

## Introduction to Acts Study Guide

**Background:** Some scholars call **Acts**, “**Luke Part 2**”. Dating of the writing of **Acts**, scholars say, was between AD 58 and 62 AD (not too long after Luke’s gospel of Jesus). Luke was a believer in Christ who was a doctor by profession and traveled with the apostle Paul. He was a gentile and wrote both “**Luke**” and “**Acts**”. Both of these books of the Bible were written to a man named, “Theophilus”. Not much is known about him except that he was the recipient of both of these letters. It appears, by Luke referring to him as “most excellent” or “most honorable”, Theophilus may have held some position of influence. Luke writes **Acts**, in the same way he did Luke’s gospel of Jesus, to educate fellow believers on what occurred through eye witness accounts and testimonies. The Bible, both Old Testament and New Testament, records the history of God and His people. The **book of Acts** is the history of how God built the church. This is our story as the church. We will learn why we exist as well as the work that God has for us to do for Him within this world.

### **Background Questions (Use information from above):**

- What is another name that some scholars call the book of **Acts**? \_\_\_\_\_
- When was Luke most likely written? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who was Luke? \_\_\_\_\_
- Was the physical writer of **Acts**, Luke, a Jew or a gentile? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was Luke’s profession? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who did Luke physically travel with? \_\_\_\_\_
- Why do you think God orchestrated for Luke to travel with the apostle Paul
  - (see **2 Corinthians 11:24-26**)? \_\_\_\_\_
- What 2 books of the New Testament did Luke write? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Who are both the **book of Luke** and the **book of Acts** written to? \_\_\_\_\_
- What else can we conclude about Theophilus from Luke’s greetings in the **book of Luke** and the **book of Acts**? What type of position in society did this person most likely hold?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What, like Luke’s gospel of Jesus, does Luke want to provide to his fellow believers by writing the **book of Acts**? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What are the 2 resources that Luke uses to substantiate the truth of his writings?
    - \_\_\_\_\_ accounts and \_\_\_\_\_.
- What history does the Old and New Testament record?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The **book of Acts** shows that Who built the church? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is special to a Christian about the **book of Acts** - whose story is it?
  - The \_\_\_\_\_
- What will we learn about the church as we study the **book of Acts**?
  - Why we \_\_\_\_\_
  - Learn about the \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ has for us (as the church) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ within this \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will finish what Jesus began. Write out **Luke 2:49** (the words of Jesus to His earthly mother):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For the remainder of this study guide, we will compare some Scripture passages. The Scriptures will be within this study guide to avoid confusion with translations and question answering. Read both of Luke's introductions (out loud) from the 2 books of the Bible that he physically wrote down for God and answer the questions that follow:

**Luke 1:1-4** (Introduction/Greeting):

**1** Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, **2** just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, **3** it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, **4** that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.

**Acts 1:1-3** (Introduction/Prologue);

**1** The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, **2** until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, **3** to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

**Questions:**

- Looking at **Luke 1:1**, what does Luke set forth to write? A \_\_\_\_\_
- What does Luke say that narrative will be about? Of \_\_\_\_\_ things which have been \_\_\_\_\_ us.
- As we look at **Luke 1:2**, how long (does Luke write here) have these been eyewitness and ministers of the word delivered them (the words of God) to us (humanity)?
  - From the \_\_\_\_\_.
- What, in **Luke 1:3**, seemed good to Luke to write down? An \_\_\_\_\_ account
- What, in **Luke 1:3**, does Luke say that has of all things from the very first?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- And why does Luke say in Luke 1:4 that he is written this down? What does Luke want his reader to know?
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in which you were instructed.
- What do you think that Luke meant in **Acts 1:1** by the "former" account? What book of the Bible do you think Luke is referring to? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who is the recipient of both Luke and Acts? \_\_\_\_\_
- In **Acts 1:1**, Who does Luke say he is writing about? \_\_\_\_\_
- What, in **Acts 1:1-3**, does Luke say that he is writing about Jesus?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus began both \_\_\_\_\_ and teach (**Acts 1:1**)
  - How Jesus through the \_\_\_\_\_ gave \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ whom He had \_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 1:2**)
  - How Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ Himself \_\_\_\_\_ after His \_\_\_\_\_ by many \_\_\_\_\_ proofs (**Acts 1:3**)
  - How Jesus was seen by His apostles during \_\_\_\_\_ days (**Acts 1:3**)
  - How Jesus spoke to His apostles of the things \_\_\_\_\_ to the kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Write out 1 Peter 3:15-16** -

---

---

---

- What do you think, in **1 Peter 3:15**, that the apostle Peter is instructing his fellow believers in Christ (including us) to do?  

---
- What do we need to be prepared for? (**Hint: Luke 1:3** shares Luke had a perfect understanding in order to write down his orderly account)  

---
- According to **Matthew 28:19**, what does Jesus command us to go and do?  

---
- And how, according to **Matthew 28:20**, are others suppose to learn what Jesus has commanded?
  - By \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- Why is it necessary for us to be prepared? Can we teach something that we, ourselves, cannot explain or understand?  

---

---

Next week, we will begin **Acts 1**. You're doing great. Let me know if you have any questions.