# 2022-2023 CMA Acts Reference Materials

## Acts 1

### Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

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| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 1 | - | In my ***former*** book, ***Theophilus***, *I* *wrote* about all that Jesus *began* to do and to teach |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 2 | - | until the day he was taken up to heaven, after *giving* *instructions* through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 3 | - | After his *suffering*, he *presented* *himself* to them and gave *many* ***convincing*** ***proofs*** that he was *alive*. He *appeared* to them over a ***period*** of *forty* days and spoke about the kingdom of God. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 4 | - | On one ***occasion***, *while* he was ***eating*** with them, he gave them this *command*: "Do not *leave* Jerusalem, but *wait* for the *gift* my Father *promised*, which you have heard *me* *speak* about. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 5 | - | For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 6 | - | Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, *are* you *at* this time going to *restore* the kingdom to Israel?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 7 | - | He said to them: "It is not for you to know the *times* *or* ***dates*** the Father has *set* *by* his *own* *authority*. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 8 | - | But you will *receive* *power* when the Holy Spirit *comes* on you; and you will be my *witnesses* in Jerusalem, and in all *Judea* and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 9 | - | After he said this, he was taken up *before* their *very* *eyes*, and a ***cloud*** ***hid*** him from their *sight*. |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 10 | - | They were looking *intently* up into the sky as he was going, when *suddenly* two men ***dressed*** in ***white*** stood *beside* them. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 11 | - | "Men of *Galilee*," they said, "*why* do you *stand* *here* looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come *back* in the same *way* you have *seen* him go into heaven." |

### Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

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| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 12 | - | Then the apostles *returned* to Jerusalem from the ***hill*** called the *Mount* of ***Olives***, a *Sabbath* ***day's*** *walk* from the city. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 13 | - | When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were *staying*. Those *present* were Peter, John, James and ***Andrew***; *Philip* and ***Thomas***, ***Bartholomew*** and ***Matthew***; James son of ***Alphaeus*** and *Simon* the ***Zealot***, and Judas son of James. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 14 | - | They all *joined* *together* ***constantly*** in *prayer*, *along* with the women and *Mary* the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 15 | - | In those days Peter stood up among the *believers* (a *group* ***numbering*** about a *hundred* and ***twenty***) |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 16 | - | and said, "Brothers and *sisters*, the *Scripture* had to be *fulfilled* in which the Holy Spirit spoke *long* ago through *David* *concerning* Judas, who *served* as ***guide*** for those who *arrested* Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 17 | - | He was one of our *number* and *shared* in our ministry." |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 18 | - | (With the ***payment*** he received for his *wickedness*, Judas *bought* a field; there he fell ***headlong***, his *body* ***burst*** *open* and all his ***intestines*** ***spilled*** *out*. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 19 | - | *Everyone* in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their *language* ***Akeldama***, that is, Field of *Blood*.) |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 20 | - | "For," said Peter, "it is written in the Book of ***Psalms***: "'May his place be *deserted*; *let* there be *no* one to ***dwell*** in it,' and, "'May *another* take his place of ***leadership***.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 21 | - | *Therefore* it is ***necessary*** to *choose* one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was *living* among us, |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 22 | - | *beginning* from *John's* baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these *must* *become* a ***witness*** with us of his *resurrection*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 1 | : | 23 | - | So they ***nominated*** two men: *Joseph* called *Barsabbas* (*also* *known* as *Justus*) and Matthias. |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 24 | - | Then they prayed, "Lord, you know *everyone's* *heart*. *Show* us which of these two you have chosen |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 25 | - | to take over this ***apostolic*** ministry, which Judas *left* to go where he ***belongs***." |
|  | Acts | 1 | : | 26 | - | Then they ***cast*** ***lots***, and the *lot* fell to Matthias; so he was *added* to the *eleven* apostles. |

## Acts 2

### The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

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| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 1 | - | When the day of *Pentecost* came, they were all together in one place. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 2 | - | Suddenly a sound *like* the ***blowing*** of a *violent* ***wind*** came from heaven and filled the *whole* *house* where they were sitting. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 3 | - | They saw what *seemed* to be tongues of fire that ***separated*** and came to rest on each of them. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 4 | - | All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit *enabled* them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 5 | - | Now *there* were *staying* in Jerusalem *God-fearing* Jews from every *nation* *under* heaven. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 6 | - | When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in ***bewilderment***, because each one heard their own language being spoken. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 7 | - | ***Utterly*** amazed, they asked: "***Aren't*** all these who are *speaking* ***Galileans***? |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 8 | - | Then *how* is it that each of *us* ***hears*** them in our *native* language? |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 9 | - | ***Parthians***, ***Medes*** and ***Elamites***; ***residents*** of *Mesopotamia*, *Judea* and ***Cappadocia***, *Pontus* and Asia, |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 10 | - | Phrygia and *Pamphylia*, *Egypt* and the ***parts*** of ***Libya*** *near* *Cyrene*; ***visitors*** from *Rome* |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 11 | - | (both Jews and *converts* to *Judaism*); ***Cretans*** and ***Arabs***--we hear them ***declaring*** the wonders of God in our own tongues!" |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 12 | - | Amazed and ***perplexed***, they asked one *another*, "What *does* this *mean*?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 13 | - | *Some*, *however*, made ***fun*** of them and said, "They have had *too* *much* ***wine***." |

