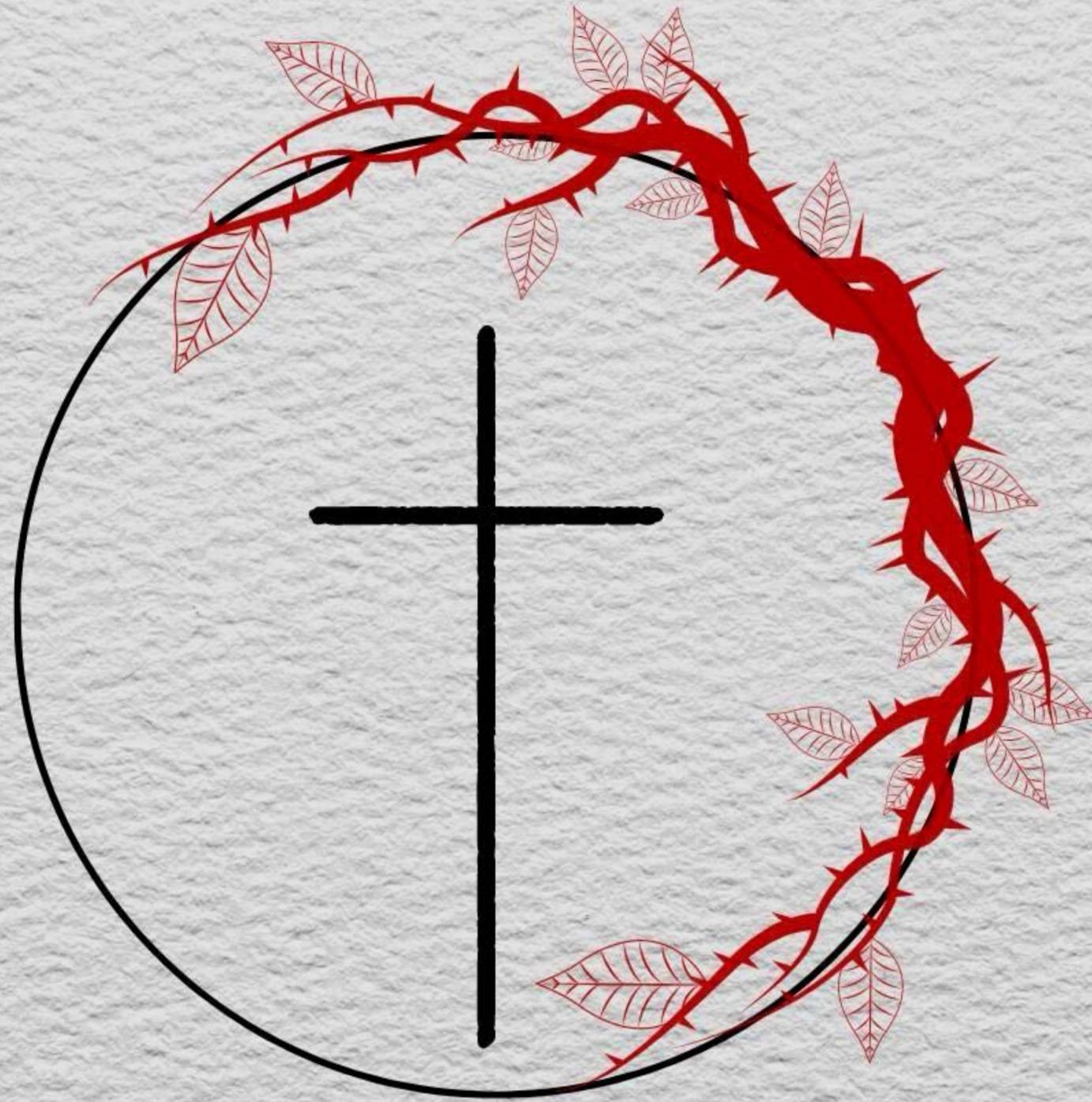


A SURVEY OF THE

BIBLE

Context • Content • Conviction





Crucifixion Dinner



Easter Offering

CAIRO AND JESSICA FARIÑAS



ACTS

ONE SAVIOR FOR ALL PEOPLE PROCLAIMED TO ALL PEOPLE



65 MESSAGES

(5 WEEK SERIES ON PRAYER)

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

The Church of Jesus on Mission Empowered by the Spirit

AUGUST 19, 2018 - APRIL 12, 2020

ACTS RESOURCES

"UNHINDERED" AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS (Chuck Swindoll)

"Unhindered." That's the very last word in the book of Acts. "Unhindered" is a fitting final word because it perfectly describes the central theme of Luke's historical account of the first-century church. That's not to say that the movement established by Jesus Christ and carried forward by His followers didn't meet with opposition. On the contrary, Acts describes opposition so ferocious and so deadly that any other organization would have folded immediately. "Unhindered" doesn't suggest that the first believers didn't experience challenges. They did, in fact, meet challenges so insidious, so unique, and so frequent that following conventional wisdom would have hastened their doom. "Unhindered" simply indicates that nothing would keep the church from fulfilling its divine purpose.

While Luke provides an accurate, detailed account of the first-century church and its spread across much of the known world, his book does not focus on ideas or events, or even the people who served and led the church. In fact, the usual title, Acts of the Apostles, could mislead readers; the book primarily recounts the actions of two apostles—Peter and Paul—though both were always in close cooperation with numerous gifted associates and ministry assistants. Perhaps a more apt title might be "Acts of the Holy Spirit." One of these Spirit-filled ministry associates, the physicalist, has assembled a grand mosaic using facts like colored bits of broken pottery to display the work of God as He carries out His plan to redeem and transform the world.

Acts is a vital link in the great narrative of God's redemptive plan. The Old Testament introduces God to humanity and establishes His covenants with Israel, all in anticipation of Jesus Christ. The Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—tell the story of how the God-man, Jesus, came to fulfill the Old Testament covenants and to establish a new covenant with humanity. Acts documents the launch of the new covenant community's phenomenal growth in the first three decades after Jesus' death and resurrection.

THE PURPOSE OF ACTS

Today, the books of the New Testament appear in a standardized order—Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, and so on—that separates Luke and Acts. But the book of Acts was never intended to be read as a stand-alone document; rather, it is the second volume of Luke's two-volume work, which began with his historical account of Christ's life, the Gospel of Luke.

Nevertheless, the book of Acts is well placed after the Gospels. It is a book of transitions, documenting the period after the earthly ministry of Jesus when the church



ACTS SUMMARY
CHRONOLOGY OF THE APOSTOLIC AGE

Ken Wilson

CHRONOLOGY OF THE APOSTOLIC AGE¹

Crucifixion of Christ	Fri., Apr. 3, 33
Pentecost: Peter's first sermon and the Birth of the Church (Acts 2)	Sun., May 24, 33
Peter's second sermon and Peter and John brought before the Sanhedrin (Acts 3:1-4:31)	summer 33
Death of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 4:32-5:11)	33-34
Peter brought before Sanhedrin (Acts 5:12-42)	34-25
Prototype Deacons selected (Acts 6:1-7)	late 34-early 35
Stephen martyred (Acts 6:8-7:60)	Apr. 35
The Church Scattered and Phillip Preaches in Samaria and to an Ethiopian (Acts 8:1-40)	Early Summer 35
Paul's conversion (Acts 9:1-7)	summer 35
Paul in Damascus and Arabia (Acts 9:8-25; Gal. 1:18-20)	summer 37
Paul in Jerusalem, first visit (Acts 22:6-21; Gal. 1:18-20)	summer 37
Paul went to Tarsus and Cilicia (Acts 9:30; Gal. 1:21-24)	autumn 37
Peter ministered in Antioch (Acts 10:1-11:18)	40-41
Barnabas served in Antioch (Acts 11:19-30)	41
Paul went to Antioch (Acts 11:25-26)	spring 43
Agabus predicted a famine (Acts 11:27-28)	spring 44
Agrippa's persecution, there Apostle James martyred (Acts 12:1-19)	spring 44
Relief visit, Paul's second visit to Jerusalem (Acts 11:30; Gal. 2:1-10)	autumn 47
Paul in Antioch (Acts 12:17-23)	autumn 47-spring 48
First Missionary Journey (Acts 13-14)	Apr. 48-Sept. 49
Paul's departure from Antioch	Apr. 48
Cyprus	Apr.-June 48
Pamphylia	first of July-middle of July 48
Pisidian Antioch	middle of July-middle of Sept 48
Iconium	Oct. 48-last of Feb. 49
Lystra-Derbe	Mar. middle of June 49
Return visit to churches	middle of June to Aug. 49
Return to Antioch in Syria	Sept. 49
Peter in Antioch (Gal. 2:11-16)	autumn 49

¹The basic outline is taken from the conclusion to Dr. Hoehner's Dissertation of the same name, *The Chronology of the Apostolic Age*, by Harold Hoehner, Th.D., Ph.D., Chairman of the Department of New Testament Literature and Exegesis at Dallas Theological Seminary. Footnotes, Book Purposes, and emphasis added.

²This is James the disciple, brother of John, not the author of the epistle and brother of Jesus.

