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:42).
2. The church at Troas: Paul and his companions tarried seven whole days in order to be with the disciples at the Lord's table on the first day of the week (Acts 20:6 - 7).
3. At Tyre -- Acts 21:3 - 4.
 - (1) This would include a Lord's day.
4. At Puteoli -- Acts 28: 13 - 14.
 - (1) This would include a Lord's day.

(10) The book of Acts gives us a history of the growth of the church:

1. Acts 2:41, 47 "*daily*"; Acts 5:14
2. Acts 6:7; 6:1
3. Acts 9:31
4. Acts 11:21
5. Acts 12:24
6. Acts 16:5
7. Acts 19: 20
8. Acts 28:31

(11) Paul's journey to Rome (Acts 27:1 - 28: 31).

(12) The period of Paul's imprisonment (Acts 21:24 - 28:31).

(13) The Organization of the church:

1. Acts 14:23
2. Acts 20:28

(14) The Worship of the church:

1. Acts 2:42

2. Acts 12:5
3. Acts 11:26
4. Acts 20:7

(15) The benevolence of the church:

1. Acts 2:44 - 45
2. Acts 4:32, 34 - 37
3. Acts 6: 1 - 4
4. Acts 11: 27 - 30

(16) Acts gives us an outline of the giving of the new name:

1. Acts 11: 26
2. Isa. 62:2

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON TWO

ACTS CHAPTER ONE

1. Verse 1:

- (1) *"The former treatise"* -- the gospel of Luke (Luke 1:3).
- (2) *"Theophilus"* -- the personal name of Luke's friend.
 1. The name means "one who loves God".
 2. It was an ordinary personal name being used from the third century B.C.
- (3) *"of all that Jesus"*
 1. This "all" means all Luke wrote concerning these things.
 2. All Jesus did was not recorded by all the gospel writers (John 21:25).
- (4) *"began both to do and teach"* (Ezra 7:10).
 1. The personal ministry of Christ.

2. Verse 2:

- (1) *"Until the day in which he was taken up,"*
 1. The ascension of Christ was something God did for Jesus (verse 9 says "he was taken up").
 2. Christ ascended into heaven from the mount of Olives (Acts 1: 12); Luke says in Luke 24: 50 - 51: *"And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and . . . while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven."*

Mount of Olives: *"a Sabbath day's journey" (about 3/4 mile) from Jerusalem -- Acts 1:12).*

Bethany: *On the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives.*

- (1) Mark tells of the event, but not the location (Mark 16:19).
- (2) Jesus tells of His ascension in John 20:17.
- (3) Daniel prophesied of the ascension of Christ in Dan. 7: 13 - 14:
 1. Christ would come to God ("the Ancient of days") *"with the clouds of heaven"*.
 2. Luke said here in Acts 1:9 that He ascended (*"a cloud received him"*) in a cloud.
- (2) *"he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:"*
 1. This is a reference to the great commission (Matt. 28: 19 - 20; Mark 16: 15 - 16; Luke 24:47; John 20:23).
 2. He gave this great commission through the Holy Spirit.
 - (1) Jesus had the Holy Spirit without limitation (John 3:34).
 - (2) Jesus did His work through the agency of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:1; Matt. 12:28).

3. Verse 3:

- (1) The forty days after Christ's resurrection:
 1. *"he shewed himself alive . . . by many infallible proofs"* to the apostles and others.
 - (1) Mary Magdalene (John 20:14 - 18).
 - (2) To His disciples (John 20: 19 - 23).
 - (3) To Thomas (John 20: 26 - 29).

- (4) To two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13 - 32).
 - (5) To Peter (Luke 24:34; I Cor. 15:5).
 - (6) To above five hundred brethren at once (I Cor. 15:6).
 - (7) To James (I Cor. 15:7).
 - (8) To all the apostles (Acts1: 3 - 12).
2. During this period of time Jesus taught "*things pertaining to the kingdom of God*" (Acts 1:3).

4. Verse 4:

- (1) The apostles were commanded by Christ not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the "*promise of the Father*".
- (2) The "*promise of the Father*" was the Holy Spirit, the Comforter (John 14:26; 14: 16 - 17; 16:13; Luke 24:49).
 - 1. Without the promise of the Father they were without power to accomplish their divine mission (Luke 24: 49; Acts 1:8).
 - 2. The word "*power*" is from a Greek word which means might or ability.

5. Verse 5:

- (1) Jesus tells the apostles that they were to "*be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.*"
 - 1. It was only ten (10) days from the time - Pentecost.
 - 2. John the Baptist (Matt. 3:11) had foretold that Jesus would baptize them with the Holy Spirit.
 - 3. Only two (2) cases of the baptism of the Holy Spirit:
 - (1) Acts 2: 1 - 4
 - (2) Acts 10: 44 - 48; 11: 15 - 17; 15: 7 - 8
 - 4. Holy Spirit baptism was not a command, but a promise.

6. Verse 6:

- (1) "*Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?*"
 - 1. This question shows that the kingdom had not been established at this time.
 - 2. It also shows that the apostles held the notion that Christ was going to erect a temporal kingdom like the one the Jews had before.

7. Verse 7:

- (1) The specific times or dates of the plans of the Father are not to be announced beforehand to the apostles.

8. Verse 8:

- (1) The apostles were to receive power after the Holy Spirit had come upon them to enable them to do the work Jesus had called them to do.
 - 1. "*power*" -- "*dunamis*", which means *might* or *ability*.
 - (1) The promise of the Father (verse 4); (Luke 24:49).
 - (2) The kingdom was to come with power (Mark 9:1).

9. Verse 9:

- (1) The Lord was carried up into heaven in a cloud.
- (2) Daniel 7: 13 - 14

10. Verse 10:

- (1) Two men stood by them in white apparel -- angels.
- (2) Matt. 28: 2 - 3 -- angel.

11. Verse 11:

- (1) They (the angels) said that Jesus would come the second time "*in like manner*" as He went away.
- (2) Rev. 1:7
- (3) Coming to judge all men (II Cor. 5:10; Jude 14 - 15; Rom. 14:11 - 12).

12. Verse 12:

- (1) The apostles returned to Jerusalem -- a Sabbath day's journey (three-quarters of a mile).

13. Verses 13 - 14:

- (1) They went back to Jerusalem and went into an "*upper room*" to pass the time.
- (2) They were to obey the Lord to "*tarry*" in Jerusalem (Luke 24:49).
- (3) They engaged in prayer.
- (4) Four classes of persons in the upper room:
 1. The apostles -- verse 13;
 2. "*the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus*" --verse 14;
 - (1) John was to take care of the mother of Jesus (John 19: 26 - 27).
 - (2) This is the last time Mary is mentioned in the New Testament.
 3. Jesus' brethren;
 - (1) James, Joses, Simon, Judas (Matt. 13:55).
 - (2) This kills the Catholic doctrine that Mary was always a virgin!
 4. Certain other disciples (Acts 1:15).

14. Verses 15 - 26 --Choosing a successor to Judas Iscariot:

- (1) Peter took the lead -- verse 15
- (2) The number of the disciples was 120, but only the apostles were told to tarry in Jerusalem (Luke 24: 49).
- (3) Peter began his speech by going into the scriptures:
 1. Psa. 69: 22 - 25.
- (4) Verse 17 shows that Judas was a genuine apostle at first.
- (5) Judas purchased a field (verse 18).
 1. Matt. 27: 3 - 10
- (6) Verse 19 -- this knowledge would naturally spread.
- (7) Verse 20 -- he sets forth the necessity of filling the vacancy.
 1. Psa. 69: 25
 2. Psa. 109: 8
- (8) Verses 21 - 22:
 1. Had to be a man who had had constant association with the apostles and the Lord (verse 21):
 - (1) From the baptism of John to the ascension of Jesus.
 - (2) This would make him a witness of the resurrection (verse 22).
- (9) They appointed two (2) men who had these qualifications:
 1. Joseph, called Barsabas, surnamed Justus, and
 2. Matthias.

(10) They prayed to the Lord for Him to "*shew whether of these two thou has chosen,*" (verse 24).

(11) Judas, by transgression, fell:

1. He was responsible for his actions (I John 3:4).
2. "*He might go to his own place*" -- the place he made for himself.

(12) Verse 26 -- "*lot*":

1. It could have been a pebble or a bit of wood put in a vase.
2. The Lord chose the lot (verse 24).
3. Matthias was chosen ("*the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles*" - Acts 1:26).

QUESTIONS ON ACTS CHAPTER ONE

1. To whom was the book of Acts addressed? _____
2. Who wrote the book? _____
3. What was the "*former treatise*"? (Luke 1:1 - 4) _____
4. What was the "*former treatise*" about? (verse 1) _____

5. What commandments had Jesus given the apostles? _____

6. How long did Jesus show Himself alive after His death and resurrection? _____
7. What was Jesus teaching during this time? (verse 3) _____

8. What did Jesus charge the disciples not to do in verse 4? _____

9. For what were they to wait? (verse 4) _____
10. With what were they to be baptized in a few days? (verse 5) _____
11. What did the disciples ask Jesus in verse 6? _____

12. What was His reply? _____

13. When were they to receive "*power*" according to verse 8? _____

14. Was the kingdom to come with power? _____
15. Why can we not be witnesses of Christ as the apostles were? (verse 8) _____

16. Give the geographical progression of the gospel as outlined in verse 8: _____

17. How was the Lord taken up into heaven? (verse 9) _____

18. What did two men "*in white apparel*" say to them? (verse 10 - 11) _____

19. How will Jesus come back to judge the world? (verse 11) _____
20. How far was a Sabbath day's journey? (Ex. 16:29; Josh. 3:4) _____

21. When they returned to Jerusalem, where did they go? (verse 12 - 13) _____

22. List the four classes of persons who were in the upper room (verses 13 - 15):
(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____
23. In what did they continue with one accord? (verse 14) _____
24. Is Mary (the mother of Jesus) mentioned in the New Testament after this? _____
25. How many were assembled when Peter spoke to them? (verse 15) _____
26. What did Peter say "*must needs have been fulfilled*"? _____
27. To whom was Judas a "*guide*"? (verse 16) _____

28. Was Judas a genuine apostle at first? (verse 17) _____
29. What did Judas purchase? _____
30. What happened to Judas? (verse 18) _____

31. What qualifications did one have to meet in order to take Judas' place? (verse 21 - 22) _____

32. Who were suggested as possibilities? (verse 23) _____
33. Who did the choosing? _____
34. Who was chosen? _____
35. Did Judas make "*his own place*" to go? (verse 25) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON THREE

ACTS CHAPTER TWO

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. This chapter records the establishment of the church of Jesus Christ upon the earth.**
- 2. The church had been in the mind of God from eternity (Eph. 3: 9 - 11).**
- 3. The establishment of the church, or kingdom, on Pentecost was the fulfillment of a vast body of Old Testament prophecy.**
 - (1) Isa. 2: 2 - 4
 - (2) Dan. 2:44
 - (3) Dan. 7: 13 -14
- 4. This chapter records the beginning of the dispensation of the grace of God to the human family (Acts 11:15).**
 - (1) The beginning of the new covenant (Jer. 31:31).
 - (2) The beginning of the reign of Christ over His Kingdom (Acts 2: 30 - 32; Isa. 2: 2 - 3; Dan. 2:44).
 - (3) The beginning of the gospel being preached in fact -- the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Acts 2: 23 - 31; I Cor. 15: 1 - 4).
 - (4) The beginning of the preaching of the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Luke 24:47; Jer. 31: 31 - 34).
 - (5) The beginning of the spiritual promise made to Abraham (Gen. 12: 3; Acts 2:39).
 - (6) The beginning of the "last days" (Acts 2:17).
 - (7) The beginning of the church (Acts 2:47).
 - (8) The beginning of New Testament worship (Acts 2: 42).
 - (9) The Holy Spirit came and began to guide the apostles into all truth (John 16:13; Acts 2:4; Acts 2: 16 - 31).
- 5. The second chapter of Acts answers many religious errors that are in the world today:**
 - (1) "One must receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit to be saved".
 1. Only the apostles received it (Acts 2: 1 - 4).
 2. It was not to save them.
 3. It was to show that Christ approved them to be His spokesmen (Acts 2:33).
 - (2) "The doctrine of faith only saves" (Acts 2: 37 - 38).
 - (3) "Baptism is not essential to salvation" (Acts 2:38).
 - (4) "Man does not have to do anything to be saved" (Acts 2:40).
 - (5) "One does not have to be a member of the church to be saved" (Acts 2:47).
 - (6) "Christ will not reign over His kingdom until He comes the second time and sets it up" (Acts 2: 30 - 36).

