SECOND YEAR

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| **N.T. SURVEY: Part I** |
| From Acts to Philemon |

TEXTBOOK

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| **N.T. SURVEY: Part I** |
| From Acts to Philemon |
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# Lesson 1

## Introduction to N.T. Survey: Part I

We will be conducting a Textual Survey of the New Testament in this study. We will not focus so much on why things happened so much as the fact that they did happen. This will enable us to move quite quickly through our chosen section of Scripture and provide us with a general overview. Our chosen section of Scripture for “N.T. Survey, Part I” will be from Acts to Philemon.

## General Details of the Book of Acts

### Luke is considered to be the writer of the book of Acts. The book of Acts covers 3% of the Bible from the ascension of Christ, about A.D. 33, through the imprisonment of Paul in Rome, about A.D. 62.

### The Acts of the Holy Ghost in the lives of the Apostles **Acts 1:4-5**

* 1. Acts was written to provide history of the growth of the early church.
  2. The emphasis of the book is on the importance of the day of Pentecost and being empowered to be effective witnesses for Jesus Christ. Acts 1:4-5; 2:1; 20:16; I Cor. 16:8

### Outline of Acts

The key verse of Acts is 1:8 and the key word is “witness.” Acts consists of the details of two main MISSIONS of the early Christian Church.

1. Home Missions (featuring Peter) Ch. 1-12
2. Foreign Missions (featuring Paul) Ch. 13-28

## Acts Chapter 1

1. The Promise of the Holy Spirit, vs. 1-5

VERSES 1-3:

*The former treatise—* The Gospel of Luke is the ‘former treatise’ mentioned here. Acts is a continuation of the record of Christ’ ministry as carried out by His apostles. It is a continuation of the Gospel of Luke. Luke gives a brief summary of what he had already covered in his Gospel then continues naturally on into his account in Acts.

Christ is the Message. See Him, Receive Him, Know Him, Praise Him, Worship Him, **Witness Him---**His Life---Righteousness, His Death---Forgiveness, His Resurrection---Justification, His Lordship---Sanctification.

VERSE 4:

The necessity of being Spirit filled, is very pertinent to our time. Why? The ministry of the Gospel far supersedes that of your local church. You must be Holy Ghost filled, to have the ability, and capability, to be instruments that manifest His Life despite the opposition.

VERSE 5:

“For John truly baptized with water:*”* but the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Ghost and with fire! Christ’s Baptism of fire is not in conflict with John’s Baptism of Water. Building upon the foundation of water baptism, Christ brings a greater revelation of life in the Spirit of God.

VERSES 6-8

The POWER is God’s to give! The Lord has infinite authority over all times and seasons. The Lord's "power" was imparted to them through which they were enabled to work miracles. The disciples were made instruments in the Kingdom of Christ, IN THE HOLY GHOST!!! God’s ministers will not always be received or believed, but God gives the Holy Ghost that they might overcome any force.

VERSES 9-11

Christ makes His ascension to Heaven, but the work of God is not in complete in the earth. The Apostles will continue the ministry of Christ through the Holy Ghost. The portrayal of the apostles in Acts is very similar to the portrayal of Jesus in Luke’s Gospel. (For a more detailed look at this study SEE CHART 2.)

VERSES12-14

The disciples, the women, the mother of Jesus and His brethren return from Mount Olivet to the Upper Room at Jerusalem. Here they continued in one accord in prayer and supplication. (120 people, vs. 15)

VERSES 15-22

Peter preaches the first sermon on Judas and expresses the need to appoint a replacement. (For a list of this and other notable sermons from Acts SEE Chart 4.)

Acts 1:20 *For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.* (Ps 69:25; 109:8)

VERSES 23-26.

Candidates for Judas’ replacement had to be witnesses’ of Christ’s resurrection. Two candidates were chosen: Joseph called Barsabas, surnamed Justus and Matthias. These two man were undoubtedly part of the seventy in Luke 10:1. v.24 “And they prayed” The most important step of the choosing process!

**Lesson 1 Study Questions**

#### To whom is the book of Acts addressed? (v.1)

#### After His resurrection, Jesus spoke pertaining what? (v.3)

#### How was Jesus’ Baptism different from John’s Baptism? (v.5)

#### Memorize the key verse of Acts (1:8) and write from memory below. (v.8)

#### Why is the power of the Holy Ghost promised and given? (v.8)

#### What received Jesus out of their sight as the disciples watched? (v.9)

#### What was the promise given in concerning Jesus in verse 11? (v.11)

#### What was the name of the Mountain from which Jesus ascended? (v.12)

#### How far was Jerusalem from the Mountain? (v.12)

#### Which disciples were listed by name as being present in the Upper Room? (v.13)

#### Who was the apparent spokesperson of the Apostles? (v.15)

#### Who had prophesied concerning Judas’ betrayal of Jesus? (v. 16)

#### Judas’ replacement had to have a certain criteria. That he was a witness of what? (v.22)

#### Who were the two candidates for Judas’ replacement? (v. 23)

#### Who was eventually chosen as Judas’ replacement? (v. 26)

# Lesson 2

## Acts Chapter 2

VERSE 1:

**God’s Chosen Time**. Fifty days after Christ’s resurrection, the Holy Ghost fell in the Upper Room. The Church was born on Pentecost at a time of great unity among Believers.