GOSPELS

THE LIFE OF CHRIST
WITH AN AGENDA

HISTORY

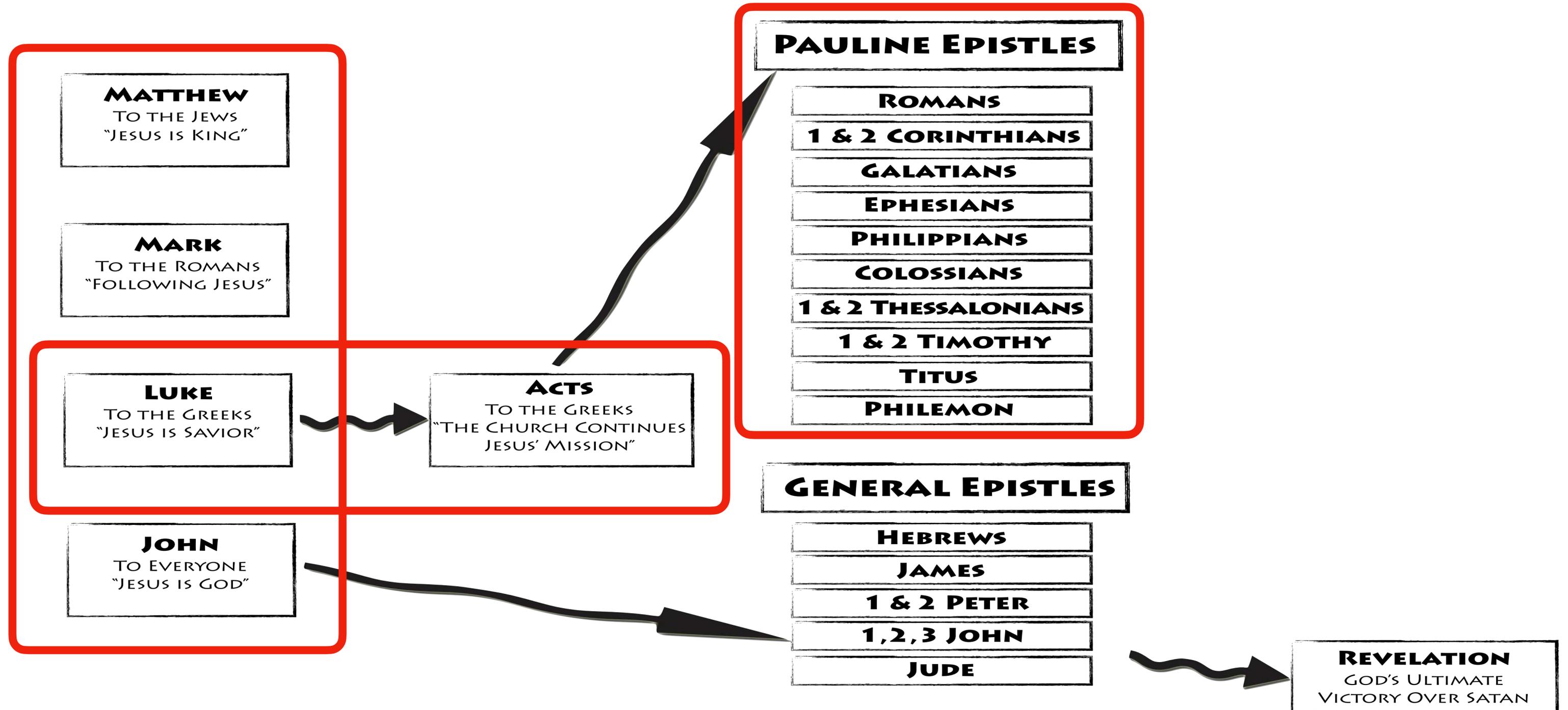
THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH
WITHIN GOD'S PURPOSE

EPISTLES

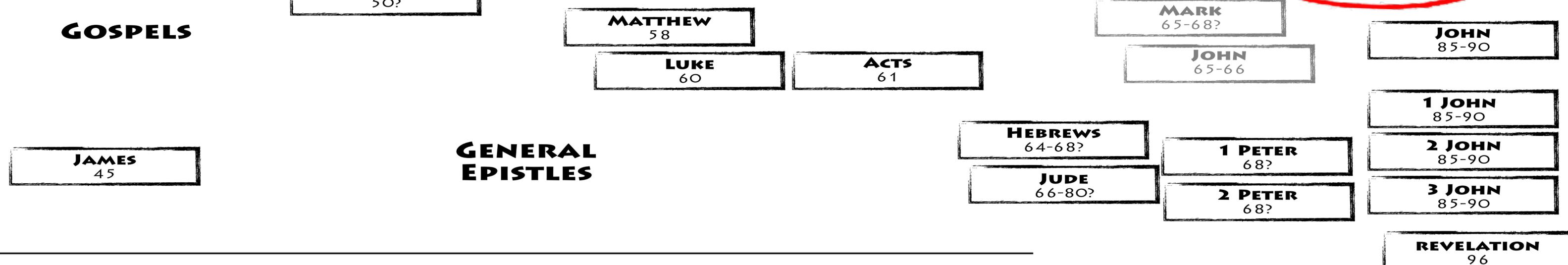
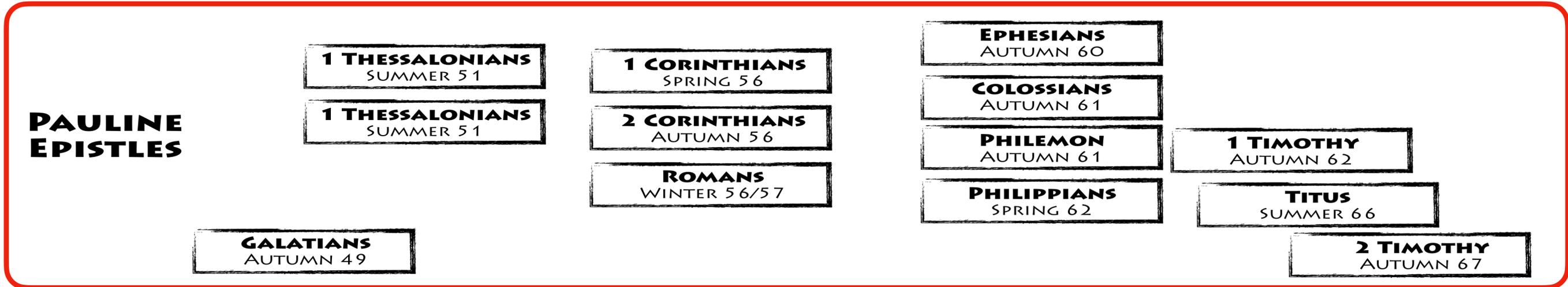
PERSONAL MESSAGES
TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD

APOCALYPTIC

A DRAMATIC VIEW
OF THE FUTURE



DIVISIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

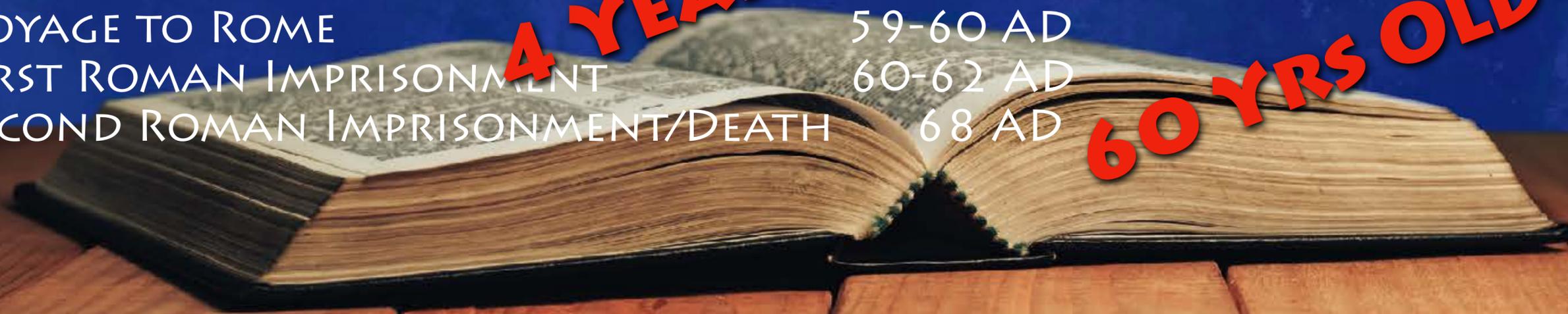


DATES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS

CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF PAUL

(ACTS AND THE PAULINE EPISTLES)

BIRTH OF PAUL	5-12 AD		ACTS 22:3
BROUGHT UP IN JERUSALEM	15-20 AD		ACTS 22:3
EDUCATED IN JERUSALEM	20-30 AD		
PERSECUTOR OF THE CHURCH	30-34 AD		ACTS 8:1-9:1-2
CONVERSION	35 AD	30 YRS OLD	ACTS 9:1-19
PREACHING IN DAMASCUS/ARABIA	37 AD	48 YRS OLD	GAL. 1:17
FIRST JERUSALEM VISIT	37 AD		ACTS 9:26-27
FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY	48-49 AD	2 YEARS	ACTS 13-14
JERUSALEM COUNCIL	49 AD		ACTS 9:26-27
PAUL IN ANTIOCH	49-50 AD	3 YEARS	ACTS 15:30-35
SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY	50-52 AD		ACTS 15-18
PAUL IN ANTIOCH	52-53 AD	4 YEARS	ACTS 15:30-35
THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY	53-57 AD		ACTS 18-21
VOYAGE TO ROME	59-60 AD		ACTS 27-28
FIRST ROMAN IMPRISONMENT	60-62 AD		ACTS 28:30-31
SECOND ROMAN IMPRISONMENT/DEATH	68 AD	60 YRS OLD	



LIFE OF PAUL

FIRST JOURNEY

(ACTS 13-14)

APRIL 48
SEPTEMBER 49

GALATIANS

JERUSALEM
COUNCIL

**1581
MILES**

SECOND JOURNEY

(ACTS 15:36-18:22)

APRIL 50
SEPTEMBER 52

**1 THESSALONIANS
2 THESSALONIANS**

**3050
MILES**

THIRD JOURNEY

(ACTS 18:23-21:16)

