

# Acts of the Apostles

## Lesson 1 – Introduction

(These questions directly from and adapted from material by Steve Fontenot)

### **Purpose of the Book**

1. The miracles recorded in Acts \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel as from heaven. (see Mk 16:17-20; Acts 14:3; Heb 2:3-4)
  
2. The book of Acts provides more information about the carrying out of the great commission.
  - a. What had Jesus instructed the apostles to do? (Mt 28:18-20)?
  
  - b. Does Acts give more information about how that commission was carried out and what was taught in fulfillment of that commission? Give an example.
  
3. The book of Acts shows the mission of the Holy Spirit being fulfilled, and it answers questions as to who and how.
  - a. What promise did Jesus make about the Holy Spirit? (Jn 14:26, 15:26-27, 16:13-14; Lk 24:48-49)
  
  - b. In what verses of Acts 1 does Luke write about the coming fulfillment of this promise?
  
4. The book of Acts tells us about the church's beginning and growth as well as its work and organization.
  - a. Upon what did Jesus promise to build His church? (Mt 16:16, 18)
  
  - b. What did the apostles preach, and what was the result? (Acts 2:36, 41, 47)
  
5. The book of Acts helps us understand and gives more meaning to some of the things written in the epistles.
  - a. What did Paul give as a reason for remaining in Ephesus? (1 Cor 16:8-9)
  
  - b. What incident was he probably referring to? (Acts 19:1, 19-20)

### **Author of the Book**

6. Compare Luke 1:1-4 and 24:44-53 with Acts 1:1-8.
  - a. Who are both letters addressed to?
  
  - b. The author of Acts says he concluded his first account with a certain event, and that is the same event recorded at the end of the gospel of Luke. What is that event?
  
  - c. Luke's gospel concludes with a promise to the apostles and Acts starts with that promise. What is that promise?
  
  - d. What sources did the author have for the information he wrote in Luke and in Acts? (Acts 16:10-17; Lk 1:1-2) Who gave Him the words to write? (2 Tim 3:16-17)
  
  - e. What kind of person was Luke (e.g. character)? (Col 4:14; 2 Tim 4:11; Phm 24)

### **Outline of the Book**

7. Give a 3 point outline of the book based on Acts 1:8.