### Peter Addresses the Crowd

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| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 14 | - | Then Peter stood up with the *Eleven*, raised his *voice* and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who *live* in Jerusalem, let me ***explain*** this to you; listen *carefully* to what I *say*. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 15 | - | These people are not ***drunk***, as you *suppose*. ***It's*** *only* ***nine*** in the morning! |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 16 | - | *No*, this is what was spoken by the prophet ***Joel***: |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 17 | - | "'In the ***last*** days, God *says*, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your *sons* and ***daughters*** will prophesy, your *young* men will see ***visions***, your *old* men will ***dream*** ***dreams***. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 18 | - | Even on my *servants*, both men and *women*, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 19 | - | I will *show* wonders in the *heavens* ***above*** and signs on the *earth* ***below***, blood and fire and ***billows*** of ***smoke***. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 20 | - | The *sun* will be *turned* to *darkness* and the *moon* to blood before the coming of the *great* and ***glorious*** day of the Lord. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 21 | - | And everyone who ***calls*** on the name of the Lord will be saved.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 22 | - | "Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of *Nazareth* was a man ***accredited*** by God to you by *miracles*, wonders and signs, *which* God did *among* you *through* him, as you yourselves know. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 23 | - | This man was *handed* *over* to you by *God's* ***deliberate*** *plan* and ***foreknowledge***; and you, with the *help* of *wicked* men, *put* him to death by ***nailing*** him to the cross. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 24 | - | But God raised him from the dead, ***freeing*** him from the ***agony*** of death, because it was ***impossible*** for death to *keep* *its* *hold* on him. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 25 | - | David said about him: "'I saw the Lord *always* before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be *shaken*. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 26 | - | Therefore my heart is glad and my ***tongue*** ***rejoices***; my body *also* will rest in *hope*, |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 27 | - | because you will not ***abandon*** me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 28 | - | You have made *known* to me the ***paths*** of life; you will ***fill*** me with joy in your *presence*.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 29 | - | "Fellow Israelites, I *can* *tell* you ***confidently*** that the ***patriarch*** David *died* and was *buried*, and his *tomb* is *here* to this day. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 30 | - | But he was a prophet and *knew* that God had promised him on ***oath*** that he *would* place one of his *descendants* on his throne. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 31 | - | *Seeing* what was to *come*, he *spoke* of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not ***abandoned*** to the realm of the dead, *nor* did his body see decay. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 32 | - | God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all *witnesses* of it. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 33 | - | *Exalted* to the right hand of God, he has *received* from the *Father* the promised Holy Spirit and has *poured* out what you now see and hear. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 34 | - | For David did not ***ascend*** to heaven, and *yet* he said, "'The Lord said to my Lord: "*Sit* at my right hand |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 35 | - | *until* I *make* your ***enemies*** a *footstool* for your feet."' |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 36 | - | "Therefore let all *Israel* be ***assured*** of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you *crucified*, both Lord and Messiah." |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 37 | - | When the people heard this, they were *cut* to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "*Brothers*, what ***shall*** we *do*?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 38 | - | Peter *replied*, "*Repent* and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus *Christ* for the forgiveness of your *sins*. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 39 | - | The *promise* is for you and your *children* and for all who are *far* *off*--for all whom the Lord our God will *call*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 40 | - | With many other *words* he ***warned*** them; and he ***pleaded*** with them, "***Save*** yourselves from this ***corrupt*** *generation*." |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 41 | - | Those who *accepted* his *message* were baptized, and about *three* *thousand* were added to their number that day. |

### The Fellowship of the Believers

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| ¶ | Acts | 2 | : | 42 | - | They *devoted* *themselves* to the apostles' teaching and to ***fellowship***, to the ***breaking*** of bread and to prayer. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 43 | - | Everyone was filled with ***awe*** at the many wonders and signs *performed* by the apostles. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 44 | - | All the believers were together and had *everything* in ***common***. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 45 | - | They *sold* *property* and *possessions* to *give* to anyone who had need. |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 46 | - | Every day they continued to meet together in the temple *courts*. They *broke* bread in their ***homes*** and *ate* together with glad and ***sincere*** *hearts*, |
|  | Acts | 2 | : | 47 | - | praising God and ***enjoying*** the *favor* of all the people. And the Lord added to their number *daily* those who were being saved. |

## Acts 3

### Peter Heals a Lame Beggar

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| ¶ | Acts | 3 | : | 1 | - | One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of *prayer*--at three in the afternoon. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 2 | - | Now a man who was *lame* from *birth* was *being* *carried* to the temple gate called Beautiful, *where* he was *put* *every* day to ***beg*** from *those* going into the temple courts. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 3 | - | When he saw Peter and John *about* to *enter*, he asked them for *money*. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 4 | - | Peter *looked* straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "*Look* at us!" |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 5 | - | So the man *gave* them his *attention*, *expecting* to *get* *something* from them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 3 | : | 6 | - | Then Peter said, "*Silver* or *gold* I do not have, but what I do have I *give* you. In the name of Jesus Christ of *Nazareth*, walk." |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 7 | - | *Taking* him by the right *hand*, he *helped* him up, and ***instantly*** the *man's* feet and ***ankles*** *became* strong. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 8 | - | He *jumped* to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and ***jumping***, and praising God. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 9 | - | When all the people saw him walking and praising God, |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 10 | - | they *recognized* him as the *same* man who *used* to *sit* *begging* at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with *wonder* and ***amazement*** at what had happened to him. |

### Peter Speaks to the Onlookers

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| ¶ | Acts | 3 | : | 11 | - | While the man *held* on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and *came* ***running*** to them in the *place* called *Solomon's* Colonnade. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 12 | - | When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this ***surprise*** you? Why do you ***stare*** at us as *if* by our own *power* or ***godliness*** we had made this man walk? |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 13 | - | The God of Abraham, Isaac and *Jacob*, the God of our fathers, has ***glorified*** his servant Jesus. You *handed* him over to be killed, and you disowned him *before* *Pilate*, *though* he had decided to *let* him go. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 14 | - | You disowned the Holy and *Righteous* One and asked that a ***murderer*** be *released* to you. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 15 | - | You killed the ***author*** of *life*, but God raised him from the *dead*. We are witnesses of this. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 16 | - | By faith in the name of Jesus, this man *whom* you see and know was made strong. *It* is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely *healed* him, as you *can* all see. |
| ¶ | Acts | 3 | : | 17 | - | "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you ***acted*** in *ignorance*, as did your *leaders*. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 18 | - | But this is *how* God *fulfilled* what he had foretold through all the prophets, *saying* that his Messiah *would* *suffer*. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 19 | - | *Repent*, then, and *turn* to God, so that your *sins* may be ***wiped*** *out*, that *times* of ***refreshing*** may *come* from the Lord, |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 20 | - | and that he may *send* the Messiah, who has *been* *appointed* for you--*even* Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 21 | - | *Heaven* must *receive* him *until* the time comes for God to *restore* everything, as he *promised* *long* ago through his holy prophets. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 22 | - | For *Moses* said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from *among* your own people; you must listen to everything he ***tells*** you. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 23 | - | Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely *cut* *off* from *their* people.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 3 | : | 24 | - | "*Indeed*, *beginning* with *Samuel*, all the prophets who have *spoken* have foretold *these* *days*. |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 25 | - | And you are ***heirs*** of the prophets and of the *covenant* God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your *offspring* all *peoples* on *earth* will be *blessed*.' |
|  | Acts | 3 | : | 26 | - | When God raised up his servant, he sent him *first* to you to ***bless*** you by *turning* *each* of you from your *wicked* *ways*." |

