

What If?

ACTS 1:1-2:39

What caused the Church to grow in just a few short years from a handful of timid, fearful Jewish disciples huddled away in Jerusalem to a full-fledged, Gentile Church living openly in the heart of the Roman Empire?

THEME

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and "you shall be witnesses to Me" in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

GEOGRAPHY

Acts traces the expansion of Christianity across the Mediterranean rim – from the Jewish capital of Jerusalem to the Gentile capital of Rome.

DIVISIONS

- In Chapters 1 to 7 Describes the Churches outreach in Jerusalem
- In Chapters 8 and 9 The Gospel goes to Judea and Samaria
- In Chapters 10 to 28 We see it going to the end of the earth

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BOOK OF ACTS?

It is crucial we study this book; for there's never been a more successful period of church history. 30 years after the resurrection of Christ the Gospel had gone "**into all the world.**"

AUTHORSHIP: Dr. Luke, M.D., Historian
YEAR: Completed in 61 AD
PURPOSE: To Document the growth of Christianity under Christ

"The Former account I made O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began to do and to teach,..." (Acts 1:8)

We know from Luke's Gospel 1:3 that Theophilus was an Authority in the Roman government (most excellent)
His name means friend of God or Lover of God.

ACTS 1:1-3

"By Many Infallible, Undeniable proofs"

Jesus made sure the evidence of His resurrection was so undeniable and so irrefutable (clear and conclusive) that none of the disciples would ever doubt its reality

ACTS 1:4-5

Welcome to
KADESH BARNEA PARK

FOR 40 YEARS MOSES CARED FOR 2 MILLION JEWS AND HE NEEDED HELP!
And he needed God's help—But rather than deposit His Spirit solely on Moses, God poured out His Spirit on 70 Elders.

IN NUMBERS 11 MOSES WANTED ALL GOD'S PEOPLE TO HAVE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

PREDICTED THAT GOD WOULD POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT ON ALL HIS PEOPLE

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Ezekiel
- Joel

The Old was being fulfilled in the New The Promised Spirit



BACK TO JERUSALEM