SPRING 53
MAY 57

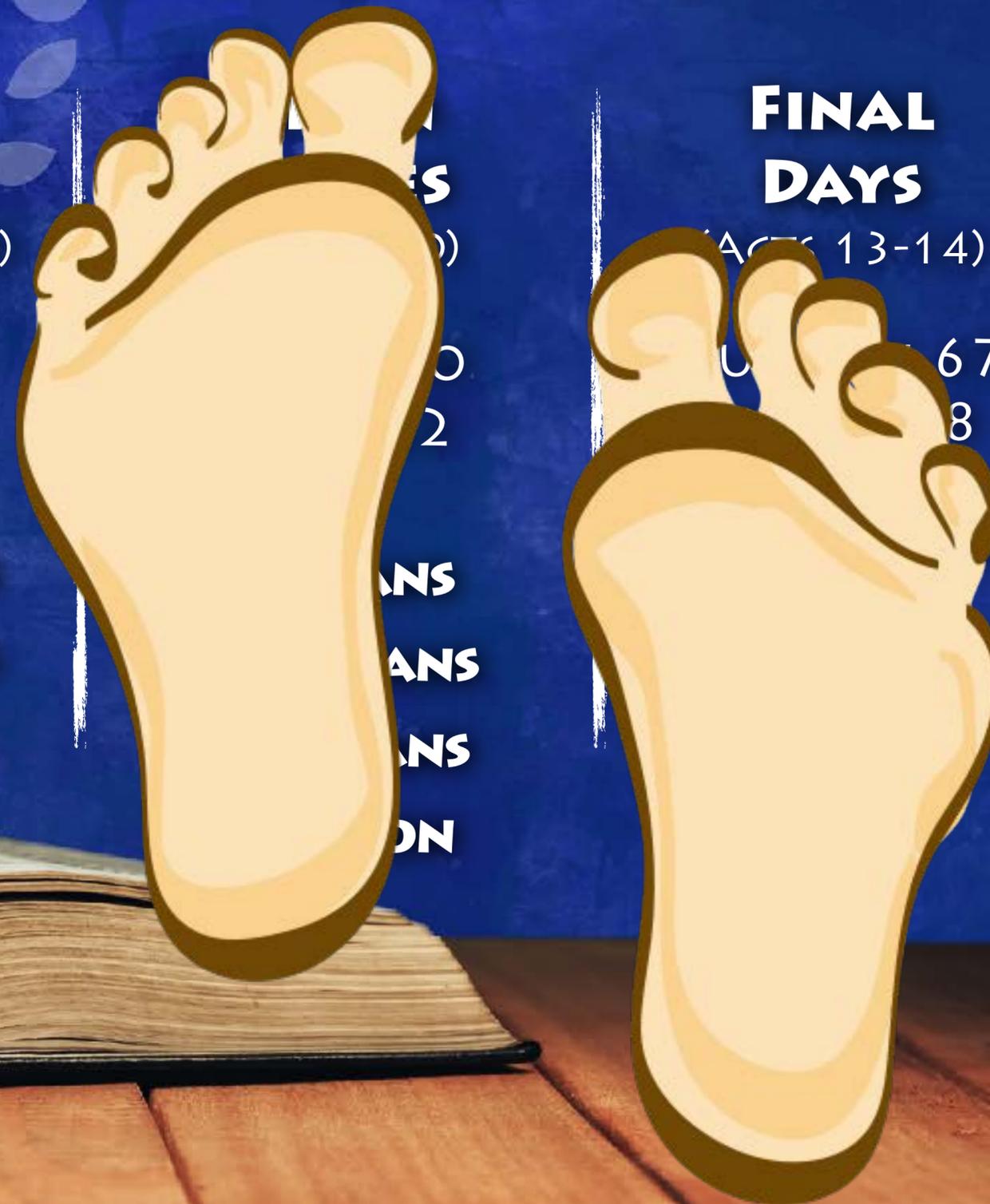
**1 CORINTHIANS
2 CORINTHIANS
ROMANS**

**3307
MILES**

FINAL DAYS

(ACTS 13-14)

APRIL 67
MAY 68

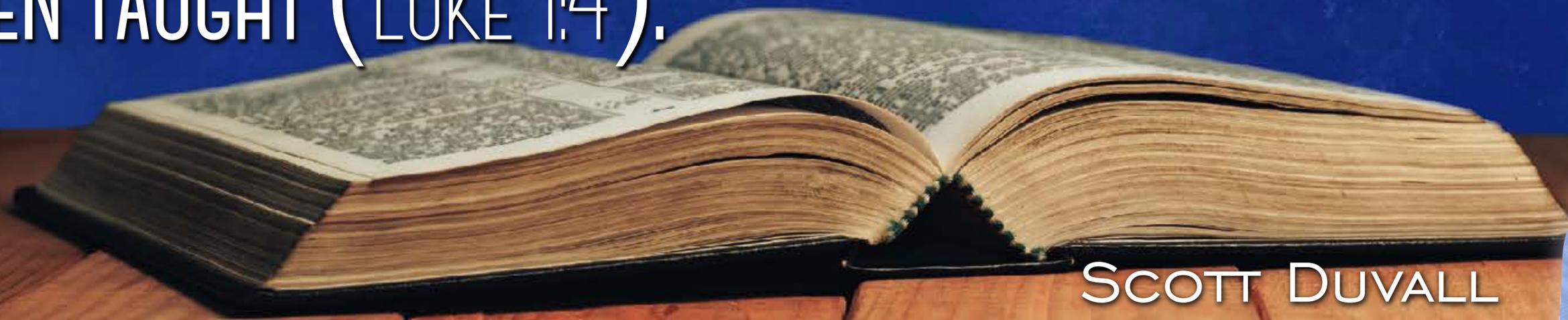


ACTS

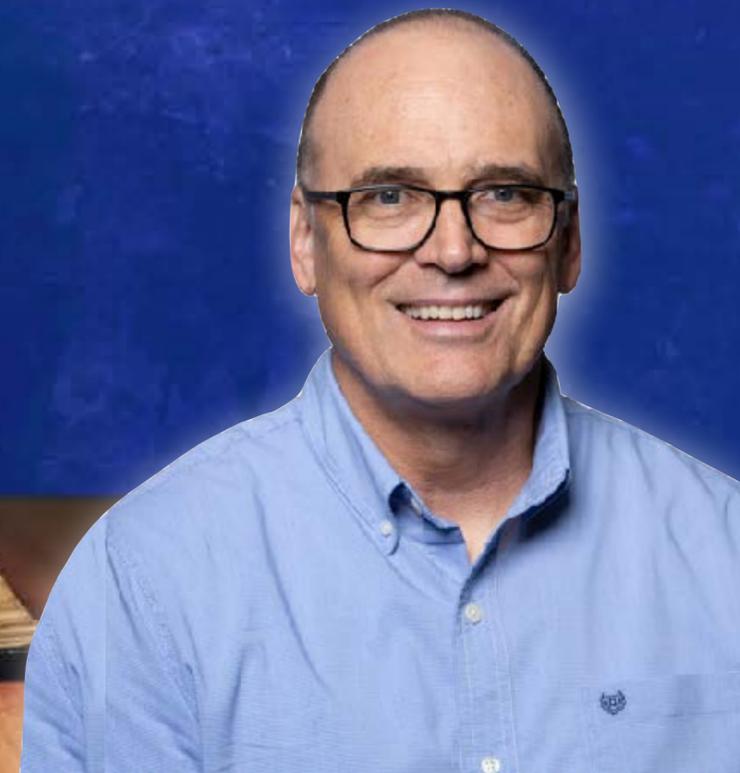
ONE SAVIOR FOR ALL PEOPLE PROCLAIMED TO ALL PEOPLE



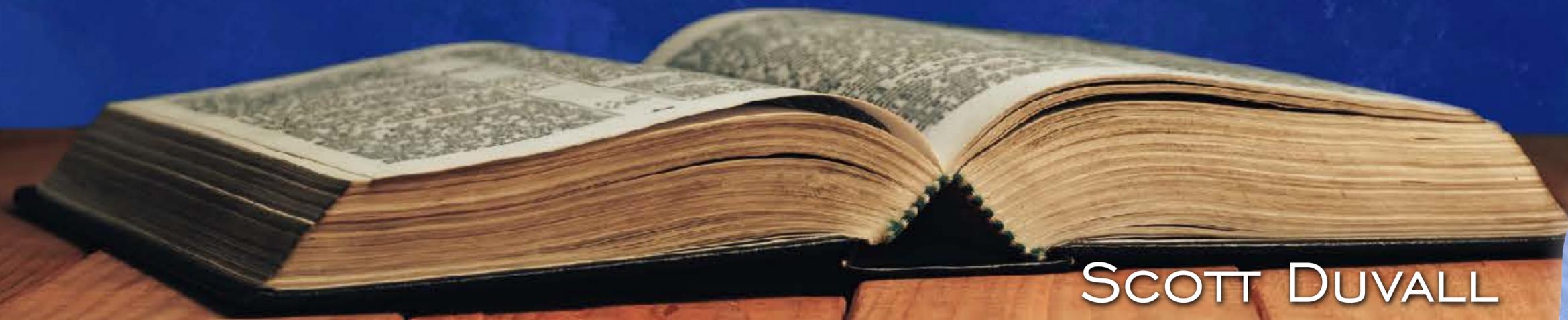
LUKE'S PURPOSE IN HIS GOSPEL CONNECTS DIRECTLY TO HIS PURPOSE IN ACTS. IN THIS TWO-VOLUME WORK HE EXPLAINS THE GRAND PLAN OF GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH (LUKE 1:20; 4:21; 9:31; 21:22, 24; 24:44—47). HE WRITES TO INSTRUCT THEOPHILUS AND OTHERS LIKE HIM SO THAT THEY MAY KNOW THE CERTAINTY OF THE THINGS THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT (LUKE 1:4).



