

Acts

How Christ equipped and used the Church to spread the gospel to the world.

Christ is supreme in all things.
Christ is supreme in His early church.
Christ is supreme in His church today.

Introduction:
Luke 24

I. Background

1. Written

- i. By: Luke
- ii. When: After Luke; 63 - 68 AD; covers roughly the first 32 years after Christ's death and resurrection
 1. does not mention death of Paul (67ish)
 2. does not mention fire in Rome (64)
- iii. To: "most excellent Theophilus" Luke 1:4
 1. "most excellent" used in Acts to refer to Roman official
 2. Theophilus was probably a believer that had doubts or questions/ skeptical

II. Purpose

1. Historical

- i. Provides *some* account of the early church
- ii. Describes *some* of the sovereign, unified, and unmitigated advance of the gospel into all the world
- iii. Gives important background information to the Epistles and rest of the NT

2. Encourage Believers

III. Theme

1. **Christ equipped and used the Church to spread the gospel to the world.**

IV. General Overview

1. How Christ equipped the Church to spread the gospel (1-2:13)
2. How Christ used the Church to spread the gospel throughout Jerusalem (2:14-8:3)
3. How Christ used the Church to spread the gospel to Judea and Samaria (8:4-12:25)
4. How Christ used the Church to spread the gospel to the world (13-28)

V. Outline

1. **How Christ equipped the Church to spread the gospel (1-2:13)**
 1. Promise of the Holy Spirit (1:1-5)
 2. Jesus Ascends into Heaven (1:6-11)
 3. Matthias chosen to replace Judas (1:12-26)
 4. Holy Spirit arrives (2:1-13)
5. **How Christ used the Church to spread the Gospel throughout *Jerusalem* (2:14-8:3)**
 1. Peter's Sermon at Pentecost (2:14-41)
 2. Fellowship of the Believers (2:42-47)
 3. Lame Beggar Healed and Peter Speaks (3:1-26)
 4. Peter and John Before the Council (4:1-22)

5. The Believers Pray for and Received Boldness (4:23-31)
6. The Believers in Community (4:32-37)
7. Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11)
8. Miracles, Signs and Wonders (5:12-16)
9. Apostles Arrested by High Priest and Freed by God (5:17-32)
10. Gamaliel Speaks to those seeking to stop the Apostles (5:33-42)
11. Stephen and others Chosen to Serve (6:1-7)
12. Stephen is Captured (6:7-15)
13. Stephen Speaks to his Captors (7:1-53)
14. Stephen is Stoned (7:54-60)
15. Saul Persecutes the Church (8:1-3)
16. **How Christ used the Church to spread the Gospel throughout *Judea and Samaria* (8:4-12:25)**
 1. Philip Proclaims Christ in Samaria (8:4-8:8)
 2. Simon the Magician Believes (8:9-25)
 3. Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch (8:26-40)
 4. Saul is Converted (9:1-19)
 5. Saul Proclaims Christ in Synagogues (9:19-22)
 6. Saul Escapes from Demascus to Jerusalem (9:23-31)
 7. (Peter) Healing of Aeneas and Resurrection of Dorcas (9:32-43)
 8. Peter's Vision for the Gentiles (10:1-33)
 9. Peter Speaks to Gentiles (10:34-43)
 10. Gentiles Believe and Receive the Holy Spirit (10:44-48)
 11. Peter Reports to the Church about the Gentiles (11:1-18)
 12. Report on the Church in Antioch (11:19-30)
 13. James Killed and Peter Imprisoned (12:1-5)
 14. Peter is Rescued (12:6-19)
 15. Herod Killed by an Angel of God (12:20-25)
16. **How Christ used the Church to spread the Gospel to *the world* (13-28)**
 1. Barnabas and Saul Sent Off (13:1-3)
 2. Barnabas and Saul in Cyprus (13:4-12)
 3. Barnabas and Paul Address Gentile Conversion at Antioch (13:13-52)
 4. Barnabas and Paul flee Iconium (14:1-7)
 5. Barnabas and Paul mistaken for gods at Lystra (14:8-18)
 6. Paul Stoned in Lystra (14:19-23)
 7. Barnabas and Paul Return to Antioch (14:24-28)
 8. Jerusalem Council meets to discuss Gentile Salvation (15:1-21)
 9. Council sends a letter to Gentile Believers (15:22-35)
 10. Barnabas and Paul Separate (15:36-41)
 11. Timothy Joins Paul and Silas (16:1-5)
 12. Paul, Silas, Luke and Timothy Called to Macedonia (16:6-10)
 13. Lydia is Converted (16:11-15)
 14. Paul and Silas Imprisoned (16:16-24)
 15. Philippian Jailer Converted (16:25-40)
 16. Paul and Silas Hiding in Thessalonica (17:1-9)
 17. Paul and Silas Flee to Berea, Paul flees to Athens (17:10-15)
 18. Paul Engages the Athenians about Idol Worship and Shares Christ (17:16-34)
 19. Paul Engages the Jews in Corinth (18:1-17)
 20. Paul Visits Antioch to Strengthen the Believers (18:18-23)
 21. Apollos Taught and Encouraged by Priscilla and Aquila (18:24-28)

22. Paul Teaches in Ephesus (19:1-10)
23. Miracles Performed through Paul, Magicians converted (19:11-20)
24. Riot in Ephesus (19:21-41)
25. Paul and Others in Greece; Raise Eutychus from the Dead (20:1-16)
26. Paul's Farewell Address to the Elders in Ephesus (20:17-38)
27. Paul and Others go to Jerusalem; Paul Warned not to go by Prophet (21:1-16)
28. Paul Reports to the Elders in Jerusalem; They warn him of angry Jews (21:17-26)
29. Paul Arrested and Beaten (21:27-36)
30. Paul Addresses the Mob; Tells His Story (21:36-22:21)
31. Paul Reveals that He is a Roman Citizen (22:22-29)
32. Paul Before the Council in Jerusalem; Spared again from Death (22:30-23:11)
33. Plot to Kill Paul discovered; Roman Tribune Told of Plot (23:12-22)
34. Paul Protected and Sent to Felix the Governor (23:23-35)
35. Paul Defends Himself before Felix (24:1-21)
36. Paul Placed under "Light" Arrest for at Least Two Years (24:22-27)
37. Paul Appeals to be Tried by Caesar (25:1-27)
38. Paul Defends Himself before King Agrippa (26:1-23)
39. Paul Speaks Directly to Agrippa about Christ (26:24-29)
40. Agrippa Agrees to send Paul to Caesar (26:30-32)
41. Paul and Others Journey to Rome; Paul's Life Spared by Centurion After Shipwreck (27)
42. Paul on Malta; Heals Many (28:1-10)
43. Paul and Others Arrive Safely in Rome (28:11-16)
44. Paul Speaks before the Jewish Leaders in Rome; Some Believe (28:17-28)
45. Paul Stays in Rome Preaching the Gospel (28:30-31)

II. Conclusions

- I. Christ will be Honored through men or in spite of men.
- II. Persecution leads to the spread of the Gospel.
- III. Acts ends with a comma, not a period