

ACTS:

CHAPTERS 1-12

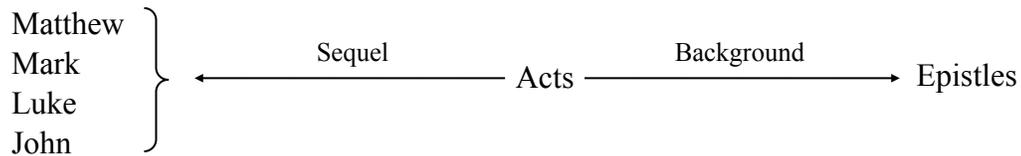
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INTRODUCTION

RELATIONSHIP TO THE REST OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

To fully appreciate the value of studying Acts one needs to understand its relationship to the rest of the New Testament. Five valuable benefits of understanding this relationship are discussed below.³



1. The miracles recorded in Acts serve to **confirm the gospel** (as recorded in the four gospels) as Heaven’s message.
 - a. Mark wrote “the gospel of Jesus Christ,” (1:1). What did he say the Lord was doing through the signs that accompanied those preaching this gospel? Mk. 16:17-20.
 - b. In Acts, Luke testifies many miracles were performed by those who were preaching this gospel. What did he say the Lord was doing by granting those who were preaching this gospel to work these signs and wonders? Acts 14:3.
 - c. Compare Heb. 2:3-4.
2. The book of Acts **clarifies vital questions about the great commission** Jesus gave his apostles after his resurrection, such as the role of baptism in salvation.
 - a. What did Jesus charge the apostles to do? Mt. 28:18-20.
 - b. The religious world is divided about who is a proper candidate for baptism (e.g., infants?), what “baptism” is (e.g., sprinkling, or immersion?), and why people are to be baptized.
 - c. Luke records the apostles carrying out that commission. His record of the “Acts of the Apostles” shows what they actually did teach about baptism and what those who heard them understood them to teach. See for example Ac. 2:14,38,40,41,42.
3. Luke’s account is a **divine commentary on the promised mission of the Holy Spirit**.
 - a. What promise did Jesus make about the Holy Spirit? Jn. 14:26; 15:26-27; 16:13-14. See Lk. 24:46-49.

Questions with far reaching consequences must be answered: *Who* was to receive the Holy Spirit? *How* was this promise fulfilled? (We will find the answers to these questions as we proceed through the study.) .

- b. Read Ac. 1:4-8. What is Luke writing about here?

We can test our conclusions about the text in John by weighing them in the light of Luke's comments in Acts. Luke, like John, was guided by the Holy Spirit as he wrote.

4. The book of Acts contains **vital information about the church's establishment, growth, work, and organization** (both the universal and local church). For example . . .
- a. Upon what did Jesus promise to build his church? Mt. 16:16,18.
- b. What did the apostles preach and what was the result? Ac. 2:36,41, 47. (See King James or New King James Version on verse 47.)
5. **Background information that is helpful in understanding and appreciating the epistles** can often be found in the book of Acts.
- a. What did Paul mention as a reason for remaining in Ephesus? 1 Co. 16:8-9.
- b. Very likely, to what incident was he referring? Ac. 19:1. . .19,20.

AUTHOR

6. Comparing Luke 1:1-4 and 24:44-53 with Acts 1:1-8 provides three indicators that whoever wrote one book wrote the other.
- a. Who are both letters addressed to?
- b. The author of Acts says he concluded his "first account" with a certain event ("until . . ."), which happens to be the same event recorded at the end of the gospel of Luke. What is it?
- c. Luke's gospel concludes with a promise to the apostles and Acts picks up with that very promise, providing a sense of continuity. What is that promise?
7. Early tradition supports the authorship Luke as the author.
- Muratorian fragment, c. 170 A.D.¹
 - Clement of Alexandria, c. 165-220 A.D.²
 - Tertullian, c. 160-240 A.D.³
 - Irenaeus, c. 135-200 A.D.

8. Style of language

- Similar to Luke's gospel
- Medical language (see Col. 4:14—Luke was a physician)

9. "We" sections

Compare "we" sections (16:10-17; 20:6-16; 21; 27; 28) with Col. 4:14; Phm. 24. Luke was not only a traveling companion of Paul, but with him during his first imprisonment (see 28:16). Luke's name is not in Acts. Note the names of Acts 20:4-6, for they are in addition to "we." This does not prove the author is Luke, but it certainly accords with it.

CREDIBILITY

10. Following are five reasons for confidence in the accuracy and truthfulness of this account.

- a. What sources did the author have for the information he recorded? Ac. 16:10-17. (Compare Luke 1:1-2.)
- b. If you had never met Luke, but read what Paul wrote about him, what kind of character would you deem Luke to possess? (Col. 4:14; 2 Ti. 4:11; Phm. 24)

In Acts Luke has included details about geography, political rulers, historical events, etc. that allows his accuracy to be checked. Though these have been a field of attack over the centuries by unbelievers, time and again archaeology has confirmed the accuracy in even the details of Luke's writing.

The undesigned coincidences of the things in Acts with Paul's letters point to the historian's (Luke) knowledge of these circumstances.

If indeed Luke was guided by the Holy Spirit, as we believe, that settles completely the issue of his credibility. See 2 Tim. 3:16-17.

DATE

The book closes abruptly without mentioning whether Paul was liberated or put to death. This points to it being written then (or closed then) for there was nothing else to report. This would be c. 63 A.D. Luke had given in quite a bit of detail the trials of Paul and results thereof since his arrest in Jerusalem, ch. 21. He recorded his defenses before the crowd, the council, Felix, Festus, and Agrippa. Also, he had mentioned his appeal to Caesar, 25:10-12, and the events leading up to his arrival at Rome to be tried before Caesar. It is true Luke omits much we would like to know, but in the context of his writing this would be the culminating event to a series of events he had seen fit to

mention and which led forward to it. This was not a Hitchcock fiction, leaving off the ending to tantalize its readers, but a narrative of truthful history for the benefit of its readers, 1:1.

11. If this is correct, about how many years does it cover?

OUTLINE

12. Write a three-point outline based on Acts 1:8.

13. Alternatives

The title, “The Acts of The Apostles,” as found in some Bibles, may be misleading. It does not record the acts of all the apostles nor even of a majority. A better title might be, “Acts of Apostles,” i.e. of some apostles. This latter title is on the Vatican MSS while “Acts” is on the Sinaitic. Neither is likely on the original for “writers of that age were not accustomed to giving titles to their books.” McGarvey, *New Commentary on Acts*, p. viii.

Acts of

- Peter: ch. 1-12
- Paul: ch. 13-28

The church

- Established: ch. 1-7
- Scattered: ch. 8-12
- Extended: ch. 13-28

Four points

- Establishment and spread of the church in Jer.: ch. 1-7
- Spread of the church into Judea and adjacent countries: ch. 8-12
- Paul’s trips among the Gentiles: ch. 13-21:16
- Paul’s five years of imprisonment: 21:17–28:31

Note: Some may prefer to divide at 8:3/8:4.

DESIGN

14. The design of the book can be viewed as showing the “Acts of Apostles” in carrying out Jesus’ charge to them concerning the gospel.

The “first account” was about “all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when He was taken up.” He then goes back and picks up with the charge or commission to

his apostles (Lk. 24:48-49; Ac. 1:2-5,8). His design then, in accord with this, is to show the “Acts of the Apostles” carrying out Jesus’ charge to them relative to the gospel.

15. Establish Theophilus in the faith (?)

- a. Compare “most excellent Theophilus” in Luke with “Theophilus” in Acts.
- b. It is used at the beginning of the first account, but omitted in the second. If, as the term seems to designate, Theophilus was a high official, why is it omitted in the second?

“In early Christian literature we are told that no Christian addressed a fellow Christian with such a title.” Lenski

- c. Contents eminently serve that end

If (for we cannot prove) we assume that the gospel of Luke was designed to convert Theophilus, and that it was successful as indicated by the closeness implied in the omission of “most excellent,” then this letter could have been to establish Theophilus in the faith he had embraced. Whether that be true about Theophilus or not, the fact is no better letter can be found to serve that very purpose.

¹ “The earliest formal catalogue of the New Testament books now extant, is that of a document called the Muratorian Canon. The manuscript of this document was found in 1740 in an old library in Milan, by an Italian named Muratori, whence the title Muratorian. The MS. belongs to the seventh or the eighth century, and is a Latin translation from a Greek original. It claims to have been composed by a contemporary of Pius, Bishop of Rome, who died in the year 157, and it is not therefore of later date than A. D. 170.” McGarvey, *Evid. of Christianity*, p. 74.

² “A.D. 150?-220? 1. Greek Christian theologian who is considered the founder of the Alexandrian school of theology.” AHD (*American Heritage Dictionary*).

³ Tertullian - “A.D. 160?-230? 1. Carthaginian theologian who converted to Christianity (c. 193), broke with the Catholic Church (c. 207), and formed his own schismatic sect. His writings greatly influenced Western theology.” AHD. Carthage - “1. An ancient city and state of northern Africa on the Bay of Tunis northeast of modern Tunis.” AHD

CHRONOLOGY

This lesson will acquaint us with the chronology of Acts, and how we arrive at various dates.