SCOTT DUVALL



IN OTHER WORDS, LUKE-ACTS PROVIDES A DISCIPLESHIP MANUAL FOR NEW BELIEVERS COMING FROM A PAGAN BACKGROUND AND LIVING IN A CULTURE THAT IS EITHER INDIFFERENT OR HOSTILE TO THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.



SCOTT DUVALL



WHO COMPOSED ACTS?

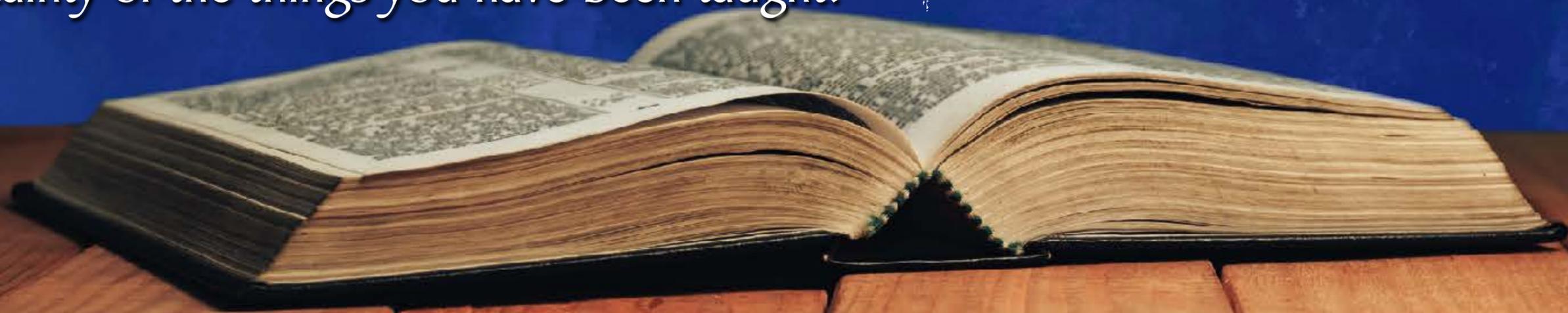
LUKE IS CALLED “THE BELOVED PHYSICIAN” BY PAUL (COL. 4:14) WHICH LIKELY MEANS HE WAS MORE OF A PHARMACIST, HERBALIST OR HOMEOPATH IN HIS DAY. HE WAS NOT AN EYEWITNESS OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST BUT DID “CAREFUL RESEARCH” TO WRITE HIS ACCOUNT IN AN ORDERLY FASHION (1:1-4). HIS LITERARY STYLE SHOWS HIS EDUCATION. HE WAS A COMPANION OF PAUL AS SEEN IN THE “WE” PASSAGES IN ACTS (16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1—28:16)



THE INTRODUCTIONS OF LUKE & ACTS

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent **Theophilus**, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

In my former book, **Theophilus**, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.



WHO WAS LUKE'S ORIGINAL AUDIENCE?

LIKE THE GOSPEL OF LUKE, ACTS WAS WRITING TO A MAN NAMED THEOPHILUS WHO WAS A REAL PERSON. HE IS CALLED "MOST EXCELLENT" (κράτιστε), A TERM USUALLY INDICATING SOME SORT OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, OR AT LEAST HIGH SOCIAL RANK. HIS NAME IS GREEK AND MEANS "LOVER OF GOD." HE MAY HAVE BEEN A PATRON FOR LUKE PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR HIS RESEARCH AND WRITING.



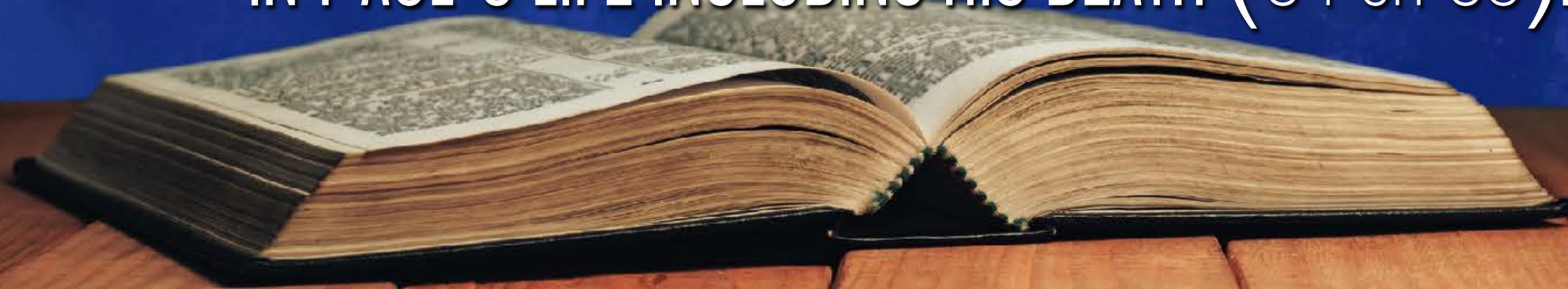
WHO WAS LUKE'S ORIGINAL AUDIENCE?

WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE THEOPHILUS LIVED. HE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A FAIRLY RECENT CONVERT TO CHRISTIANITY. ALTHOUGH A REAL PERSON, HE REPRESENTS THE NEED FOR RECENT CONVERTS OF ALL TIME TO HAVE AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST WHICH PROVIDES RELIABLE CONTENT AND RESULTS IN CONFIDENCE ABOUT THEIR FAITH AND CLARITY ABOUT THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.



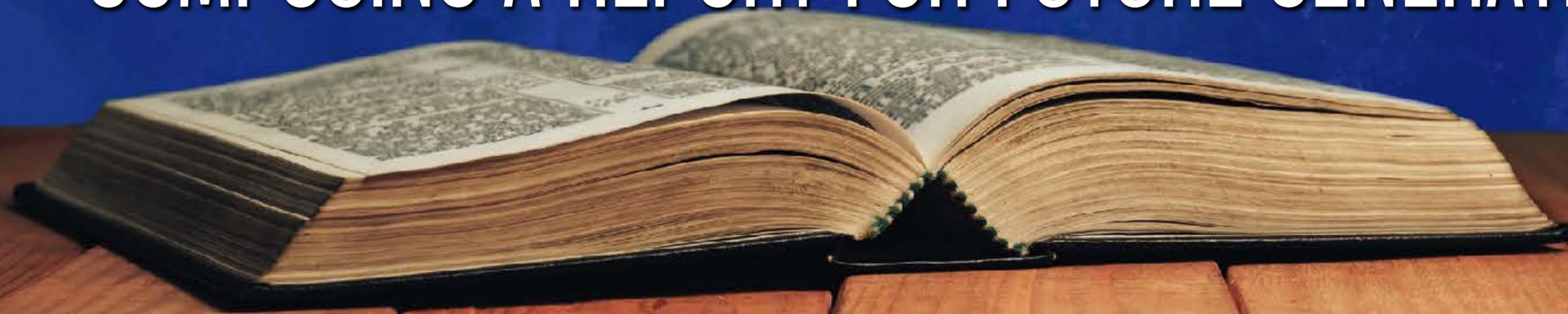
WHEN WAS ACTS WRITTEN?

IT IS LIKELY THAT ACTS WAS WRITTEN JUST BEFORE THE END OF PAUL'S FIRST ROMAN IMPRISONMENT (61-62) BECAUSE LUKE DOES NOT MENTION IMPORTANT EVENTS WHICH HAPPENED BETWEEN AD 60 AND 70. THE FALL OF JERUSALEM (66-70), THE PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS BY NERO (64), THE DEATH OF JAMES BY THE SANHEDRIN (62) AND ESPECIALLY, THE FINAL EVENTS IN PAUL'S LIFE INCLUDING HIS DEATH (64 OR 68).



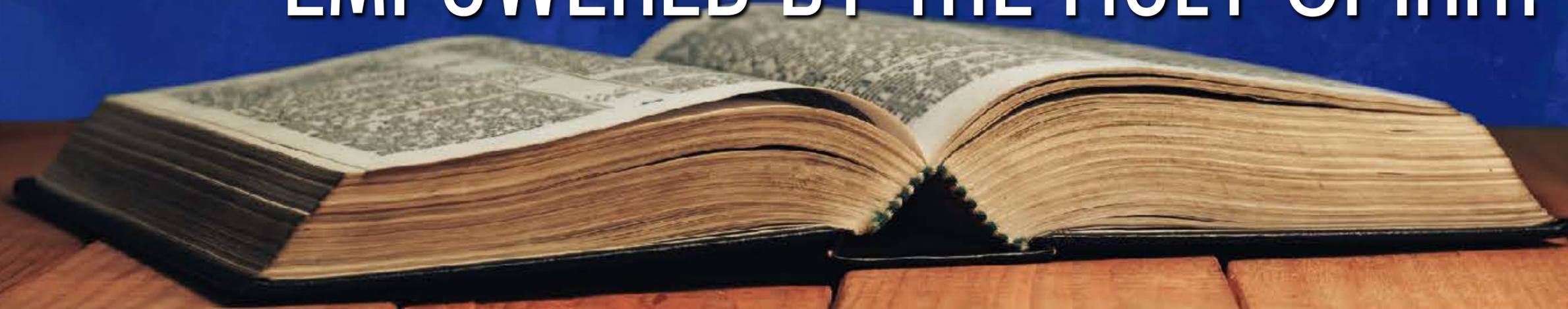
WHERE WERE HE AND THE READERS?

