

Acts 1:1–12

Lesson for July 4, 2026

The Title Acts of the Apostles is not find in the text.

Outside of Peter , James, and John, it is mostly about Paul's travels and teachings.

The period covered by the book of Acts: AD 31–63, the emperors were Tiberius (14–37), Caligula (37–41), Claudius (41–54), and Nero (54–68)

One of the great theme is the gospel to the Gentiles

Outline for today

I. Introduction, 1:1–11.

A. Luke's "former treatise," the Gospel, 1:1.

B. The gospel commission, 1:2–8.

C. Christ's ascension, with promise of return 1:9–11.

II. Beginning of ministry in Jerusalem

Acts 1:1 (KJV) — 1 The **former** **treatise** have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

former = πρῶτον (*prōton*); “first.”

treaties = λόγον (*logon*) from Logos

A **treatise** is a methodical, expert-level book or detailed study exploring a specific subject from various angles

Theophilus = friend of God from *theos* and *philos*

Luke 1:3, 4

Luke, the writer of the book of Acts, and Theophilus, to whom it is addressed, had been pleasantly associated. From Luke, Theophilus had received much instruction and great light. **Luke had been Theophilus' teacher**, and he still felt a responsibility to direct and instruct him and to sustain and protect him in his work. 18LtMs, Ms 40, 1903, par. 1

At that time it was customary for a writer to send his manuscript to some one for examination and criticism. Luke chose Theophilus, as a man in whom he had confidence, to perform this important work. He first directs the attention of Theophilus to the record of Christ's life as given in the book of Luke which had also been addressed by the same writer to Theophilus. He says:
18LtMs, Ms 40, 1903, par. 2

Acts 1:1–5 quoted

But though addressed by name to one person, this book, written by the dictation of the Holy Spirit, is designed for all who desire to understand its truths. Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning. 18LtMs, Ms 40, 1903, par. 4

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What was in the first book or treatise of Luke?

Acts 1:1–2

Compare John 21:25; 16:12; Acts 20:20.

Do we teach everything that Jesus taught?

Did Jesus teach everything we teach today?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sabbath
					Crucifixion	Rest
Resurrection 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	28
28	29	30	31	32	33	35
36	37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48	49
Pentecost 50						

Does Jesus want to teach us today

How does he wish to do it?

Matthew 28:18–20

Acts 28:30–31

Jeremiah 31:31–34

1 John 2:27

Acts 1:4 (KJV) — 4 And, being assembled together with them,
commanded them that they should not depart from
Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith
he, ye have heard of me.

Promise of the Father through Christ: (1 Corinthians 8:6)

John 14:16–18, 26; 15:26

Acts 1:5 (KJV) — 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Joel 2:23–32

Acts 2:16–21

John 6:63

Proverbs 1:23

Acts 1:6 (KJV) — 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Read Lesson Note

Acts 1:7 (KJV) — 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power (ἐξουσία).

Matthew 24:36

Mark 13:32

Acts 1:8 (KJV) — 8 But ye shall receive power (δύναμις), after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses (μάρτυς) unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 22:20

Revelation 2:13

Revelation 17:6

Matthew 28:18–20 — No Go no lo.

Timing of the events:

Luke 24:49–51

What does it mean to bless someone or something?

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Bless = εὐλογέω (*eulogeō*) from εὖ and λόγος (*logos*)

1. Act of speaking in favorable terms,
2. Praise: **Psalm 34:1**
3. To ask God to bestow divine favor on, with the implication that the verbal act itself constitutes.

Acts 1:9 (KJV) — 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Do you think that the cloud was a normal cloud or something which a cloud represents?

Psalm 104:3; 68:17

Acts 1:10 (KJV) — 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

Who were these two men?

These angels were of the company that had been waiting in a shining cloud to escort Jesus to His heavenly home. The most exalted of the angel throng, they were the two who had come to the tomb at Christ's resurrection, and they had been with Him throughout His life on earth. With eager desire all heaven had waited for the end of His tarrying in a world marred by the curse of sin. The time had now come for the heavenly universe to receive their King. Did not the two angels long to join the throng that welcomed Jesus? But in sympathy and love for those whom He had left, they waited to give them comfort. "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" Hebrews 1:14.

(The Desire of Ages, p. 832.1)

These angel messengers had been commissioned to separate from the company who were escorting Christ to heaven, and go and tell the disciples that the same Jesus whom they had loved on earth would come again. Then the disciples remembered the words of Christ, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

(Signs of the Times, July 7, 1898, par. 10)

What was the message of the two angels?

Acts 1:11 (KJV) — 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? **this same Jesus**, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Jesus left with a cloud of angels, He will return the same way!

Matthew 24:30; 25:31; Revelation 1:7

Was the ascension of Jesus secret or open?

Was the ascension of Jesus secret or open?

It was very open so what does this tell
us about his coming?

Revelation 1:7

What does it mean, “This same Jesus?”

this	same	Jesus,	
οὗτος ¹²	•	ὁ ¹³	Ἰησοῦς, ¹⁴
houtos		ho	lēsous

This the Jesus

This the Jesus

demonstrative pronoun

Nominative, singular, masculine

A demonstrative pronoun is a word used to point to specific people, things, or ideas. Using them is the verbal equivalent of pointing. There are only four in English: this, that, these, and those.

1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (KJV) — 16 **For the Lord himself** shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

the

Lord

himself

ὁ ₃

Κύριος ₄

αὐτὸς ₂

This Lord himself

Intensive pronoun

Nominative, singular, masculine

An intensive pronoun is a word used to emphasize a preceding noun or pronoun (e.g., "I myself," "the president himself").

Job's Hope

Job 19:25–27 Margin

24. And...: **26**
or, After I
shall awake,
though this
body be de-
stroyed, yet
out of my
flesh. Ps. 17.
15; 1 Co. 13.
12; 1 Jn. 3. 2.
7 wrong:
or, violence.
another: **27**
Heb. a
stranger.
though...:
or, my reins
within me are
consumed
with earnest
desire [for
that day].
within...:
Heb. in my
bosom.
seeing...: **28**
or, and
what root
of matter is

After the ascension

Acts 1:12 (KJV) — 12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

Luke 24:52

The anticipation of the apostles:

Acts 2:17; James 5:3; 2 Peter 3:3; 1 John 2:18

Philippians 4:5; Hebrews 1:2; 10:37; 1 Corinthians 16:22;

Revelation 3:11; 22:7, 17

Our Attitude to the Second Coming

2 Timothy 4:8; Romans 5:2; Titus 2:13