VERSES 2-4:

**God’s Chosen Manner**. Suddenly, by surprise – all of a sudden – unexpectedly. This was evidence of a move of God and not something choreographed by man. A **Sound** of a mighty rushing wind. Evidence the Holy Ghost was there. Cloven Tongues of **Fire** sat upon each of them. Evidence the Holy Ghost was on them **Tongue** – began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance. Evidence the Holy Ghost was in them.

VERSES 5-13:

**God’s Chosen Message**. The Holy Ghost is writing a message in the heart of the Believer! What is the Meaning of Pentecost? 2:12…*What meaneth this*?

Peter addresses the crowd in the following verses and explains that the mystery they witnessed was a message from God! The Comforter has come to put God’s law in our hearts.

VERSES 14-21:

Peter preaches. In his introduction, Peter called the attention of the people and quotes from his text in Joel 2:28-32. Peter preaches that the undeniably miraculous event they were witnessing was a message from God and affirmation of Christ as Messiah and Savior.

VERSES 22-24:

Jesus Fulfilled God’s Plan. Jesus was approved of God By miracles, wonders and signs. The crucifixion was according to God’s plan. The resurrection was fulfilled according to prophecy. All was done according to the foreknowledge of God

VERSES 25-31:

Jesus Fulfilled David’s Prophecy. David was a prophet of God. Christ to sit on David’s throne. Resurrection of Christ was foretold by David.

VERSES 32-36:

Jesus Fulfilled the Plan of God as the Exalted Christ. This Jesus hath God raised up. Jesus is exalted on the Right hand of God. Jesus is Lord and Christ.

VERSES 37-42:

The First Converts of the Spirit Filled Church. They gladly received his word They continued in the Word and prayer. A life changed is the greatest evidence of real salvation. They BELIEVED and APPLIED what was preached.

VERSE 43-47:

Life Among the Believers. Fear came upon every soul many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. They “were together” continuing daily with one accord in the temple. Praising God, and having favor with all the people. The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved

## Acts Chapter 3

The Lame Man is Miraculously Healed

For many years a man lived his days lame. He was carried daily to the temple gate called “Beautiful” to ask alms (*a* *beggar*).. By Divine Providence, two “unlearned” and “ignorant” men who “had been with Jesus” passed near that impotent man. This man asked Peter and John, for mere alms, but ended up with a Blessing from the King of Heaven—his feet and anklebones were given strength!

VERSES 1-8:

V. 1,2 **The Place-** The gate called “Beautiful” of the Temple

V. 1 **The Time-** The hour of prayer, the ninth hour (from 12 PM to 3 PM)

V. 2 **The Man-** Lame from his mother’s womb, was carried to and laid daily at the Temple gate to ask alms, was accustomed to begging, was above 40 years old. [ch.4 vs.22]

V. 1,6 **The Apostles-** Peter and John, had no silver or gold, but had the power of God!

V. 6 **The Healer-** Jesus Christ of Nazareth

V. 7,8 **The Miracle-** his feet and ankle bones received strength, he leaped up, stood, and walked

VERSES 9-11

**The Reaction-** He praised God, the people glorified God [ch.4 vs.21], the people were filled with wonder and amazement, all the people ran to the porch of the temple greatly wondering and Peter and John gain a congregation! The power of God was manifested in the healing of the lame beggar (whom a lot of people knew—he sat there daily) and the people came running to the house of God ‘wondering’.

**NOTE:** Many enter Christian ministry because they have dreams of money or covet the spotlight. Even the well-intended minister can lose sight of the true purpose of sermons, songs and evangelism. In this chapter, we have a powerful example of true “ministry.” The purpose of Gospel ministry is not to preach a sermon or even to work a profound miracle. These are only the tools of ministry, but true ministry takes place only when the hearer is helped and God is glorified! The Christian minister is the **servant** of Christ and **debtor** to his generation. (Romans 1:1,14)

VERSES 12-26

Peter Preaches His Second Recorded Sermon, vs. 12-26

V. 12 INTRODUCTION- “Why marvel ye?”

V. 12,13 I. Jesus is the Healer, not Us

V. 13-15 II. God has Glorified Jesus, but You have Denied Him

V. 16-18 III. This Man has been Healed through Faith in the Name of Jesus, but You have been Filled with Unbelief Through Ignorance

V. 19 IV. REPENT and be CONVERTED

V. 20-26 CONCLUSION- Jesus is the Prophet the Prophets Spoke Of

1. It has been Told you Before
2. Jesus is the Blessing of the Covenant with Abraham
3. God has Chosen to Bless you First