LUKE SEEMS TO BE WRITING FROM ROME WHERE PAUL IS IMPRISONED AND WAITING FOR HIS DAY IN COURT. HIS PATRON, THEOPHILUS IS SOMEWHERE ELSE AND IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT LUKE IS WRITING FOR HIM WHILE AT THE SAME TIME COMPOSING A REPORT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

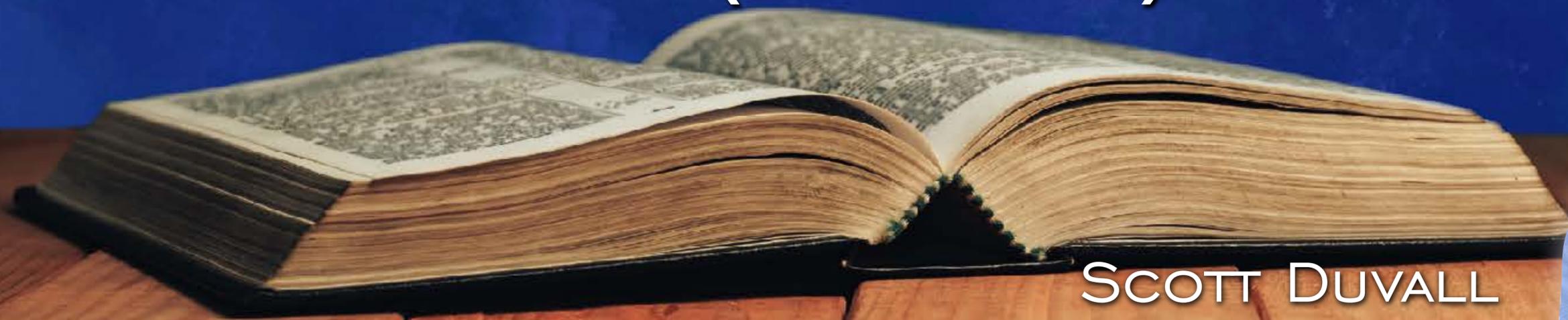


WHY HIS ACTS WRITTEN?

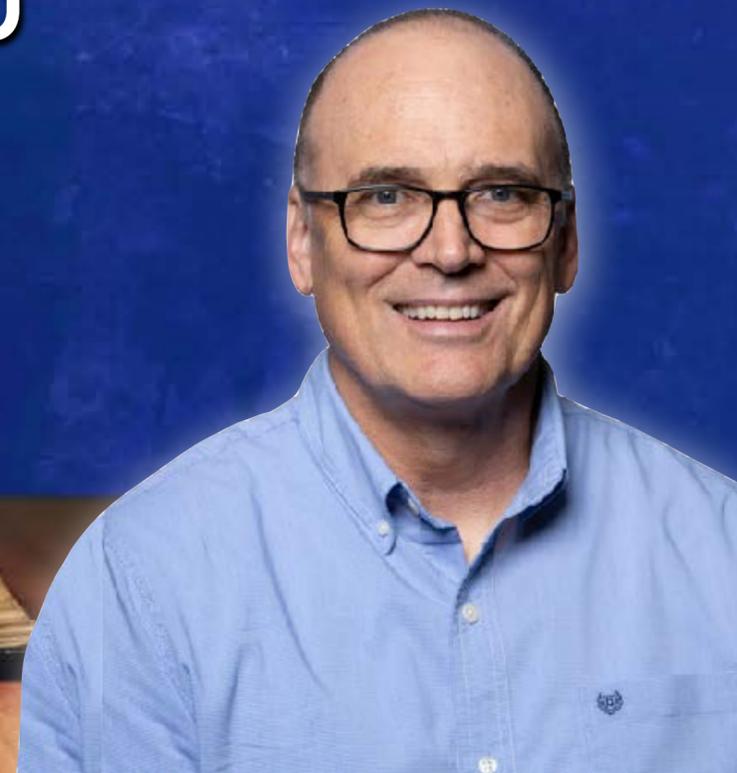
ACTS IS WRITTEN TO SHOW THE CONTINUITY BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF JESUS, WHICH IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, AND THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.



LUKE'S PURPOSE IN ACTS COINCIDES WITH HIS PURPOSE IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE. IN THIS TWO-VOLUME WORK, HE EXPLAINS HOW GOD HAS CONTINUED TO WORK OUT HIS REDEMPITIVE PURPOSES THROUGH THE CHURCH. WHAT JESUS STARTED, THE SPIRIT CONTINUES THROUGH HIS PEOPLE (ACTS 1:1-2).



SCOTT DUVALL



**"THE BEGINNINGS
OF THE CHURCH
AND THE EXPANSION
OF THE GENTILE
MISSION."**



DAN WALLACE



HOW IS ACTS ORGANIZED?

Jerusalem: Jesus' continued work through the church empowered by the Spirit (1:2:-6:7)

- Panel #1: The Church Founded in Jerusalem (1:2:-6:7)

- Progress Report #1: Word of God Spread and Disciples increased in Jerusalem (6:7)*

Judea and Samaria: Jesus' expanding work through the church empowered by the Spirit (6:8-9:31)

- Panel #2: The Church Expanded from Jerusalem (6:8-9:31)

- Progress Report #2: The Church at peace, strengthened and encouraged as they grow (9:31)*

To the Ends of the Earth: Jesus' unhindered work through the church empowered by the Spirit (9:32-28:31)

- Panel #3: The Church Expanded to the Gentiles (9:32-12:24)

- Progress Report #3: Word of God continued to increase and spread (12:24)*

- Panel #4: The Establishment of Pauline Apostleship (12:25-16:5)

- Progress Report #4: The church is strengthened in faith and grew in numbers (16:5)*

- Panel #5: The Lord Glorified among the Gentiles (16:6-19:20)

- Progress Report #5: Word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power (19:20)*

- Panel #6: The Testimony of Christ Carried to Rome (19:21-28:31)

- Progress Report #6: Kingdom of God preached boldly and unhindered (28:31)*





Luke

1. Luke is called "the beloved physician" by Paul (Col. 4:14).
2. He wrote Luke & Acts to a Greek believer named Theophilus (Lk. 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-3) to clarify the gospel & its impact in the world.
3. Luke and Paul met in Troas where Luke joined Paul's mission effort (see Acts 16:8-11 & "we" in Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-37; 28:1-16).
4. He was a faithful traveling companion & doctor for Paul later in Paul's life (2 Tim. 4:11, Phm 24).
5. He was a faithful friend to Paul to the very end of his life (2 Tim. 4:11).
6. Literary style shows his education.
7. Historian & Theologian (Lk. 1:1-4).

The Gospel in Luke-Acts

In Luke the gospel message moves from Galilee to Jerusalem reaching all people vertically up & down the social scale.

In Acts the gospel message moves from Jerusalem to Rome reaching all people horizontally throughout the known world.

Peter/Paul Parallels

Peter	Event	Paul
2:22-29	Similar Sermon	13:26-41
3:1-10	Healing Lame Man	14:8-11
4:8	Filled w/ Spirit	13:9
5:15	Healing w/ shadow/cloth	19:12
8:17	Laying on Hands bring HS	19:6
8:18-24	Confronted a Sorcerer	13:6-11
9:36-41	Raised the Dead	20:9-12
12:6-11	Miraculous Release	16:25-41

Acts One Savior for All People Proclaimed to All People

Peter (Apostle to the Jews)

Paul (Apostle to the Gentiles)

<p>Prologue and Purpose of the Acts 1:1-2</p> <p>The Church Founded in Jerusalem</p> <p>Introduction: A continuing work for Theophilus - 1:1-2</p> <p>Preparation for Pentecost: A Commission & a Replacement - 1:3-26</p> <p>Pentecost & the Coming of the Holy Spirit: The Birth of the Church - 2:1-47</p> <p>The Beginnings of Persecution - 3:1-4:31</p> <p>Growth & Opposition from Within & Without - 4:32-6:6</p> <p>Progress Report: Jerusalem Church Growing - 6:7</p> <p>The Church Expanded from Jerusalem</p> <p>The Ministry & Martyrdom of Stephen: The Church Scattered - 6:8-8:3</p> <p>The Ministry of Philip: The Church Released - 8:4-40</p> <p>The Conversion of Paul - 9:1-30</p> <p>Progress Report: Judea, Galilee, Samaria Growing - 9:31</p> <p>The Church Expanded to the Gentiles</p> <p>The Conversion of Cornelius: The Gentile Mission Inaugurated - 9:32-11:18</p> <p>The Church in Antioch: The Gentile Mission Center Established - 11:19-30</p> <p>The Great Reversal: Martyrdom, Imprisonment, Deliverance, Justice - 12:1-23</p> <p>(Herod Kills James & Imprisons Peter / God Releases Peter & Kills Herod)</p> <p>Progress Report: Gentile Church Growing - 12:24</p> <p>The Establishment of Pauline Apostleship</p> <p>The First Missionary Journey: The Gentile Mission Begins - 12:25-14:28</p> <p>The Jerusalem Council: The Gentile Mission Validated - 15:1-35</p> <p>The Team Divides: The Gentile Mission Expands - 15:36-16:4</p> <p>Progress Report: Gentile Churches Growing Daily - 16:5</p> <p>The Lord Glorified among the Gentiles</p> <p>The Second Missionary Journey: The Gentile Mission Continues - 16:7-18:22</p> <p>(Macedonia & Achaia: Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth)</p> <p>The Third Missionary Journey: The Gentile Mission Strengthened - 18:23-19:19</p> <p>(Apollos, Priscilla, Aquila, & Paul Equip the Church in Ephesus)</p> <p>Parenthesis: John the Baptist's Disciples Receive the Holy Spirit - 19:1-7</p> <p>Progress Report: Gentile Churches Growing Widely - 19:20</p> <p>The Testimony of Christ Carried to Rome</p> <p>The Decision: Go to Jerusalem and then to Rome - 19:21-22</p> <p>The Riot in Ephesus: The Conflict of Powers - 19:23-41</p> <p>Encouraging the Churches on the Way: Macedonia, Greece, Troas - 20:1-16</p> <p>Paul & the Ephesian Elders in Miletus - 20:17-38</p> <p>In Tyre & Caesarea: Agabus Prophecies Trouble in Jerusalem - 21:1-16</p> <p>Paul in Jerusalem: Arrest and Self-Defense - 21:17-23:11</p> <p>The Journey to Rome: Trials {Felix, Festus, Agrippa} and Travels - 23:12-28:10</p> <p>Arrival and Ministry in Rome - 28:11-29</p> <p>Progress Report: Gentile Churches Growing Widely - 28:30-31</p>
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1:1-2 6:7-8 9:31 9:32 12:24-15 16:5 16:6 19:20 19:21 28:31

Jerusalem Judea Samaria ...to the ends (ἔσχατος) of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Two or three witnesses

The validity of the Global Christian Gospel is confirmed as Luke frequently uses the Old Testament standard of two or three witnesses for confirmation of truth (Deut. 19:15) by repeating themes & stories at critical places in Acts.