There are three pivotal points we can work from and also test our inferences:

1. Herod’s death - A.D. 44 (Acts 12:23)

This date established by reference to Josephus, Antiquities, XIX, 8.

Spring? Ac. 12:4.

2. Gallio, proconsul in Achaia - A.D. 51-52 (Acts 18:12)

This date based on a limestone inscription found 1909 near Delphi (ancient town in Greece).

3. Festus begins as procurator - A.D. 60 (Acts 24:27)

While some guesswork is involved in arriving at this date, there are several lines of evidence that make this time pretty close. We will use it as a reckoning point.

By reading the information given and the pertinent scriptures referred to, we can calculate the approximate date. Write the date 1) in the blank in the left column after “A.D.” and 2) in the blank in the paragraph in the right column (see bold text).

<p>A.D. _____, Fall Depart for Rome</p>	<p>Beginning with the summer of A.D. 60 (summer? 1. “two years were fulfilled” (24:27) - if two full years would date from summer of 58 A.D. —see 20:16. 2. would accord with the following data about the time of the voyage to Rome), Paul waited two weeks for his trial before Festus in Caesarea, Ac. 25:1,6, and then “several days” and “many days,” 25:13,14. Sailing in the winter over large bodies of water was avoided. Were they trying to make Italy by winter? If we take into account the problems with the weather they encountered (27:7-9a), and that later in the voyage the “Fast” (27:9, Day of Atonement in Sep. or Oct.) is mentioned as past, Paul’s departure for Rome would have been middle summer to early fall, A.D. _____. [Pentecost (20:16) + 12 days (24:11) + two full years (24:27) + 2 weeks (25:1,6) + “several days” (25:13)+ “many days” (25:14) would set the limit in one direction — i.e. no <i>earlier</i> than middle summer; yet their being already to Crete when the “Fast” was past would set the limit in the other direction — i.e. no <i>later</i> than early fall. (I.e., could not have made it to Crete by the time Fast was past if left any later than early fall.)</p>
<p>A.D. _____, Spring Reached Rome</p>	<p>That Paul reached Rome in the spring of A.D. _____ is indicated by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late fall when they were sailing, 27:9-10. • Drifted two weeks after leaving Fair Havens, 27:8... 18...27 • Three months in Melita (or, Malta), 28:11 • Shipping open March 10. See Ac. 28:11.

A.D. _____ Two years in prison in Rome [Eph., Php., Col., Phm.]	Two years in imprisonment in Rome, Ac. 28:30. This brings Luke's account to a close. Note: Paul spent the previous five years, A.D. _____ , as a prisoner in Caesarea and Rome.
A.D. _____ Release, travel [1 & 2 Tim.; Titus]	Indications are that Paul was released from prison and that between his first imprisonment in Rome and his final imprisonment and death, 2 Tim. 4:6-8, he traveled and also wrote the "pastoral" epistles. If we reckon his death in 68 A.D., the period between his release from prison and his final imprisonment and death would be A.D. _____ . Indications Paul was released and traveled: (1) Compare Php. 1:25, 2:23-24, Phm. 22 with 2 Ti. 4:6-8. (2) Itinerary of 1 Ti 1:3, 3:14, and 4:13 does not fit anywhere in Acts. Compare also Ac. 20:25. (3) Itinerary of Tit. 1:5, 3:12 does not fit anywhere in Acts. Note: His acquaintance with Apollos could not be before his second visit to Ephesus, Ac. 18:24-19:7.
A.D. 68, Paul's Death	If Timothy was still a "young man" at the writing of 2 Timothy (2:22), this would serve to place some limits on the span of Paul's life, as 2 Tim. was written shortly before Paul's death, 2 Tim. 4:6-8. Paul took Timothy with him from Lystra on the second preaching journey (Ac. 16:1f). This was c. A.D. 50. If Timothy was 20 years old at that time, then 20-25 years more would be the outside limit for the writing of 2 Timothy, i.e. 70-76 A.D.. (According to Macknight, preface to 1 Tim., Romans classed youth age 17-46.) If Timothy was 18 in 50 A.D., then the limit would be 72-78 A.D. for the writing of 2 Timothy. If the tradition that Paul was beheaded under Nero is correct, this limits his life to 68 A.D., the end of Nero's reign.

Now, we go back to Paul's arrest in Jerusalem in A.D. 58 and count backward.

A.D. _____ Arrested in Jerusalem	Going back to A.D. 60, and subtracting two complete years (Ac. 24:27, "were fulfilled" ASV) for Felix' governorship brings us back to the early summer (Pentecost, May-June, Ac. 20:16) of A.D. _____ for Paul's arrest in Jerusalem.
A.D. _____, Winter Greece [Romans]	Reckoning backward from Paul's arrest in Jerusalem in A.D. 58, he had left Philippi after the Passover trying to make Jerusalem for Pentecost (20:6,16). Passover was in the spring, March-April. This would mean the three months spent in Greece just previous, 20:3; 1 Co. 16:6, were the winter months of A.D. _____
A.D. _____, Sum./Fall - Macedonia [2 Corinthians]	Since Paul went directly from Macedonia to Greece, 20:1-2, and <i>if</i> he was able to stay in Ephesus until Pentecost as he planned, 1 Co. 16:8, this would put him in Macedonia in the summer and fall of A.D. _____ .
A.D. _____, Fall (or beg. A.D. _____) Ephesus [1 Corinthians]	Paul wrote 1 Cor. in Ephesus not long before Pentecost that same year (A.D. 57), Ac. 19:22,23; 1 Co. 16:5,8-9,10; 5:7,8. Pentecost is in May-June. He had been there approximately two and one-half years (3 months, v. 8 + 2 years, v. 10 + vv. 21,23). Spring of A.D. 57 minus c. 2 1/2 years would bring us back to fall of A.D. _____ (or beginning of A.D. _____) .

<p>A.D. _____ Beg. of 1st preaching journey</p>	<p>Herod's death took place in A.D. 44 (first pivotal point). Indications are that the mission to Jerusalem, Ac. 11:29-30, took place <i>after</i> Herod's death:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josephus speaks of a famine during the reign of Cuspius Fadus and Tiberius Alexander (<i>Antiquities</i>, xx. 5.2) Fadus was Herod's successor. • According to Josephus, about the time of the beginning of Fadus' government, Helena, Queen of Adiabene, bought corn from Egypt and sent it to relieve the Jews in Judea (<i>Antiquities</i>, xx. 2.5; xx. 5.2). • According to Ac. 12:20 the Phoenicians desired Herod's favor because "their country was fed by the king's country." Would this be true during a famine in Judea where Herod ruled? • This accords with "about that time" of Ac. 12:1 and Luke concluding Paul and Barnabas' trip after recording Herod's death, Ac. 12:25. <p>If this be correct, this would place the beginning of the 1st journey at A.D. _____ or after.</p> <p>Note: Not uncommon for Luke to follow a thread of thought and then revert to previous heading to pick up again....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ac 8:1-3...9:1 • Ac 8:4...11:19 • Ac 11:27-30...12:25
<p>A.D. _____ Barnabas brings Paul to Antioch</p>	<p>If the 1st journey began c. A.D. _____, this would have Barnabas bringing Paul to Antioch, Ac. 11:25-26, c. A.D. _____, for they stayed there "an entire year," Ac. 11:26.</p>
<p>Pre A.D. 33 or 36 Dispersion</p>	<p>Depending on the 14 or 17 reckoning of Gal 1&2, this would make the dispersion, Ac. 8:1-4, no later than 33 or 36 A.D., three to six years after the church was established in A.D. 30.</p> <p>Since Philip's labors in Samaria followed the dispersion, this would place his labors in Samaria after 33 or 36 A.D. (depending on the date for Paul's conversion).</p>
<p>A.D. 30 Establishment of the Church</p>	<p>Establishment of the church. First gospel (death, burial, resurrection) sermon. First time people baptized in the name of Jesus Christ</p>
<p>Peter's visit to Caesarea and the Conversion of Cornelius</p>	<p>If Peter's visit to Caesarea and the conversion of Cornelius happened chronologically in the order they are recorded in Acts, they would fall between A.D. 36/39 (depending on the 14 or 17 reckoning of Gal. 2:1) and A.D. 44, for they are recorded after Paul's first visit to Jerusalem (9:26-30) and before the death of Herod (12:20-23).</p> <p>However, it is possible Ac 9:32-11:19 <i>preceded</i> the events of Ac 8:5-40, 11:20-26. If so, this would push Peter's visit and the conversion of Cornelius to an earlier date.</p>

CHAPTER 1**DRILL**

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. What are three pivotal points we can work from to establish a working chronology of Acts? Give the events and the dates.

*** FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER**

1. On the blank map provided, locate the following:
 - a. Dead Sea
 - b. Sea of Galilee
 - c. Mediterranean Sea
 - d. Jordan River
 - e. Jerusalem Judea
 - f. Samaria
 - g. Galilee
2. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Verses 1-8
 - b. Verses 9-11
 - c. Verses 12-26
3. On your copy of chapter one, mark (highlight) the following. Use different colors for each point.
 - a. “The apostles whom he had chosen,” “the eleven apostles,” their names, all pronouns referring to them. (Suggestion: Reserve this color exclusively for this marking throughout the first six chapters.)
 - b. Phrases mentioning the apostles’ ministry and what it was. (Suggestion: You may want to underline these phrases in the same color you highlighted point “a” since they go together.)

4. On your copy of chapter one, write the following words (in italics) in the margin next to the phrase that answers that question about Holy Spirit baptism. Draw a line from the word you wrote in the margin to the corresponding phrase in the text. (NOTE: You may also find it helpful to write the answers to these questions on this sheet for future reference.)
 - a. *What?* I.e., is Holy Spirit baptism a promise or a command?
 - b. *Who?* I.e., who was it promised to?
 - c. *Where?* I.e., where were they to receive it?
 - d. *When?* I.e., when were they to receive it?
 - e. *Why?* I.e., why were they to receive it? Why did they need it?
5. Jesus said he was speaking of the promise “you heard of from me,” v. 4. Read Jn. 14:16-17,25-26; 15:26-27; 16:7-14; 20:21-23. In these scriptures . . .
 - a. What was promised?
 - b. To whom was it promised?
 - c. What would this promise enable them to do?
6. During the forty days before his ascension, Jesus spoke to the apostles “of the things concerning the kingdom of God,” v. 3.
 - a. Toward the end of this period, what question about the kingdom did the apostles ask?
 - b. Read 2 Sam. 7:11-16 (c. 1000 B.C.) [rest; throne of David; forever]; Isa. 9:6-7 (c. 700 B.C.) [Mighty God; Prince of Peace; justice; righteousness]; Dan. 2:36-45 (c. 600 B.C.) [enemies crushed]; Lk. 1:32-33,69-71,74-77; Mt. 3:2...11,12; Mk. 1:1-15; 9:1; Lk. 2:25,38; 19:11; 22:16,18; 23:42,51; Jn. 18:33,37. These scriptures discuss the promised kingdom of God.
 1. Who was to be the king of this kingdom?
 2. Based on these scriptures, would there be reason for the apostles to expect the kingdom to begin soon?
 - c. Read Mt. 2:1,2; Jn. 6:15; Lk. 17:20,21; 22:35-38; Jn. 18:10-11. What was the general view among the Jews about what kind of kingdom this would be?
 - d. The apostles had been chosen and were being prepared to be witnesses to the

King! They would be equipped to fulfill that role by being baptized with the Holy Spirit. In Luke's account of the "Acts of Apostles" we see them doing just that: Ac. 2:30-32,36; 3:13; 4:25-26 (see Psa. 2:1-6); 5:30-31; 8:12; 26:16,18. Note Ac. 17:7.

7. Does the record of Jesus' ascension say or imply Jesus would set foot on earth again? Compare 1 Th. 4:17.

The King is coming again! This promise burned in the apostles' hearts and in hearts of all true believers. 2 Pt 1:16; 3:4,11-14; 1 Th 1:10; 2:19; 3:13; 4:15-17; 5:23; 2 Ti 4:1

8. *How* did the Holy Spirit "foretell" the apostasy of Judas? vv. 16,20.
9. What two things were required of one who would become an apostle in the place of Judas?
- v. 22b. Compare Ac. 10:40-42; 22:14-15.
 - vv. 24-26. Compare Lk. 6:12-13; Gal. 1:1.

"They drew lots for them" was not gambling. This was not a matter of "chance." It was a means through which the Lord was to "show which one of these two **You have chosen**," v. 24. The casting of the lot was a means used by God to indicate his decisions in the government of his nation and accomplishing of his plan. See Pro. 16:33.

10. Mt. 27:7 (read vv. 3-10) *seems* to contradict Ac. 1:18. What is the seeming contradiction? How can the passages be harmonized?

MAP 1 – PALESTINE



CHAPTER 2**DRILL**

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter one in three points.
3. Who is Theophilus?
4. Locate on a blank map:
 - a. Dead Sea
 - b. Sea of Galilee
 - c. Mediterranean Sea
 - d. Jordan River
 - e. Jerusalem
 - f. Judea
 - g. Samaria
 - h. Galilee
5. Name the twelve apostles, including Judas' replacement.
6. Name two qualifications of an apostle referred to in Ac 1:21-26.
7. What was the ministry of the apostles?
8. What enabled them to do this work?

*** FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER**

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Verses 1-13
 - b. Verses 37-47
 - c. Verses 14-36
2. On your copy of chapter two, mark (highlight) the following. Use different colors for each point.
 - a. The nouns and pronouns that refer to the apostles. Underline in the same color what Luke records them doing in vv. 4,6,7,11,14,32,38,42,43. (Suggestion: Use the same color as you did in chapter one for this marking.)
 - b. "Tongues," "language" and connected words or phrases that further identify what these were. Compare the King James Version. Note the variations in translation. Make pertinent notes in the margin of your copy of the text.
 - c. In vv. 17-18:

- i. "I will pour forth of My Spirit" and the phrases that state the result of this.
 - ii. Who was to receive this "pouring forth" of the Spirit. (Suggestion: Underline these in the same color as you highlighted point "i.")
 - d. Phrases mentioning the resurrection in vv. 24,31,33. (Suggestion: Select one color to use for this marking exclusively throughout Acts.)
3. You may want to use a Bible dictionary or the references in your bible to answer the following.
 - a. What does the word "Pentecost" mean?
 - b. Why is it called that?
 - c. What time of the year did it occur (according to our calendar)?
 - d. Where were the males to observe it?
4. "Filled with the Holy Spirit"
 - a. The following will be found in chapter one. Along with the answer, write the verse from chapter one where the answer is found.
 - i. Who was promised the baptism of the Holy Spirit?
 - ii. Where were they to wait for it?
 - iii. When were they to receive it?
 - iv. Why were they to receive it?
 - b. What action recorded in chapter two evidenced this promised was fulfilled?
 - i. 2:4f
 - ii. Apostles preaching the truth that glorified Jesus, including things they did not at this time understand, vv. 14f (v. 39) Compare Acts 10-11.
 - iii. 2:43
 - c. Who was performing this action?
 - d. Where did this take place?
 - e. How long after Jesus ascended did these events take place? See Lk. 22:1; Jn. 18:28; Ac. 1:3-5; 2:1.

- f. Who, then, according to Luke's account of the *Acts Of The Apostles*, received the Spirit on Pentecost?
 - g. Refer to the introductory lesson. There we listed five valuable benefits of understanding the relationship of Acts to the rest of the New Testament. To which of these does this point (question #4) apply?
5. Tongues
- a. What does the word "tongues" mean in this context?
 - b. What in the context indicates this to be the meaning?
 - i. 2:4,6,8,11 – What other word does Luke use interchangeably with "tongues" in these verses?
 - ii. 2:8-11 – How did the people who were present describe what they heard?
 - c. Define "metonymy" and give a couple illustrations of its use in our conversation.
 - d. Were the apostles miraculously enabled to speak in the different languages of the people gathered there on that day, or were they speaking in one language and the hearers miraculously enabled to understand them? Give evidence for your answer from the text.
 - e. Some accused the speakers of being drunk, v. 13. Luke says they were mocking in their charge. How do the following evidences show that the speakers were not drunk?
 - Time of day, v. 15
 - Peter's speech, vv. 14f
 - Testimony of the crowd, vv. 7-11
6. Pentecostalism
- a. Pentecostalism is based on the belief that the events of this Pentecost are being reproduced today. Specifically, it is believed that Christians ought to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit evidenced by speaking in tongues. Pentecostalism is no longer limited to the old line Pentecostal denominations any longer, but is found among major denominations and even among those who claim to be members of the "Church of Christ."
 - b. But, according to our studies of chapter one and two, ONLY the apostles were *promised* the baptism of the Holy Spirit and ONLY the apostles *experienced* it on this Pentecost. Complete the following chart which further shows the contrast in

APOSTLES' experience and actions and the PEOPLE'S experience and actions on this Pentecost.

Apostles	People
vv. 14a, 38a:	vv. 14b, 37a:
v. 38b: Had answers	v. 37b: Had questions
v. 42:	v. 42:
v. 43b: (through ch. 6:7)	v. 43a:

- c. The following chart contrasts the experiences of that Pentecost with the experiences of Pentecostalism.

Pentecost	Pentecostalism
Apostles received Holy Spirit	All believers receive Holy Spirit
Language people understood	"Language" no one understands
Enabled to teach	Still ignorant
Sound from heaven	? Sound from men (shouting, etc.)
Tongues as of fire	?
Group experience	Individual experience

- d. The "Pentecostal experience" people CAN and SHOULD reproduce today is found later in the chapter, vv. 38,41!
7. Joel's prophecy: vv. 16-21.
- a. The "baptism of the Holy Spirit" and the "pouring forth of the Spirit" Joel referred to are NOT the same event. The latter ("pour forth of my Spirit") encompasses ("this is what was spoken") the former (the baptism of the Holy Spirit), but they are not the same event.
 - i. Who was to receive this pouring forth of the Spirit?
 - ii. Who was promised Holy Spirit baptism in chapter one? Who received it?
 - iii. What did Joel say would be the result of the pouring forth of the Spirit that did NOT happen on Pentecost (as far as Luke's record indicates)?