CHAPTER TWO

1. Verse 1 -- "*when the day of Pentecost was fully come*".

(1) Pentecost was one of three principle feasts of the Jews (2 Chron. 8:13).

1. The feast of "*unleavened bread*" -- the Passover (Lev. 23:5).

2. The "*feast of weeks*" -- Pentecost:

(1) Called the "*feast of weeks*" in the Old Testament (Ex. 34:22), it was celebrated seven complete weeks after the passover -- on the "*morrow after the seventh sabbath*" (Lev. 23: 15 - 16).

(2) It always came on the first day of the week.

(2) Time: 9:00 A.M. (Acts 2:15).

(3) Year: 33 A.D.

2. The coming of the Holy Spirit:

(1) The apostles were baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2: 1 - 4).

(2) This was a promise (Acts 1:5).

(3) They were "*endued with power from on high*" (Luke 24: 49; Acts 1: 4, 8; John 16:13).

(4) Evidence in the text to show the audience recognized the miraculous nature of the occasion:

1. "*confounded*" -- verse 6

2. "*all amazed*"-- verse 7

3. "*marvelled*" -- verse 7

4. They knew the men, apostles, were "*Galileans*" -- verse 7

5. Every man could hear in his own language -- verse 8.

6. "*all amazed*" -- verse 12

(5) Their question: "*What meaneth this?*" -- verse 12

(6) Verse 13: "*Others mocking said, these men are full of new wine.*"

3. Peter now answers the mockers and the question:

(1) First he answers the mockers:

1. Verses 14 - 15

2. "*not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day*" -- verse 15.

(2) Next, the question, "*What meaneth this?*" -- verse 12.

1. Peter said, "*this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;*" (Acts 2:16)

2. Joel's prophecy -- Acts 2: 17 - 21; Joel 2: 28- 32:

(1) Verse 17 -- "*And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of (from) my Spirit upon all flesh:*"

1. All would be beneficiaries of the Spirit and His work.

2. The blessing and effects He would pour (from) His Spirit:

(1) Prophetic revelation (Acts 2: 17 - 18).

1. In receiving the Spirit in the giving of revelation, it would be without distinction of age.

2. Without distinction of sex (Acts 21:9; I Cor. 11:5).

3. Without distinction of social order.

(2) Miraculous Demonstration -- Acts 2: 19 - 20

1. This was for the confirmation of the word (Mark 16:20; Heb. 2: 3, 4).

2. The rejection of the truth revealed and confirmed by the Spirit will result in judgment on those who reject His message.

- (3) Spiritual Salvation -- Acts 2:21.
 1. Salvation is a gift of (or from) the Holy Spirit, poured out, along with and at the same time, when divine revelation and miraculous demonstrations of the Spirit were given to usher in the gospel dispensation.
 2. Salvation is a spiritual gift poured out for all time upon all who obey the gospel, whether Jew or Gentile (Acts 2: 38 - 39).

4. THE SERMON:

- (1) He answered the question, "*What meaneth this?*"; and the charge of drunkenness (Acts 2: 14 - 21).
- (2) He gives proof that Jesus of Nazareth was approved of God:
 1. He was approved by miracles, wonders and signs -- Acts 2: 22.
 - (1) This needed no proof -- they had seen them (John 3: 1 - 5; Matt. 9: 1 - 8).
 2. He was delivered to death as foretold by God through His prophets (Acts 2:23; 3:18; I Cor. 2: 7 - 8).
 - (1) This needed no proof.
 3. God raised Jesus from the dead (Acts 2:24). This needed proof.
 - (1) David predicted the resurrection of someone (Acts 2: 25 - 28; Psa. 16: 8 - 11).
 - (2) He shows this refers to Christ (Acts 2: 29 -31).
 - (3) This could not refer to David (Acts 2: 34 - 35).
 - (4) Peter said he and the other apostles were witnesses of the resurrection (Acts 2: 32).
 - (5) The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was proof (Acts 2: 33).
4. Verse 36
 - (1) JESUS means "Saviour".
 1. This name was given by divine authority (Matt. 1:21).
 - (2) LORD -- God had exalted Him to be King or Sovereign (Rev. 1: 5; Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1: 19 - 23).
 - (3) CHRIST -- "*The Anointed One*".
 1. Acts 10: 38; John 3:34.
 2. In the Old Testament, they anointed:
 - (1) Priests (Ex. 28:41; Lev. 16:32, 33).
 - (2) Kings (I Sam. 9:16; 15:1).
 - (3) Prophets (Elijah was told to anoint Elisha) -- I Kings 19:16.
 3. Christ is:
 - (1) Prophet (Heb. 1: 1-2; Acts 3:22).
 - (2) Priest (Heb. 4: 15 - 16; Heb. 7:12).
 - (3) King (Rev. 17:14) -- "*Lord of lords, and King of kings*" (Rev. 1:5).
 1. Phil. 2: 9- 15
 2. I Tim. 6: 14 - 15
 3. I Cor. 15: 24 - 26
 4. His Kingdom is an absolute monarchy (Matt. 28:18).
 5. Spiritual Kingdom (John 18:36).
 6. Rev. 12: 5, 7 - 11
 - (1) Heb. 2: 14
 - (2) Col. 2: 14 - 15
 - (3) John 16:11
 - (4) John 12: 31
 - (5) Luke 10:18
 - (6) Isa. 2: 2 - 3

5. The result of the Sermon:

- (1) Pricked in their hearts (Acts 2:37).
 1. The sermon had convicted them of their sins (John 16:8).
- (2) The question asked: Acts 2:37
- (3) The command given: Acts 2:38
 1. Repent and be baptized.
 2. For the remission of sins.
- (4) The gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2: 38 - 39; 2:21).
 1. Salvation.
 2. Gal. 3:14
 3. Gen. 12: 1
- (5) An earnest exhortation -- Acts 2:40.
- (6) Obedience rendered -- Acts 2:41, 47.
 1. Three thousand were baptized.
 2. These three thousand were added to the church (Acts 2:47).
 - (1) One does not "join" the church.

6. NOTE: Some things concerning this model church:

- (1) Its Respectability.
 1. *"having favour with all the people"* (Acts 2:47)
 2. It commanded the respect of the people.
 3. A church without respect in a community is not going to do much in converting the people of that community.
- (2) The members were happy people -- Acts 2:46.
 1. They enjoyed the company of one another.
 2. They loved one another.
- (3) A church with zeal -- Acts 2:46.
 1. Daily teaching of the word of God -- Acts 5:42.
 2. Their zeal to preach to others -- Acts 8: 1 - 4
- (4) A united church.
 1. *"with one accord"* -- Acts 2:46.
 2. *"of one heart and of one soul"* -- Acts 4:32
 3. The kind of unity Jesus prayed for -- John 17: 20 - 21
 4. The kind Paul pleaded for -- I Cor. 1:10
- (5) A church of brother love.
 1. Acts 2: 44 - 45
 2. Acts 4:32
 3. I John 3:17
 4. John 13: 34 - 35
- (6) A growing church.
 1. 3,000 -- Acts 2:41
 2. 5,000 -- Acts 4:4
 3. Acts 6: 1, 7
- (7) A liberal church in giving:
 1. Acts 2:44
 2. Acts 4: 32 -- did not complain.

(8) A church which settled its problems when they arose:

1. Acts 6: 1 - 7

(9) A steadfast church:

1. Acts 2:42
2. It was loyal.

(10) The worship of this church:

1. Acts 2:42
 - (1) Teaching
 - (2) Giving
 - (3) Lord's Supper
 - (4) Prayer

(11) The evangelism of this church:

1. Acts 2: 46; 5:42
2. Acts 8:4
3. Acts 8:14
4. Acts 11:22

Acts Chapter Two Questions

1. What was the "day of Pentecost"? _____

2. What suddenly happened as they were gathered together? (verses 1 - 3) _____

3. With what were the apostles filled? (verse 4) _____
4. In what way did they speak, and what caused them to do so? (verse 4) _____

5. Who were dwelling in Jerusalem? (verse 5) _____

6. What amazed the crowd? (verse 6 - 7) _____

7. What groups of people were represented in the crowd? (verses 9 - 11) _____

8. What did the people say they heard them speaking about? (verse 11) _____

9. What were two reactions to what they heard? (verses 12 - 13) _____

10. Whose sermon do we have recorded in this chapter? (verse 14) _____
11. What promise did this fulfill? (Matt. 16: 18 - 19) _____

12. Who did Peter address? (verse 14) _____

13. What did Peter first deny? (verse 15) _____
14. What time of day was it? (verse 15) _____
15. What were these events a fulfillment of? (verse 16) _____

16. When are the "*last days*"? (verse 17) _____
17. According to Joel's prophecy God would pour out of the Spirit upon whom? (verse 17) _____
18. Name three things God would pour from His Spirit:
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____
19. How was Jesus "*approved of God*" among the Jews? (verse 22) _____

20. According to verse 23, did they carry out God's "*determinate counsel*" in crucifying Jesus? _____
21. What Old Testament scripture does Peter quote in Acts 2: 25 - 28? _____
22. Where was David at the time Peter was speaking? (verse 29) _____

23. What had God sworn to David? (verse 30) _____

24. What did Peter say David was speaking about in the statement he quoted from David? (verse 31) _____

25. Were the apostles witnesses of the resurrection? (verse 32) _____
26. What does Peter mean by saying "*He hath poured forth this, which ye see and hear?*" (verse 33) _____

27. What did Peter want all the house of Israel to know assuredly? (verse 36) _____

28. What does "*Jesus*" mean? _____
29. What does "*Lord*" mean? _____
30. What does "*Christ*" mean? _____
31. In the Old Testament who was anointed? _____
32. What three offices does Jesus hold today? _____
33. How did the people react to Peter's sermon? (verse 37) _____

34. What answer did Peter give to the question they asked in verse 37? _____

35. What were the obedient to receive? (verse 38) _____
36. How far-reaching was this promise? (verse 39) _____

37. How does God "*call*" people unto Him? (2 Thess. 2:14; Gal. 1:15) _____

38. What was Peter attempting to do in verse 40? _____
39. What did those who received the Word do? (verse 41) _____
40. How many obeyed the gospel and were added to the church? _____
41. In what did those who were obedient continue? (verse 42) _____

42. What did the apostles do in verse 43? _____
43. What does Luke say about "*all that believed*"? (verse 44) _____

44. What caused this "*need*" among the believers? (verse 44 - 45) _____

45. What was a daily practice? (verse 46) _____

46. What does the "*breaking of bread*" in verse 46 refer to? _____

47. Who did the adding to the church? _____
48. Do we read of anyone "joining the church"? _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON FOUR

ACTS CHAPTER THREE

1. An apostolic miracle is performed -- the healing of the lame man.

(1) Verse 1: Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer -- the ninth hour.

1. Three o'clock in the afternoon.
2. This hour of prayer was a custom.

(1) The hours of prayer were the third (9:00 a.m.); the sixth (noon); and the ninth (3:00 p.m.) hours of the day.

(2) Verse 2: the lame man:

1. Lame from birth.
2. Was above forty (40) years old (Acts 4:22).
3. Was dependent upon the mercy of men for his existence.
4. He asked Peter and John for an alms (verse 3).
5. Peter and John told the man to "look" on them (verse 4).
6. The man did as they asked expecting to receive something (verse 5).
7. Peter said he did not have silver and gold to give, but such as he had he would give him.

(1) He told him to rise and walk in the name (or by the authority) of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

8. The man was healed (verses 7 - 8); Isa. 35: 5 - 6; Mark 16: 17 - 20.
9. All the people saw him (verse 9).
10. The people knew who he was (verse 10).
11. All the people ran together to them in Solomon's porch (verse 11).
12. Peter and John took no credit (verse 12).

(3) The people coming together like this gave an opportunity to preach the gospel!

2. The Sermon on Solomon's porch:

(1) Peter presented Jesus:

1. As the object of God's honor:

- (1) Acts 3:13
- (2) His baptism (Matt. 3:17).
- (3) His transfiguration (Matt. 17:5).
- (4) His miracles (John 3:2)
- (5) His resurrection (Eph. 1: 20 - 23).

