

WHERE GOD IS ADDING

Acts 2:42-47

June 27, 2021

*Those who accepted [Peter's] message were baptized,
and about three thousand were added to their number that day.
They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship,
to the breaking of bread, and to prayer
And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.
Acts 2:41-47*

Reviewing our Pentecost experience

1) Three signs (Acts 2:1-13): _____

2) One very important day (Acts 2:14-21): _____

3) Two events (Acts 2:23-24): _____

4) Two witnesses (Acts 2:31-32): _____

5) Two responses (Acts 2:37-38): _____

6) Two blessings (Acts 2:38-39): _____

7) Two essentials for the preacher (Acts 2:40): _____

8) One beautiful result (Acts 2:41): _____

Look inside the Jerusalem church

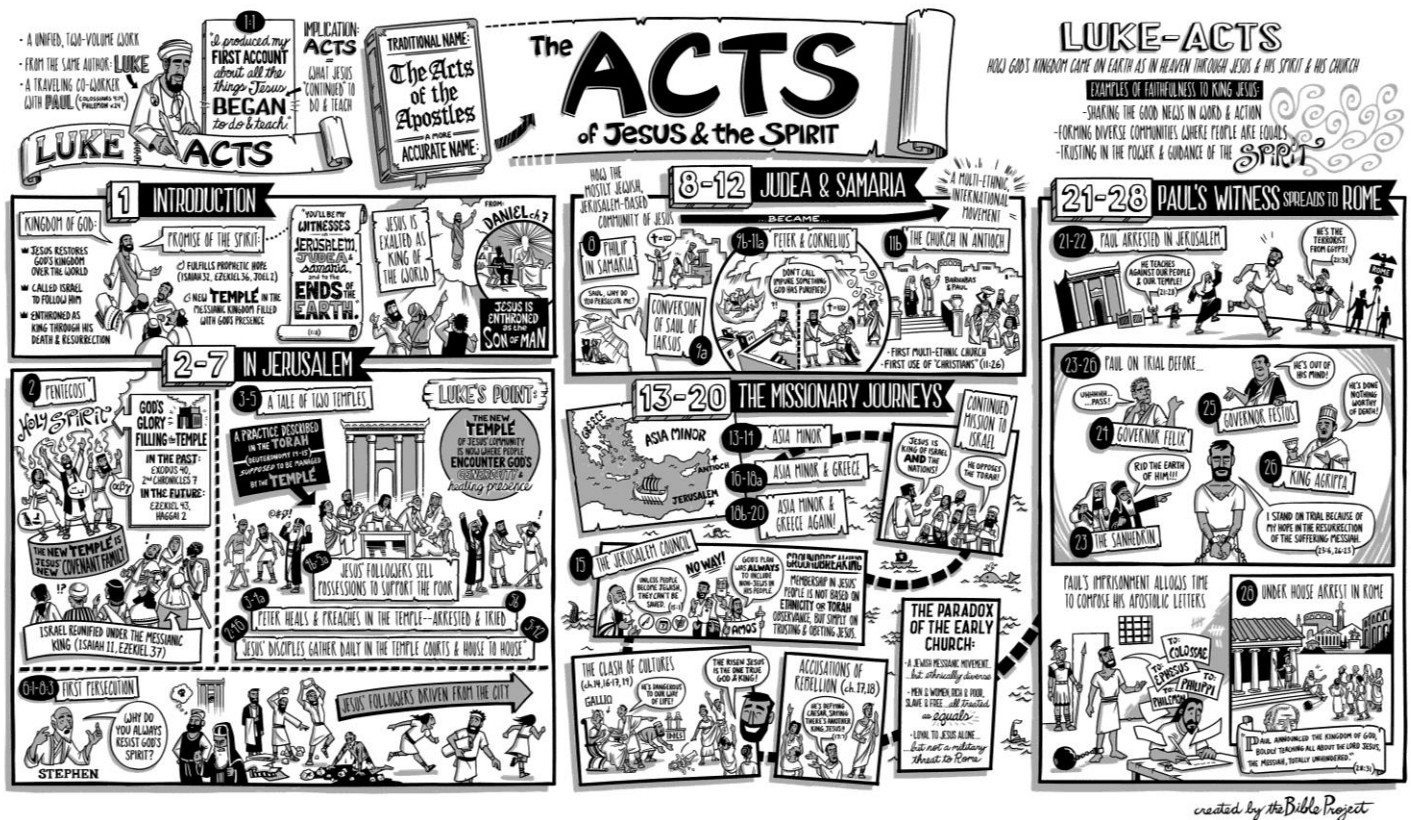
⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47 (English Standard Version)

- 1) This is the “honeymoon” (they are all together!) moment of the church
- 2) The “devoted” reader of Acts will discern the descriptive from the prescriptive for the church
- 3) This assembly (but see “church” in Acts 5:11 and 8:1) is where the souls are added!