Luke, a companion and supporter of Paul's mission to the Gentiles, set forth the history of the followers of Jesus-empowered by the Holy Spirit-highlighting Peter, who opened the door of the gospel to the Gentiles, and Paul, who expanded the gospel to the ends of the earth, in order to demonstrate that the Global Scope & Mandate for the Gospel is not a new innovation but has always been the Ultimate Mission of God, Commission of Jesus and Priority of the Spirit.

WHAT IS THE MESSAGE?

LUKE, A COMPANION AND SUPPORTER OF PAUL'S MISSION TO THE GENTILES, SET FORTH THE HISTORY OF THE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS-EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT-HIGHLIGHTING PETER, WHO OPENED THE DOOR OF THE GOSPEL TO THE GENTILES, AND PAUL, WHO EXPANDED THE GOSPEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH, IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE GLOBAL SCOPE AND MANDATE FOR THE GOSPEL IS NOT A NEW INNOVATION BUT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ULTIMATE MISSION OF GOD, COMMISSION OF JESUS AND PRIORITY OF THE SPIRIT.



Life of Jesus

IS THE PREDICTED

FULFILLMENT

OF GOD'S PLAN

TO RESCUE ALL PEOPLE.

OT
Predictions

to
Mission
the World



THE GOSPEL IN LUKE/ACTS

In Luke the gospel message moves from Galilee to Jerusalem reaching all people vertically up & down the social scale.

In Acts the gospel message moves from Jerusalem to Rome reaching all people horizontally throughout the known world.



PETER/PAUL PARALLELS

PETER

2:22-29

3:1-10

4:8

5:15

8:17

8:18-24

9:36-41

12:6-11

EVENT

Similar Sermon

Healing Lame Man

Filled w/ Spirit

Healing with shadow/cloth

Laying on Hands bring HS

Confronted a Sorcerer

Raised the Dead

Miraculous Release

PAUL

13:26-41

14:8-11

13:9

19"12

19:6

13:6-11

20:9-12

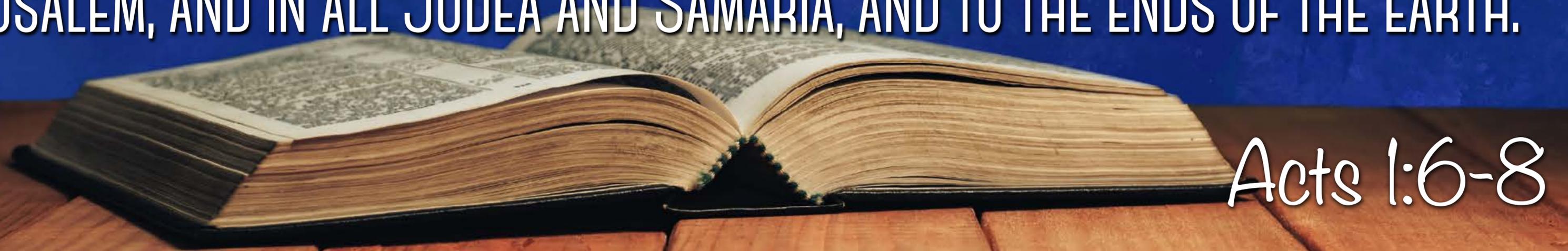
16:25-41



A NEW SPIRIT EMPOWERED MISSION

THEN THEY GATHERED AROUND HIM AND ASKED HIM,
“LORD, ARE YOU AT THIS TIME GOING TO RESTORE THE KINGDOM TO ISRAEL?”

HE SAID TO THEM: “IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW THE TIMES OR DATES THE FATHER HAS SET BY HIS OWN AUTHORITY. BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.”



Acts 1:6-8

THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING AND TO FELLOWSHIP, TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND TO PRAYER. EVERYONE WAS FILLED WITH AWE AT THE MANY WONDERS AND SIGNS PERFORMED BY THE APOSTLES. ALL THE BELIEVERS WERE TOGETHER AND HAD EVERYTHING IN COMMON. THEY SOLD PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS TO GIVE TO ANYONE WHO HAD NEED.



Acts 2:42-47

THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

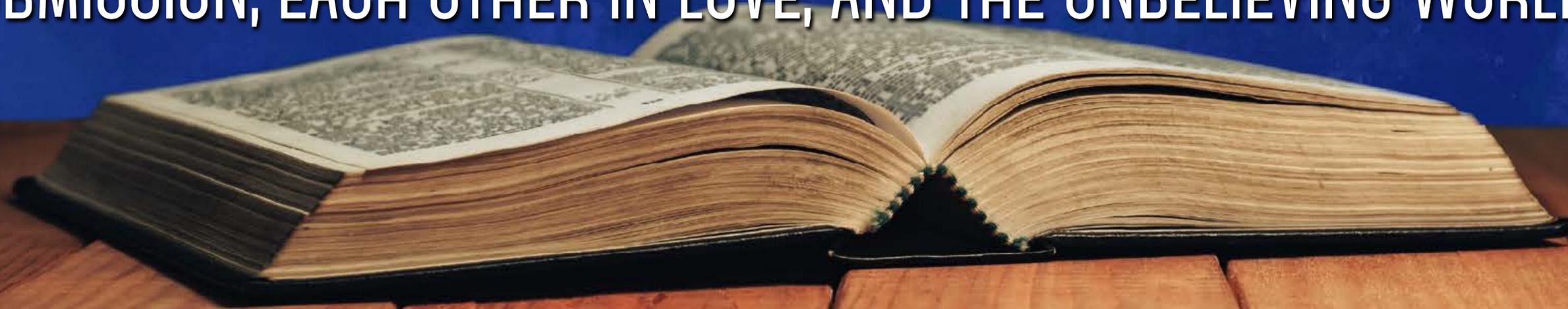
EVERY DAY THEY CONTINUED TO MEET TOGETHER IN THE TEMPLE COURTS. THEY BROKE BREAD IN THEIR HOMES AND ATE TOGETHER WITH GLAD AND SINCERE HEARTS, PRAISING GOD AND ENJOYING THE FAVOR OF ALL THE PEOPLE. AND THE LORD ADDED TO THEIR NUMBER DAILY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED.



Acts 2:42-47

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

FOR GOD'S GLORY, THE CHURCH GATHERS TO EQUIP (REPAIR AND PREPARE) BELIEVERS BY WORSHIPPING, INSTRUCTING, FELLOWSHIPPING AND EVANGELIZING, THEN RELEASING THEM TO MAKE DISCIPLES AS THEY GO THROUGH LIFE BY MAKING CONVERTS WHO GET BAPTIZED AND THEN ESTABLISHING THEM IN THE FAITH BY TEACHING THEM TO OBEY CHRIST AS THEY RELATE TO GOD IN WORSHIP, HIS WORD IN SUBMISSION, EACH OTHER IN LOVE, AND THE UNBELIEVING WORLD IN OUTREACH.



BODY LIFE

WORSHIP

INSTRUCTION

FELLOWSHIP

EVANGELISM



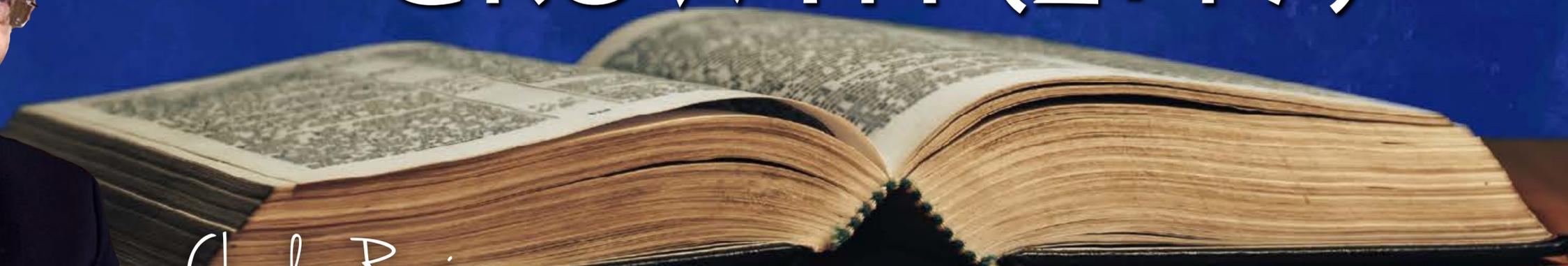
FOUR RESULTS

FEAR OF THE LORD (2:43)

SHARING RESOURCES (2:44-46)