2. As the object of their humiliation:

- (1) Verse 13
- (2) Treachery -- "*whom ye delivered up*".
- (3) Denial -- "*and denied him in the presence of Pilate*" (John 19:15).
- (4) Rejected -- they rejected Him and asked for a murderer (verses 14 - 15; Matt. 27:20).
- (5) They killed Him (verses 15).
- (6) God raised Him from the dead (verse 15).

1. Rom. 1:4

2. The apostles were witnesses.

(7) Faith -- apostle's (verse 16).

1. Peter -- Matt. 14:31.
2. Matt. 17: 14 - 20
3. I Cor. 12:9
- (8) They did it through ignorance (verse 17).
- (9) They fulfilled God's prediction (verse 18).
- (2) He set forth the duty of the people:
 1. "Repent" -- verse 19
 2. "Be converted" ("turn again" -- be baptized (Acts 2:38).
 - (1) "that your sins may be blotted out"
 - (2) "the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord".
- (3) The Second Coming of Christ:
 1. God will send Christ the second time (Acts 3: 20 - 21).
 - (1) No one knows when He will come (Matt. 24:36).
 - (2) He is coming without warning (I Thess. 5: 1 - 5; Matt. 25:13).
 - (3) Christ is coming in visible form (Rev. 1:7; Acts 1: 11, 9).
 - (4) He is coming with angels (Matt. 25: 31; 2 Thess. 1:7).
 2. Why is Christ coming the second time?
 - (1) To raise the dead -- both the good and the bad (John 5: 28 - 29; I Cor. 15: 50 - 52; Acts 24: 15; I Thess. 4: 14 - 17).
 1. The Bible teaches only one bodily resurrection, yet in the future -- NOT TWO.
 3. Immediately following the resurrection will come the Judgment -- Matt. 25: 31 - 33; Rev. 20: 11 - 12; Acts 17:31; John 12: 48; 2 Cor. 5:10.
 - (1) In the Judgment He will:
 1. Reward the righteous (Matt. 25:34; 25:46).
 2. Pass formal sentence against the wicked (Matt. 25:41; 7:23; 25:46; Rev. 20: 12 - 15).
 4. He is going to deliver the Kingdom to the Father when He comes (I Cor. 15:24).
 5. He will destroy the world (2 Pet. 3: 10 - 12).
 6. The righteous will go to heaven (John 14: 1 - 6); the wicked will go to hell (Matt. 25:46).
- (4) The Prophet like unto Moses (Acts 3: 22 -23).
 1. This quotation is from Deuteronomy 18:15.
 2. There are many likenesses between Moses and Christ:
 - (1) Both were sons of virgins:
 1. Moses by adoption.
 2. Jesus by the virgin birth.
 - (2) Both were apostles of God (Heb. 3:1; Ex. 3: 10, 13, 15).
 1. An apostles is one who is sent on a mission with authority to speak and act.
 - (3) Both were lawgivers.
 1. John 1:17
 - (4) Both were prophets of God.
 1. Moses (Deut. 34:10).
 2. Christ is God's spokesman to the human family (Heb. 1: 1 - 2; Matt. 17:5; 28:18; Eph. 1: 19 - 23).
 - (1) All who fail to hear Christ will be lost (Acts 3:23).
 1. 2 Thess. 1: 7 - 9
 2. John 12:48
 3. Mark 16: 15 - 16

4. John 6:68

- (5) All the prophets from Samuel foretold of these days (verse 24).
 - 1. Some 333 prophecies of Christ and His Kingdom -- fulfilled in Christ.
- (6) "*The children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers*" (verse 25):
 - 1. The law was given to the Jews (Ex. 20:1; Eph. 2:12).
 - 2. The promise of Abraham is fulfilled in Christ.
 - (1) Gen . 12: 1- 3
 - (2) Gal. 3: 16, 19
 - 3. The gospel was preached to the Jew first.
 - (1) Rom. 1: 16 - 17

**Acts Chapter Three
Questions**

- 1. In verse 1 who was going up to the temple, and what hour was it? _____

- 2. What were the hours of prayer? _____
- 3. Who spoke to them as they entered? (verses 2 - 3) _____
- 4. How old was this man? (4:22) _____
- 5. What was the gate of the temple called where the lame man lay? _____
- 6. What did the man ask of them? (verse 3) _____
- 7. What did Peter say to the man (verse 4 - 6) _____

- 8. According to verse 7, what happened to the man? _____
- 9. After the man was healed, what did he do? (verse 8) _____

- 10. How did this affect the people? (verses 9 - 10) _____

- 11. What did all the people then do? (verse 11) _____

- 12. What questions did Peter ask the people? (verse 12) _____

- 13. Of what did Peter accuse these people? (verse 13) _____

- 14. Who did Peter say they desired to be released, and who did they kill? (verses 14 - 15) _____

- 15. What had healed the man, according to Peter in verse 16? _____
- 16. What did they do in ignorance? (verse 17) _____
Will God excuse ignorance? _____
- 17. What does Peter say about the prophets? (verse 18) _____

- 18. What did Peter tell these people to do in verse 19? _____

- 19. What does Peter say further about Jesus in verses 20 - 21? _____

-
20. What statement of Moses does Peter mention? (verses 22 - 23) _____
-
21. Had all the prophets from Samuel foretold of these days? (verse 24) _____
22. How did Peter connect these people with the prophets (verse 25) _____
-
23. What promise was fulfilled (verses 25 - 26) _____
24. Was the gospel first preached to the Jews? _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON FIVE

ACTS CHAPTER FOUR

1. The church encounters Jewish persecution.

(1) Some reasons the church encountered this persecution:

1. The apostles were continually preaching that Jesus, whom they had rejected, condemned, and buried, had been raised up from the dead and had ascended into heaven.
2. This preaching proved the leaders of the Jews to be guilty of rejecting the Messiah and of murdering the Son of God!
3. These incriminating accusations would cause them to lose their prestige and their influence with the people.
4. The preaching of the apostles was not "soft preaching" which never accused or convinced anybody of sin.
 - (1) Their preaching cut to the heart (Acts 2:37; John 16:8).
5. No doubt the popularity of the apostles and of the church generally had something to do with stirring up this opposition.

(1) Acts 2:47

(2) Peter and John arrested:

1. Acts 4: 1 - 4

(1) *"And as they spake unto the people"*

1. What the apostles were preaching caused this opposition -- They preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead (verse 2).

(2) *"the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them,"*

1. These priests were the men who were officiating in the Temple at the time.
2. The captain of the temple was the head of the company of Levites who guarded the temple and kept order.

(1) In the Old Testament they were called "porters" (I Chron. 26: 1 - 19; I Chron. 23: 5).

They were a military guard for the gates. They were also called "doorkeepers" (I Chron. 15:23).

3. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection (Acts 23: 8).

(3) They were grieved that they taught the people and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead (verse 2).

(4) They put them in jail until the next day (verse 3).

1. No charge was placed against them.
2. This was a high-handed abuse of authority.

(5) Good results from the preaching:

1. *"Many of them which heard the word believed;"*

(1) *"Believed"* here stands for the whole plan of salvation.

2. The number of the men was about five thousand (5,000).

(1) Three thousand obeyed on Pentecost.

(3) Peter and John before the Sanhedrin:

1. Acts 4: 5 - 6

- (1) The Sanhedrin -- had its origin in the days of Moses when God told him to gather unto God seventy (70) elders of Israel to help him judge the people (Num. 11:16).
- (2) We are told that the Sanhedrin was made up of an equal number of:
 1. Priests -- "*chief priests*" (Matt. 27:1);
 2. Elders -- representative of the people generally;
 3. Scribes -- recorders and interpreters of the law (Luke 9: 22).
- (3) And Annas, the high priest; and Caiphas.
 1. Luke calls both of them "*high priest*" in Luke 3:2.
 - (1) Caiaphas was the son-in-law of Annas (John 18:13).
 - (2) Annas was the lawful high priest, but he had been deposed by the Romans about ten years before.
 2. It seems that the Jews recognized Annas, and the Romans recognized Caiaphas.
2. Peter and John were set in their midst (verse 7).
 - (1) They were asked, "*By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?*"
 1. The Jews were determined to deny that Jesus still lived or that He exercised any power whatsoever.
- (4) Peter preaches to the court (verses 8 - 12).
 1. Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit as he speaks.
 - (1) Jesus had promised the Spirit would guide them on such occasions (Matt. 10: 18 - 20).
 2. Peter then establishes the reason for their appearance in court (verse 9).
 - (1) "*good deed done to the impotent man,*"
 - (2) Their point of inquiry was "*by what means he is made whole*".
 1. Peter answers, "*... by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead...* ".
 3. "*This is the stone*" (verse 11).
 - (1) This statement is taken from Psalms 118: 22.
 - (2) It pictures the builders of a house rejecting a stone for a time, and then being forced to go back and use that stone as the head of the corner.
 - (3) It pictures the Jews rejecting Christ, and after their rejecting Him, God made Him the foundation of the church.
 1. Isa. 28:16 -- "*lay in Zion*"
 2. I Cor. 3:11
 3. Eph. 2: 20 - 22
 4. Jew and Gentile
 4. Salvation in no other name (verse 12).
 - (1) No other Saviour.
 - (2) Saved by His authority.
 - (3) No salvation apart from His death.
- (5) The Apostle's loyalty to God:
 1. The scene before us now is a vivid contrast.
 - (1) The Sanhedrin in all its dignity and authority sitting in a semi-circle;
 - (2) Before them are Peter and John.
 - (3) Peter had just preached to them a powerful sermon by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - (4) They could see these men were bold; men of conviction.

- (5) *"unlearned and ignorant men"* (verse 13).
1. This does not refer to their intelligence or literacy, but to the fact that they were not schooled in the traditions of the scribes.
 2. Not cultured in the art of learning as taught in the public institutions.
 3. These men were *"unlearned and ignorant"* from the standpoint of institutional learning, but they were men of boldness and ability of speech -- men of knowledge.
 - (1) This had to be accounted for in some way, and they said, *"they had been with Jesus"* (verse 13).
 1. Being a Christian is living with Jesus daily (Phil. 1:21; Gal. 2:20).
 - (1) The Christian must constantly be with Jesus in study and meditation (2 Tim. 2:15; Psa. 1:2).
 - (2) The Christian is with Jesus in public and private worship.
 1. Matt. 18:20
 2. I Cor. 10:16
 3. Sing
 4. Prayer
 - (3) The Christian may live with Jesus daily as he serves others.
 1. Matt. 25: 46
 2. I John 1:7
2. The Sanhedrin could not deny a miracle had been worked (14 - 16).
 - (1) They could say nothing against it (verse 14).
 - (2) They said, *"indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them . . . and we cannot deny it."* (verse 16).
3. What the Sanhedrin did:
 - (1) They threatened them (verse 17).
 - (2) They commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus (verse 18).
 1. Peter and John said they would be loyal to God (verse 19 -20).
 - (1) *"For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."*
 - (3) They *"further threatened them,"*
 1. They had to let them go (verse 21).
- (6) The Apostles went to their own company (verse 23).
1. It seems to me from this context that they went to the other apostles.
 2. They reported what the Sanhedrin had done to them (verse 23).
 3. When they heard the report, they prayed (verse 24).
 - (1) The Prayer:
 1. They prayed with one accord (verse 24).
 2. They praised the name of God (verse 24) (Matt. 6:9)
 3. They were aware of the prophecy of persecution to Christ. (Psa. 2:1).
 4. And that God had overruled in this for the good of man (verse 28).
 5. They prayed for three things (verse 29):
 - (1) That God would note the threats of the enemies (verse 29).
 - (2) For courage to preach (verse 29).
 - (3) For God to continue His miraculous work (verse 30).
 4. After the prayer, these things happened:
 - (1) The place was shaken (verse 31).
 - (2) They were all filled with the Holy Spirit (verse 31).

(3) They spake the word of God with boldness (verse 31).

(4) Verse 33

(7) The early Christians were faithful stewards of their material possessions.

1. They were united (verse 32).

2. They loved one another.

3. No one lacked (verse 34).

(1) I John 3:17

2. The Jerusalem church was perfectly united (Acts 4:32) "*And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul:*"

(1) How long has it been since you have seen a church where each member was of one heart and one soul with every other member?

(2) The Lord prayed for this kind of unity (John 17: 20 - 21).

(3) Paul pleaded for this kind of unity at Corinth (I Cor. 1:10).