- b. “In the last days” Many take this to refer to the Christian dispensation, i.e. the “last” dispensation. But, may it instead refer to the last period of the Jewish dispensation, i.e. the seventy or so years preceding the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, and thus including the period of our Lord’s life? See Heb. 1:1-2; 2:3-4.
- c. “All mankind” (“all flesh,” KJV, ASV, NASV footnote). The meaning of this phrase will vary according to its context. Therefore, it should always be interpreted in the light of its context and not arbitrarily be assigned a meaning. What does it mean in the following?
- i. Gen. 6:12-13?
 - ii. Gen. 6:19-20?
 - iii. Gen. 7:21-23?
 - iv. Num. 18:15?
 - v. Jer. 25:31?
 - vi. Lk. 3:6? Compare Ac. 10:35; 11:18; Eph. 2:11-18.
 - vii. Ac. 2:17-18? Note carefully the “your...” and “My...”.
 - viii. For thought: In the past thirty years from the time Peter is speaking (the “last days” of the Jewish dispensation), had the things Joel described been happening to certain people? And if so, what kind of people — people who were receptive to Jesus as the Messiah or those who rejected him?
- d. Cosmic and terrestrial catastrophes / “Day of the Lord.”

It is often assumed that “day of the Lord” refers to Christ’s second coming and the descriptions of cosmic and terrestrial catastrophes are referring to literal happenings at that time. But, idiomatic usage and context must be considered in interpreting these phrases. Read the following and explain how the prophets used this phrases.

- i. Isa. 13:1,6,9,10,13,17,19?
- ii. Amos 5:4,5,18-20; 8:9?
- iii. Zeph. 1:4,7-10,12,14-18; 2:1-3
- iv. Compare also Isa. 24:23; 34:3,5,8; 50:3; Jer. 4:16,23-28; Eze. 30:3,18; 32:2,7-8; Obad. 15; Rev. 6:12; 8:12 and *by contrast*, Isa. 30:26.

- v. Now note in Joel: 1:15; 2:1-2,10-11,30-31; 3:14-15
- vi. What do these scriptures refer to: Mt. 24:29; Mk. 13:24,25; Lk. 21:25,26?
- e. “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Does this mean all one has to do to be saved is say a prayer asking Jesus to save him? Consider the following. What phrase in v. 38 is parallel to “shall be saved” in v. 21?
 - i. What phrase in v. 38 is parallel to “shall be saved” in v. 21?
 - ii. Read Ac. 9:11, 22:16.
 - a) What had Paul been doing for three days?
 - b) What was he told to do?
 - iii. Read Rom. 10:12-15.
 - a) List three essentials to calling on the name of the Lord according to this text.
 - b) What had these readers done to be saved according to Rom. 6:3-4, 17-18?
 - iv. According to Mt. 7:21, who *will* and who will *not* enter the kingdom of heaven?
 - v. *How* were these people on Pentecost told to call on the name of the Lord, vv. 37-38?
- 8. Peter’s sermon, vv. 21-36. (Peter’s sermon actually begins in v. 14, but we have already considered the first section.)
 - a. Who made up Peter’s audience? His sermon must be considered in this light.
 - b. What was the proposition Peter was trying to get this audience to believe? Jes
 - c. He appealed to at least four lines of evidence to prove his proposition. What are they?
 - d. Define “Lord”; “Christ.”
 - e. Peter’s argument from prophecy, vv. 24-31, left these people only two alternatives, one of which they, as Jews, could not accept. What are they?
 - f. What is the “promise of the Holy Spirit” Jesus received, v. 33? Base your answer on Peter’s sermon and Peter’s audience. It is NOT the Holy Spirit Himself. See

vv. 25-28,30.

- g. How did Peter attempt to convert his audience? See vv. 14,22,37,41. Contrast (discuss) modern day experiences of “conversion.”
 - h. Has the kingdom of Christ been established? Give verses for your answer from the text.
9. At what point in the narrative can you establish that these people believed the gospel of Christ? Be prepared to tell how you know.
10. Relative to their conversion, what phrase in the text
- a. Required an act of the intellect?
 - b. Described an act of the conscience?
 - c. Required an act of the will?
11. What three things in the text indicate the apostles taught that baptism was essential to obtaining the forgiveness of sins?
- a. v. 38?
 - b. v. 41?
 - c. v. 42? (Did the people engage in these activities before or after baptism?)
12. “For the forgiveness of your sins,” v. 38.
- Those who deny that baptism is essential to being saved argue that “for” in v. 38 means “because of” — “be baptized *because of* the forgiveness of your sins,” i.e. because your sins have been forgiven. But, “for” can also mean “unto”—“be baptized *unto* [in order to] the forgiveness of sins.”
- a. In the following phrases, what does “for” mean?
 - i. Take an aspirin **for** a headache.
 - ii. Take an aspirin **for** *the relief of* a headache.
 - iii. Go to jail **for** a crime.
 - iv. Go to jail **for** *the punishment of* a crime.
 - b. Compared to the above pairs, does “*for the remission of sins*” in Acts 2:38 parallel grammatically “i” or “ii,” “iii” or “iv”?

- c. See Mt. 26:28. What does “**for**” in “*for forgiveness of sins*” mean? (“because” sins of “many” are already forgiven or “unto” the forgiveness of the sins of “many”?)

13. In the chart following, put the appropriate verses from Acts chapter two that correspond to the commission given to these apostles by the Lord.

MT	“make disciples” 28:19			“baptize them” 28:19	“in...F,S,HS” 28:19
MK	“Go...preach the gos.” 16:15	“He who has bel.” 16:16		“& has been baptized” 16:16	“shall be saved” 16:16
LK	“preach...witnesses” 24:47,48		“repent” 24:37		“remission of sins” 24:47
AC					

14. “Gift of the Holy Spirit,” v. 38

- a. What in the context indicates that the gift of the Holy Spirit is NOT the power to work miracles? (See your marking of the apostles and what they were doing.)
- b. Compare “promise of the Holy Spirit” in v. 33. What did that mean?
- c. Does “**gift of**” mean “gift *from*” or “gift *which is*” in the following? What is the gift?
 - i. Ac. 8:20, “**gift of God**”?
 - ii. Rom. 5:17, “**gift of righteousness**”?
 - iii. Rom. 6:23, “**gift of God**”?
 - iv. For further study: Jn. 4:10; Ac. 10:45; Eph. 2:8; 3:7; 2 Ti. 1:6.
- d. The above shows that “gift of” does not necessarily mean “gift *which is*.” It *may* mean that, but it may have another meaning, such as “gift *from*,” or, “gift *promised by*.” The context must determine.
 - i. Why were these people told to be baptized?
 - ii. Note v. 21. How was Joel empowered to promise that?
- e. Read Gal. 3:8,14,22,26-29; Eph. 2:11-17; Ac. 3:24-26; 26:6-7...16-18; Lk. 1:68-77.

15. Who were those were “far off,” v. 39? Compare Eph. 2:11-19.
16. “Added” vv. 41,47
 - a. Who was added?
 - b. When were they added?
 - c. Upon what condition were they added?
 - d. Who added them?
 - e. The whole group of those added together would be called what? (See the King James or New King James version on v. 47)
17. List four things the early Christians devoted themselves to, v. 42.
18. Is the “breaking of bread” in v. 42 the same as the “breaking of bread” in v. 46? Give the reasons for your answer. Suggestions to consider:
 - a. Compare 1 Co. 11:34.
 - b. “Meals,” v. 46.
 - c. “In the temple . . . from house to house”
 - d. “They” = apostles?
19. List all who worked miracles or spoke in tongues in chapter two.
20. In your introductory lesson five valuable benefits of recognizing Acts’ relationship to the rest of the New Testament were given. Review those in the light of what we have learned in chapter two.

CHAPTER 3

DRILL

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter two in three points.
3. Who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit? When? Where?
4. What are the “tongues” in chapter 2:4? Give evidence from chapter two for your answer.
5. When and where was the gospel of remission of sins in Jesus as the crucified and risen Son of God preached for the first time?
6. What is the main point of Peter’s sermon (chapter two)?
7. Give four lines of evidence Peter presented to prove Jesus was the Christ, 2:22-36.
8. At what point in this narrative (2:14-47) can you establish that some of the audience believed Jesus to be the Christ?
9. When people asked what to do to be saved, what were they told to do? Give the chapter and verse.
10. Give three reasons evidencing that the people on Pentecost understood that baptism was essential to obtaining forgiveness of sins.
11. When all those saved by believing and obeying that gospel are added together, what is that group of people called?

* FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Verses 1-10
 - b. Verses 11-26
2. On your copy of chapter three, mark (highlight) the following.
 - a. All the nouns and pronouns referring to the apostles. Underline in the same color the activities of the apostles in vv. 12,15. (Suggestion: Continue to use the same color used previously for this marking.)
 - b. The various descriptive words and phrases Peter used in his sermon in reference to Jesus.
 - c. The phrase about the resurrection in v. 15. (Use the color you have reserved for this.)
 - d. “Times of refreshing,” “period of the restoration of all things,” and “these days.” Underline in the same color the phrases about the prophets in vv. 18,21,24 and 25.

3. What acts are attributed to the apostles in this chapter?

- a. Verses 1-10,16 (See Mk. 16:17-20)
- b. Verses 11-26 (See Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15)
- c. Verse 15 (See Lk. 24:46-48; Jn. 15:27; Ac. 1:8,22)

Note: Point “b” and “c” could be combined into one. Refer back to the relationship between Acts and the gospels set forth in the introductory lesson and observe this relationship demonstrated here.

4. Define or briefly identify the following.

- a. “Ninth hour”
- b. “Alms”
- c. “Gate of the temple which is called Beautiful”
- d. “Portico of Solomon”

5. Compare v. 6 with chapter 2:44-45. Evidently a common fund had been created out of which needs were being met, yet Peter tells this man he had no silver or gold to give him. Explain. (Question for thought: If this man had been a member of the Jerusalem church and asked for alms, what would Peter have done?) The funds of the church were used to relieve the needs of the saints. See 2:44,45; 4:32,34; 6:1. This accords with nature of the church “of Christ,” and the uniform practice throughout the NT.

6. List some differences in the miracle recorded here and modern “miracles.”

7. What was the aim, or objective, of Peter’s sermon?

8. What three lines of evidence did Peter appeal to prove Jesus was the Christ?

- a. Verse 15
- b. Verse 16
- c. Verses 19-26

9. Peter denied it was by their “own power or piety” the cripple man was made to walk. What power does he say gave this man “perfect health” to be able to walk?

10. Discuss: Peter’s preaching as an example for today. Consider his audience, content, aim, approach, etc. See 2 Ti. 3:10-14; 1 Co. 1:17; 2:1-2; 2 Co. 4:1-5; Ac. 20:18-21.

11. In v. 16, does Peter refer to the crippled man's faith, or the apostles' faith? How do you know?
12. "times of refreshing . . . period of restoration of all things . . . these days"
- These three phrases refer to same period of time, a time spoken of by the prophets. (Your marking underscores this point.)
 - What did Peter say must happen in order that the times of refreshing might come?
 - For times of refreshing in Messianic prophecy, read the following. The scriptures in parentheses confirm the Messianic nature of these prophecies. Isa. 49:5-11 (v. 6 - Ac. 13:47; v. 8 - 2 Co. 6:2); 55 (vv. 3-5); 61:1-4 (Lk. 4:18); Jer. 30:17f (vv. 8-9); Eze. 34:25f (vv. 23-24).
 - Sometimes it is assumed that "until the period of the restoration of all things" means "until..." that period *begins*. Does the text say that? Suggestion: Could it mean "until..." that period is *fulfilled*, or *completed* (as in v. 18)?
 - This "period" is a time "about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time." If we let vv. 24-26 interpret, what time did they refer to?
 - According to Mt. 17:11-13 and Mk. 9:12, who came to "restore all things"? (Hebrews often used active verbs to express, not the doing of a thing, but either the declaration of it, or providing an occasion for it. This person came to "prepare the way" for the Messiah, who was the true King who would bring about this "restoration of all things."). If the restoration of all things is yet to take place (as premillennialists contend), this fellow was a bit early!
 - For the prophesied restoration of all things in Messianic prophecy, read the following. The scriptures in parentheses confirm the Messianic nature of these prophecies. Isa. 42:1f - compare v. 7 with v. 22 (Mt. 12:18-21); 49:6 - note vv. 8-13 (Ac. 13:47); Jer. 30:17 - note vv. 18-24 (vv. 8-9); Jer. 31:1...31 - note vv. 4-11, 38-40 (Heb. 8:8-12); Amos 9:11-15 (Acts 15:15-18).
 - In the light of these scriptures, read again Acts 1:4...7-8.
13. List all who worked miracles in chapter three.

CHAPTER 4**DRILL**

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter three in two points.
3. What noteworthy miracle did Peter and John perform at the Beautiful Gate of the temple?
4. What was the main point of Peter's sermon (chapter three)?
5. Give three lines of evidence Peter used to prove Jesus was the Christ in the sermon recorded in chapter three.

*** FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER**

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Vv. 1-22
 - b. Vv. 23-31
 - c. Vv. 32-37
2. On your copy of chapter four, mark (highlight) the following.
 - a. All the nouns and pronouns referring to the apostles. Underline in the same color what Luke records them doing in vv. 1,2,9,16,18,20, 29,31,33. (Suggestion: Continue to use the same color used previously for this marking.)
 - b. "By what power, or in what name" and the equivalent phrases in vv. 10 and 12.
 - c. "Each" and "any" in v. 35 ("every man" and "he" in KJV) and the other words and phrases in vv. 32f that refer to these people or further identify them.
 - d. A fact mentioned in vv. 2,10,20 (by implication), and 33 that was central in the apostles' preaching Jesus as the Christ. (You have already reserved a color exclusively for this marking.)
3. Gather some information about the Sadducees. Who were they? What did they believe that caused them to be so upset with the apostles' teaching? A Bible dictionary and your references in your bible can be helpful in getting this information.
4. Verse 4 contains a cause and effect. Identify each.
5. "Filled with the Holy Spirit"

- a. Who was “filled with the Holy Spirit,” vv. 8,31?
- b. What was the result in each incident? Compare Mt. 10:16-20; Mk. 13:11; Lk. 21:12-15.
- c. Does this refer to the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Explain why you answered as you did. The following may help.
 - i. Go back over what we learned about Holy Spirit baptism in chapter one.
 - ii. Compare 6:3,5; 7:55; 9:17; 13:9,52. Note also Lk. 1:15,41,67; Jud. 14:19; 15:14.
 - iii. Compare Col. 3:16 with Eph. 5:18-19. Paralleling these two scriptures, what in Col. 3:16 is the equivalent of “filled with the Spirit” in Eph. 5:18?
 - iv. Compare Acts 5:3-4,9.
 - v. What does all this tell you about interpreting the phrase “filled with the Spirit”?
6. Why was the corner stone so important in building? v. 11.
7. Why didn’t the council deny that these men had worked a miracle? v. 16.
8. What principle did Peter allude to as a reason for their refusal to comply with order they were given, vv. 18-20. Compare Ac. 5:29.
9. After being arrested and threatened to quit preaching, where did Peter and John go and what did they do when released? vv. 23-31.
10. Fill in the following blanks based on vv. 24-25. The Lord spoke by _____ through _____ in _____ (book, chapter, verse).
11. The collection, vv. 32-37.
 - a. What does “common” mean? With what is it put in contrast?
 - b. Who received these funds? (Your marking shows this.) .
 - c. Compare the last phrase in v. 33 with 5:11, which is a similar statement. What does the phrase in v. 33 mean?
 - d. Who oversaw the distribution of this fund?
 - e. If a man had a farm or house or piece of land he wanted to give to the church, what did he do with it?

- f. Note that both here and in Acts chapter two any money the church is said to have received and spent came from the free-will offering of its members — no sales, business ventures, etc.
12. List all in chapter four who worked miracles.

CHAPTER 5

DRILL

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter four in three points.
3. What was it about the apostles' preaching that so upset the Sadducees?
4. To what cause is the effect, belief, attributed to, 4:4?
5. "Believed" is evidently used by synecdoche in 4:4. Explain what this means and how we know it.
6. How did Satan attempt to stop the apostles from carrying out their ministry?

* FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Vv. 1-11
 - b. Vv. 12-16
 - c. Vv. 17-42
2. On your copy of chapter five, mark (highlight) the following.
 - a. All the nouns and pronouns referring to the apostles. Underline in the same color what Luke records them doing in vv. 12,21,25,28, and 32. (Suggestion: Continue to use the same color used previously for this marking.)
 - b. The phrases that describe who Ananias and Sapphira lied to in vv. 3 and 4. You might also want to mark the phrase in v. 9 that refers to this deed.
 - c. The phrases about obeying God in vv. 29 and 32.

3. Ananias and Sapphira

Why did Ananias and Sapphira do this? Pride? Note that Luke begins ch. 5 with "But..." Is chapter 4:36,37 written to give the background for the story of Ananias and Sapphira? Unbelief? See v. 9.