Pentecost lessons for the church today

- 1) A church devoted and together is still God's plan for this world
- 2) Applying the Pentecost experience:
descriptive: _____ prescriptive: _____
- 3) Just because it's the honeymoon doesn't mean we don't aim for this!



Resources for further studies in Acts

The Bible Project team has great stuff on Acts at <https://open.life.church/items/179224-poster-jpg>

Spurgeon has sermons on this text at <http://www.romans45.org/spurgeon/sermons/2102.htm> and <http://www.spurgeongems.org/vols19-21/chs1167.pdf>

Deffinbaugh has a helpful introduction at <https://bible.org/seriespage/unique-contribution-book-acts> and Acts series at <https://bible.org/series/studies-book-acts> His sermon on this text is at <https://bible.org/seriespage/6-characteristics-healthy-church-acts-241-47>

Tim Keller has a wonderful sermon at <https://www.monergism.com/signs-king-%E2%80%93-acts-237-47>

John Piper has a helpful look at repentance in his “Repentance, Forgiveness and the Gift of the Spirit” at <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/repentance-forgiveness-and-the-gift-of-the-spirit>

I have really appreciated John Stott’s *The Spirit, The Church and the World: The Message of Acts* (IVP, 1990) and F. F. Bruce’s work: *New Testament History* (Doubleday, 1980) and *The Book of the Acts* (Eerdmans, 1984).

Carl Trueman’s conclusion in *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self* (Crossway, 2020) influenced my thinking on the church. His third point, the importance of proper natural law thinking, is reflected in Kevin DeYoung’s blog at <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/gods-good-gift-in-making-us-men-and-women/>

Acts 2:41-47, Doug's expanded translation

Those who sincerely welcomed Peter's message
were baptized
and were being given over [to them] that very GATDOTL day
about three thousand souls

These ones were remaining in devotion
to the teaching of the Apostles
and to the fellowship
to the breaking of bread
and to the prayers.

Fear was becoming in each soul,
as many of both wonders and signs
through the Apostles were being made evident.

Then all of the believing ones were "in the same"
and had all things in common
their properties and belongings
they were selling
and were distributing these
according to the need that anyone had.

Day by day remaining in devotion
with one mind in the temple
and breaking in homes bread
they were sharing [with one another] meals with glad and generous hearts
praising God
and enjoying favor of all the people.

So their Lord was giving over to them "in the same"
the ones being saved day by day.

Acts Timeline (ESV Study Bible)

	A.D.	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80
Death, resurrection of Christ (A.D. 33 [or 30])†		█										
Pentecost (30/33)		█										
Stephen stoned (31/33)		█										
Paul converted (33/34*)		●										
Paul meets with Peter in Jerusalem (36/37*)			█									
Paul ministers in Syria/Cilicia (37–45)			█	█	█							
Peter witnesses to Cornelius (38*)			●									
James, brother of John, martyred (41–44)				█	█							
Peter rescued from prison, leaves Jerusalem (44)				●								
Paul's second Jerusalem visit (famine relief) (44–47*)				█	█							
Paul's first missionary journey (46–47)					●							
Peter and Paul at Jerusalem council (48–49*)					█							
Paul's second missionary journey (48/49–51*)					█	█						
Claudius expels Jews from Rome (49)					●							
Paul's third missionary journey (52–57*)						█	█					
Paul ministers in Ephesus (52–55)						█	█					
Claudius dies; Jews allowed back to Rome (54)						●						
Nero's reign (54–68)							█	█	█	█		
Paul arrested in Jerusalem (57*)							●					
Paul imprisoned in Caesarea (57–59)							█	█				
James, brother of the Lord, martyred (62)								●				
Paul under house arrest in Rome (62*)								●				
Luke writes Gospel of Luke and Acts (62*)								●				
Paul released, resumes ministry, rearrested (62–64)								█	█			
Paul and Peter martyred in Rome (64–67*)								█	█			