



THE BOOK OF

ACTS

THE STORY CONTINUES

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³After 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."

⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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."

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 1"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Today's Message

An invitation to Acts:

But Wait! There's More!!

Acts 1:1-11

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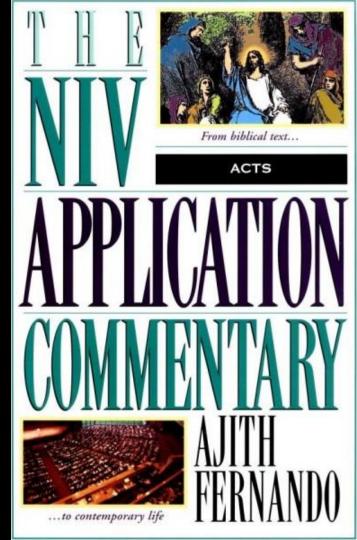
Introduction to Acts

Who Wrote it?

When written?

Why written?

Who was Acts written to?



Who wrote it?

Who wrote it?

Acts 1:1-2

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach...

Who wrote it? Luke 1:1-4

¹Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. ³With 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, ⁴so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

When was Acts written

About 60-64 AD

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About 60-64 AD

Luke 16:10

After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Scholars have placed the date of writing of Acts from early to mid-60s of the first century to much later in the century (some estimates go as far as the late second century). The most evident point used in support of an earlier date is the fact that the book ends so abruptly with events that should be dated around the early 60s.

[~] Ajith Fernando, *Acts*, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998), 22.

What was the purpose of writing Acts?

Acts 1:1-2

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

If Luke's first volume describes "all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven," we can assume that this second volume describes what he continued to do and to teach (through his Spirit) after he was taken up.

[~] Ajith Fernando, *Acts*, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998), 50.

Who was it written to?

Acts 1:1-2

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

Theophilus. This name means *friend* (*philys*) of God (*theos*). This probably was the name of a real person rather than a symbolic metaphor or a pseudonym to obscure the real identity of the letter's recipient.

Numerous suggestions about Theophilus's identity have been made; they include a Roman governor, the official who was to hear Paul's case in Rome, and

Luke's literary patron. Nevertheless who this person was remains unknown.

~ Robert H. Stein, *Luke*, vol. 24, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1992), 66.

THE NEW
AMERICAN
COMMENTARY

An Exceptical and Theological
Exposition of Holy Scripture

LUKE
VOL. 24

The Teaching Continues

Acts 1:3

³After 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.

The Teaching Continues 1. Proofs

Acts 1:3

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Luke 24

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him...

Luke 24

³³They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."

Luke 24

³⁶While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

The Teaching Continues 2. Forty Days

Acts 1:3

³After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. <u>He</u> appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

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21 22 23 24 25 26 27

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The Teaching Continues 3. Spoke about Kingdom of God

Acts 1:3

³After 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 <u>spoke</u> about the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4-5

⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

John 14:12

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

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Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

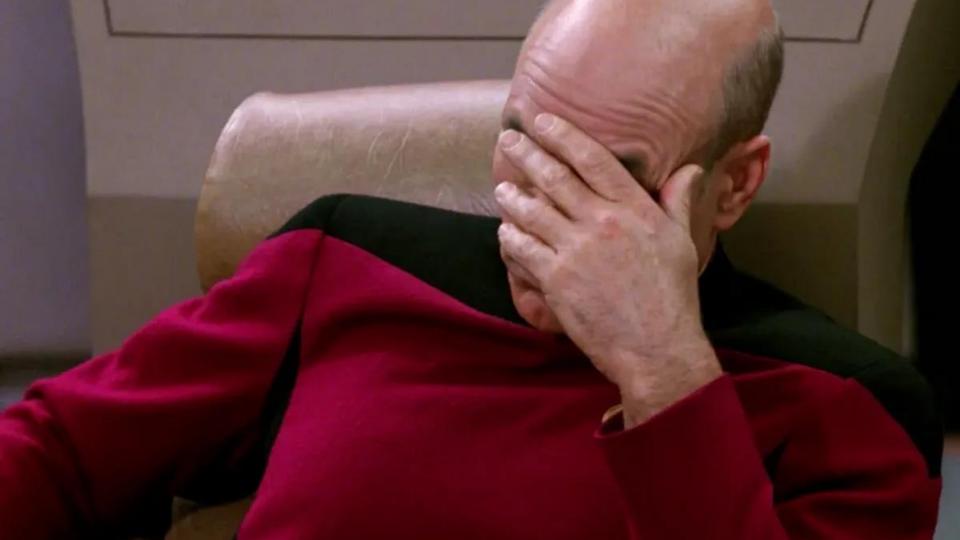
John 16:7

But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

Acts 1:6

⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"



Two ways to read Isaiah 49

(and all of the Old Testament for that matter)

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1. The Savior is Israel and the Messiah will aid that



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1. The Savior is Israel and the Messiah will aid that

2. The whole thing points to the Messiah as Savior

What the OT seems to teach:

Isn't the BIG IDEA of the Old Testament is that Israel is the plan and means of salvation for the world?

Exodus 19:5-6

⁵"Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."





Buckle your seat belts, Dorothy... Things are about to get real

Acts 1:7-8

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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."

Whoa? What just happened?

Acts 1:9-11

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 1"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

1. Do you really believe that we are in a better time now than when Jesus was on the earth?

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2. Do you really believe that you have power for living right now to be His witnesses?

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- 2. Do you really believe that you have power for living right now to be His witnesses?
- 3. Do you bask in the reality that "the story continues" to this very moment, right here in this worship service?