**Lesson 2 Study Questions**

#### What did the sound from Heaven sound like? (2:2)

#### What did the disciples do as the Spirit gave them utterance? (2:4)

#### True or False. Only those living in Jerusalem witnessed the Day of Pentecost? (2:5-7)

#### The Disciples were heard speaking in many different languages, but what were they talking about? (2:11)

#### What did some say mocking? (2:13)

#### What Old Testament Prophet did Peter quote? (2:16)

#### What will happen to everyone who calls on the name of the Lord for salvation? (2:21)

#### Peter strongly accused the Jews of a grave sin. What was it? (2:23)

#### Did David prophecy concerning himself? (Give complete answer) (2:31-36)

#### What was the crowd’s overwhelming feeling after Peter’s sermon? (2:37)

#### What were Peter’s instructions for them after preaching? (2:38)

#### How many people were added to the Church on the Day of Pentecost? (2:41)

#### Who is the one responsible for adding to the church? (2:47)

#### At what time did Peter and John go up to the temple? (3:1)

#### For how long had the man been lame? (3:2)

#### What did the apostles give to the man begging for money? (3:6,7)

#### What was the lame man’s reaction? (3:8,9)

#### What was the crowd’s reaction? (3:10,11)

#### Who got the credit for the miracle? (3:12-16)

#### How was Jesus going to bless Israel? (3:26)

# Lesson 3

## Acts Chapter 4

1. Peter and John before the Council vs. 1-22

VERSES 1-2:

The re are Challengers to the Gospel of Christ: There will be no permanent escape of persecution. Christ suffered much and the Believer will suffer persecution.

2Timothy 3:12—*Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

The Apostles’ did not set out for the purpose of getting arrested. Many unwise people have made a mockery of the Gospel and bring a poor testimony upon Christian ministry when they intentionally seek to be arrested for attention. We must be cautioned against breaking any law of the land especially when we could by some sacrifice of our own both act lawfully in the eyes of man and be obedient to God.

Peter and John are imprisoned for their “good deed”, but Peter, by the Anointing of the Holy Ghost, does not endure a grueling sentencing, but is given by God just another “kind” of congregation—the council of the Rulers and Elders of Israel!

VERSES 3-12: PREACHED…

V. 4 Yes, they were imprisoned, but About 5,000 Male Converts

V. 5-7 A Counsel Gathers to Question the two Blasphemous Men

Vv.8-12 Peter Preaches [**AGAIN**]

Peter’s Response to the *Counsel’s Question: By what Power was this man healed?* Jesus Christ of Nazareth: Whom Ye Crucified, Whom God Resurrected, The Stone You Builders Set at Nought, The Stone which is become the Cornerstone, Through Whose Name, Only, is Salvation

Peter’s had more than an argument, Peter had an experience.

VERSES 13-16: The Council’s Dilemma This Man has Obviously been Healed; There is no Way to Deny It

VERSES 17,18: The Council’s Decision/ The Council will “threaten” Peter and John not to speak at all or teach in the name of Jesus.

VERSES 19,20: Peter and John Refuse to “Bow” to the Council’s Threats

VERSES 21.22: The Council Defeated

1. A Hallelujah Meeting, vs. 23-31

God Responds with more POWER of the Holy Ghost When they are released, they testified of the power of God and the people that were saved only a short while before and others with them respond in united prayer to God. When they had prayed, the house was “shaken” by the power of God and these precious souls were now ALL filled with the Holy Ghost. We can see in this passage a pattern for Revival.

#### Prayer vs. 31

#### Preach the Word vs. 31

#### Praise and Exalt Christ vs. 33

1. The Believers Share their Possessions vs. 32-37

## Acts Chapter 5

1. Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Apostle vs. 1-11
2. Many are Healed by God through the Apostles vs. 12-16
3. The Apostles are Persecuted vs. 17-42
4. The Witnesses 32

#### The Apostles are Witnesses

#### The Holy Ghost is a Witness

#### The Holy Ghost is witness to the obedient

#### The Holy Ghost is witness to the Resurrected Lord

#### The Holy Ghost is witness of the exalted Saviour

## Acts Chapter 6

1. Seven are Chosen to Serve vs. 1-7

v. 3 *Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. …Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:*

1. The Arrest of Stephen vs. 8-15

## Acts Chapter 7

1. Stephen’s Speech to the Council vs. 1-53
   * + 1. The Gospel Preached
       2. The Holy Ghost Resisted
       3. The God of Glory Appearing
     + Appearing to Abraham v. 2 (Gen. 11:31-12:3)
     + Appearing to Joseph v. 9
     + Appearing to Moses v. 30
     + Appearing to Stephen vs. 55-56
2. The Stoning of Stephen vs. 54-60
3. Unselfish Prayer - Intercessory Prayer
4. Unselfish Life - Resolving the Conflict

**Lesson 3 Study Questions**

1. Ch. 4
2. Ch. 5
3. Ch. 6
4. Ch. 7