(4) Paul said that Christians are to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit (Eph. 4:3).

(5) Paul said we are to "*be of the same mind one toward another*" (Rom. 12: 16; Phil. 2:2).

(6) God is not the author of confusion, but of peace (I Cor. 14:33).

(7) Christians are to follow after the things which make for peace (Rom. 14: 19).

(8) Paul said, "*and be at peace among yourselves*" (I Thess. 5:13).

(9) Paul said, "*and let the peace of God rule in your hearts,*" (Col. 3: 15).

(10) The writer of Hebrews says, "*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.*" (Heb. 12:14).

(11) Christians have been brought into peace with one another (Eph. 2: 14 - 16).

3. Things that bring division in a congregation:

(1) Envy (James 3: 16; Gal. 5:26; I Cor. 3:3; Rom. 13:13).

1. Envy and Jealousy are words that are closely akin:

(1) ENVY -- pain at seeing another have.

(2) JEALOUSY -- rivalry for a common objective; desires to have the same or the same sort of thing for itself.

2. Envy desires and often strives to degrade others.

3. The power of envy is stated in Proverbs 27:4: "*But who is able to stand before envy?*"

(1) Envy is cruel.

(2) Envy lives and broods and feeds itself hourly; is ready to act at any moment to gratify itself.

(3) Envy is a work of the flesh (Gal. 5:21).

(2) Strife (I Cor. 3:3; James 3:16; Rom. 13:13).

1. STRIFE: contention, quarrelsome; disposed to quarrel.

(3) Being carnal (I Cor. 3:3) -- "under the control of the animal appetites; governed by mere human nature, not by the spirit of God".

(4) Vainglory (Phil. 2:3; Gal. 5:26).

1. Self-esteem which causes a man to seek preeminence.

(1) Diotrophes loved the preeminence (III John 9 - 10).

(2) Preeminence -- superiority.

(5) Being factious (Tit. 3:10; Gal. 5:20 -- "*heresies*").

1. It means something that a man chooses and uses, not because it is right, but because it happens to suit his personal taste.

2. Chosen opinion.
3. Denotes ambition; self-seeking; rivalry; self-will being an underlying idea in the word.
4. Denotes party-making.

4. Benevolence practiced by the Jerusalem church:

- (1) There were Jews in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost (or "feast of weeks") from every nation under heaven (Acts 2:5).
- (2) On Pentecost the gospel was first preached, and many of those people who obeyed the gospel were from other nations (Acts 2:41).
- (3) It seems that many of these people did not go home immediately after obeying the gospel, but stayed on in Jerusalem to learn more.
- (4) Not having planned such a long stay in Jerusalem, they soon were without funds.
- (5) So, brethren who had possessions -- land and houses--sold them and gave the money into a common treasury.
 1. Acts 2: 44 - 45
 2. Acts 4: 32 - 35
- (6) This money was put under the authority of the apostles (Acts 4: 35, 37; Mat. 18: 18).
- (7) Distribution was made "*unto every man according as he had need*" (Acts 4:35; Acts 2: 45).
 1. Only believers were helped from this fund (Acts 2:44; 4:32).
 - (1) This is the pattern of practice of the New Testament church all through the New Testament.
 1. The church at Antioch sent relief unto the *BRETHREN* which dwelt in Judaea (Acts 11: 27 - 30).
 2. The churches of Galatia; the church at Corinth; and the churches of Macedonia sent relief to the poor *SAINTS* in Jerusalem (I Cor. 16: 1- 2; Rom. 15; 25 - 27; II Cor. 8: 1 - 5).
 3. The "*widow indeed*" (I Tim. 5:5, 3, 16).
- (8) God has restricted the benevolent work the church can do.
 1. The church is not to undertake to meet the needs of humanity.
 - (1) It could not do so if it tried!
 - (2) It could not do the work which God has assigned it to do if it should undertake such a burden of benevolence.
 1. The primary work of the church is the salvation of souls (Luke 19: 10; Mark 16: 15 - 16).
- (9) The work of benevolence was never used as a means of introducing the gospel of the Kingdom of God.
 1. Benevolence is the fruit of Christianity -- not the means of propagating it!
 - (1) Food and clothing were never offered by the early church as a means of getting people to hear and accept the gospel.
 - (2) Paul did not take a contribution of food and clothing with him from the churches when he went to Europe for the first time! He took Timothy, Silas and Luke -- gospel preachers (Acts 16).
 - (3) If a man will not hear without being bribed with benevolence, he is condemned anyway!
 - (4) People who are attracted by benevolence will turn away when the benevolence is discontinued.
 - (5) Multitudes followed the Lord for the "*loaves and fishes*" (John 6:26).
 - (6) The very moment He taught something which they did not like, they "*went back*" and "*walked no more with him*" (John 6:66).
- (10) Much of the teaching in the New Testament on this subject is directed to individual Christians -- not to the congregation.
 1. Paul's charge to the rich in worldly goods (I Tim. 6: 17 - 19).
 2. Eph. 4: 28
 3. Heb. 13:16

4. I John 3: 17 - 18
 5. James 1:27
 6. Matt. 25: 31 - 46
 7. I Tim. 5: 4, 8, 16; Eph. 6: 1 - 4
- (11) Some who are *saints* that the church cannot help:
1. One too lazy to work (II Thess. 3: 10 - 11).
 2. Saints who live in pleasure and have turned aside after Satan (I Tim. 5: 6, 15).
 3. Saints with families able to help (I Tim. 5:16, 8, 4).
 4. A saint who teaches error (2 John 9 -11).

Acts Chapter Four Questions

1. As Peter and John spoke, who came upon them? (verse 1) _____

2. Who was the captain of the temple? (verse 1) _____

3. What did the Sadducees believe according to Acts 23:8? _____

4. What grieved the Jews? (verse 2) _____
5. According to verse 3, what did they do to Peter and John? _____

6. Was any charge placed against them? _____
7. What favorable results came from the preaching? (verse 4) _____

8. How many men were members of the church at this time? (verse 4) _____
9. On the next day after their arrest, who were they brought before? _____

10. What questions did they ask Peter and John? (verse 7) _____

11. Who guided Peter in his answer to the Sanhedrin? _____
12. What reason does Peter give for their appearance in court? _____

13. What was Peter's answer to the court? (verses 10 - 12) _____
14. In how many names is their salvation? _____
15. What observation did the court make concerning Peter and John in verse 13? _____

16. How did they account for their boldness and knowledge? (verse 13) _____

17. Did they deny among themselves that a miracle had been performed? _____
18. What were the rulers afraid would happen? (verse 17) _____

19. What means did they use to try to stop them from preaching? _____

20. What was Peter and John's answer? (verses 19 - 20) _____

21. Were they threatened a second time? _____
22. Why did the court let them go? (verses 21 - 22) _____

23. When they were released, where did they go? (verse 23) _____

24. What did the apostles pray? (verses 24 - 30) _____

25. After the prayer, what happened? _____

26. Describe the unity in this congregation. (verse 32) _____

27. Concerning what did the apostles bear witness? (verse 33) _____

28. How were the needy among them taken care of? (verses 32, 34, 37) _____

29. What does the expression "*the apostles' feet*" mean? (verses 35, 37) _____

30. Did the individuals turn their land and houses over to the church? _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON SIX

ACTS CHAPTER FIVE

1. Punishment for the sin of Ananias and Sapphira.

- (1) The Lord took their lives (Acts 5: 5 - 6, 7 - 10).
- (2) The punishment was sudden.
 1. God executed this extreme penalty suddenly.
 2. This sudden divine act impressed upon the young church how God hates sin! (Isa. 59: 1 - 2).
 3. It impressed upon unbelievers that sin would not be tolerated! (Acts 5:11).
 4. It was a warning to non-believers of the danger of associating themselves with the church for purely selfish motives.
 5. It was justified. In the infant state of the church it was necessary for God to show His attitude toward lying hypocrisy and greed.

2. The church makes progress (Acts 5: 12).

- (1) The apostles worked signs and wonders among the people.
 1. The purpose of signs, wonders, and miracles -- Mark 16: 17 - 20; Heb. 2: 1- 4; 2 Cor. 12:12.
 - (1) SIGNS -- They signified God's approval of what they taught.
 - (2) WONDERS -- They excited wonder in those who witnessed them.
- (2) After what had happened the people had respect for them (verse 13).
- (3) The believers were the more added to the Lord (verse 14).
 1. Acts 2: 41, 47

3. The second imprisonment of the apostles (Acts 5: 17 - 18). (The first was in Acts 4:3.)

- (1) The success of the Cause of our Lord aroused the intense hostility of the Jews.
 1. The Sadducees said there was no resurrection (Mark 12:18).
 2. They were jealous of the success of the teaching which they opposed.
- (2) The apostles were put in the common prison (verse 18).

4. The angel of the Lord released the apostles (verse 19 - 20).

- (1) Why did the Lord intervene?
 1. To reprove the Jewish rulers.
 2. To convince the apostles of the protection and approval of God.
 3. To encourage them in preaching the gospel.
 4. To give the people a new and impressive proof of the truth of the message which the apostles preached.
- (2) The angel who delivered the apostles also gave them divine instruction (verse 20):
 1. "*Go ye, and stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.*" (John 1:4; 6:68).
 - (1) They entered into the temple about daybreak and taught (verses 21 - 24).
 1. Persecution did not stop the early preachers of the gospel.
 2. They were not lazy, indolent men -- they got out on the job early.

5. Their arraignment before the council (Acts 5: 25 - 29).

- (1) The Jewish Sanhedrin came together to consider their case (5:21).
- (2) They sent officers for the apostles (5:22).
- (3) The officers came back and told the Sanhedrin that they were not in prison (verses 23 - 24).
- (4) One came and told them that the apostles were in the temple teaching the people (5:25).
- (5) The captain, with the officers, arrested them again (5:26).
- (6) The apostles were set before the council (5:27).
- (7) The high priest asked (verses 27 - 28):
 1. *"Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name?"*
 2. He charged them with bringing Christ's blood upon them.
- (8) Peter and the apostles answered the charges:
 1. *"We ought to obey God rather than men."* (verse 29)
 - (1) Government
 - (2) Wife
 - (3) Husband
 - (4) Parents
 - (5) Employer
 - (6) Elders
 2. In answering the second charge, they said that the court and the Jews were guilty (verse 30).
 3. Verses 31 - 32.
- (9) The council's reaction (verse 33):
 1. They wanted to kill the apostles.

6. Gamaliel's advice (Acts 5: 34 - 39).

- (1) He was the man who taught Paul (Acts 22:3).

7. The apostles beaten (verses 40 - 41).

8. They did not stop teaching (Acts 5: 42).

God and Our Money

1. Money has caused much dissension within the Lord's church, and has been the cause for many souls being lost!

- (1) Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5: 1 - 11).
 1. *"But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, and kept back part of the price"* (Acts 5: 1 - 2).
 - (1) The word *"but"* suggests this is in contrast to what he had just said (Acts 4:37).
 - (2) *"kept back part of the price"*
 1. Others had given all the money.
 2. The root of their sin lay in:
 - (1) Pride -- praise of men.
 - (2) Greed -- love of money (1 Tim. 6: 9 - 10)
 2. *"his wife also being privy to it"* (Acts 5: 2).
 - (1) She helped him form this wicked plan (Acts 5:9).
 - (2) She could have been of great help to him if she had been the right kind of woman.
 1. A good woman who is a Christian can be an effective check on the husband to keep him from evil.

God and Our Money cont.

3. "why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit,"

(1) Satan tempts, but man does not have to yield to the temptation (I Cor. 7:5; I Cor. 10:13).

1. Satan tempted Ananias and Sapphira through their weakness of desire for the praise of men and their covetous hearts.

2. Satan put into the heart of Judas to betray Christ (John 13: 2; Matt. 26: 14 - 16).

(2) The apostles were under the guidance of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13). A lie told to an apostle would be an attempt to deceive the Spirit by which the apostles were inspired.

4. "Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power?" (verse 4)

(1) My money is under my control (verse 4).

(2) The Lord's money is under the apostles' control (Acts 4: 37).

(3) There is a difference in my money and the Lord's money!

1. The individual gets his money by individual enterprise (Eph. 4:28; Rom. 12:11; Acts 20: 34 - 35; I Thess. 4: 11- 12; 2 Thess. 3: 1 - 13; I Tim. 5: 8).