## Acts 4

### Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin

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| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 1 | - | The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the *Sadducees* *came* up to Peter and John *while* they were speaking to the people. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 2 | - | They were *greatly* *disturbed* because the apostles were teaching the people, *proclaiming* in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 3 | - | They *seized* Peter and John and, because it was ***evening***, they put them in *jail* *until* the next day. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 4 | - | But *many* who heard the *message* believed; so the number of men who believed *grew* to about *five* *thousand*. |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 5 | - | The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the *law* met in Jerusalem. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 6 | - | ***Annas*** the high *priest* was there, and so were ***Caiaphas***, John, *Alexander* and *others* of the high ***priest's*** *family*. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 7 | - | They had Peter and John brought before them and began to *question* them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 8 | - | Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 9 | - | *If* we are being called to *account* *today* for *an* ***act*** of *kindness* *shown* to a man who was *lame* and are being asked how he was healed, |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 10 | - | then *know* this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of *Nazareth*, whom you *crucified* but whom God raised from the dead, that this man ***stands*** before you healed. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 11 | - | Jesus is "'the *stone* you ***builders*** *rejected*, which *has* *become* the ***cornerstone***.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 12 | - | *Salvation* is *found* in no one *else*, for there is no *other* name *under* *heaven* *given* to *mankind* by which we must be saved." |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 13 | - | When they saw the ***courage*** of Peter and John and *realized* that they were ***unschooled***, *ordinary* men, they were astonished and they *took* ***note*** that these men had been with Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 14 | - | But *since* they could see the man who had been healed *standing* there with them, there was *nothing* they could *say*. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 15 | - | So they ordered them to ***withdraw*** from the Sanhedrin and then ***conferred*** together. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 16 | - | "What are we *going* to do with these men?" they asked. "*Everyone* *living* in Jerusalem *knows* they have *performed* a ***notable*** ***sign***, and we cannot ***deny*** it. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 17 | - | But to *stop* this *thing* from *spreading* any further among the people, we must ***warn*** them to speak no *longer* to anyone in this name." |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 18 | - | Then they called them in *again* and *commanded* them not to speak or *teach* at all in the name of Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 19 | - | But Peter and John *replied*, "Which is *right* in God's *eyes*: to listen to you, or to *him*? You be the *judges*! |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 20 | - | As for *us*, we cannot *help* speaking about what we have *seen* and heard." |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 21 | - | After further threats they *let* them *go*. They could not ***decide*** how to *punish* them, because all the people were *praising* God for what had happened. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 22 | - | For the man who was ***miraculously*** healed was *over* *forty* years old. |

### The Believers Pray

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| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 23 | - | On their *release*, Peter and John *went* back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 24 | - | When they heard this, they raised their *voices* together in *prayer* to God. "***Sovereign*** Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 25 | - | You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the *mouth* of your servant, *our* *father* *David*: "'*Why* do the *nations* ***rage*** and the *peoples* *plot* in ***vain***? |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 26 | - | The *kings* of the earth *rise* up and the rulers *band* together against the Lord and against *his* anointed one.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 27 | - | *Indeed* *Herod* and ***Pontius*** *Pilate* met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this *city* to *conspire* against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 28 | - | They did what your power and *will* had *decided* ***beforehand*** *should* *happen*. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 29 | - | *Now*, Lord, *consider* their threats and ***enable*** your *servants* to speak your word with great ***boldness***. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 30 | - | ***Stretch*** *out* your *hand* to ***heal*** and *perform* signs and *wonders* through the name of your holy servant Jesus." |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 31 | - | After they *prayed*, the place where they were *meeting* was *shaken*. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God *boldly*. |

### The Believers Share Their Possessions

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| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 32 | - | All the believers were one in *heart* and *mind*. No one ***claimed*** that any of their *possessions* was their own, but they *shared* everything they had. |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 33 | - | With great power the apostles *continued* to *testify* to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's *grace* was so ***powerfully*** at *work* in them all |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 34 | - | that there were no ***needy*** ***persons*** among them. For from time to time *those* who owned *land* or *houses* sold them, brought the money from the ***sales*** |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 35 | - | and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was ***distributed*** to anyone who had need. |
| ¶ | Acts | 4 | : | 36 | - | *Joseph*, a ***Levite*** from *Cyprus*, whom the apostles called *Barnabas* (which *means* "*son* of encouragement"), |
|  | Acts | 4 | : | 37 | - | sold a *field* he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. |

## Acts 5

### Ananias and Sapphira

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| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 1 | - | Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife ***Sapphira***, also sold a ***piece*** of *property*. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 2 | - | With his ***wife's*** full *knowledge* he kept back *part* of the money for *himself*, but brought the *rest* and put it at the apostles' feet. |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 3 | - | Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that ***Satan*** has so filled your *heart* that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for *yourself* some of the money you *received* for the land? |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 4 | - | ***Didn't*** it ***belong*** to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, ***wasn't*** the money at your ***disposal***? What made you *think* of *doing* *such* a *thing*? You have not lied *just* to human beings but to God." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 5 | - | When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 6 | - | Then some young men came ***forward***, ***wrapped*** up his *body*, and carried him out and buried him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 7 | - | About *three* *hours* *later* his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 8 | - | Peter *asked* her, "Tell *me*, is this the *price* you and Ananias *got* for the land?" "*Yes*," she said, "that is the price." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 9 | - | Peter said to her, "How *could* you *conspire* to *test* the Spirit of the Lord? *Listen*! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will ***carry*** you out also." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 10 | - | At that *moment* she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, ***finding*** her dead, carried her out and buried her *beside* her husband. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 11 | - | Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these ***events***. |

### The Apostles Heal Many

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 12 | - | The apostles *performed* *many* *signs* and *wonders* *among* the people. And all the *believers* *used* to meet together in *Solomon's* Colonnade. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 13 | - | No one *else* ***dared*** *join* them, *even* though they were ***highly*** ***regarded*** by the people. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 14 | - | ***Nevertheless***, more and more men and *women* *believed* in the Lord and were added to their number. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 15 | - | As a *result*, people brought the sick *into* the ***streets*** and *laid* them on ***beds*** and ***mats*** so that at ***least*** *Peter's* ***shadow*** might ***fall*** on some of them as he *passed* by. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 16 | - | *Crowds* *gathered* also from the *towns* *around* Jerusalem, *bringing* their sick and those ***tormented*** by *impure* *spirits*, and all of them were healed. |

