

# OUTLINES OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

## A BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTS<sup>14</sup>

### **I. THE ESTABLISHMENT AND SPREAD OF THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM**

Chapter 1 - 8:4. "Ye shall be my witnesses...in Jerusalem..." ( Acts 1:8 ).

### **II. SPREAD OF THE CHURCH INTO JUDEA AND ADJACENT COUNTRIES.**

Chapter 8:5 - 12:25. "...and in all Judea and Samaria..."

### **III. PAUL'S TRIPS AMONG THE GENTILES.**

13 - 21:16. "...and the uttermost part of the earth."

### **IV. PAUL'S FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT.**

21:17 - 28:31.

## IMPORTANT EVENTS BY CHAPTER

### CHAPTER:

- 1 Ascension of Christ; waiting in Jerusalem; Matthias replaces Judas.
- 2 Holy Spirit comes; gospel preached; church begins with 3000.
- 3 Lame man healed; Peter's sermon on the prophets on Solomon's Porch.
- 4 Peter and John arrested and released; liberality of Barnabas.
- 5 Ananias and Sapphira; Peter and John arrested again; speech of Gamaliel.
- 6 Selection of 7 deacons; Jews accuse Stephen of blasphemy.
- 7 Stephen's defense and death at the hands of Saul.
- 8 Persecution causes the church to spread; Philip in Samaria; Simon the Sorcerer; conversion of the Eunuch.
- 9 Conversion of Saul; Saul to Jerusalem; Peter raises Dorcas.
- 10 Conversion of C.Cornelius.
- 11 Peter defends preaching to the Gentiles; famine in Judea; Barnabas and Saul to Antioch.
- 12 James killed; Peter imprisoned and released by an Angel; death of Herod.
- 13 Saul and Barnabas begin their **FIRST JOURNEY**; Elymas the Sorcerer on Cyprus; speech in Antioch; on to Iconium.
- 14 Preaching in Lystra, Derbe; healing of a lame man; apostles worshipped; Paul stoned; appointed elders on return; back to Antioch of Syria.
- 15 The Jerusalem Conference on circumcision; Paul and Barnabas separate; **SECOND JOURNEY** begins.

---

<sup>14</sup> The first 2 outlines are from Rury's outlines and are a compilation of J. W. McGarvey's and Bill Fain's.

- 16 Pick up Timothy; Macedonian Call; "we" starts; Philippi; Lydia; the Jailor.
- 17 Thessalonica - riot; Paul sent away by night; Berea - Jews from Thes.; Silas and Timothy remain; Paul's sermon on Mars Hill ( Areopagus ).
- 18 Paul makes tents in Corinth with Priscilla and Aquilla; Silas and Timothy rejoin; Paul writes 1 & 2nd Thes.; stays 1 1/2 years; Paul's vow; to Cenchrea, Ephesus, Caesarea, Antioch; **THIRD JOURNEY** begins; Galatia, Phrygia; Apollos converted at Ephesus and Corinth.
- 19 Twelve baptized again; Paul at school of Tyrannus two years; wrote 1 Cor.; opposition of Demetrius and the silversmiths.
- 20 Macedonia; Paul writes 2 Cor.; Greece, Corinth, Galatian and Romans written here; Philippi, Troas - Lord's Supper; Miletus - elders from Ephesus.
- 21 With Philip at Caesarea; Agabus foretells Paul's trials; Jerusalem - anger of the Jews; **END OF THE THIRD JOURNEY.**
- 22 Paul's defense on the castle stairs and claim of Roman citizenship.
- 23 Paul before the council; 40 men vow to kill Paul; Claudius Lysias sends Paul to Caesarea by night.
- 24 Ananias and Tertullus testify against Paul before Felix; Paul given an easy imprisonment until Festus arrives; Felix hears Paul preach, trembles.
- 25 Paul before Festus; appeals to Caesar; Agrippa and Bernice told of Paul.
- 26 Paul's speech before Agrippa; innocence declared by all.
- 27 Trip to Rome; shipwreck.
- 28 Island of Melita; viper does not harm Paul; heals Publius' father; Paul in Rome; writes Colossians, Philemon, Ephesians, Philippians.

**PART ONE - FROM JERUSALEM TO SAMARIA**

**I. THE APOSTLES PREPARE ( 1:1-2:13 ).**

1. The 40 days( 1:1-5 ).
2. The kingdom and Commission( 1:6-8 ).
3. The Ascension of Jesus( 1:9-11 ).
4. Waiting for the promise( 1:12-14 ).
5. Selection of Matthias( 1:15-26 ).
6. Descent of the Holy Spirit( 2:1-13 ).

**II. THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM ( 2:14-6:7 ).**

1. Peter's address( 2:14-36 ).
2. The first converts ( 2:37-41 ).
3. The unity of the church( 2:42-47 ).
4. The lame man healed( 3:1-10 ).
5. Peter's address to the multitude( 3:11-26 ).

