

Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

ACTS

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

To present an accurate record of the birth and expansion of the Christian church.

Author

Luke

Date

Acts was written between AD 63 and 70.

Audience

To Theophilus and all Christians.

Setting

Acts is the connecting link between the life of Jesus and the life of His church, between the Gospels and the Epistles.

Special Features

Luke wrote Acts as a sequel to the Gospel of Luke and, because Acts ends so abruptly, some scholars think Luke may have planned to write a third book to continue the story. Acts explains how Christianity, although it is new, is in reality the one true religion, rooted in God's promises from the beginning of time. In the ancient world it was important that a religion be shown to have stood the test of time. Thus, Luke presents the church as the fulfillment and extension of God's promises.



Key Verses

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (1:8 ESV)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (4:12 ESV)

"All who were appointed for eternal life believed." (4:12b ESV)

[Paul] "explained the prophecies and proved that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead." (4:12b NLT)

Key People

Peter, John, James, Stephen, Philip, Paul, Barnabas, Timothy, Titus, Festus, Luke

Key Places

Jerusalem, Samaria, Paul's missionary journeys, Caesarea, Malta, Rome