



Introduction to the Book of Acts

(Acts 1:1-3)

Study Notes Handout: Week One

The Ministry of Jesus by His Spirit through His People in His World

Within the New Testament, Acts functions like a hinge between the Gospels and the letters. Acts tells the story of how Jesus' ministry transitioned to the apostles, who, by the Holy Spirit's leading, announced the gospel to the first century world... The theological center of Acts is the missionary nature of Christian faith... It reveals God as a missionary God.

Michael R. Wagenman

Introduction:

- The Bible Project (Acts) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CGbNw855ksw>
- Scripture Studies (Acts) - <http://whyteridgebaptist.ca> (Click on 'sermons by series')
(Hard Copies available upon request at the Information Centre)

1. Luke-Acts

- Luke's Gospel is about what Jesus began to do - until He was taken up to heaven.
- Acts is about what Jesus continued to do - after He was taken up to heaven.

2. Instructions through the Holy Spirit

- In Luke the Holy Spirit is mentioned 17 times.
- In Acts the Holy Spirit is mentioned 56 times.

3. The Apostles Christ had chosen

- Peter and the Beginnings of the Church in Jerusalem (Acts 1 - 12)
- Paul and the Expansion of the Church among the Nations (Acts 13 - 28)

4. Theophilus: Lessons for God-Lovers

So much of the church today is where Theophilus was when he read the stirring account of Acts. We have been instructed in the things Jesus did, but know far too little about what He continues to do today as Indwelling Spirit...the Theophiluses of our time are more ready and open than we realize. (Lloyd J. Ogilvie)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- Why does knowing what Jesus did on earth (Luke) need to be accompanied by knowing what Jesus continues to do (Acts) in and through His people?
- What role does the Holy Spirit play in our lives in helping us love God, and helping us love what God loves? Why is this a critical piece to the mission of Christ on earth?



Personal Study Notes

After his suffering, he showed himself to these men
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.

Acts 1:3

The Former Book (1:1-2)

The Presence of the Living Christ (1:3)

Personal Prayer Points from this Passage:

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

1)

2)