- a. What sin did Peter indict them of? Be specific.
- b. What was the result of Satan "filling their heart"? Compare our study of "filled with the Holy Spirit" in chapter four. See also Lk. 22:3; Jn. 13:2; 8:44.
- c. What two things did Peter say was true of Ananias' money *before* he contributed

- it?
- d. By contrast, how did Luke describe the funds *after* they were contributed? 4:32,35.
 - e. Peter emphasized (“not . . . but,” v. 4) that Ananias had lied to God, but before and after that he said Ananias lied to whom?
 - f. If an apostle by the Holy Spirit could detect fraud in giving, could he detect fraud in teaching? And with such severe consequences upon fraud, what did it say about their ministry? What would it say to them?! Would you trust your money to a bank which had no means to discern real from counterfeit money? This event tells us more than about two people who lied about their giving; it stamps the apostolic ministry as genuine and above deceit. Note v. 13.
 - g. Did the fact that Ananias was Sapphira’s husband and thus her “head” justify her participation in his deed?
4. “Believers...were constantly added” (“to the Lord,” KJV)
 - a. What is “synecdoche”?
 - b. Explain why “believers” in this phrase must be understood to be used by the figure of synecdoche. See Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15,16; Ac. 2:38,41,47.
 5. How did the events surrounding Ananias and Sapphira and the miracles impact the people?
 6. The imprisonment, inquisition, and beating of the apostles
 - a. Who led this opposition?
 - b. What is “jealously,” v. 17?
 - c. What was the “Council,” v. 27? Use a bible dictionary if needed to help with the answer.
 - d. Two groups of religious leaders are in conflict here: the Sadducees and the apostles. Both are Jews. Both claim to be fulfilling their responsibility toward God. If you had been a Jew living then, what evidence would have enabled you to decide who was truly obeying God? Your marking of the phrases about obeying God focuses on this question. Note especially what Peter says in v. 32. Compare Jn. 15:26,27; Ac. 1:8; 14:3; Heb. 2:4.
 - e. Compare the reaction to Peter’s speech here , v. 33, with that on Pentecost, 2:37. Why the difference? Read Lk. 8:1-15.

- f. Was what Gamaliel said true? v. 38. Give reason for your answer.
 - g. How did the apostles feel about their persecution? Compare Mt. 5:10-12. .
7. How often and where did the apostles teach and preach? Note: We see Satan's attempt to stop the apostles from their ministry through intimidation, imprisonment, and bodily injury is not working.
 8. List all in chapter five who worked miracles.

CHAPTER 6

DRILL

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter five in three points.
3. What did the events surrounding Ananias and Sapphira demonstrate about the apostolic ministry?
4. What are the three phrases (or words) that refer to the Holy Spirit in 5:1-11?
5. What principle did the apostles appeal to in both their arrests to justify their refusal to submit to the Sanhedrin? Give verses for your answer.
6. How did Satan intensify his efforts to stop their teaching?

* FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Vv. 1-7
 - b. Vv. 8-15
2. On your copy of chapter six, mark (highlight) the following.
 - a. All the nouns and pronouns referring to the apostles through v. 6. Underline in the same color what Luke records them doing in vv. 2 (in this verse, what they should NOT be doing), 4,6. (Suggestion: Continue to use the same color used previously for this marking.)
 - b. “Full of . . . “ phrases in vv. 3,5,8 and “the wisdom and the Spirit” in v. 10.
3. What is the cause in the following?
 - a. Effect, 6:1: “the disciples were increasing in number”
 - b. Cause, 5:42:
 - c. Effect, 6:7: “the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly”
 - d. Cause, 6:7:
 - e. Compare 2:41; 4:1 . . . 4; 4:31,33 . . . 5:14.
4. Could the problem that arose in the Jerusalem church have serious repercussions? See Mt. 12:25.

5. “Of food” in v. 1 in the New American Standard Version is in italics. There is no word in the original for this phrase. The New International Version has “of food” in its translation with no indication it is added by the translators. Discuss: What is your opinion of the addition by the translators in these verses?
6. Two different kinds of ministries are spoken on in vv. 1-4.
 - a. What are they?
 - b. Who served in each?
 - c. Why were different ones appointed for the second ministry?
7. Discuss: What is the ministry of elders? Of deacons? Be prepared to scripture for your answers.
8. Choosing and appointing of the seven.
 - a. From whom were they selected?
 - b. Who selected them? Compare 1 Co. 16:3; 2 Co. 8:19; 1 Ti. 3:10.
 - c. Who appointed them?
 - d. Discuss: What ceremony did they go through in appointing them? Did they wear special clothes? What did they say? How did they “lay their hands on them,” i.e. what special procedures did they use and where on them did they lay their hands (head? etc.)?
9. What contrasts can you think of between how this benevolent need was met in the early church under apostolic direction and how similar needs are met by churches today?
10. What in v. 7 stands in contrast to the idea that man salvation is not dependant on him doing anything? See also Ro. 1:5; 16:26.
11. Verse 8 contains a “first.” That is, in the chapters we have studied thus far, this is the first record of this happening. What is it?
 - a. Note that v. 6 also contains a “first.” What is it?
 - b. Now read Ac. 8:14-19. Any connection between these two “firsts”?
12. Note v. 9. Is it wrong to argue about religion? Suggestion: Run some references.

13. Note v. 14. What *did* Jesus say?

14. Once again the ministry of the apostles could have been severely crippled. But it is not intimidation or bodily persecution that threatens this time. What is it?

CHAPTER 7

DRILL

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter six in two points.
3. What is the cause of “the number of the disciples increasing,” 6:1,7? Give verses for your answer.
4. What effect would the problem of 6:1-6 have had on the apostles’ ministry had it not been corrected? Give verses for your answer.
5. What new ministry in the local church is recorded in chapter six and what was its purpose relative to the apostles’ ministry?
6. Up to the middle of chapter six who do read about working miracles? What changed and what part did the apostles have in this change?

* FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Vv. 1-53
 - b. Vv. 54-60
2. On your copy of chapter seven, mark (highlight) the following: Phrases describing their forefathers rejection of those God appointed for their deliverance, vv. 9,25, 27,35,39, and in v. 51 the phrase stating they are doing just as their fathers did.
3. What was the charge brought against Stephen? 6:13-14.

Stephen demonstrates his views by speaking of the Jews’ national history and including those things so dear to them, their land, their Law given through Moses, and their temple. He weaves throughout his discourse the disbelief and disobedience of their forefathers, making application to his hearers in the final part of his speech. The fact that he never got to Jesus, which was the focal point of his preaching and the accusations against him, and the abrupt change in the tone of his message, may indicate he did not get to finish his message as he intended.

4. How did their fathers “resist the Holy Spirit”? Answer from the text.
5. Discuss: Was Stephen “tactful”? “tact” - “n. 1. Acute sensitivity to what is proper and appropriate in dealing with others, including the ability to speak or act without offending.” *American Heritage Dictionary*, Third Edition. Do you think he should have used another approach? Is this the approach to be used in all circumstances?

6. What was the effect of Stephen “being full of the Holy Spirit”?
7. To whom did Stephen address his prayers? vv. 59,60.
8. Write out in full the content of his prayers. Compare the prayer in 4:23-31.
9. Who was present and an accomplice at the stoning of Stephen? See also 22:20; 26:10.
10. Read Isa. 66:1-4 comparing it with Acts 6:13,14; 7:48-53. For thought: Compare today the placing of great emphasis on large elaborate buildings and forgetting the important fact of the heart of the people who worship in them!

REVIEW: CHAPTERS 1-7

Without Bible or notes, be able to answer questions 1-11.

1. What is the relationship of Acts to the rest of the New Testament?
2. Who is the author?
3. When was it written?
4. How many years does it cover? What are the beginning and ending A.D. dates?
5. What is a three-point outline of the book based on Acts 1:8?
6. What is the design of the book?
7. What are three pivotal points we can work from to establish a working chronology of Acts? Give the events and the dates.
8. Identify in a brief statement
 - a. Theophilus
 - b. Luke
 - c. Peter
 - d. Annas
 - e. Herod
 - f. Pontius Pilate
 - g. Barnabas
 - h. Ananias and Sapphira
 - i. Gamaliel
 - j. Stephen
9. Locate on a blank map
 - a. Dead Sea
 - b. Sea of Galilee
 - c. Mediterranean Sea
 - d. Jordan River
 - e. Jerusalem
 - f. Judea
 - g. Samaria
 - h. Galilee
10. Give a brief chapter summary of chapters 1-7.
11. Name the twelve apostles, including Judas' replacement.

Using your Bible and notes, be able to answer the following.

12. What was the ministry of the apostles?
13. What enabled them to do this work?
14. Who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, 1:5? Give evidence for your answer from:
 - a. Context of chapter 1:1-5
 - b. Pertinent information in the first five chapters
15. When did Jesus say they would receive it?
16. Where were they to receive it?