(1) One may maintain a business enterprise:

1. Lydia sold purple dye (Acts 16:14).

2. Priscilla and Aquila were tentmakers (Acts 18:3).

3. Simon was a tanner (Acts 10:6).

(2) One may labor for wages (Eph. 4:28; 2 Cor. 11:8; Luke 10:7).

2. The church is to receive its money by the freewill offerings of each member (I Cor. 16: 1 - 2).

(1) There is no scriptural authority for pie suppers, bazaars, rummage sales, or any such like business schemes.

(2) We must give -- not sell (I Cor. 16:2).

(3) When we give, we give to the Lord (Mal. 3:8 says they "robbed God" by not giving their tithes and offerings.)

(4) After my money becomes the Lord's money, I have no more control over it (Acts 5: 4; 4:37).

1. It is the Lord's treasury (I Cor. 16:2).

2. The money can only be spent for the work the Lord has authorized:

(1) Evangelism (I Tim. 3:15; I Cor. 9:14; 2 Cor. 11:8; Phil. 4: 14 - 17).

(2) Edification (Eph. 4: 11 - 12)

(3) Benevolence to Saints (I Cor. 16: 1 - 2; Rom. 15:26; Acts 2 : 44 - 45; Acts 4:32).

1. This excludes using the Lord's money for:

(1) Social halls

(2) Tennis courts

(3) Gymnasiums

(4) All such entertainment facilities.

(5) After earning our money honorably, we must use it properly.

1. A part of it will have to go to maintain a business enterprise-- (Lydia - Acts 16:14).

2. A part for paying taxes (Rom. 13:7).

3. A part for family (I Tim. 5:8; I Thess. 4: 11 - 12).

(1) This would include education (Eph. 6: 1 - 4); recreation; and medical needs as well as food and clothing.

4. A part to help the needy (Eph. 4:28; I Tim. 5: 4, 8, 16; I John 3:17; Matt. 25:31; James 1:27).

5. A part for hospitality (Rom. 12:13; I Pet. 4:9; Heb. 13: 1 - 2).

6. A part for the Lord's church (I Cor. 16:1 - 2).

(1) WHEN -- "upon the first day of the week".

(2) WHO -- "every one " is to give.

(3) HOW MUCH -- "As God hath prospered him".

1. According to one's ability (Acts 11:29; 2 Cor. 8:12).

(1) Do you know what kind of house you can live in? The kind of car you can drive? and the insurance you can afford?

(4) We are to give cheerfully (2 Cor. 9:7).

(5) We are to give bountifully (2 Cor. 9:6).

(6) We are to give as we purpose in our hearts (2 Cor. 9:7).

(7) Giving under Christ tests the giver's love for Christ (2 Cor. 8: 8 - 9, 24; I John 3:17).

(8) We are stewards of God (Luke 16: 10 -13).

(9) Acts 20 : 35

Acts Chapter 5 Questions

1. What does the word "but" in verse one suggest? _____

2. Did Ananias and Sapphira claim to give ALL when they had only given part of the price? (verse 2) _____
3. Had Sapphira helped Ananias with this wicked plan? _____
4. What did Peter ask Ananias in verse 3? _____

5. The "root" of their sin lay in two things -- what were they? _____
6. Through what weakness did Satan tempt Ananias and Sapphira? (verse 3) _____

7. To whom had they lied? _____
8. What did Peter say about the ownership of the possession they sold? (verse 4) _____

9. When Ananias heard the words of Peter what did he do? (verse 5) _____

10. How did what happened affect all who heard these things? (verse 5) _____

11. What did the young men do? (verse 6) _____

12. How long was it before Sapphira came in? (verse 7) _____
13. What question did Peter ask Sapphira? (verse 8) _____

14. What did Peter say to her? (verse 9) _____

15. What happened to Sapphira? (verse 10) _____
16. What effect did this sudden taking of their lives have? (verse 11) _____

17. What were some of the obvious lessons impressed upon the church by this sudden divine act? _____

18. How is the church to get its money? _____
19. Why is the church not to go into business to get its money? _____

20. How is the individual to get his money? _____
21. What happened "*by the hands of the apostles*"? (verse 12) _____

22. Where were they when they wrought these signs and wonders? (verse 12) _____

23. Did the people have respect for the church after what happened? (verse 13) _____
24. After this, did the church grow? (verse 14) _____
25. Did people from other cities bring their sick to be healed? (verse 15 - 16) _____

26. How did the high priest and his cohorts take the success of the gospel? (verses 17 - 18) _____

27. What did an angel do? (verses 19 - 20) _____

28. What did the apostles do then? (verse 21) _____

29. When the Sanhedrin sent for the apostles in prison and did not find them, what was their reaction? (verses 21 - 24) _____

30. What were the apostles doing (verse 25) _____

31. Did they arrest them again? (verse 26) _____
32. What did the high priest say to them? (verses 27 - 28) _____

33. What was their answer? (verse 29) _____

34. What did the apostles say that the court and the Jews were guilty of? (verse 30) _____

35. What did they say about Jesus? (verses 31 - 32) _____

36. What effect did this have on the council? (verse 33) _____

37. What was Gamaliel's advice? (verses 34 - 39) _____

38. How did the apostles react? (verse 41) _____

39. What did they do daily? (verse 42) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON SEVEN

ACTS CHAPTER SIX

1. The First Record of Dissension:

- (1) Until this time the harmony of the church had been undisturbed.
 1. Acts 4:32
- (2) This is the first note of discontent found in the Jerusalem church.
- (3) It was during a period of growth (Acts 6:1).
 1. The disciples were multiplied.
 2. Growth in a congregation always brings an increase in the problems.
- (4) *"There arose a murmuring"*.
 1. Muttering, displeasure or complaining.
 2. Phil. 2:14 -- *"Do all things without murmuring"*.
- (5) *"Of the Grecians against the Hebrews"*:
 1. Grecians -- people of Jewish blood, but of Greek culture.
 2. Hebrews -- Jewish both by blood and culture.
- (6) The cause of murmuring:
 1. The cultural difference: The Grecian widows would not feel as much at home as the Hebrews and would be more retiring and less demanding; thus, would be more apt to be less open in their complaining.
 - (1) There are cultural differences today, therefore problems arise.
 1. Professional people.
 2. "laboring" class.
- (7) Solving the problem:
 1. *"Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said,"*:
 - (1) *"It is not reason that we should leave the word of God and serve tables"*.
 1. Preaching is not to be neglected to do benevolence.
 2. Preachers of the Word are not to be loaded down with duties that would hamper their work as evangelists of the gospel.
 3. Brethren are to divide the work according to ability.
 2. The church was to select seven men to look after this work (6:3).
 - (1) This is an example of how the church is to select elders and deacons.
 - (2) This is the only example we have.
 3. The qualifications of these seven men:
 - (1) *"of honest report"* -- with characters unquestioned by the fair-minded.
 - (2) *"full of the Spirit"* -- men of fruitful lives (Gal. 5: 22 -23).
 - (3) *"Wisdom"* -- men with practical judgment in the management of business affairs.
 4. *"And the saying pleased the whole multitude"* and they selected seven men (6:5).
 - (1) There is a difference in the selection and the appointing.
 1. The church selects.
 2. The preacher appoints (Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23).
- (8) *"And the word of God increased;"*.

1. "*The number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly;*".
 - (1) The apostles gave all their time to preaching and prayer (Acts 6:4).

2. The first martyr of the early church (Acts 6: 8 - 15; 7: 1 - 60).

- (1) Stephen worked miracles among the people (6:8).
 1. This is the first record of anyone but an apostle working miracles.
 2. The miraculous gifts were bestowed by the laying on of the apostles' hands (8:17).
 - (1) The apostles laid their hands on Stephen when he was appointed to the work of ministering to the Grecian widows (6:6).
- (2) Stephen disputes with the Libertines (Acts 6:8 - 15).
 1. "*Synagogue of the Libertines*": A large element of the membership in this synagogue were Jews who had been slaves, and had, by one means or another, obtained their freedom.
 - (1) "*Libertines*" -- Jews who had been freed from Roman slavery.
 2. They could not answer the arguments of Stephen (verse 10).
 3. Then they "*suborned*" men -- bribed men to lie (verse 11).
 - (1) They said that Stephen spoke "*blasphemous words against Moses and against God.*" (verse 11).
 1. The same charges they brought against Christ (Matt. 26:65).
 - (2) The general charge of blasphemy is made specifically in verses 13 and 14.
 1. This was a lie (John 2: 19 -22; Matt. 22:7)
 4. They stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes.
- (3) Stephen is brought before the council (verse 12).
 1. He is not afraid of the council (verse 15).

Acts Chapter Six Questions

1. According to verse one, did the church continue to grow? _____
2. What was the murmuring about in verse one? _____

3. What does the word "*murmur*" mean? _____

4. What did the twelve say to the multitude in verse two? _____

5. What did they tell them to do in verse three? _____

6. What did they say they would continue to do? (verse 4) _____

7. How did the disciples receive what the apostles said? (verse 5) _____

8. Who did the selecting of these seven men? (verse 5) _____
9. Is this the way elders and deacons are to be selected? _____
10. What did the apostles do to these men? (verse 6) _____

11. What happened when the word of God increased? (verse 7) _____

12. What did Stephen do, according to verse 8? _____

13. Who were the "*Libertines*" in verse nine? _____

14. Who did they dispute with? (verse 9) _____
15. Could they resist the wisdom by which Stephen spoke? _____
16. Who are "*suborned men*"? _____
17. What did they do to the people? (verse 12) _____

18. What did they do to Stephen? (verse 12) _____

19. What did false witnesses accuse Stephen of? (verse 13 - 14) _____

20. What did the council do? (verse 15) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON EIGHT

ACTS CHAPTER SEVEN

I. Stephen before the council.

1. The priest's question: "Are these things so?" (7:1).

- (1) Stephen began by relating history familiar to every Jew:
 - 1. The story of Abraham (verses 2 - 8; Gen. 15: 1 - 18).
 - 2. The sale of Joseph and the events which developed thereof (verses 9 - 16).
 - 3. The case of Moses in Egypt (verses 17 - 37; Exodus 1:22).
 - 4. The case of Moses in the wilderness (verses 38 -41).
 - 5. Israel's apostasy (verses 39 - 43).
 - 6. The tabernacle and the temple (verses 44 - 50).
- (2) Stephen's charge against them and their fathers -- the application (verses 51 - 53):
 - 1. The patriarchs had REJECTED Joseph, the great deliverer, who had saved the nation from starvation (verses 9 -16).
 - 2. The chosen people had REJECTED Moses (verses 19 - 38).
 - 3. Moses gave the Law, and their fathers REJECTED it (verses 38 - 41).
 - 4. Israel's apostasy -- a REJECTION of God (verses 42 - 43).
 - 5. They had REJECTED and killed Christ (verses 51 - 53).

2. The reaction to his sermon:

- (1) Violence (verses 57 - 60).
 - 1. They stoned him to death.

3. Witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet named Saul (verse 58).

Acts Chapter Seven Questions

- 1. What did the high priest ask Stephen? (verse 1) _____
- 2. What history did Stephen relate in his defense? (Verses 7 - 50 -- see notes) _____

- 3. Concluding his account of Israel's history, of what does Stephen accuse his listeners? (verse 51) _____

- 4. Who had the patriarchs rejected? (verses 9 - 16) _____
- 5. Who had the chosen people rejected? (verses 19 - 38) _____
- 6. What had their fathers done to the law? (verses 38 - 41) _____
- 7. Who had Israel rejected by their apostasy? (verses 42 - 43) _____
- 8. Who had they rejected and killed? (verses 51 - 53) _____
- 9. What was their reaction to Stephen's sermon (verses 57 - 60) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON NINE

ACTS CHAPTER EIGHT

1. A great persecution against the church:

- (1) Saul is the leader in this persecution.
 1. He had kept the clothes of those who had stoned Stephen (7: 58).
 2. Saul consented to Stephen's death (8:1; Acts 26: 9 - 10).
 3. He made havoc of the church (8:3; Phil. 3:6).

2. ***"They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word."*** (8:4; places they went -- Acts 11:19).