### The Apostles Persecuted

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 17 | - | Then the high priest and all his associates, who were *members* of the party of the *Sadducees*, were filled with jealousy. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 18 | - | They *arrested* the apostles and put them in the *public* jail. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 19 | - | But *during* the *night* *an* angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 20 | - | "Go, *stand* in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this *new* *life*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 21 | - | At ***daybreak*** they entered the temple courts, as they had been *told*, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates *arrived*, they called together the Sanhedrin--the full *assembly* of the elders of Israel--and sent to the jail for the apostles. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 22 | - | But on *arriving* at the jail, the officers did not find them *there*. So they went back and reported, |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 23 | - | "We found the jail ***securely*** ***locked***, with the *guards* standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one *inside*." |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 24 | - | On hearing this ***report***, the captain of the temple guard and the chief *priests* were at a ***loss***, *wondering* what this might *lead* to. |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 25 | - | Then *someone* came and said, "*Look*! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 26 | - | At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not ***use*** ***force***, because they ***feared*** that the people *would* *stone* them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 27 | - | The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be ***questioned*** by the high priest. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 28 | - | "We *gave* you ***strict*** *orders* not to teach in this name," he said. "*Yet* you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are ***determined*** to make *us* ***guilty*** of this *man's* *blood*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 29 | - | Peter and the other apostles *replied*: "We *must* obey God *rather* *than* human beings! |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 30 | - | The God of our *ancestors* *raised* Jesus from the dead--whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 31 | - | God *exalted* him to his *own* *right* *hand* as ***Prince*** and *Savior* that he might *bring* Israel to *repentance* and *forgive* their *sins*. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 32 | - | We are witnesses of these *things*, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 33 | - | When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 34 | - | But a ***Pharisee*** named ***Gamaliel***, a ***teacher*** of the *law*, who was *honored* by all the people, *stood* up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put *outside* for a *little* *while*. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 35 | - | Then he *addressed* the Sanhedrin: "Men of Israel, *consider* *carefully* what you ***intend*** to do to these men. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 36 | - | Some time *ago* ***Theudas*** appeared, ***claiming*** to be ***somebody***, and about *four* *hundred* men ***rallied*** to him. He was killed, all his followers were ***dispersed***, and it all came to *nothing*. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 37 | - | After him, *Judas* the ***Galilean*** appeared in the *days* of the ***census*** and *led* a *band* of people in ***revolt***. He *too* was killed, and all his followers were scattered. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 38 | - | *Therefore*, in the *present* *case* *I* ***advise*** you: *Leave* these men ***alone***! Let them go! For if their *purpose* *or* ***activity*** is of human ***origin***, it will ***fail***. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 39 | - | But if it is from God, you will not be able to *stop* these men; you will *only* find *yourselves* *fighting* *against* God." |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 40 | - | His *speech* *persuaded* them. They called the apostles in and had them *flogged*. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. |
| ¶ | Acts | 5 | : | 41 | - | The apostles *left* the Sanhedrin, *rejoicing* because they had been ***counted*** *worthy* of *suffering* ***disgrace*** for the Name. |
|  | Acts | 5 | : | 42 | - | Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they *never* *stopped* teaching and *proclaiming* the good *news* that Jesus is the Messiah. |

## Acts 6

### The Choosing of the Seven

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 1 | - | In those *days* *when* the number of disciples was ***increasing***, the Hellenistic Jews among them ***complained*** against the ***Hebraic*** Jews *because* their *widows* were *being* *overlooked* in the *daily* ***distribution*** of food. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 2 | - | So the *Twelve* *gathered* all the disciples *together* and said, "It would not be *right* for us to ***neglect*** the ministry of the word of God in order to *wait* on ***tables***. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 3 | - | Brothers and *sisters*, *choose* *seven* men from among you who *are* *known* to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will *turn* this ***responsibility*** *over* to them |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 4 | - | and will *give* *our* *attention* to prayer and the ministry of the word." |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 5 | - | This ***proposal*** ***pleased*** the *whole* *group*. They *chose* Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; *also* *Philip*, ***Procorus***, ***Nicanor***, ***Timon***, ***Parmenas***, and ***Nicolas*** from *Antioch*, a ***convert*** to Judaism. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 6 | - | They *presented* *these* men to the *apostles*, who *prayed* and laid their hands on them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 7 | - | So the word of God *spread*. The number of disciples in *Jerusalem* *increased* ***rapidly***, and a large number of *priests* *became* ***obedient*** to the faith. |

### Stephen Seized

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 8 | - | *Now* Stephen, a man full of God's *grace* and *power*, *performed* *great* *wonders* and *signs* among the people. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 9 | - | ***Opposition*** *arose*, *however*, from *members* of the *Synagogue* of the ***Freedmen*** (as it was *called*)--Jews of *Cyrene* and *Alexandria* as well as the ***provinces*** of *Cilicia* and *Asia*--who *began* to ***argue*** *with* Stephen. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 10 | - | But they could not *stand* up against the wisdom the Spirit *gave* him as he spoke. |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 11 | - | Then they ***secretly*** *persuaded* *some* men to say, "We have heard Stephen *speak* ***blasphemous*** *words* against Moses and against God." |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 12 | - | So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They *seized* Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 13 | - | They ***produced*** *false* *witnesses*, who *testified*, "This *fellow* *never* ***stops*** *speaking* against this holy place and against the law. |
|  | Acts | 6 | : | 14 | - | For we have heard him say that this Jesus of *Nazareth* will *destroy* this place and ***change*** the *customs* Moses *handed* *down* to us." |
| ¶ | Acts | 6 | : | 15 | - | All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin *looked* *intently* *at* Stephen, and they saw that his face was *like* the face of *an* angel. |