DATES	VERSE	PLACE
30	1:8	Jerusalem
	2:36 2:38, 41	
31		

3:19, 24

6. First persecution - Peter & John arrested ( 4:1-22 ).
7. Peter and John set free and the prayer of the brethren ( 4:23-31 ).
8. Benevolence work( 4:32-37 ).
9. Ananias and Sapphira( 5:1-11 ).
10. Signs and wonders( 5:12-16 ).
11. Peter and John imprisoned again( 5:17-25 ).
12. Peter's address to the Sanhedrin( 5:26-32 ).
13. Speech of Gamaliel( 5:33-42 ).
14. The seven chosen( 6:1-7 ).

### III. THE SPREAD THROUGH JUDEA AND SAMARIA.( 6:8 to 8:25 ).

1. Stephen arrested and tried( 6:8-15 ).
2. Stephen's defense( 7:1-53 ).
3. Stephen's death( 7:54 to 8:2 ).
4. Disciples scattered( 8:3, 4 ).
5. Philip in Samaria( 8:5-8 ).
6. Simon the Sorcerer( 8:9-13 ).
7. Peter and John in Samaria( 8:14-25 ).

### IV. THE EUNUCH, SAUL, AND CORNELIUS( 8:26 TO 11:18 )

1. Conversion of the Eunuch( 8:26-40 ).
2. Conversion of Saul( 9:1-19 ).
3. Paul's preaching at Damascus( 9:20-25 ).
4. Paul at Jerusalem and Tarsus( 9:26-31 ).
5. Peter heals Aeneas and Dorcas( 9:32-43 ).
6. The first Gentile convert( 10:1-48 ).
7. Peter's explanation( 11:1-18 ).

### V. IN JERUSALEM AND ANTIOCH ( 11:19-12:25 ).

1. The church in Antioch started( 11:19-21 )
2. Paul and Barnabas come to Antioch ( 11:22-30 ).
3. Martyrdom of James( 12:1-2 ).
4. Peter imprisoned( 12:3-19 ).
5. Death of Herod Agrippa I ( 12:20-23 ).
6. The return of Paul and Barnabas to Antioch ( 12:24-25 ).

### PART TWO - THE JOURNEYS OF PAUL

#### I. PAUL'S FIRST JOURNEY( 13:1 - 14:28 )

1. In Cyprus ( 13:1-12 ).
2. Perga and Antioch of Pisidia( 13:13-52 )
3. Iconium( 14:1-7 ).
4. Lystra and Derbe( 14:8-20
5. Return to Antioch of Syria( 14:21-28 ).

DATES	VERSES	PLACE
	4:12	

32

33

5:29

5:42

34

35

35-36

8:4

8:12

8:22,

36

8:36

37

9:5-6

40

41

10:34-35, 48  
11;14

42

11:26

43

44

45-49

45

46

47

14:23

Samaria

To Gaza  
Damascus

Caesarea  
Jerusalem

Starts at Antioch of  
Syria to Seleucia  
Salimis & Paphos  
Perga in Pamphylia  
Iconium in Pisidia  
Lystra & Derbe in  
in Lycaonia

#### II. THE JERUSALEM DEBATE ( 15:1-35 )

1. The question of circumcision( 15:1-5 )

2. The debate( 15:6-29 ).
3. Decision received in Antioch( 15:30-35 ).

**III. PAUL'S SECOND CAMPAIGN ( 15:36 - 18:22 ).**

1. Paul selects Silas( 15:36-41 )
2. Paul revisits the churches and finds Timothy in Lystra( 16:1-5 ).
3. The Macedonian call( 16:6-10 ).
4. Philippi, Lydia converted( 16:11-15 ).
5. Paul and Silas in prison( 16:16-24 ).
6. The conversion of the Jailor( 16:25-34 ).
7. Paul and Silas released( 16:35-40 ).
8. They go to Thessalonica( 17:1-9 ).
9. At Berea( 17:10-14 ).
10. Paul's address at Athens( 17:15-34 ).
11. Corinthian work( 18:1-18 ).

**I & II THESSALONIANS WRITTEN HERE**  
12. His journey back to Antioch( 18:19-22 ).

**IV. PAUL'S THIRD JOURNEY ( 18:23 to 21:16 ).**

1. Priscilla, Aquila, & Apollos at Ephesus ( 18:24-28 ).
2. Paul at Ephesus( 9:19:1-12 ).

**I CORINTHIANS WRITTEN HERE**

3. The seven sons of Sceva( 19:13-20 ).
4. The Ephesian riot( 19:21-41 ).
5. Paul revisits Macedonia( 20:1-6 ).

**II CORINTHIANS WRITTEN HERE.**

**GALATIANS AND ROMANS WRITTEN FROM CORINTH AS HE PASSES THROUGH**

6. Paul at Troas( 20:7-12 ).
7. Paul meet with the Ephesian elders at Miletus( 20:13-38 ).
8. Paul returns to Jerusalem through Caesarea ( 21:1-16 ).