3. The work of Philip in the city of Samaria (8:5).

- (1) Samaria: The district of Samaria lay between Judea and Galilee.
- (2) The People:
 1. The Samaritans were a mongrel race of people. They had been brought here from other places by the King of Assyria when he moved Israel to Assyria (2 Kings 17: 22 -24). Israel fell to Assyria in 722 B.C.
 2. They believed the Messiah was coming (John 4:25).
 3. Jesus said they were to hear the gospel after Jerusalem and Judea (Acts 1:8).
- (3) The preacher -- Philip:
 1. Not an apostle but an Evangelist (Acts 21:8; Eph. 4:11; 2 Tim. 4:5).
 - (1) The evangelist of the gospel has the greatest responsibility of any man on earth (James 3:1; I Tim. 4:16; I Cor. 1:21).
 - (2) Because he preaches the greatest message this world has ever heard (Mk. 16:15 - 16).
- (4) What Philip found in Samaria:
 1. A ripe harvest (Acts 8: 6, 12).
 - (1) Two things contributed to this favorable condition:
 1. The Messianic hope (John 4:25).
 2. Jesus' visit here (John 4: 28 - 30).
 2. Opposition (Acts 8: 9 - 11).
 - (1) In Simon.
 1. He used sorcery; bewitched the people, claiming to be "*some great one*" (verse 9).
 2. The people believed him and said, "*This man is the great power of God*".
 3. But they believed Philip when he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, and were baptized, both men and women. (verse 12).
 - (1) Simon also believed and was baptized (verse 13).
 1. He continued with Philip "*beholding the miracles and signs which were done*".
 2. He was filled with wonder.

4. When the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard of the conversion of the Samaritans, they:

- (1) Sent Peter and John (8:14).
 1. Purpose of their visit -- the impartation of the Holy Spirit (8:15).
 - (1) The Holy Spirit could only be imparted by the laying on of the apostles' hands (8:17).
 1. Philip could not do this.
 - (2) The different gifts that were imparted -- I Cor. 12: 1- 11.

- (3) The apostles were "*endued with power from on high*" on Pentecost (Luke 24: 49; Mark 9;1; Acts 1:8; John 16:13; 14:26).
- (4) The apostles were ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor. 5:20).
- 2. Why the miraculous endowment?
 - (1) The apostles needed inspiration in revealing God's word (John 14; 26: 16:13; I Cor. 2: 9 -13; Eph. 3:5).
 - (2) In the absence of apostles, others needed miraculous aid -- until revelation was completed (I Cor. 13: 8 - 13).
- 3. How imparted (8:17).
 - (1) Never conferred by others.

5. Simon's sin, and God's two laws of pardon.

- (1) Simon had obeyed the gospel and had been saved from his past sins (8:13).
 - 1. He sinned by trying to buy the power to impart spiritual gifts from the apostles (8: 18 - 19).
 - 2. Peter's reply to Simon (8:20).
 - (1) Peter's rebuke (8:21).
 - (2) What he told Simon to do (8:22):
 - 1. Repent (*Confess -- I John 1:9*)
 - 2. Pray
- (2) God's two laws of pardon:
 - 1. For the alien sinner (8:13):
 - (1) Believe -- Mark 16:16; Acts 8:13
 - (2) Repent -- Acts 2:38
 - (3) Confess -- Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10
 - (4) Be Baptized -- Acts 8:13; 2:38
 - 2. For the erring child of God:
 - (1) Repent -- Acts 8:22
 - (2) Confess -- I John 1: 9
 - (3) Pray -- Acts 8: 22; James 5:16; I John 5: 16 - 17

6. The apostles returned to Jerusalem (8:25)

7. The conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8: 26 - 39).

- (1) "*And the angel of the Lord spake. . .*" (8:26).
 - 1. What part did the angel have?
 - (1) A special messenger of God (Heb. 1: 13 - 14).
 - (2) To put the preacher in contact with the sinner (8:26).
 - (3) No one was ever told by an angel what to do to be saved (Acts 10: 5 - 7).
 - (4) The gospel has been committed in the hands of men -- not angels (Matt. 28: 19 - 20).
- (2) "*unto Philip,*" (8:26)
 - 1. One of the seven selected in the Jerusalem church (Acts 6: 1- 6).
 - 2. When the church was scattered abroad, he went down to the city of Samaria and preached the word of God -- with much success (8: 5 - 8).
 - 3. Philip, the evangelist (21:8).
- (3) "*the way . . . from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.*" (8:26).
 - 1. About fifty miles from city to city.

2. "desert" -- an uninhabited region (Matt. 13 - 15). not a barren waste.
- (4) "man of Ethiopia" (8:27).
 1. A eunuch of great authority -- in charge of all the treasure of Queen Candace.
 2. A Jew or a proselyte to the Jewish religion.
 - (1) Had been to Jerusalem to worship.
 3. Was reading from the scriptures (Isaiah) as he was returning (8:28).
- (5) "the Spirit said unto Philip . . ." (8:29).
 1. What part did the Spirit have?
 - (1) The Spirit spoke to the preacher, not to the sinner.
 - (2) He had the same part the angel had -- to bring the preacher and the sinner face to face.
 - (3) The Spirit never directly told a sinner what to do to be saved.
 - (4) The Spirit works through the word of God in conversion of the sinner (Psa. 19:7; James 1: 21; Rom. 1:16; Rom. 10: 13 - 17).
- (6) What the preacher (Philip) did (8: 30 - 35):
 1. Began at the same scripture (Isa. 53: 7 - 8), and preached unto him Jesus (8:35).
 2. What is it to "preach Jesus"?
 - (1) Preach the Word -- 8:4
 - (2) Preach the Kingdom of God; the authority of Christ; and baptism (Acts 8: 12; 8:36).
 - (3) Preach the gospel in its fullness (Rom. 1:16; I Cor. 15:1 - 4).
- (7) What the sinner (the eunuch) did (8: 36 - 39).
 1. Asked for help in understanding the scripture (8:31).
 2. Heard the gospel preached by Philip.
 3. Asked what hindered him in being baptized (8:36).
 - (1) Philip told him he could be baptized if he believed (8:37).
 - (2) What did he believe (8:37)?
 4. Made a confession of his faith (8:37; Rom. 10:10).
 5. After making this confession, they "went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." (8:38).
 6. He went on his way rejoicing (8:39).
- (8) What God did:
 1. Pardoned him (Acts 2: 38; Mk. 16:16; Isa. 55:7).
 2. Added him to the church (Acts 2:47).

ACTS CHAPTER EIGHT QUESTIONS

1. Who was consenting to the death of Stephen? (verse 1) _____
2. What arose against the church at Jerusalem? _____
3. Were the apostles scattered during the persecution? (verse 1) _____
4. What did devout men do to Stephen? (verse 2) _____

5. What did Saul do to the church (verse 3) _____
6. What did those who were scattered abroad do? (verse 4) _____

7. Where did Philip go and what did he preach (verse 5) _____

8. Did the people of the city of Samaria hear what Philip preached? (verse 6) _____

9. Could Philip work miracles? (verses 6 - 7) _____
10. Did Philip's preaching bring joy to the people (verse 8) _____
11. What had Simon done before his conversion (verse 9) _____

12. What had been the people's attitude toward Simon? (verses 10 - 11) _____

13. What did Philip preach to the people? (verse 12) _____

14. What did Simon do? (verse 13) _____
15. What did the apostles in Jerusalem do when they heard that Samaria had received the word of God (verse 14) _____
16. How did members at Samaria receive the Holy Spirit? (verses 15 - 17) _____

17. Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given in what manner? (verse 18) _____

18. When Simon saw how the Holy Spirit was given, what did he do? (verses 18 - 19) _____

19. What did Peter say to him? (verses 20 - 21) _____

20. What was he told to do to get forgiveness of his sin? (verse 22) _____

21. How many "laws of pardon" does God have? _____
22. What did Peter perceive concerning Simon? (verse 23) _____

23. What did Simon say to Peter? (verse 24) _____

24. Did the apostles preach in other villages of the Samaritans? (verse 25) _____
25. Where did the angel of the Lord direct Philip to go? (verse 26) _____

26. Describe the man Philip was to preach to (verse 27): _____

27. Why had he been to Jerusalem? (verse 27) _____
28. What was he riding in? _____
29. What did the Spirit tell Philip to do? (verse 29) _____

30. Where was the eunuch reading? (verse 30) _____
31. What question did Philip ask the eunuch? (verse 30) _____

32. What was the eunuch's answer? (verse 31) _____

33. What "place" in Isaiah was he reading? (verses 32 - 33) _____
34. What question did the eunuch ask? (verse 34) _____

35. Where did Philip take his text to preach "*Jesus*"? (verse 35) _____
36. What question did the eunuch ask in verse 38? _____

37. What was Philip's answer? (verse 37) _____

38. What was the eunuch's answer? (verse 37) _____

39. What did Philip do in verse 38? _____
40. Did the eunuch see Philip anymore after his baptism? _____
41. Did the eunuch have joy after he obeyed the gospel? _____
42. Did Philip continue to preach? (verse 40) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON TEN

ACTS CHAPTER NINE

The Order of Events in Chapter Nine

1. *Saul struck down on the road to Damascus near the city -- Acts 9:3 - 8*
2. *Three days of blindness and prayer to God in the house of Judas on the street called Straight -- Acts 9:9*
3. *Sight restored, baptized, and received the Holy Spirit -- Acts 9: 10 - 19; Gal. 1: 11 -12, 16 - 19*
4. *Preached that Jesus is the Christ in the synagogues and confounded the Jews -- Acts 9:22*
5. *He then went into Arabia -- Gal. 1:17*
6. *Then he returned to Damascus.*
7. *The Jews took counsel to kill him -- 9: 23- 24; 2 Cor. 11:32 - 33*
8. *The disciples, by night, let him down by the wall in a basket -- Acts 9:25*
9. *Disciples afraid of him -- Acts 9: 26*
10. *Barnabas vouched for his conversion -- verse 27*
11. *There was another plot to kill him -- Acts 9: 29*
12. *The Jerusalem church sent him to Tarsus -- verse 30*

1. The Conversion of Saul

(1) Saul of Tarsus

1. We are first introduced to Saul in the seventh chapter of Acts (Acts 7: 58).
 - (1) His attitude when Stephen was killed (Acts 22:20; 8:22).
 - (2) In Acts 8: 1 - 4 we have the record of Saul persecuting the church.
2. He was born in Tarsus, a city of Cilicia in Asia Minor (Acts 22:3).
3. He was educated in Jerusalem at the feet of Gamaliel (Acts 22:3).
4. He was a leader in the Jew's religion (Gal. 1: 13 - 14; Acts 22:3; Phil. 3: 4 - 8).
5. A man filled with zeal (Phil. 3:6).
6. A man who thought he was right (Acts 26: 9 - 10).
7. He had a good conscience (Acts 23:1).

(2) Saul's last journey as a persecutor (Acts 9: 1 - 2).

1. His spirit on this last journey (Acts 9:1).
2. His destination -- Damascus -- 140 miles to the northeast.
3. His purpose -- Acts 9:2

(3) Events on the road to Damascus:

1. As he came near to the city about noon, suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven (Acts 9: 3; 22: 6).
2. He **saw** and **heard** Jesus (Acts 22: 14; I Cor. 15:8; I Cor. 9:1).
 - (1) His conversation with Christ (Acts 9: 5 - 6).
 1. Nothing could be made plainer than that Saul was **not** saved on the road to Damascus (Acts 9: 6).

2. The PURPOSE was to make him an apostle (Acts 26: 16 - 18).

(1) To be an apostle he had to be a witness of Christ **after** His resurrection (Acts 1:22; I Cor. 15:8).

(4) What Ananias, the preacher, did:

1. He preached to him (Acts 9:6; 22; 14 - 16; 9: 10 - 18).
2. He commanded Saul to be baptized (Acts 22: 16; 9:18).

(5) What Saul did:

1. He heard
2. He believed
3. He repented
4. He confessed (Acts 22:10)
5. He was baptized (Acts 22: 16; Rom. 6:3 - 4).

(6) Why did Saul become a Christian?

1. Not for wealth (I Cor. 4: 11- 12; 2 Cor. 11:27).
2. Not to have an easy life (2 Cor. 11: 23 - 28).
3. Not for a reputation (I Cor. 4:13).
4. Not for power (I Cor.15:9).

(7) He became a Christian because he knew whom he believed (2 Tim. 1:12).

2. Saul's early ministry (Acts 9: 19 - 31).

(1) After Paul's baptism he was with the disciples certain days.

(2) *"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."* (Acts 9:20).

1. What it means to *"preach Christ"*:

(1) *"preaching the word."* (Acts 8:4).

