



IN &
OUT®

English Standard Version

Acts

PART 1

JESUS' WITNESSES
EMPOWERED BY
HIS SPIRIT
(CHAPTERS 1–12)

IN & OUT®

English Standard Version

ACTS PART 1

JESUS' WITNESSES EMPOWERED BY HIS SPIRIT
(CHAPTERS 1–12)

ISBN 978-1-62119-432-3

© 2015 Precept Ministries International. All rights reserved.

This material is published by and is the sole property of Precept Ministries International of Chattanooga, Tennessee. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Precept, Precept Ministries International, Precept Ministries International The Inductive Bible Study People, the Plumb Bob design, Precept Upon Precept, In & Out, Sweeter than Chocolate!, Cookies on the Lower Shelf, Precepts For Life, Precepts From God's Word and Transform Student Ministries are trademarks of Precept Ministries International.

Scripture take from *ESV Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®)*.
Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

1st edition

Printed in the United States of America



PAGE	LESSONS
1	LESSON ONE: Power
9	LESSON TWO: “When the Day of Pentecost Arrived...”
15	LESSON THREE: The Boldness That Comes from Being with Jesus
19	LESSON FOUR: What Would You Do If You Were Ordered Not to Speak the Truths of God’s Word?
25	LESSON FIVE: Brought Before “The Council”
29	LESSON SIX: “There Arose On That Day a Great Persecution”
35	LESSON SEVEN: “I Am Jesus, Whom You Are Persecuting”
39	LESSON EIGHT: The Pouring Out of the Gift of the Holy Spirit
	APPENDIX
45	Acts Observation Worksheets
87	Acts at a Glance
89	Map of Israel
91	Map of Jerusalem
93	What Acts Teaches about the Spirit of God
96	The Feasts of Israel
99	The Temple Complex
101	The Roman World in the Time of Acts



Power

Power to be what God wants you to be!
Power to do what God wants you to do!
It's yours for the believing!

As we prepare this study on the book of Acts, it seems this is “the hour”—the time to learn from the apostles what it means to be His witnesses, Christ-followers in the midst of a “crooked and twisted generation.”

If you are aware of what is transpiring in the nations, you can sense the increasing conflict between the darkness and light. And if you know the whole counsel of God, you should be keenly aware that the day of the Lord is drawing near. If ever there was a need to understand and do the will of God, it is now!

May you discover for yourself, through this study, what it means to be His faithful witness even to the remotest part of the earth. And may you hear His “Well done!”

TAKING IT IN

The secret to handling God's Word accurately is to observe, observe, observe His Word—to hang on His every God-breathed word. As Luke brought his Gospel to a conclusion, he wrote that Jesus “opened their [the eleven apostles and those with them] minds to understand the Scriptures” (Luke 24:45). May this be your prayer as you begin.

Since the book of Acts is an historical account, we are going to study it chapter by chapter, allowing the story to unfold before us.

1. In the Appendix of this workbook, you'll find what we call “Observation Worksheets” for the first twelve chapters of Acts. They are just that—worksheets to be observed and marked in a way that will help you discover for yourself exactly what God says chapter by chapter in Acts, information He wants you to know, understand, and live by.

Read Acts 1 and mark the following, using a distinctive color or a combination of colors and/or a colored symbol for each. On the back cover of



your workbook, you'll see marking suggestions for some words frequently used in the Bible. Below and throughout this workbook we've indicated each word from this list with an asterisk.

- a. *Jesus**
 - b. *the Holy Spirit**
 - c. *Peter, the apostles* (Mark these the same way.)
 - d. geographical locations,* such as *Jerusalem* or the *upper room*. See these locations on the "Map of Israel" and the "Map of Jerusalem" in the Appendix.
 - e. references to "when,"* such as *then, at this time*.
2. Now, apart from the human author of Acts, whose name we are not told in Acts 1, and Theophilus, to whom he's writing, you've marked the main characters mentioned in Acts 1. So what do you do with these markings besides have a lovely colored page? You want to learn what God tells you about them. So list the *main* things the text tells you about the people you marked, using the chart at the end of the lesson.
 3. Note the main theme or event(s) of chapter 1 on the "Acts at a Glance" chart found in the Appendix. This chart is a great way to summarize the main points of the book. We'll complete the chart as we move through Acts.

Now aren't you awed by all that you have observed on your own simply by observing the text! Savor the truths . . . think about them . . . talk to the Father about them. Thank Him for His Word—this, Beloved, is the truth. Truth that sanctifies you—sets you apart, makes you more like Jesus, and keeps you from the evil one (John 17:14-18). And we are just beginning!

4. Let's look at what the Father promised and Jesus spoke about in Acts 1. We'll begin with Luke and then go to the Gospel of John and follow Jesus' teaching on the Holy Spirit. Look up the passages and record what you learn from them.
 - a. Luke 24:44-53



b. Luke 3:15-17

c. John 7:37-39

d. John 14:1-3, 16-17, 26

e. John 15:26-27



f. John 16:7-14

5. Read Acts 1:1-11 again. (It's good to read aloud.) Then to review, answer the following questions:
- a. Why were they not to leave Jerusalem?
 - b. What were they going to receive?
 - c. When was this going to happen—what would be the timing?
 - d. How would it happen?
 - e. What would they become?
 - f. Where?



6. Did you notice the words “power” and “witnesses” in verse 8?

Power is *dúnamis*, meaning “inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature.”¹ “All the words derived from the stem *dúna-* have the meaning of being able, capable.”²

Witness is *mártus*, “one who testifies”³; “one who declares facts directly known to himself.”⁴

In light of these definitions, think about what Jesus is saying to the apostles in Acts 1:8. Mark the word *witnesses* here.

7. What is the order of events in verse 9?

8. In Acts 1:12-26 what was Peter’s reason for leading the brethren to replace Judas?

- a. What does the text tell you?

¹ James Strong, *Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon* (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2001). G1411.

² Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*, electronic ed. (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000, c1992, c1993). G1411.

³ Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 417.

⁴ Timothy Friberg, Barbara Friberg and Neva F. Miller, *Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*, Baker’s Greek New Testament Library (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000). 254.



b. What were the qualifications for his replacement?

LIVING IT OUT 1. So what happens between Jesus' ascension to heaven and His return to earth? What do you learn from Acts 1:8? Don't miss the who, the when, the where, the what—and the how.

2. We suggest that you read Acts 1:8 aloud every day three times a day until you have it memorized. Where are the apostles to be witnesses? See if you can list them from memory.

Well done! Think of what you have learned for yourself—of what you know that you know because of the time and careful attention you've given to the words of Almighty God—the Sovereign Ruler of the universe.



JESUS	THE APOSTLES
THE HOLY SPIRIT	PETER



ACTS 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- IN the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach,
- 2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.
 - 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.
 - 4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me;
 - 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”
 - 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”
 - 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.
 - 8 “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
 - 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.
 - 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,
 - 11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”



- 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.
- 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James.
- 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.
- 15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said,
- 16 "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.
- 17 "For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."
18 (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.
- 19 And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)
- 20 "For it is written in the Book of Psalms,
- 'May his camp become desolate,
and let there be no one to dwell in it';
- and
- 'Let another take his office.'
- 21 "So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
- 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection."
- 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias.



- 24 And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen
- 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.”
- 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.



ACTS AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

Segment Divisions

			Chapter Themes
Author:			1
			2
Date:			3
			4
Purpose:			5
			6
Key Words:			7
			8
			9
			10
			11
			12