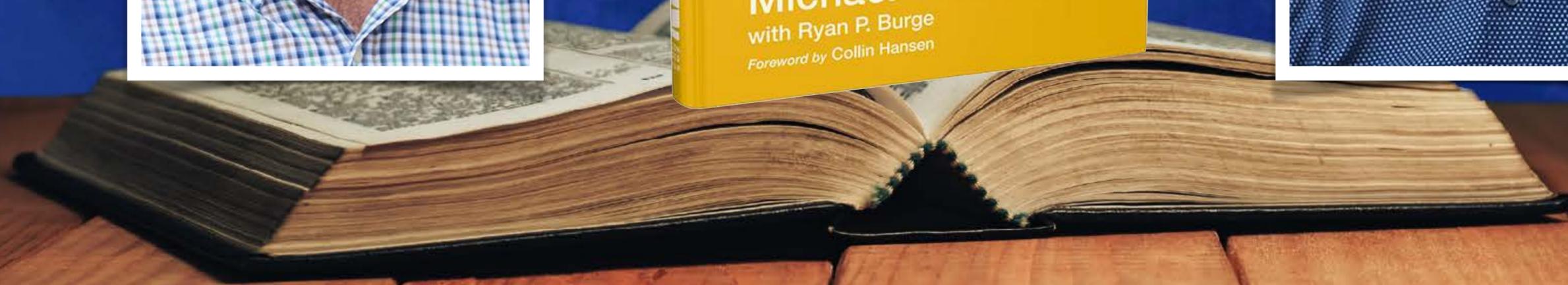
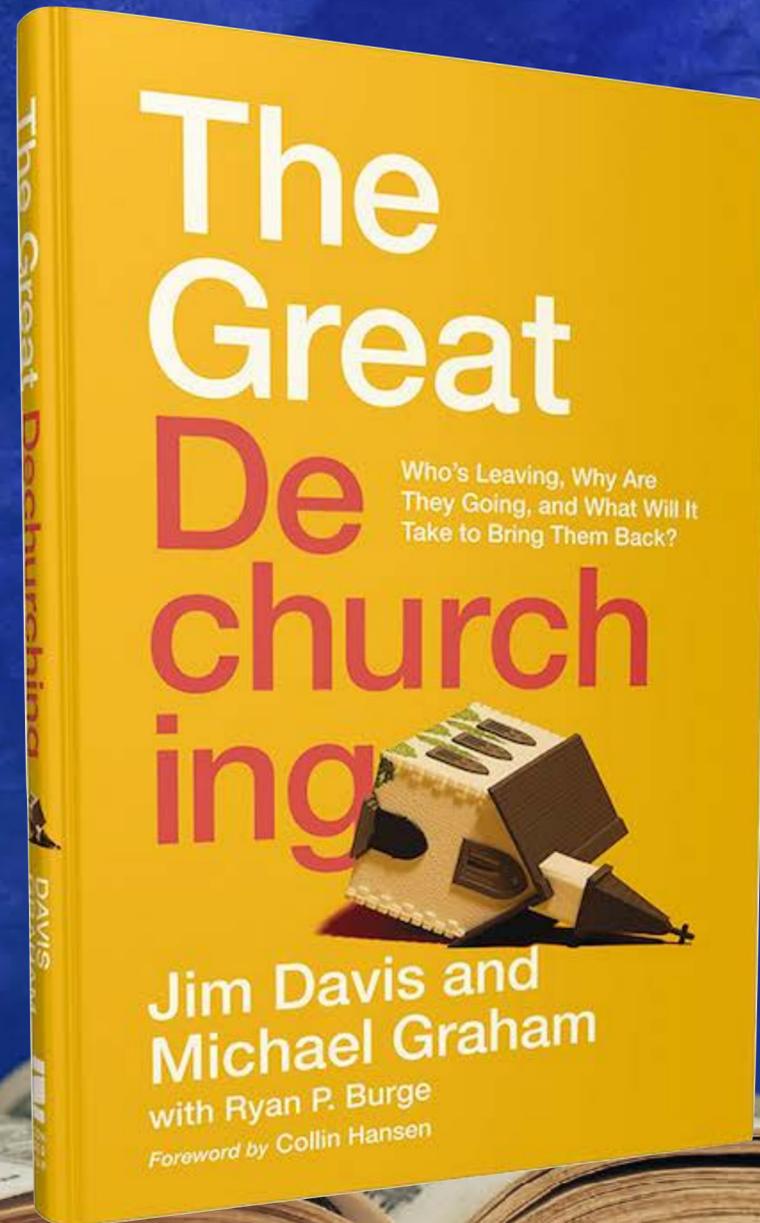
FAVOR WITH PEOPLE (2:47)

GROWTH (2:47)



Charles Ryrie

THEY WILL COME BACK

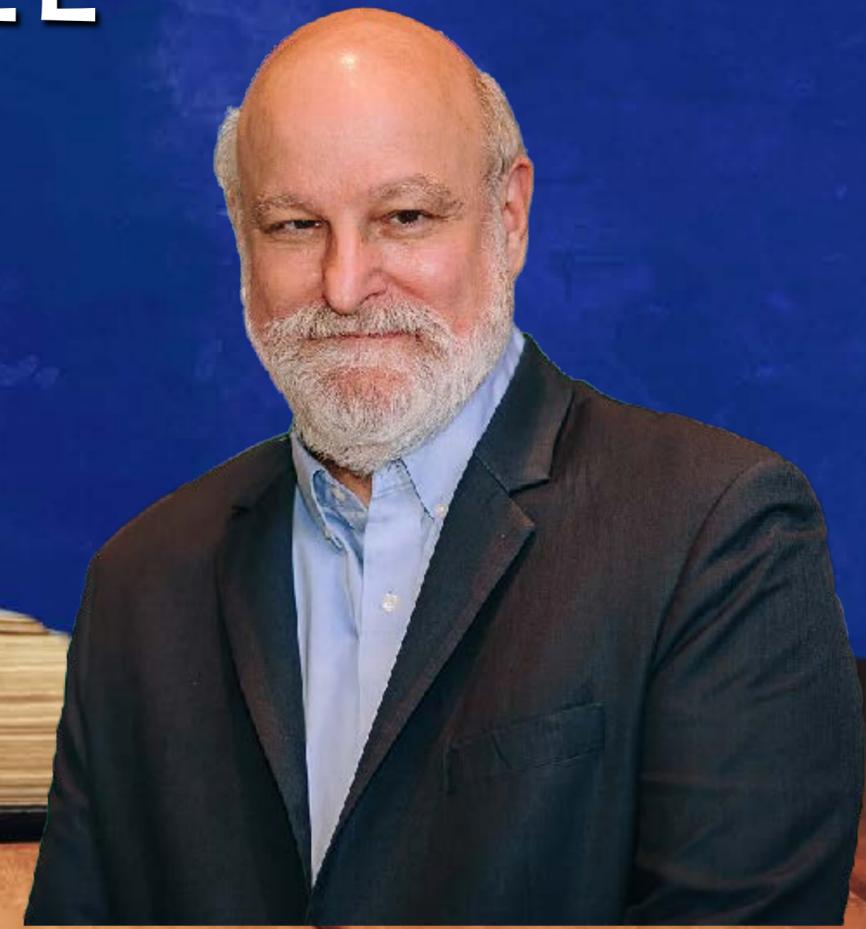


THEY WILL COME BACK

THE CHILDREN OF THE DECHURCHED
WILL BECOME THE UNCHURCHED, AND
THEN OUR COMMUNITIES WILL
LOOK LIKE NEW YORK CITY
AND SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.



Darrell Bock

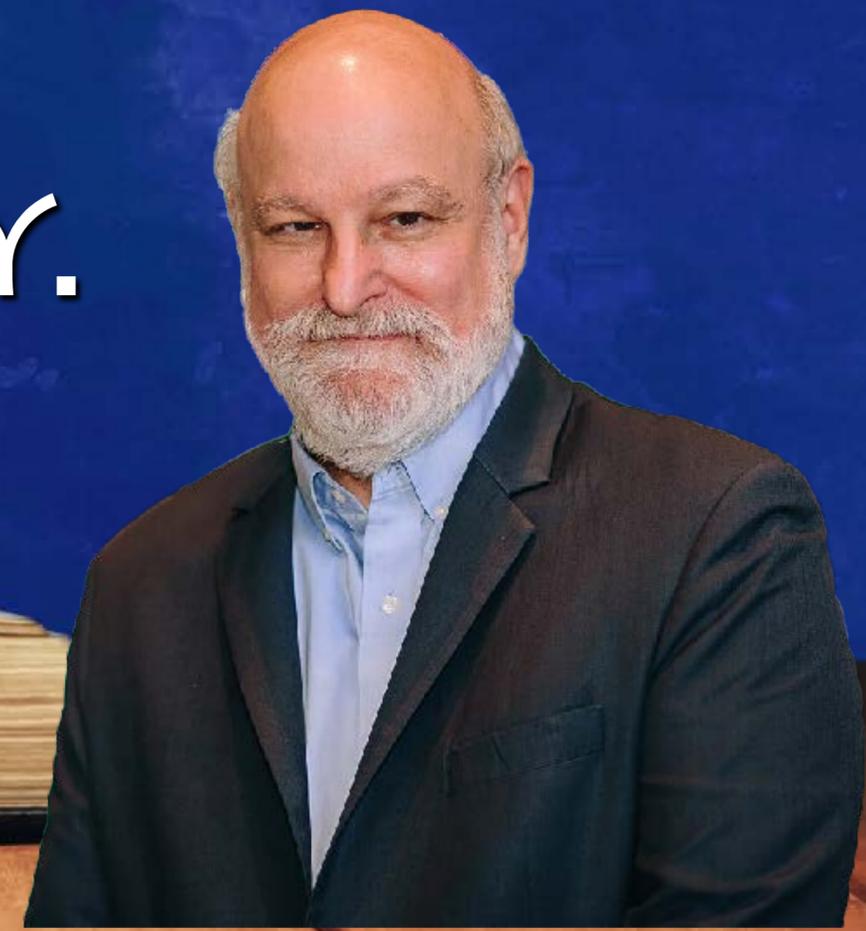


THEY WILL COME BACK

JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE HAS WALKED AWAY FROM THE CHURCH, DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY HAVE WALKED AWAY PERMANENTLY.