(2) Philip preached Christ (Acts 8:5).

1. In preaching Christ, he preached:

- (1) The kingdom of God
- (2) The name of Jesus Christ
- (3) Baptism (Acts 8:12).

(3) The effect of his preaching:

1. Amazement (Acts 9:21).
2. Confounded the Jews (Acts 9:22).

(4) He then departed to Arabia (Gal. 1:15 - 18).

(5) Then he returned again unto Damascus (Gal. 1:17), and renewed his preaching with such force that the Jews decided to kill him (9:23).

1. This was three years after his baptism (Gal. 1:18).

(6) The plot to kill Paul was discovered, and he escaped to Jerusalem (Acts 9: 24 - 25).

(7) When he got to Jerusalem the disciples were afraid of him (Acts 9:26).

1. He wanted to *"join"* the disciples.

(1) One **joins** the local congregation.

(2) One is **added** to the church universal (Acts 2: 41, 47).

(8) Barnabas took up his cause and recommended him (Acts 9: 27 - 29).

(9) Paul began to boldly preach the gospel.

1. He disputed against the Grecians (Acts 9: 29).

(1) They went about to slay him.

1. Paul had once stood with them, now they hated him.

- (1) The same is true today -- when one is converted from error his brethren turn on him!
- (2) When the brethren knew they were going to kill him, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him home to Tarsus (a city in Asia Minor).
- (10) Luke drops Paul from his account now, but Paul tells us what he did:
 - 1. He went in the regions of Syria and Cilicia preaching the gospel (Gal. 1:21).
- (11) After Paul left the churches had rest (Acts 9:31).

3. The preaching of Peter:

- 1. Peter came to Lydda (Acts 9:32).
 - (1) Lydda was close to the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.
 - 1. Found a man here who had kept his bed for 8 years -- sick of the palsy.
 - 2. His name was Aeneas.
 - 3. Peter healed him (9:34).
 - (1) When Peter did this "*all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord* (Acts 9:35; Mk. 16: 17 - 20).
- 2. Peter raises the dead at Joppa (Acts 9: 36 - 43).
 - (1) Tabitha (or Dorcas) was sick and died of natural causes (verses 36 - 37).
 - (2) She was a woman who was full of good works (verse 36).
 - 1. She did "*almsdeeds*".
 - 2. She made "*coats and garments*" for widows (James 1:27).
 - (1) She did what James 1:27 teaches.
 - (3) They send for Peter -- he came to Joppa.
 - 1. He raised her (Acts 9: 40 - 41).
 - (1) He followed the example of Jesus in the house of Jairus (Luke 8:54; Acts 9: 40).
 - (4) Peter tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon, a tanner.

DORCAS

- 1. Dorcas was a worthy woman -- Prov. 31: 10 - 31.***
 - (1) Dorcas was not lazy.***
 - (2) She helped the poor.***
 - (3) She made good use of her time -- she was not idle.***
- 2. She professed godliness -- I Tim. 2: 9 - 10.***
- 3. Dorcas hoped in God.***

ACTS CHAPTER NINE QUESTIONS

1. What was Saul doing against the disciples of the Lord? (verse 1) _____

2. Why did Saul go to the high priest? (verse 1 - 2) _____

3. What does the expression "*of this way*" (verse 2) mean? _____

4. What happened as he was on his way to Damascus? (verses 3, 4) _____

5. What was the voice saying to Saul? (verse 4) _____

6. What question did Saul ask? (verse 5) _____
7. What was the Lord's answer? (verse 5) _____

8. What question did Saul ask in verse 6? _____
9. What was the Lord's answer? (verse 6) _____

10. What effect did this have on the men traveling with Saul? (verse 7) _____
11. What did Saul find out when he rose up? (verses 8 - 9) _____
12. What did the Lord say to Ananias in a vision? (verses 10 - 12) _____

13. What was Ananias' answer? (verses 13 - 14) _____

14. What did the Lord tell him (Ananias) in verses 15 and 16? _____

15. What did Ananias say to Saul in verse 17? _____

16. In verse 18, what happened to Saul and what did he do? _____

17. According to Acts 22:16, what was the purpose of baptism? _____
18. What did Saul do after he was baptized? (verse 19) _____

19. Where was the first place Saul preached? (verse 20) _____
20. Why were those who heard Saul amazed at his preaching? (verse 21) _____

21. What did Saul do to the Jews in verse 22? _____
22. Luke does not stress the exact chronology of the events in Saul's preaching, but we know from Galatians 1:17-18 that he went into _____ and returned again to _____.

23. How many years was it after his conversion that Saul went up to Jerusalem? (Gal. 1: 18) _____
24. Why did Saul have to leave Damascus? (verses 23, 24) _____

25. How did Saul escape from the city? (verse 25) _____

26. What did Saul try to do when he got to Jerusalem? (verse 26) _____

27. What attitude did the disciples have toward him? (verse 26) _____

28. Who vouched for Saul? (verse 27) _____
29. What did the Jews set about to do to Saul in Jerusalem? (verse 29) _____

30. What did the brethren do with Saul? (verse 30) _____
31. What is said about the churches in verse 31? _____
32. Does Luke drop Saul (Paul) from his account now? _____
33. Where is Peter dwelling when Luke began to give an account of his work? (verse 32) _____
34. How long had Aeneas kept his bed with the palsy? (verse 33) _____
35. What did Peter say to Aeneas in verse 34? _____

36. What did all men who dwelt at Lydda and Saron do? (verse 35) _____

37. Where did Dorcas live? (verse 36) _____
38. What was Dorcas know for? (verse 36) _____
39. What happened to her? (verse 37) _____
40. Was Lydda close to Joppa? (verse 38) _____
41. Did Peter raise Dorcas from the dead? (verses 39 - 40) _____
42. Did many believe after Peter raised Tabitha from the dead? (verse 42) _____
43. Who did Peter stay with in Joppa? (verse 43) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON ELEVEN

ACTS CHAPTER TEN

THE CONVERSION OF CORNELIUS

1. Cornelius: The man before his conversion:

- (1) By profession he was a soldier in the Roman army.
 - 1. Had the rank of centurion (in our modern armies he would be a captain).
- (2) He was a Gentile.
- (3) His character:
 - 1. His attitude toward God:
 - (1) He feared God (10:2).
 - (2) He was devout (10:2).
 - (3) He taught his house to fear God.
 - (4) He prayed to God (10:2).
 - 2. His attitude toward man:
 - (1) He was a benevolent man (10:2).
 - (2) He was just (10:22).
 - 3. He had a "*good report among all the nation of the Jews*) (10:22).

2. Purpose of the two visions:

- (1) Cornelius' vision instructed him to send for Peter (Acts 10: 3 - 7).
 - 1. He was not told what to do to be saved by the angel in the vision, but was told that Peter would tell him "*what thou oughtest to do*". (Acts 10:6; 11:14).
 - 2. He did as he was told -- he sent for Peter (10: 7 - 8).
- (2) Peter's vision instructed him to go to Cornelius and that the Gentiles were to have the gospel preached to them (Acts 10: 9 - 35, 28).

3. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10: 44- 48):

- (1) The baptism of the Holy Spirit came at the beginning of Peter's sermon (Acts 11:15).
- (2) The purpose: to convince the Jews that the Gentiles were accepted (Acts 15:7 - 9; 10:45 - 47).
- (3) Peter had to go all the way back to the beginning of the church to find another case (Acts 11: 15).
- (4) Cornelius was saved by "*words*" (Acts 11:14; 10:6; Rom. 1:16).

4. Cornelius made preparation for this meeting:

- (1) Called together:
 - 1. His kinsmen.
 - 2. His near friends.
 - 3. "*Many*" (verse 27).

(2) Their attitude:

1. They were ready "to hear all things that are commanded thee of God." (10:33).

5. Peter's sermon (Acts 10: 34 - 43):

(1) He preached the universality of God's love -- God is no respecter of persons (10:34).

1. Paul to the Romans (Rom. 2: 11; 10: 12 - 13).
2. Men of every nation who fear God and work righteousness are accepted with Him (Acts 10:35).
 - (1) To "work righteousness" is to do His will (Psa. 119: 172; I John 3:7).
 - (2) Obey the gospel (Rom. 1: 16 - 17).

(2) He preached that man has something to do:

1. Acts 10: 35 -- "worketh righteousness".
2. James 2: 24

(3) He preached the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (10: 36 - 41).

1. Acts 10:38; Matt. 3: 13 - 17; Luke 4: 1; Luke 9: 1; Matt. 10: 1

(4) He preached the great commission (Acts 10: 42 - 43).

1. Acts 10: 42 -- Matt. 28: 19 - 20
2. Acts 10: 42 -- Peter pointed out here to these Gentiles that they had long been in God's plan.
 - (1) Jeremiah 31: 31 - 34

6. What Cornelius and his household did:

- (1) Heard (Acts 10:44; Rom. 10:17).
- (2) Believed (Acts 15:9; Mark 16:16).
- (3) Repented (Acts 11:18; 2:38).
- (4) Confessed (Rom. 10:10).
- (5) Were Baptized (Acts 10:48).

**ACTS CHAPTER TEN
QUESTIONS**

1. What was Cornelius' profession? (verse 1) _____
2. Name four (4) things Cornelius did: (verse 2) _____

3. What was his attitude toward man? (verse 2 and 22) _____

4. What did Cornelius' vision instruct him to do? (verses 3 - 6). _____

5. Did he do as he was told? (verses 7, 8) _____
6. What happened the next day at the sixth hour? (verse 9) _____

7. What happened to Peter while waiting for the meal to be ready? (verse 10) _____

8. What did Peter see? (verses 11 - 12) _____

9. What did a voice instruct Peter to do? (verse 13) _____
10. How did Peter reply? (verse 14) _____

11. What did the voice further explain to Peter? (verse 15) _____

12. How many times did this event happen? (verse 16) _____
13. What was Peter perplexed about? (verse 17) _____

14. What happened at this time? (verses 17 - 18) _____

15. What did the Spirit tell Peter? (verses 19 - 20) _____

16. What did Peter say to the man? (verse 21) _____
17. What did the men explain to Peter? (verse 22) _____

18. What courtesy did Peter show the men? (verse 23) _____

19. What did Peter do the next day? (verses 23 - 24) _____
20. What had Cornelius done while awaiting their arrival? (verse 24) _____

21. What did Cornelius do when Peter entered? (verse 25) _____

22. Did Peter allow the actions of Cornelius? (verse 26) _____
23. When Peter went in what did he find? (verse 27) _____

24. What did Peter say that God had showed him? (verse 28) _____

25. Define what it means to "*gainsay*": (verse 29) _____

26. What question did Peter ask in verse 29? _____

27. What did Cornelius say in answer to the question? (verses 30 - 33) _____

28. What was the attitude of Cornelius toward the things commanded of God? (verse 33) _____

29. Is God a respecter of persons? (verse 34) _____
30. What must one do to be accepted with God? (verse 35) _____

31. According to verse 37, did Cornelius and his company know about Jesus of Nazareth? _____
32. In verse 36 what was preached to the children of Israel? _____
33. With what did God anoint Jesus? (verse 38) _____
34. What did Jesus go about doing? (verse 38) _____
35. Who are the "*witnesses*" in verse 39? _____
36. On what day was Christ raised up? (verse 40) _____

37. According to verse 41, what did the apostles **do** with Jesus after His resurrection? _____

38. What were the apostles commanded to do in verse 42 _____

39. Who will judge all men according to verse 42? _____
40. Who had given witness of Christ? (verse 43) _____
41. According to verse 43, who would receive remission of sins? _____
42. What happened while Peter was speaking? _____

43. According to verse 45, they of the circumcision were _____ because

44. What question did Peter ask in verse 47? _____

45. Did the Gentiles speak in tongues? (verse 46) _____
46. Is baptism a command? (verse 48) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON TWELVE

ACTS CHAPTER ELEVEN

1. The complaint against Peter concerning his preaching to Gentiles.

- (1) The news that the Gentiles had received the word of God and reached Judaea (verse 1).
- (2) When Peter came to Jerusalem "*They that were of the circumcision contended with him*" (verse 2).