**V. PAUL'S FIVE YEARS IN PRISON.**

**A. AT JERUSALEM( 21:17 to 23:35 )**

1. Paul mobbed in the temple( 21:17-26 ).
2. The riot and Paul's arrest( 21:27-40 ).
3. Paul's speech on the stairs( 22:1-30 ).
4. Paul before the Sanhedrin( 23:1-10 ).
5. The plot to kill Paul( 23:11-25 ).
6. Paul is sent to Caesarea( 23:26-35 ).

**B AT CAESAREA( 24:1 to 26:32 ).**

1. Paul's trial before Felix( 24:1-23 ).
2. Felix and Drusilla( 24:24-27 ).
3. Paul before Festus( 25:1-12 ).

<b>DATES</b>	<b>VERSES</b>	<b>PLACE</b>
50		Antioch & Jer.

50-53		
51		Antioch
51		SYRIA, CILICIA Derbe, Lystra
		PHRYGIA,
	GAL.,MYSIA	Troas
52		Philippi,MACEDONIA
		17:6 Thessalonica
		17:11 Berea
		17:22-31 Athens
		18:6 Corinth & Cenchrea
52		

		Ephesus,Caesarea,Antioch
54-58		Begins in GALATIA & PHRYGIA
54		Ephesus
55-57		Ephesus

58		MACEDONIA,GREECE AND BACK. Thessalonica
		20:7 Troas, Assos
	20:26-27, 28-32	Mytilene,Chios Samos Miletus Cos,Rhodes,
		Patera,Tyre, Ptolamais,Caesarea

58-63?		
58		Jerusalem
		22:16
		23:1

58-60		Caesarea
		24:15
		24:25
60		

		4. Festus and Agrippa II( 24:13-27 ).
		5. Paul before Agrippa( 26:1-32 ).
<b>C. THE ROMAN VOYAGE( 27:1 to 28:10 ).</b>		
		1. From Caesarea to Crete( 27:1-12 ).

- 2. The storm and shipwreck( 27:13-44 ).
  - 3. Three months in Melita( 28:1-10 ).
- D. PAUL AT ROME( 28:11-31 )**
- 1. Arrival at Rome( 28:11-16 ).
  - 2. Interview with the Jews( 28:17-29 ).]
  - 3. Paul a prisoner for 2 more years( 28:30-31 ).

DATE	VERSE	PLACE
60		Caesarea

26:6,28-29  
61

- 62-63?  
BOOKS WRITTEN IN PRISON:
- 1. Ephesians, sent by Tychicus( Eph. 6:21 ).
  - 2. Colossians, sent by Tychicus( Col. 47 ).
  - 3. Philippians, sent by Epaphroditus( 2:25 ).
  - 4. Philemon, sent by Onesimus.

---

We know that Paul remains in prison even as the book of Acts concludes. But we don't know for how long. We know that during his imprisonment he was attended by his fellow-workers, Timothy, Luke, Mark, Demas, Aristarchus, Epaphras and Onesimus. Did Paul ever get out of jail? The indication is that he did, and after his release he visited Ephesus, Crete, Macedonia, and Corinth. Then it was back to jail, the exact circumstances or charges are not revealed. After his release he writes Hebrews, probably, and for sure 1 Timothy and Titus. He wrote 2 Timothy after he went back to jail and knew of his impending doom. Tradition has it that shortly afterwards, sometime in 68 A. D., Paul was beheaded by Nero, who had earlier granted his release.

## CHRONOLOGY OF NEW TESTAMENT EVENTS<sup>15</sup>

YEAR	ROMAN RULER	PALESTINE RULER	N.T. BOOKS	N.T. EVENTS
4 B.C.	Augustus	Herod the Great		Birth of John the bapt. Birth of Jesus
26 A.D.	Tiberius			Ministry of John ant the beginning of Jesus work
30 A.D.	Tiberius	Pontius Pilate		Crucifixion , Res. of Jesus, Ascension Pentecost
31-33 A.D.				Persecution, death of Stephn
37 A.D.				Conversion of Saul
40 A.D.				Conversion of Cornelius
45-48 A.D.	Claudius	Agrippa I		Paul's first journey
50 A.D.				Jerusalem Conference
50-53 A.D.		Agrippa II and Felix	1 Thess 2 Thess.	Paul's 2nd journey
54-57 A.D.			Matthew, Mark 1 Cor.( Sprng. 57) 2 Cor. Galatians Romans(Winter 57)	Paul's 3rd journey
58-60 A.D.		Felix & Festus	Luke James	Paul's Ceasarean imprisonment
60-61 A.D.				Paul's trip to Rome
61-63			Acts,Ephesians Philippians, Colossians, Philemon Hebrews	Paul's Rome imprison.
64-67 A.D.			1 Tim., Titus	Paul at liberty
67 A.D.	Nero		2 Timothy	Paul's 2nd imprisonment
68. A.D.			1, 2 Peter, Jude	Death of Paul
70 A.D.			John	Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus
90 A.D.			1, 2 3 John Revelation	Death of John

<sup>15</sup>From Earl West's HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE, pg. 33