17. What were the apostles to ‘witness’ to, 1:8? Give chapter and verse for your answer from
 - a. Acts
 - b. Luke
18. The kingdom
 - a. Give verses from the Old Testament identifying the “kingdom” of Acts 1:6.
 - b. Give verses from chapter two proving that this kingdom was then in existence.
19. Name two qualifications of an apostle referred to in 1:21—26.
20. What are the “tongues” in chapter 2:4? Give evidence from chapter two for your answer.
21. When and where was the gospel of remission of sins in Jesus as the crucified and risen Son of God preached for the first time?
22. Give four lines of evidence Peter presented to prove Jesus was the Christ, 2:22-36.
23. At what point in this narrative (2:14-47) can you establish that some of the audience believed Jesus to be the Christ? Show how you know.
24. When people in Jerusalem asked what to do to be saved, what were they told to do? Give the chapter and verse.
25. Give three reasons evidencing that the people on Pentecost understood that baptism was essential to obtaining the forgiveness of sins.
26. What is “the gift of the Holy Spirit,” 2:38?
 - a. Give evidence for your answer from the context.
 - b. What in the first five chapters indicates it is not miraculous gifts?
27. Why is it said that the disciples continued in the “apostles’ doctrine”?
28. When all those saved by believing and obeying that gospel are added together, what is that group of people called?
29. List at least three things about the healing of the lame man (chapter three) that distinguish this miracle from modern “miracles.”
30. Give three lines of evidence Peter appealed to prove Jesus was the Christ in the sermon recorded in chapter three.
31. When is ‘the period of the restoration of all things,’ 3:21? Give evidence for your answer from Peter’s sermon.
32. What did the Sadducees believe that caused them to be upset over the apostles’ teaching? (chapter four)
33. To what cause is the effect, belief, attributed to? (4:4)
34. “Believed” is evidently used by synecdoche in 4:4, 5:14. Explain what this means and how we know it.
35. What does “filled with the Holy Spirit” mean? Give some similar phrases (using “filled” or “full”) from the chapters we have studied thus far.
36. How did Satan try to stop the apostles’ ministry? (chapters four and five)
37. What does “common” in 4:32 mean and with what is it put in contrast?
38. What two things were characteristic of Ananias and Sapphira’s money before it was put into the common fund? Give verses for your answer from chapter five.
39. What did the events surrounding Ananias and Sapphira demonstrate about the

- apostolic ministry?
40. What are the three phrases (or words) that refer to the Holy Spirit in 5:1—11?
 41. What principle did the apostles appeal to in both their arrests to justify their refusal to submit to the Sanhedrin? Give verses for your answer.
 42. Chapter 5:32 says, “and so is the Holy Spirit.” Question: “And so is the Holy Spirit” what? Complete the idea. Give at least two additional references stating this idea.
 43. Who are “them that obey him” in 5:32? Connect your answer to the context.
 44. What is the cause of “the number of the disciples increasing,” 6:1,7? Give verses for your answer.
 45. What effect would the problem of 6:1-6 have had on the apostles’ ministry had it not been corrected? Give verses for your answer.
 46. What new ministry in the local church is recorded in chapter six and what was its purpose relative to the apostles’ ministry?
 47. Up to the middle of chapter six who do we read about working miracles?
 48. Verse eight of chapter six is the first mentioned occasion of what in the book of Acts?
 49. What part did the apostles have in this change?
 50. In a statement, what was the point of Stephen’s sermon? (chapter 7)
 51. How did the Jewish leaders and their fathers “resist the Holy Spirit,” 7:51?
 52. Who was the first Christian martyr?
 53. To whom did Stephen address his prayers, 7:59,60?

CHAPTER 8

DRILL

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter seven in two points.
3. How did the Jewish leaders and their fathers “resist the Holy Spirit”?
4. Who was the first Christian martyr

* FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Vv. 1-4
 - b. Vv. 5-25
 - c. Vv. 26-40
2. On your copy of chapter eight, mark (highlight) the following.
 - a. The phrases that describe what was preached, vv. 4,5,12,14,35.
 - b. The phrases that describe the results of this preaching, vv. 12,13,36,38.
3. According to the outline we are using, this chapter begins the second major section of Acts. What is it?
4. What did Paul persecute when he persecuted “the church”? Support your answer from the text. People (Christians).
5. Who left Jerusalem because of the persecution?
 - a. Who stayed in spite of it?
 - b. Compare Mt. 28:19, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...” and Mk. 16:15, “Go into all the world...”. What bearing do the events here have on explaining that charge?
6. Who “went about preaching the word”? v. 4.
7. Were the Samaritans Gentiles? Jews? Compare the following in determining your answer: Mt. 10:5-6; Jn. 4:9,22; Acts 10-11.
8. What did Philip’s preaching cause his hearers to want to do? (See your marking.)

9. What does the text say Philip preached? (See your marking.)
10. Was Simon saved?
 - a. How do you know?
 - b. Was he later lost?
 - c. As a baptized believer, what was he told to do to have his sin forgiven?
11. Why was it necessary to send for Peter and John when Philip was already there? Give the verses support your answer.
12. What is different about *how* the Samaritans received the Holy Spirit and *how* the apostles received it? Compare also Mt. 3:11; Ac. 11:15-17.
13. Compare v. 18 with 19:6 and 2 Tim. 1:6. If the gifts of the Holy Spirit were received through “the laying on of the apostles’ hands,” what would happen when the last apostle died and the last person on whom they laid their hands on died?
14. What part did the Holy Spirit play in the conversion of the Ethiopian?
15. Where in Isaiah was the Ethiopian reading? Read that chapter.
16. What in the conversion of the eunuch indicates he understood that baptism was for the remission of sins?
17. What in the conversion of the eunuch indicates that baptism is immersion?
18. Explain how there could be enough water to immerse him if it was on a “desert” road, v. 26? Look up the word in a dictionary and note the multiple meanings.
19. Again return to the lesson, “Introduction,” and compare the five benefits to be derived in understanding the relationship of Acts to the rest of the New Testament with what we have learned in this chapter.

CHAPTER 9

DRILL

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter eight in three points.
3. Who “went about preaching the word” when Saul began persecuting the church?
4. What did Philip preach that caused men to want to be baptized?
5. Whose conversions are recorded in chapter eight? Name three: One group of people and two individuals.
6. What did Simon observe about how the Holy Spirit’s miracle working power was bestowed on people?
7. How does Simon’s conversion bear on the doctrine of “once saved, always saved”?
8. What did an apostle tell a baptized believer (Simon) to do to obtain remission of sins after he had sinned?
9. What is said about Philip’s baptism of the Ethiopian that indicates baptism is immersion?
10. Give two reasons we can know the Ethiopian believed baptism was essential to salvation.

* FIRST, READ THE CHAPTER

1. Summarize the chapter by using a word or brief phrase to identify the following sections of the chapter.
 - a. Vv. 1-18
 - b. Vv. 19-31
 - c. Vv. 32-43
2. Acts chapter twenty-two and chapter twenty-six also have a record of Saul’s conversion. **On a separate handout**, there are three columns: one for chapter 9, one for chapter 22, and one for chapter 26. Record in the chapter 22 and chapter 26 columns, in the unshaded blanks, any information in that chapter regarding Saul’s conversion not recorded in chapter nine.

After doing this, using chapter nine as your basis, go back and write a composition of the entire event regarding Saul’s conversion including the additional information from the other two chapters. In the handout provided, the blank lines will help you do this (pp. 4 and 5 of the handout). Fill in those lines with data from your three-column chart.

This data in turn provides the basis for the composite summary in the handout (page 6).

3. What is Saul called in these other two accounts? (Another name.) See also Acts 13:9.

4. Based on your composition, be prepared to discuss the following in class.
 - a. When on the road to Damascus, Jesus told Saul to go into Damascus where he would “be told what you must do.” What was he told he needed to do? 22:16.
 - b. Did Saul see Jesus? Compare 1 Co. 9:1; 15:8.
 - c. Why did Jesus appear to Saul?
 - d. Was Saul saved on the road to Damascus? There are at least three reasons to believe Saul was persuaded he was not saved until he was baptized. What are they?
 - e. What was Ananias’ role? Note especially 9:17. Did Ananias impart the Holy Spirit to Saul? See 9:12,17, 8:14-17, Mt. 3:11; 9:6...22:16.
5. What are some of the things that motivate people to change their thinking and lives? (For example: money; madness; sexual fulfillment; etc.) Apply these to the conversion of Saul: Based on the information contained in the historical record (the Scriptures), what is the only reasonable motivation to account for the dramatic change in this man’s life?
6. Observe some added information about the time Paul was in Damascus, Gal. 1:17-18. Compare 9:23.
7. Where else does Paul write about his escape from Damascus? (Use your reference bible.)
8. Why did Saul go to Jerusalem? (Compare Gal. 1:18-21.) How long did he stay?
9. Vv. 26-28 teach at least two things about the fellowship of a local church. What are they?
10. Again observe the differences in the miracles Peter worked and modern “miracles.”

CHAPTERS 10:1-11:18**DRILL**

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapter nine in three points.
3. Whose conversion is recorded in chapter nine?
4. What two names is he known by in the Scriptures?
5. Briefly tell the story of his conversion.
6. Was he saved on the road to Damascus? Give at least two reasons why you answered as you did.
7. Give three reasons that indicate he understood that baptism was essential to salvation.
8. Prove by the testimony of at least three individuals that he saw Jesus on the road to Damascus.
9. Why did Jesus appear to him?