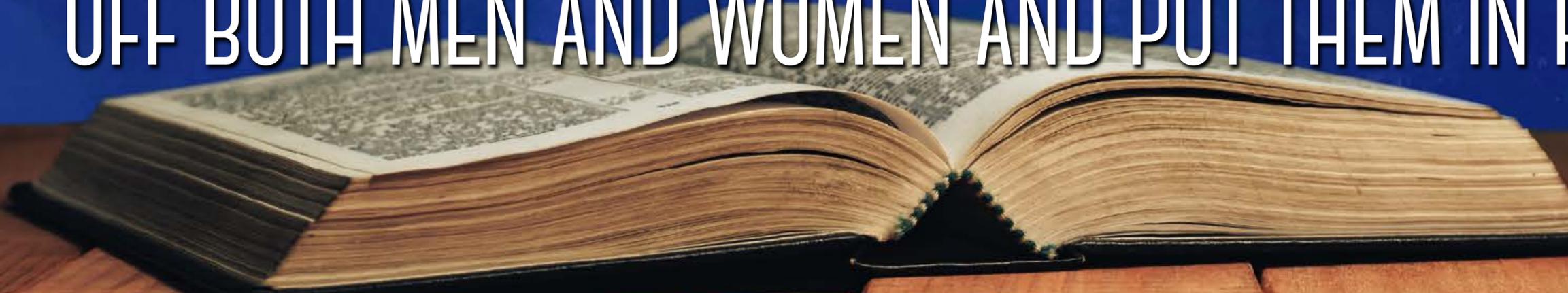


Darrell Bock



SCATTERED BY PERSECUTION

ON THAT DAY A GREAT PERSECUTION BROKE OUT AGAINST THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM, AND ALL EXCEPT THE APOSTLES WERE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT JUDEA AND SAMARIA. GODLY MEN BURIED STEPHEN AND MOURNED DEEPLY FOR HIM. BUT SAUL BEGAN TO DESTROY THE CHURCH. GOING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE, HE DRAGGED OFF BOTH MEN AND WOMEN AND PUT THEM IN PRISON.



Acts 8:1-3

PERSECUTION AND PERSONALITIES

STEPHEN
PHILIP

(ACTS 6:1-7)

PERSECUTION

JERUSALEM

STEPHEN
SERMON

(ACTS 7)

PAUL

SAMARIA

PHILIP
EVANGELISM

(ACTS 8)

EXPANSION

PAUL
CONVERSION

(ACTS 9)

GENTILES

WORLD





ITALY

Rome

Three Taverns

Forum of Appius

Puteoli

Rhegium

Syracuse

Melita (Malta)

MACEDONIA

Thessalonica

Berea

Corinth

Philippi

Troas

Samothrace

Athens

Cnidus

Crete

Fair Havens

Black Sea

PONTUS

BITHYNIA

MYSIA ASIA

Pergamum

LYDIA PHRYGIA

Smyrna

Ephesus

Miletus

Patmos

Rhodes

Antioch

Iconium

Lystra

Laodicea

PAMPHYLIA

Perga

Derbe

CAPPADOCIA

Tarsus

Antioch

Cyprus

Salamis

Paphos

Sidon

Tyre

Caesarea

Joppa

Gaza

PHOENICIA

SYRIA

Damascus

Ptolemais

Samaria

Jerusalem

Mediterranean Sea

Cyrene

Alexandria

EGYPT

LIBYA

N



THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL

CERTAIN PEOPLE CAME DOWN FROM JUDEA TO ANTIOCH AND WERE TEACHING THE BELIEVERS:
“UNLESS YOU ARE CIRCUMCISED, ACCORDING TO THE CUSTOM TAUGHT BY MOSES, YOU CANNOT BE SAVED.”



Acts 15:1

THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL

IT IS MY (JAMES) JUDGMENT, THEREFORE,
THAT WE SHOULD NOT MAKE IT DIFFICULT
FOR THE GENTILES WHO ARE TURNING TO GOD.



Acts 15:19

PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

c. AD 49–52 (Ac 15:39–18:22)





UNHINDERED

THEREFORE I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT GOD'S SALVATION HAS BEEN SENT TO THE GENTILES, AND THEY WILL LISTEN!"

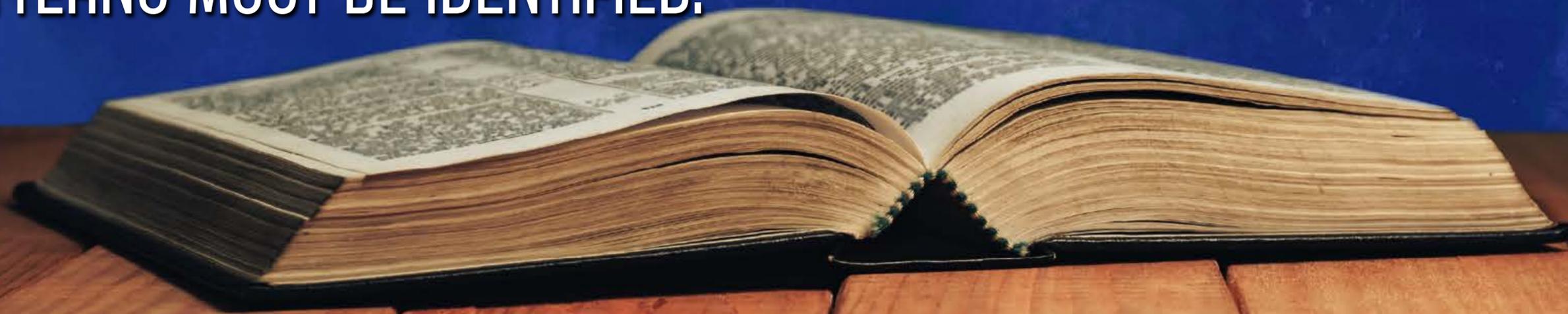
FOR TWO WHOLE YEARS PAUL STAYED THERE IN HIS OWN RENTED HOUSE AND WELCOMED ALL WHO CAME TO SEE HIM. HE PROCLAIMED THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND TAUGHT ABOUT THE LORD JESUS CHRIST—WITH ALL BOLDNESS AND WITHOUT HINDRANCE!



Acts 28:28-31

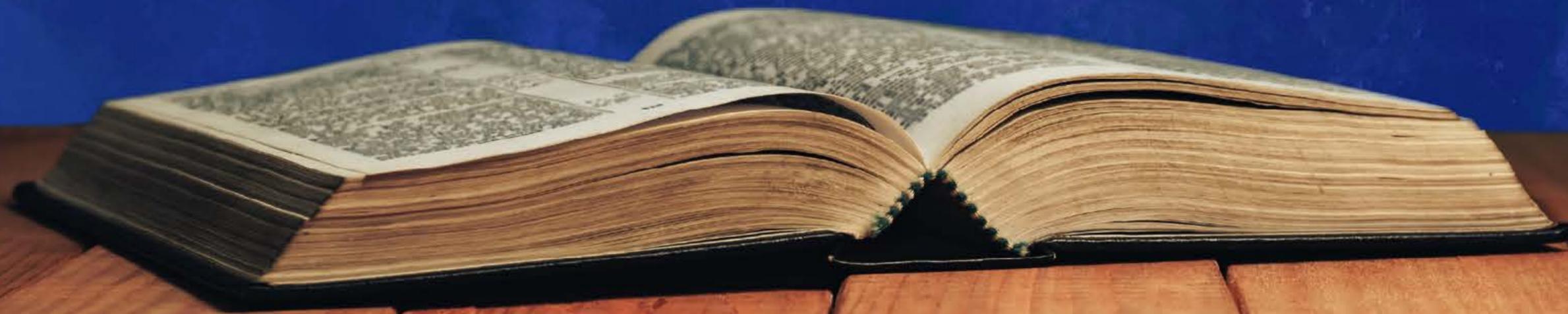
WHERE DOES THIS FIT?

- ACTS IS LUKE'S SECOND VOLUME THAT CONTINUES HIS DISPLAY OF THE WORK OF JESUS THROUGH THE CHURCH EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- ACTS CHRONICLES THE BIRTH AND EARLY DAYS OF THE CHURCH FULFILLING THE MISSION OF JESUS.
- ACTS IS A NARRATIVE THAT IS DESCRIPTIVE BUT NOT ALWAYS PRESCRIPTIVE. PATTERNS MUST BE IDENTIFIED.



WHAT SHOULD WE BELIEVE?

- JESUS IS THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE CHURCH.
- THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SOLE SOURCE OF POWER FOR THE CHURCH.
- WE ARE INVOLVED IN FINISHING THE TASK OF THE GREAT COMMISSION.



HOW SHOULD WE BEHAVE?

- FOCUSED ON JESUS.
- DEPENDENT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- ENGAGED IN THE MISSION.
- PRAYERFULLY INVOLVED.



NEXT STEPS

- FOCUS MORE ON YOUR NEED FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT THAN YOUR ENTITLEMENT TO SATISFACTION AND SUCCESS.
- GET ENGAGED “FINISHING THE TASK”. LEARN! GO! SEND! WELCOME! MOBILIZE! PACK! JOIN!