## Acts 7

### Stephen's Speech to the Sanhedrin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 1 | - | Then the high *priest* asked Stephen, "Are these *charges* *true*?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 2 | - | To this he *replied*: "Brothers and fathers, *listen* to me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in *Mesopotamia*, before he *lived* in Harran. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 3 | - | '*Leave* your country and your people,' God said, 'and go to the land I will *show* you.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 4 | - | "So he left the land of the ***Chaldeans*** and settled in Harran. After the *death* of his father, God sent him to this land where you are now living. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 5 | - | He gave him no *inheritance* *here*, not even ***enough*** ground to set his *foot* on. But God promised him that he and his descendants after him would ***possess*** the land, even *though* at that time Abraham had no child. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 6 | - | God spoke to him in this *way*: 'For *four* *hundred* years your descendants will be ***strangers*** in a country not their own, and they will be ***enslaved*** and mistreated. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 7 | - | But I will *punish* the *nation* they ***serve*** as ***slaves***,' God said, 'and ***afterward*** they will come out of that country and worship me in this place.' |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 8 | - | Then he gave Abraham the covenant of ***circumcision***. And Abraham became the father of Isaac and *circumcised* him *eight* *days* after his *birth*. *Later* Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob became the father of the *twelve* patriarchs. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 9 | - | "Because the patriarchs were *jealous* of Joseph, they *sold* him as a *slave* into Egypt. But God was with him |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 10 | - | and *rescued* him from all his ***troubles***. He gave Joseph wisdom and *enabled* him to ***gain*** the ***goodwill*** of Pharaoh king of Egypt. So Pharaoh made him ruler over Egypt and all his ***palace***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 11 | - | "Then a *famine* *struck* all Egypt and *Canaan*, *bringing* *great* *suffering*, and our ancestors *could* not *find* *food*. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 12 | - | When Jacob heard that there was ***grain*** in Egypt, he sent our ***forefathers*** on their *first* visit. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 13 | - | On their *second* visit, Joseph told his brothers who he was, and Pharaoh *learned* *about* ***Joseph's*** family. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 14 | - | After this, Joseph sent for his father Jacob and his *whole* family, ***seventy-five*** in all. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 15 | - | Then Jacob went down to Egypt, where he and our ancestors *died*. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 16 | - | Their ***bodies*** were brought back to *Shechem* and placed in the *tomb* that Abraham had *bought* from the sons of ***Hamor*** at *Shechem* for a *certain* ***sum*** of money. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 17 | - | "As the time *drew* near for God to ***fulfill*** his *promise* to Abraham, the number of our people in Egypt had *greatly* *increased*. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 18 | - | Then 'a *new* king, to *whom* Joseph ***meant*** *nothing*, came to *power* in Egypt.' |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 19 | - | He ***dealt*** ***treacherously*** with our people and ***oppressed*** our ancestors by ***forcing*** them to ***throw*** out their ***newborn*** ***babies*** so that they would ***die***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 20 | - | "At that time Moses was ***born***, and he was no *ordinary* child. For three *months* he was ***cared*** for by his family. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 21 | - | When he was placed *outside*, ***Pharaoh's*** ***daughter*** took him and brought him up as *her* own son. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 22 | - | Moses was ***educated*** in all the wisdom of the ***Egyptians*** and was *powerful* in *speech* and ***action***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 23 | - | "When Moses was forty years *old*, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 24 | - | He saw one of them *being* mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his *defense* and ***avenged*** him by killing the Egyptian. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 25 | - | Moses *thought* that his own people would *realize* that God was ***using*** him to ***rescue*** them, but they did not. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 26 | - | The next *day* Moses came ***upon*** two Israelites who were *fighting*. He tried to ***reconcile*** them by *saying*, '*Men*, you are brothers; *why* do you want to ***hurt*** *each* other?' |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 27 | - | "But the man who was ***mistreating*** the other *pushed* Moses ***aside*** and said, 'Who made you ruler and judge over us? |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 28 | - | Are you *thinking* of killing me as you killed the Egyptian ***yesterday***?' |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 29 | - | When Moses heard this, he *fled* to ***Midian***, where he settled as a ***foreigner*** and had two sons. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 30 | - | "After forty years had *passed*, an angel appeared to Moses in the ***flames*** of a ***burning*** bush in the *desert* near Mount Sinai. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 31 | - | When he saw this, he was amazed at the *sight*. As he went over to *get* a ***closer*** look, he heard the Lord *say*: |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 32 | - | 'I *am* the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' Moses ***trembled*** with fear and did not ***dare*** to look. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 33 | - | "Then the Lord said to him, '*Take* *off* your *sandals*, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 34 | - | I have *indeed* seen the ***oppression*** of my people in Egypt. I have heard their ***groaning*** and have come down to set them *free*. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 35 | - | "This is the *same* Moses they had rejected with the words, 'Who made you ruler and judge?' He was sent to be their ruler and ***deliverer*** by God *himself*, through the angel who appeared to him in the bush. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 36 | - | He led them out of Egypt and *performed* *wonders* and *signs* in Egypt, at the ***Red*** *Sea* and for forty years in the wilderness. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 37 | - | "This is the Moses who told the Israelites, 'God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people.' |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 38 | - | He was in the *assembly* in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to ***pass*** on to us. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 39 | - | "But our ancestors *refused* to obey him. *Instead*, they rejected him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 40 | - | They told ***Aaron***, '*Make* us *gods* who will go before us. As for this *fellow* Moses who led us out of Egypt--*we* *don't* *know* what has happened to him!' |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 41 | - | That was the time they made an ***idol*** in the *form* of a ***calf***. They brought sacrifices to it and ***reveled*** in what their own hands had made. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 42 | - | But God turned *away* from them and gave them over to the worship of the *sun*, *moon* and ***stars***. This ***agrees*** with what is written in the book of the *prophets*: "'Did you *bring* me sacrifices and ***offerings*** forty years in the wilderness, people of Israel? |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 43 | - | You have *taken* up the tabernacle of ***Molek*** and the ***star*** of your god ***Rephan***, the *idols* you made to worship. *Therefore* I will send you into exile' *beyond* ***Babylon***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 44 | - | "Our ancestors had the tabernacle of the covenant law with them in the wilderness. It had *been* made as God ***directed*** Moses, *according* to the ***pattern*** he had seen. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 45 | - | After ***receiving*** the tabernacle, our ancestors *under* ***Joshua*** brought it with them when they took the land from the *nations* God *drove* out before them. It *remained* in the land *until* the time of *David*, |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 46 | - | who *enjoyed* *God's* *favor* and asked that he *might* *provide* a ***dwelling*** place for the God of Jacob. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 47 | - | But it was ***Solomon*** who *built* a house for him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 48 | - | "*However*, the Most High *does* not live in *houses* made by human hands. As the prophet says: |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 49 | - | "'Heaven is my *throne*, and the *earth* is my *footstool*. What *kind* of house will you *build* for me? says the Lord. *Or* where will my ***resting*** place be? |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 50 | - | Has not my hand made all these things?' |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 51 | - | "You ***stiff-necked*** people! Your hearts and ears are still *uncircumcised*. You are *just* like your ancestors: You *always* ***resist*** the Holy Spirit! |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 52 | - | Was there *ever* a prophet your ancestors did not *persecute*? They even killed *those* who *predicted* the coming of the *Righteous* One. And now you have ***betrayed*** and ***murdered*** him-- |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 53 | - | you who have received the law that was *given* through ***angels*** but have not ***obeyed*** it." |

### The Stoning of Stephen

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| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 54 | - | When the members of the *Sanhedrin* heard this, they were furious and ***gnashed*** their ***teeth*** at him. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 55 | - | But Stephen, *full* of the Holy Spirit, *looked* up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 56 | - | "Look," he said, "I *see* heaven *open* and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 57 | - | At this they ***covered*** their ears and, ***yelling*** at the ***top*** of their *voices*, they all *rushed* at him, |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 58 | - | dragged him out of the city and began to *stone* him. *Meanwhile*, the *witnesses* *laid* their ***coats*** at the feet of a young man named Saul. |
| ¶ | Acts | 7 | : | 59 | - | While they were ***stoning*** him, Stephen *prayed*, "Lord Jesus, *receive* my spirit." |
|  | Acts | 7 | : | 60 | - | Then he fell on his knees and ***cried*** out, "Lord, do not *hold* this *sin* *against* them." When he had said this, he fell asleep. |

