

# **Acts: The Acts of the Holy Spirit**

## **\*. The Placement in the Canon**

**Between the Gospels and the Epistles**

**Connection/link between two**

## **\*. Authorship: Who wrote this Gospel?**

**Luke**

**This is the second volume – the Gospel of Luke being the first**

## **\*. Date: When was it written?**

**80-90 AD, shortly after the Gospel of Luke**

## **\*. Audience: To whom was it written?**

**Theophilus**

## **\*. Purpose: Why was it written?**

**Narrative of history – preservation**

**Explanation of practical outworking of Spirit**

## **\*. Theme: What is the main topic?**

**The Gospel overcomes all barriers; the Spirit empowers for effectiveness and witness.**

## **\*. Additional Information:**

**Emphases found within the Gospel: world mission, providence of God, power of the Spirit, the inclusive Gospel, the importance of being a faithful witness, the triumph of the Gospel.**

**The Gospel overcomes all barriers: geographical, social, racial, sexual, cultural.**

**Acts 1:1-11:** The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen. <sup>3</sup> To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, “Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” <sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; <sup>8</sup> but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> They also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”

**Acts 10:9-16:** On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. <sup>10</sup> But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance; <sup>11</sup> and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground, <sup>12</sup> and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air. <sup>13</sup> A voice came to him, “Get up, Peter, kill and eat!” <sup>14</sup> But Peter said, “By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean.” <sup>15</sup> Again a voice came to him a second time, “What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.” <sup>16</sup> This happened three times, and immediately the object was taken up into the sky.

**Acts 10:24-35** On the following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends. <sup>25</sup> When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped him. <sup>26</sup> But Peter raised him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am just a man.” <sup>27</sup> As he talked with him, he entered and found many people assembled. <sup>28</sup> And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean. <sup>29</sup> “That is why I came without even

raising any objection when I was sent for. So I ask for what reason you have sent for me.”<sup>30</sup> Cornelius said, “Four days ago to this hour, I was praying in my house during the ninth hour; and behold, a man stood before me in shining garments,<sup>31</sup> and he said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God.<sup>32</sup> ‘Therefore send to Joppa and invite Simon, who is also called Peter, to come to you; he is staying at the house of Simon the tanner by the sea.’<sup>33</sup> “So I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”<sup>34</sup> Opening his mouth, Peter said: “I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality,<sup>35</sup> but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.