

Overview of the Book of Acts

01/11/2022

Author of the Book of Acts

- Luke the physician.

Who was Luke?

1) A Physician

Colossians 4:14

• New Living Translation

¹⁴ Luke, the beloved doctor, sends his greetings, and so does Demas.

English Standard Version

¹⁴ Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas.

2) A Gentile

Who was Luke?

3) A Fellow Worker with the Apostle Paul.

- Philemon 1:24 (NIV)

²⁴ And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.

Who was Luke?

4) A close associate with the Apostle Paul.

In writing about the Apostle Paul, Doctor Luke refers to the word “we” in several scriptures.

Scriptural references

- Acts 16:10 – 17
- Acts 20:5 – 15
- Acts 21:1 – 18
- Acts 27:1 – 28:16

Books he wrote

Writings in 2 Volumes

- The Book of Luke
- The Book of Acts

Author of

- (i) The book of Luke
- (ii) The book of Acts

Evidence – Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

¹ Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us,

² just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word.

³ With 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**,

⁴ so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

Evidence – Acts 1:1 (NIV)

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

² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

General Outline of Acts

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

⁸ But 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.”

Expectations

Look out for what God can do

- with, to, in, and through a person/church that is fully committed to Him, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Look out for the

- Acts of the Apostles.
- Acts of the Disciples.
- Acts of Jesus Christ.
- Acts of the Holy Spirit.

How the Book of Acts is divided

Part 1

- Peter's Ministry
- He ministered primarily to the Jews in Jerusalem.
- Acts 1:1-12:24

NB: Acts 10:25-28 (NIV)

²⁵ As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence. ²⁶ But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself." ²⁷ While talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. ²⁸ He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean."

How the Book of Acts is divided

Part 2

- Paul's Ministry
- He ministered primarily to the Gentiles
- Acts 12:25 – 28:31

How the Gospel spreads

Acts 2-7

- The gospel spreads in Jerusalem.

Acts 8-12

- The gospel spreads in Judea and Samaria.

Acts 8:1 (NIV) – Transition

¹ On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

Acts 13-28

- The gospel spreads to the ends of the earth.

Compilation of Peter's Sermons from Acts

- Acts 2:14-39
- Acts 3:11-26
- Acts 4:8-12
- Acts 10:28-37
- Acts 11:4-18

When Saul's name changed to Paul

Acts 13:9 (NIV)

⁹ Then **Saul**, who was also called **Paul**, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said,

NB:

His conversion took place in Acts 9, however, his name change only reflected in scriptures from Acts 13:9.

Some Noteworthy Statements...

2 Timothy 1:11 (NLT)

And God chose me to be a **preacher, an apostle, and a teacher** of this Good News.

1 Corinthians 9:11 (NIV)

Am I not free? Am I not an **apostle**? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not the result of my work in the Lord?

Prophet and Teacher



Apostle

Acts 13:1-3 (NIV)

¹ Now in the church at Antioch there were **prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.**

² While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

³ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

Prophet and Teacher



Apostle

Acts 14:14, 21-23 (NIV)

14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting:

21 They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch,

22 strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.

23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.