*** FIRST, READ 10:1-11:18**

1. This section can be summarized simply as: The conversion of Cornelius.
2. On your copy of the text, mark (highlight) the following.
 - a. All phrases having to do with the chronology or sequence of events, 10:3,9,17,19,23,24,30,33,44,48; 11:4,11,15.
 - b. All four supernatural events. Mark just enough to indicate what that particular event was, e.g., 10:11, “beheld the sky opened up.” In the margin beside your marking, number each event (i.e., #1, #2, etc.). These are repeated in chapter eleven. Mark these also and number corresponding to chapter ten (i.e., whatever event was #1 in chapter ten, make it #1 in chapter eleven, and so on.)
 - c. In the same color as “b,” mark in the following in 11:17-18: “God therefore gave”; “stand in God’s way”; “glorified God”; “God has granted.”
 - d. All the words or phrases that mention the Gentiles or allude to them. Include the figurative allusions in the vision Peter saw. This emphasizes the primary significance of this whole series of events.
 - e. The phrases mentioning Peter’s six companions on this journey, 10:23,45,46,47; 11:12. Peter knew he would need them! This connects to the primary significance of his series of events.
 - f. The phrases that state why Peter was sent, i.e. what he was sent to do, 10:6 (in King James Version),22,29,33; 11:14. Some confuse the purpose of Peter’s coming with why the Holy Spirit’s came.

- g. Phrases in Peter's sermon mentioning the resurrection. (Suggestion: Use the color you reserved for this from chapter two.)
3. What are the four supernatural events that took place in connection with the conversion of Cornelius? (See your marking.)
 4. At least four conclusions are reached based on evidence presented: 10:28; 10:34; 10:47; 11:18. These are not repetitions of statements or commands by God, but conclusions reached by reasoning. We may call these "necessary conclusions" or "implications." Observe the far reaching impact of these conclusions.
 5. Discuss: Observe the role the Holy Spirit played in the conversion of Cornelius and compare it with the conversion of the Ethiopian, chapter eight.
 - a. Did the Holy Spirit operate directly on the sinners' hearts to give them faith?
 - b. Why was Peter sent? (See your marking.)
 6. In a brief statement, write the kernel of Peter's sermon.
 7. At what point in Peter's sermon did the Holy Spirit come on the listeners? Give the verse that supports your answer.
 8. Note "at the beginning," 11:15.
 - a. Based on the figures we arrived at in the lesson on chronology, how long has it been since the first Pentecost after Christ's resurrection?
 - b. What is it about this incident with Cornelius and his household that draws Peter's mind back to the beginning to find a similar incident?
 - c. What does the fact that Peter goes back to "the beginning" suggest to you about the frequency of this happening?
 9. Parallel 11:17-18 by drawing lines from the indicated word or phrase in v. 17 to the parallel word or phrase indicated in v. 18.

11:17	11:18
God	God (second occurrence)
gave	granted
to them	to the Gentiles
the same	also
gift	repentance that leads to life
Compare Acts 15:9	

10. What is the “same gift as He gave to us”? 11:17. (See the parallel you drew between v. 17 and v. 18.)
11. Where else in Acts did Peter refer to the conversion of Cornelius? (Use your reference Bible.)
12. What is the primary significance of the conversion of Cornelius? (See your marking.)
13. List the four things said about Cornelius that reveal his character, 10:2.
14. What was the attitude of Peter’s audience? 10:33.
15. The word “repentance” is used by the figure of synecdoche in 11:18.
 - a. Define “synecdoche.”
 - b. Explain why we know that figure is employed here.
16. What difference do you observe between Peter’s conduct and that of the Roman Catholic pope? 10:25,26.
17. What kind of relationship did the Jews have with the Gentiles? 10:28; 11:3. What light does this shed on Mt. 18:17?
18. Cornelius said, “Four days ago to this hour...”. Were these four full days? (See your chronological marking.)

CHAPTERS 11:19-12:25**DRILL**

1. Review previous drill questions.
2. Summarize chapters 10:1-11:18.
3. Describe the character of Cornelius. Did this make him a saved man? Give verses for your answer.
4. What four supernatural events occurred in connection with Cornelius' conversion? Was he told what he needed to do to be saved in any of them?
5. Why did Cornelius and his household receive the Holy Spirit enabling them to speak in tongues?
6. What is the special significance of the conversion of Cornelius?
7. Where else in Acts do we find Peter referring to the conversion of Cornelius?
8. What does "the beginning" refer to in Acts 11:15? Peter's statement shows what about people receiving the Holy Spirit directly from heaven?
9. By what figure of speech is "repentance" used in Ac 11:18? Explain what this figure means

*** FIRST, READ 11:19-12:25**

1. Summarize this section by using a brief phrase to identify the following divisions.
 - a. 11:19-26
 - b. 11:27-30
 - c. 12:1-19 d
 - d. 12:20-25
2. The section beginning at 11:19 connects back to what event previously recorded in Acts?
3. For what purpose was Barnabas sent to Antioch?
4. What was the result of his work there?
5. Compare 11:20-22 with 11:1-3.
6. Was there only one preacher in Antioch? Compare also 13:1; 15:35.
7. What were the disciples called for the first time in Antioch?
 - a. How many times does this word occur in the New Testament?

- b. Where are those passages?
 - c. Define this term.
8. The relief fund, 11:27-30.
- a. What are the approximate A.D. dates for this relief effort? (See the lesson on chronology.)
 - b. Who were the contributors?
 - c. Who were the recipients? (Be as specific as the text.)
 - d. Were they the only ones who would be affected by this famine?
 - e. Was this a temporary or permanent arrangement (i.e., disciples of one church sending to another church)?
 - f. What part did Paul and Barnabas play in this?
 - g. Where were there churches in Judea other than the church in Jerusalem? See 9:31-43; Gal. 1:22.
9. Who was the first Christian martyred? The first apostle?
10. This Herod is Herod Agrippa I. His grandfather was Herod the Great, who murdered the children (Mt. 2), and his uncle was Herod the Tetrarch, who murdered John the Baptist (Mk. 6:14). Satan successfully murdered one apostle. What may have followed had he successfully murdered Peter to the pleasing of the Jews? And how would this have affected us? Note v. 24 in view of the overall purpose of the book of Acts.
11. What caused Herod to accept the homage given to him by the people?
12. When did Herod die? (See the lesson on chronology.) If you have a copy of Josephus, you may want to compare his account of Herod's death, *Antiquities*, xix. 8.2.

REVIEW: CHAPTERS 1-12

NOTE: Questions 1-54 are identical to the questions in the review for chapters 1-7. They are repeated here simply for convenience.

Without Bible or notes, be able to answer questions 1-11.

1. What is the relationship of Acts to the rest of the New Testament?
2. Who is the author?
3. When was it written?
4. How many years does it cover? What are the beginning and ending A.D. dates?
5. What is a three-point outline of the book based on Acts 1:8?
6. What is the design of the book?
7. What are three pivotal points we can work from to establish a working chronology of Acts? Give the events and the dates.
8. Identify in a brief statement
 - a. Theophilus
 - b. Luke
 - c. Peter
 - d. Annas
 - e. Herod
 - f. Pontius Pilate
 - g. Barnabas
 - h. Ananias and Sapphira
 - i. Gamaliel
 - j. Stephen
9. Locate on a blank map:
 - a. Dead Sea
 - b. Sea of Galilee
 - c. Mediterranean Sea
 - d. Jordan River
 - e. Jerusalem
 - f. Judea
 - g. Samaria
 - h. Galilee
10. Give a brief chapter summary of each of the first twelve chapters (Group 10:1-11:18 as one and 11:19-12:25 as one.).
11. Name the twelve apostles, including Judas' replacement.

Using your Bible and notes, be able to answer the following.

Chapters 1-7

12. Name two qualifications of an apostle referred to in Ac 1:21-26.
13. What was the ministry of the apostles?
14. What enabled them to do this work?
15. Who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Give evidence for your answer from:
 - a. Context of chapter 1:1-5
 - b. Pertinent information in the first five chapters
16. When did Jesus say they would receive it?
17. Where were they to receive it?
18. What were the apostles to ‘witness’ to, 1:8? Give chapter and verse for your answer from
 - a. Acts
 - b. Luke
19. The kingdom
 - a. Give verses from the Old Testament identifying the “kingdom” of Acts 1:6.
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23. Give four lines of evidence Peter presented to prove Jesus was the Christ, 2:22-36.
24. At what point in this narrative (2:14-47) can you establish that some of the audience believed Jesus to be the Christ? Show how you know.
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 - a. Give evidence for your answer from the context.
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 54. To whom did Stephen address his prayers, 7:59,60?

Chapters 8-12

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56. What did Philip preach that caused men to want to be baptized?
57. Whose conversions are recorded in chapter eight? Name three: One group of people and two individuals.
58. What did Simon observe about how the Holy Spirit's miracle working power was bestowed on people?
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 75. What does "the beginning" refer to in Acts 11:15? Peter's statement shows what about people receiving the Holy Spirit directly from heaven?
 76. By what figure of speech is "repentance" used in Ac 11:18? Explain what this figure means.
 77. What were the disciples first called in Antioch?
 78. What effort did Satan make (through Herod) to stop the preaching of the gospel? What was the result?
 79. What year did Herod die?