## Acts 8

### The Church Persecuted and Scattered

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 1 | - | And Saul ***approved*** of their *killing* him. On that *day* a great *persecution* *broke* out *against* the church in Jerusalem, and all ***except*** the apostles were scattered *throughout* Judea and Samaria. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 2 | - | ***Godly*** men *buried* *Stephen* and ***mourned*** ***deeply*** for him. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 3 | - | But Saul began to *destroy* the church. *Going* from house to house, he *dragged* *off* both men and women and put them in prison. |

### Philip in Samaria

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 4 | - | Those who had been scattered *preached* the word ***wherever*** they went. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 5 | - | Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the *Messiah* there. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 6 | - | When the *crowds* heard Philip and saw the signs he *performed*, they all ***paid*** *close* attention to what he said. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 7 | - | For with ***shrieks***, *impure* *spirits* came out of many, and many who were *paralyzed* or *lame* were healed. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 8 | - | So there was great *joy* in that city. |

### Simon the Sorcerer

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 9 | - | Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He ***boasted*** that he was someone great, |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 10 | - | and all the people, both *high* and ***low***, gave him their attention and *exclaimed*, "This man is ***rightly*** *called* the Great Power of God." |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 11 | - | They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his sorcery. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 12 | - | But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus *Christ*, they were baptized, both men and women. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 13 | - | Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip *everywhere*, *astonished* *by* the great signs and *miracles* he saw. |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 14 | - | When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had *accepted* the word of God, they *sent* Peter and John to Samaria. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 15 | - | When they arrived, they *prayed* for the *new* *believers* there that they *might* receive the Holy Spirit, |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 16 | - | because the Holy Spirit had not *yet* come on *any* of them; they had ***simply*** been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 17 | - | Then Peter and John *placed* their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 18 | - | When Simon saw that the Spirit was *given* at the ***laying*** on of the apostles' hands, he ***offered*** them money |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 19 | - | and said, "*Give* me *also* this ***ability*** so that *everyone* on *whom* I ***lay*** my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 20 | - | Peter answered: "May your money *perish* with you, because you thought you *could* ***buy*** the gift of God with money! |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 21 | - | You have *no* *part* or ***share*** in this *ministry*, because your heart is not *right* before God. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 22 | - | *Repent* of this *wickedness* and pray to the Lord in the *hope* that he may *forgive* you for *having* *such* a thought in your heart. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 23 | - | For I see that you are full of ***bitterness*** and ***captive*** to *sin*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 24 | - | Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that *nothing* you have said may *happen* to me." |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 25 | - | After they had *further* proclaimed the word of the Lord and *testified* about Jesus, Peter and John *returned* to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many ***Samaritan*** ***villages***. |

### Philip and the Ethiopian

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 26 | - | Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go ***south*** to the road--the *desert* road--that ***goes*** down from Jerusalem to ***Gaza***." |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 27 | - | So he *started* out, and on his way he *met* an ***Ethiopian*** eunuch, an ***important*** ***official*** in ***charge*** of all the ***treasury*** of the ***Kandake*** (*which* *means* "***queen*** of the ***Ethiopians***"). This man had *gone* to Jerusalem to worship, |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 28 | - | and on his way *home* was *sitting* in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 29 | - | The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and *stay* *near* it." |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 30 | - | Then Philip *ran* up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "*Do* you ***understand*** what you are reading?" Philip asked. |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 31 | - | "*How* can I," he said, "*unless* someone ***explains*** it to me?" So he *invited* Philip to come up and *sit* with him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 32 | - | This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was *led* *like* a ***sheep*** to the ***slaughter***, and as a ***lamb*** before *its* ***shearer*** is *silent*, so he did not *open* his *mouth*. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 33 | - | In his ***humiliation*** he was ***deprived*** of *justice*. Who can *speak* of his *descendants*? For his *life* was taken from the earth." |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 34 | - | The eunuch asked Philip, "*Tell* me, *please*, who is the prophet *talking* about, himself or someone *else*?" |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 35 | - | Then Philip began with that *very* passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. |
| ¶ | Acts | 8 | : | 36 | - | As they traveled *along* the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "*Look*, *here* is water. What can stand in the way of my *being* baptized?" |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 38 | - | And he gave *orders* to *stop* the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down *into* the water and Philip baptized him. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 39 | - | When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord *suddenly* *took* Philip *away*, and the eunuch did not see him *again*, but went on his way *rejoicing*. |
|  | Acts | 8 | : | 40 | - | Philip, *however*, *appeared* at ***Azotus*** and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the *towns* *until* he *reached* *Caesarea*. |

## Acts 9

### Saul's Conversion

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 1 | - | *Meanwhile*, Saul was still ***breathing*** out ***murderous*** *threats* *against* the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 2 | - | and asked him for ***letters*** to the synagogues in Damascus, so that *if* he found *any* there who belonged to the *Way*, ***whether*** men or *women*, he *might* take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 3 | - | As he ***neared*** Damascus on his journey, *suddenly* a *light* from *heaven* ***flashed*** around him. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 4 | - | He fell to the ground and heard a *voice* *say* to him, "Saul, Saul, *why* do you *persecute* me?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 5 | - | "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I *am* Jesus, whom you are ***persecuting***," he replied. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 6 | - | "*Now* get up and go into the city, and you will be told *what* you must do." |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 7 | - | The men *traveling* with Saul stood there ***speechless***; they heard the *sound* but did not see *anyone*. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 8 | - | Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see *nothing*. So they *led* him by the hand into Damascus. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 9 | - | For three days he was *blind*, and did not *eat* or ***drink*** *anything*. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 10 | - | In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "*Yes*, Lord," he answered. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 11 | - | The Lord told him, "Go to the house of *Judas* on *Straight* *Street* and *ask* for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is *praying*. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 12 | - | In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and *place* his hands on him to *restore* his *sight*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 13 | - | "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many ***reports*** about this man and all the *harm* he has *done* to your holy people in Jerusalem. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 14 | - | And he has come here with *authority* from the chief priests to ***arrest*** all who call on your name." |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 15 | - | But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my *chosen* ***instrument*** to *proclaim* my name to the Gentiles and their *kings* and to the people of Israel. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 16 | - | I will *show* him how *much* he must *suffer* for my name." |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 17 | - | Then Ananias went to the house and *entered* it. ***Placing*** his hands on Saul, he said, "*Brother* Saul, the Lord--Jesus, who appeared to you on the *road* as you were *coming* here--has sent me so that you *may* see again and be *filled* with the Holy Spirit." |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 18 | - | Immediately, *something* *like* ***scales*** fell from ***Saul's*** eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, |

### Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 19 | - | and after *taking* some *food*, he ***regained*** his ***strength***. Saul *spent* *several* days with the disciples in Damascus. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 20 | - | At once he began to *preach* in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 21 | - | All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "***Isn't*** he the man who *raised* ***havoc*** in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And ***hasn't*** he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?" |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 22 | - | *Yet* Saul *grew* more and more *powerful* and ***baffled*** the Jews living in Damascus by *proving* that Jesus is the Messiah. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 23 | - | After many days had *gone* by, there was a ***conspiracy*** among the Jews to kill him, |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 24 | - | but Saul learned of their *plan*. *Day* and night they *kept* *close* *watch* on the city *gates* in order to kill him. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 25 | - | But his *followers* took him by night and ***lowered*** him in a ***basket*** *through* an *opening* in the ***wall***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 26 | - | When he *came* to Jerusalem, he tried to *join* the disciples, but they were all *afraid* of him, not ***believing*** that he *really* was a disciple. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 27 | - | But *Barnabas* took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had *spoken* to him, and how in Damascus he had *preached* ***fearlessly*** in the name of Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 28 | - | So Saul stayed with them and ***moved*** about ***freely*** in Jerusalem, *speaking* boldly in the name of the Lord. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 29 | - | He *talked* and ***debated*** with the Hellenistic Jews, but they tried to kill him. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 30 | - | When the believers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him *off* to Tarsus. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 31 | - | Then the *church* *throughout* *Judea*, *Galilee* and *Samaria* *enjoyed* a time of *peace* and was *strengthened*. Living in the *fear* of the Lord and *encouraged* by the Holy Spirit, it *increased* in numbers. |

### Aeneas and Dorcas

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 32 | - | As Peter *traveled* about the *country*, he went to visit the Lord's people who lived in Lydda. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 33 | - | There he found a man named Aeneas, who was *paralyzed* and had *been* ***bedridden*** for *eight* *years*. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 34 | - | "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus *Christ* ***heals*** you. Get up and ***roll*** up your ***mat***." Immediately Aeneas got up. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 35 | - | All those who lived in Lydda and ***Sharon*** *saw* him and turned to the Lord. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 36 | - | In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in *Greek* her name is Dorcas); she was *always* *doing* good and ***helping*** the poor. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 37 | - | About that time she became *sick* and died, and her *body* was *washed* and placed in an upstairs room. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 38 | - | Lydda was *near* Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and *urged* him, "*Please* come at once!" |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 39 | - | Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was *taken* upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, ***crying*** and ***showing*** him the *robes* and *other* *clothing* that Dorcas had *made* *while* she was still with them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 9 | : | 40 | - | Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and *prayed*. *Turning* ***toward*** the *dead* *woman*, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and *seeing* Peter she *sat* up. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 41 | - | He took her by the hand and *helped* her to her *feet*. Then he called for the believers, ***especially*** the widows, and *presented* her to them *alive*. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 42 | - | This became *known* all *over* Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. |
|  | Acts | 9 | : | 43 | - | Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a *tanner* named Simon. |

## Acts 10

### Cornelius Calls for Peter

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 1 | - | At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the ***Italian*** ***Regiment***. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 2 | - | He and all his *family* were devout and God-fearing; he *gave* ***generously*** to those in *need* and *prayed* to God ***regularly***. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 3 | - | One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He ***distinctly*** saw *an* angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!" |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 4 | - | Cornelius ***stared*** at him in *fear*. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your ***prayers*** and gifts to the poor have come up as a ***memorial*** ***offering*** before God. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 5 | - | Now send men to Joppa to *bring* back a man named Simon who is called Peter. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 6 | - | He is staying with Simon the tanner, *whose* house is by the sea." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 7 | - | When the angel who spoke to him had *gone*, Cornelius called *two* of his *servants* and a devout ***soldier*** who was one of his ***attendants***. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 8 | - | He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa. |

### Peter's Vision

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 9 | - | About ***noon*** the following day as they were on their *journey* and ***approaching*** the *city*, Peter went up on the ***roof*** to *pray*. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 10 | - | He *became* ***hungry*** and *wanted* something to eat, and while the *meal* was being ***prepared***, he fell into a trance. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 11 | - | He saw heaven *opened* and something like a large sheet being let down to *earth* by its four corners. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 12 | - | It ***contained*** all kinds of *four-footed* *animals*, as well as *reptiles* and birds. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 13 | - | Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 14 | - | "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have *never* *eaten* anything impure or unclean." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 15 | - | The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 16 | - | This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was *taken* back to heaven. |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 17 | - | While Peter was *wondering* about the ***meaning*** of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out *where* ***Simon's*** house was and *stopped* at the *gate*. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 18 | - | They called out, ***asking*** *if* Simon who was known as Peter was staying there. |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 19 | - | While Peter was still *thinking* about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 20 | - | So get up and go ***downstairs***. Do not ***hesitate*** to go with them, for I have sent them." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 21 | - | Peter went down and said to the men, "***I'm*** the one *you're* looking for. Why have you come?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 22 | - | The men replied, "We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a *righteous* and God-fearing man, who is ***respected*** by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to ask you to come to his house so that he *could* *hear* what you have to say." |

### Peter at Cornelius's House

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 23 | - | Then Peter *invited* the men into the house to be his ***guests***. The next day Peter *started* out with them, and some of the believers from Joppa went *along*. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 24 | - | The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was *expecting* them and had called *together* his ***relatives*** and *close* *friends*. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 25 | - | As Peter *entered* the house, Cornelius *met* him and fell at his feet in ***reverence***. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 26 | - | But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I *am* *only* a man ***myself***." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 27 | - | While *talking* with him, Peter went *inside* and found a large ***gathering*** of people. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 28 | - | He said to them: "You are well ***aware*** that it is *against* *our* *law* for a *Jew* to ***associate*** with or *visit* a *Gentile*. But God has *shown* me that I *should* not call *anyone* impure or unclean. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 29 | - | So when I was sent for, I came *without* *raising* *any* ***objection***. *May* I ask why you sent for me?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 30 | - | Cornelius answered: "Three days *ago* I was in my house *praying* at this *hour*, at three in the afternoon. *Suddenly* a man in ***shining*** *clothes* *stood* before me |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 31 | - | and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your *prayer* and *remembered* your gifts to the poor. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 32 | - | Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a ***guest*** in the *home* of Simon the tanner, who *lives* by the sea.' |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 33 | - | So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the *presence* of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to *tell* us." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 34 | - | Then Peter *began* to *speak*: "I now *realize* how *true* it is that God does not *show* ***favoritism*** |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 35 | - | but ***accepts*** from every *nation* the one who ***fears*** him and does what is right. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 36 | - | You know the message God sent to the people of *Israel*, ***announcing*** the good news of *peace* through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 37 | - | You know what has happened *throughout* the province of *Judea*, *beginning* in *Galilee* after the *baptism* that *John* preached-- |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 38 | - | how God *anointed* Jesus of *Nazareth* with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went *around* *doing* good and ***healing*** all who were *under* the power of the *devil*, *because* God was with him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 39 | - | "We are witnesses of everything he *did* in the *country* of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They *killed* him by hanging him on a cross, |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 40 | - | but God raised him from the dead on the *third* day and *caused* him to be seen. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 41 | - | He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had ***already*** *chosen*--by us who *ate* and ***drank*** with him after he ***rose*** from the dead. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 42 | - | He commanded us to *preach* to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God *appointed* as *judge* of the *living* and the dead. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 43 | - | All the *prophets* testify about him that everyone who *believes* in him ***receives*** *forgiveness* of *sins* through his name." |
| ¶ | Acts | 10 | : | 44 | - | While Peter was still speaking *these* words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 45 | - | The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were *astonished* that the gift of the Holy Spirit had *been* *poured* out *even* on *Gentiles*. |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 46 | - | For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 47 | - | "Surely *no* one *can* stand in the way of their being baptized with *water*. They have received the Holy Spirit *just* as we have." |
|  | Acts | 10 | : | 48 | - | So he *ordered* that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to *stay* with them for a few days. |