2. Peter's Defense (verses 4 - 17):

- (1) He defended his action by relating in detail:
 1. His own vision (verses 4 - 10).
 2. The three men who had already come to the house where he was staying (verse 11).
 3. The command to go with them (verse 12).
 - (1) Six brethren accompanied him.
 4. The vision of Cornelius (verses 13 - 14).
 5. The Holy Spirit fell on them in the same manner that He had on the apostles at the beginning. (verses 15 - 17; Acts 15: 7 - 9).
- (2) Peter's action was vindicated when they heard the facts (verse 18).

3. The beginning of the church in Antioch:

- (1) Acts 11: 19:
 1. Luke takes us back to the persecution that arose about the death of Stephen, and tells us where some others who were scattered went preaching. (Acts 7:54- 8: 4).
 2. About five or six years had passed since the death of Stephen.
 3. Some went to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch (verse 19).
 4. We have already seen that Philip went to Samaria to preach (Acts 8:5).
 - (1) His work with the people of Samaria (Acts 8: 12 - 13).
 - (2) His preaching to the eunuch of Ethiopia (Acts 8: 26 - 39).
 5. The conversion of Saul and the beginning of his work (Acts 9).
 - (1) His going into Arabia (Gal. 1:17).
 - (2) His coming back to Damascus (Gal. 1:17; Acts 9: 22 - 25)
 1. The disciples help him leave Damascus by night in a basket over the wall (Acts 9: 25).
 - (3) His coming to Jerusalem (Acts 9: 26 - 28).
 1. His preaching stirred up the Jews and they set about to kill him.
 2. The brethren brought him down to Caesarea and sent him to his home in Tarsus, in Asia Minor.
 6. Luke then picks up with the preaching of Peter:
 - (1) At Lydda (Acts 9: 32 - 35).
 - (2) At Joppa (Acts 9: 36 - 43).
 - (3) At Caesarea -- the conversion of the first Gentile -- Cornelius (Acts 10: - 11:18).
- (2) When men of Cyprus and Cyrene came to Antioch they preached to Gentiles as well as to Jews (11:20).
 1. "*Spoke unto the Grecians*" (11:20; Rom. 1:16).

2. "And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed and turned unto the Lord" (Acts 11: 21).
 - (1) Acts 3:19
 - (2) This the first congregation made up of many Gentiles.
 - (3) This is the second account of Gentiles obeying the gospel.
 1. First was Cornelius (Acts 10 - Caesarea).

4. The church in Jerusalem hears about the church being started in Antioch of Syria and sends an able preacher to them (11:22) -- Barnabas.

- (1) A church can send a preacher to another church.

5. Barnabas came to Antioch and saw the work to be done; he then went to Tarsus in Asia Minor to get Paul to help him (Acts 11: 23 - 25).

- (1) Barnabas knew Paul (Acts 9: 27).
- (2) The Lord had chosen Paul to preach to the Gentiles (Acts 9:15).
- (3) Our last look at Saul -- the brethren had sent him back to Tarsus (Acts 9:30).

6. For a whole year Barnabas and Paul assembled themselves with the church and taught much people (Acts 11: 26).

- (1) The church must have a good teaching program.
- (2) Jerusalem (Acts 2; 46; 5:42).
- (3) Acts 13:1

7. The New Name given:

- (1) Acts 11: 26
- (2) Isa. 62:2
- (3) Isa. 56: 4 - 5
- (4) I Pet. 4:16
- (5) Acts 26: 28

8. Acts 11: 27 - 30:

- (1) Prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch (verse 27).
 1. Prophets were inspired men in the church who gave revelation (Eph. 3:5; I Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11).
- (2) One prophet by the name of Agabus told, by the Holy Spirit, of a great dearth throughout all the world.
 1. "A great dearth" -- a famine.
- (3) It came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.
 1. Claudius reigned from A.D. 41 - 54.
 2. This incident occurred about 45 A.D.
- (4) The disciples (church) in Antioch contributed to the needs of "brethren in Judea".
 1. There were churches in Judea (I Thess. 2:14).
 - (1) Lydda (Acts 9: 32).
 - (2) Joppa (Acts 9: 36, 38).
 2. These congregations had elders (Acts 11:30).
 - (1) This is the first mention of elders.
 - (2) Each church was to have elders (Acts 14: 23).
 - (3) This is God's form of government for His people.

- (4) Each church is a separate unit from every other church (20:28).
- (5) Antioch sent directly to each church.
 - 1. Each church is to have elders (Acts 14:23).
 - 2. Antioch sent to the elders.
- (6) Elders are to have the oversight of the church.
 - 1. Acts 20:28
 - 2. They have no authority outside the church where they are elders (I Pet. 5:2).
 - 3. The work of an elder is a local office -- not a brotherhood office.
 - 4. This does away with the sponsoring church idea.
 - 5. No church in New Testament times did its work through another congregation.
- (7) Paul and Barnabas were messengers to take this fund to the "*brethren which dwelt in Judea*".
 - 1. Example: I Cor. 16:3
- (8) Benevolence from the church treasury was limited in New Testament days to Saints.
 - 1. Acts 11: 29 -- "*brethren*".
 - 2. Acts 2: 44 -45
 - 3. Acts 4:32
 - 4. Acts 6:1 - 4
- (9) They gave at Antioch according to their ability (11: 29).
 - 1. 2 Cor. 8:12
 - 2. 2 Cor. 8:3
 - 3. We are to give according to our ability today (I Cor. 16: 1 - 2).

ACTS CHAPTER ELEVEN QUESTIONS

1. What was heard in Judea? (verse 1) _____

2. What did their "*receiving*" the word of God include? (Acts 15:7; 11:18; 10:48; 10:43) _____

3. What happened when Peter came to Jerusalem (verse 2) _____

4. Of what did they accuse Peter? (verse 3) _____
5. How did Peter defend his actions? (verses 4 - 12) _____

6. What did the Spirit have Peter do in verse 12? _____

7. How many brethren accompanied Peter? (verse 12) _____
8. What did the angel tell Cornelius to do? (verse 13) _____

9. What was Peter to tell Cornelius that he might be saved? (verse 14) _____
10. When did the Holy Spirit fall on Cornelius and his household? (verse 15) _____

11. What does "*the beginning*" in verse 15 refer to? _____

12. What did Peter say he remembered in verse 16? _____

13. How does Peter describe the "*gift*" given to the Gentiles in comparison to the one given to the Jews (apostles)? (verse 17) _____
14. What was their reaction to what Peter told them? (verse 18) _____

15. Where did "*they which were scattered abroad*" go preaching the Word? (verse 19) _____

16. In verse 20, who were the "*Grecians*" -- Jews or Gentiles? (Rom. 1:16) _____
17. How is their conversion described in verse 21? _____

18. What news came to the "*ears*" of the church at Jerusalem? (verse 22) _____

19. Who did the church in Jerusalem send to Antioch? (verse 22) _____
20. Explain how one can "*see*" the grace of God: (verse 23) _____

21. How is Barnabas described in verse 24? _____

22. How many people were added to the Lord? (verse 24) _____
23. Who did Barnabas go to Tarsus to find? (verse 25) _____
24. When he found Saul (Paul), where did he bring him? (verse 26) _____
25. How long did they assemble with the church and teach? (verse 26) _____
26. Where were the disciples first called Christians? (verse 26) _____
27. From where did the prophets come to Antioch? (verse 27) _____
28. What did Agabus signify by the Spirit? (verse 28) _____

29. What did every man determine to do? (verse 29) _____

30. Who did they send the "*relief*" to? (verse 30) _____

THE BOOK OF ACTS

LESSON THIRTEEN

ACTS CHAPTER TWELVE

1. James Killed.

- (1) "*Now about that time*" (verse 1):
 1. The time Paul and Barnabas went to Judea (Acts 11: 27 - 30).
 2. About 44 - 45 A.D.
- (2) "*Herod the king*" (verse 1):
 1. Herod Agrippa -- grandson of Herod the Great.
 2. By religion -- a Jew.
- (3) "*stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.*"
 1. He afflicted, oppressed and tormented them.
 - (1) He killed James (verse 2).
 1. James and John were brothers.
 2. They once came to the Lord . . . (Mark 10: 35 - 40).
- (4) Herod wanted to please the Jews (verse 3).
 1. The Jews had things going their way -- they now had a civil ruler who would do their bidding.

2. Peter's Imprisonment.

- (1) When Herod saw that the killing of James pleased the Jews, he took Peter also (verses 3 - 4).
 1. Did not kill Peter because it was "*the days of unleavened bread*" (verse 3).
 2. Peter was put in prison, under guard:
 - (1) Slept between two soldiers.
 - (2) Bound with two chains.
 - (3) Keepers at the door of the prison (verse 6).
- (2) The church prayed for Peter (verse 5).

3. Peter delivered from prison (verses 7 - 10).

- (1) God sent an angel to release Peter (verse 7).
 1. A light shined in the prison.
 2. The angel smote Peter on the side, raised him up and said, "*Arise up quickly.*"
 3. The chains fell off from his hands.
- (2) The angel instructs him:
 1. "*Gird thyself*"
 2. "*bind on thy sandals*"
 3. "*cast thy garment about thee*"
 4. "*follow me*".
- (3) Peter obeyed and followed the angel, but thought he was having a vision (verse 9).
- (4) The angel led him through the iron gate into the city, then departed (verse 10).
- (5) Peter came to himself (verse 11).

1. He knew that God had delivered him.
 - (1) God does for man what man cannot do for himself.
 1. Man needed a Savior -- God sent Christ.
 2. Man needed guidance -- God gave His word, the Bible.

4. Peter goes to the house of Mary (mother of John Mark) where many were gathered together praying (verse 12).

- (1) He knocks on the door.
 1. A damsel, Rhoda, came to the door, knew his voice, but did not open the gate because she was so happy.
 2. She ran in and told the others that Peter stood at the gate.
 3. They thought she was "*mad*" (verse 15).
 4. She affirmed it was so.
 5. They said, "*It is his angel.*"
- (2) Peter continues to knock (verse 16).
 1. They opened the door and were astonished (verse 16).
- (3) Peter tells them how the Lord had brought him out of prison and tells them to:
 1. "*Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren.*" (verse 17).

5. Peter departs to another place.

- (1) The next day there was "*no small stir*" over what was become of Peter.
- (2) Herod sought for him, but couldn't find him.
- (3) He examined the keepers of the prison and commanded that they be put to death.

6. Herod went down from Judaea to Caesarea and there abode.

7. The death of Herod.

- (1) The visit of men from Tyre and Sidon (verse 20).
- (2) Herod's oration and dress (verse 21).
- (3) The people's response (verse 22).
- (4) Herod was "*eaten of worms*" (verse 23).
 1. The reason: "*Because he gave not God the glory:*" (verse 23).
- (5) The word of God grew and multiplied (verse 24).
- (6) Barnabas and Saul returned to Antioch from Jerusalem (verse 25).

**ACTS CHAPTER TWELVE
QUESTIONS**

1. What did Herod the king do in verse one? _____
2. Who did Herod kill? (verse 2) _____
3. How was James killed? (verse 2) _____
4. Who was the brother of James? _____

5. Did the killing of James please the Jews? (verse 3) _____
6. What other apostle was taken by Herod (verse 3) _____
7. What did he do with Peter? _____
8. Is the word "Easter" in the King James Version a correct translation? (verse 4) _____

9. What is the correct word in this text where we have the word "Easter"? _____
10. What did the church do on Peter's behalf while he was in prison? (verse 5) _____

11. How was Peter guarded in prison? (verse 6) _____

12. What happened to Peter in verse 7? _____

13. What did the angel tell Peter to do? (verse 8) _____

14. What did Peter think as he went out? (verse 9) _____

15. Describe Peter's exit as set forth in verse 10: _____

16. What did Peter realize in verse 11? _____

17. Where did Peter go, and what did he find? (verses 12 - 13) _____

18. What did Rhoda do when she knew Peter's voice? (verse 14) _____

19. How did the group in the house react to her statement? (verse 15) _____

20. What did Peter continue to do? (verse 16) _____
21. What did Peter tell the group, and what did he do? (verse 17) _____

22. What happened in the morning? (verse 18) _____

23. How did Herod react to this event? (verse 19) _____

24. Where did Herod go? (verse 19) _____
25. Why did the men come from Tyre and Sidon? (verse 20) _____
26. What did Herod do on a set day? (verse 21) _____
27. What did the people say about Herod? (verse 22) _____

28. What happened immediately? (verse 23) _____
Why? _____
29. What does Luke state concerning "the word of God"? _____
30. What is said about Barnabas and Saul in verse 25? _____