## Acts 11

### Peter Explains His Actions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 1 | - | The apostles and the believers *throughout* Judea heard that the Gentiles also had *received* the word of God. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 2 | - | So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers ***criticized*** him |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 3 | - | and said, "You went into the house of *uncircumcised* men and *ate* with them." |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 4 | - | ***Starting*** from the beginning, Peter told them the whole *story*: |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 5 | - | "I was in the city of Joppa *praying*, and in a *trance* I saw a *vision*. I saw *something* like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four *corners*, and it came down to where I was. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 6 | - | I *looked* into it and saw *four-footed* *animals* of the *earth*, ***wild*** ***beasts***, *reptiles* and birds. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 7 | - | Then I heard a voice telling me, '*Get* up, Peter. Kill and eat.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 8 | - | "I *replied*, '*Surely* not, Lord! *Nothing* impure or *unclean* has *ever* entered *my* *mouth*.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 9 | - | "The voice *spoke* from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.' |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 10 | - | This happened three times, and then it was all ***pulled*** up to heaven *again*. |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 11 | - | "*Right* then three men who had been sent to me from *Caesarea* *stopped* at the house where I was staying. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 12 | - | The Spirit told me to have no ***hesitation*** about *going* with them. *These* ***six*** brothers also went with me, and *we* entered the *man's* house. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 13 | - | He told us how he had *seen* *an* *angel* *appear* in his house and *say*, '*Send* to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 14 | - | He will *bring* you a *message* through *which* you and all *your* *household* will be saved.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 15 | - | "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 16 | - | Then I *remembered* what the Lord had said: '*John* baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 17 | - | So *if* God gave them the *same* gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to *think* that I *could* *stand* in *God's* *way*?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 18 | - | When they heard this, they had no *further* ***objections*** and ***praised*** God, *saying*, "So then, *even* to Gentiles God has ***granted*** *repentance* that ***leads*** to life." |

### The Church in Antioch

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 19 | - | *Now* *those* who had been *scattered* by the *persecution* that *broke* *out* when *Stephen* was *killed* *traveled* as *far* as *Phoenicia*, Cyprus and Antioch, *spreading* the word *only* *among* *Jews*. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 20 | - | Some of them, *however*, men from Cyprus and *Cyrene*, went to Antioch and began to speak to *Greeks* also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 21 | - | The *Lord's* *hand* was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 22 | - | News of this *reached* the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 23 | - | When he *arrived* and saw what the grace of God had *done*, he was *glad* and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 24 | - | He was a good *man*, full of the Holy Spirit and *faith*, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 25 | - | Then Barnabas went to *Tarsus* to *look* for Saul, |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 26 | - | and when he *found* him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole *year* Barnabas and Saul *met* with the church and *taught* great *numbers* of people. The disciples were called ***Christians*** *first* at Antioch. |
| ¶ | Acts | 11 | : | 27 | - | During this time some *prophets* came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 28 | - | One of them, *named* ***Agabus***, *stood* up and through the Spirit *predicted* that a *severe* *famine* *would* *spread* *over* the *entire* *Roman* *world*. (This happened during the ***reign*** of *Claudius*.) |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 29 | - | The disciples, as *each* one was *able*, *decided* to *provide* *help* for the brothers and *sisters* *living* in Judea. |
|  | Acts | 11 | : | 30 | - | This they *did*, *sending* their gift to the *elders* by Barnabas and Saul. |

## Acts 12

### Peter's Miraculous Escape From Prison

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 1 | - | It was about this *time* that King Herod *arrested* *some* *who* belonged to the church, ***intending*** to *persecute* them. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 2 | - | He had James, the *brother* of John, put to *death* with the *sword*. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 3 | - | When he saw that this *met* with ***approval*** among the *Jews*, he ***proceeded*** to ***seize*** Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 4 | - | After ***arresting*** him, he put him in prison, ***handing*** him over to be ***guarded*** by four ***squads*** of four soldiers *each*. Herod *intended* to bring him out for public trial after the ***Passover***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 5 | - | So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was ***earnestly*** praying to God for him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 6 | - | The *night* *before* Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was ***sleeping*** *between* two soldiers, ***bound*** with two chains, and ***sentries*** *stood* *guard* at the entrance. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 7 | - | Suddenly an angel of the Lord *appeared* and a *light* ***shone*** in the *cell*. He struck Peter on the ***side*** and *woke* him up. "***Quick***, *get* up!" he said, and the chains *fell* *off* Peter's ***wrists***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 8 | - | Then the angel said to him, "Put on your *clothes* and *sandals*." And Peter did so. "***Wrap*** your ***cloak*** *around* *you* and ***follow*** me," the angel told him. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 9 | - | Peter *followed* him out of the prison, but he had no ***idea*** that what the angel was *doing* was *really* ***happening***; he *thought* he was *seeing* a vision. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 10 | - | They *passed* the *first* and *second* guards and came to the ***iron*** *gate* *leading* to the *city*. It opened for them by ***itself***, and they went *through* it. When they had *walked* the ***length*** of *one* *street*, suddenly the angel left him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 11 | - | Then Peter came to *himself* and said, "Now I *know* without a ***doubt*** that the Lord has *sent* his angel and *rescued* me from ***Herod's*** ***clutches*** and from *everything* the Jewish people were ***hoping*** *would* *happen*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 12 | - | When this had ***dawned*** on him, he went to the house of *Mary* the mother of John, also called Mark, *where* *many* people had *gathered* and were praying. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 13 | - | Peter ***knocked*** at the ***outer*** entrance, and a servant *named* ***Rhoda*** came to ***answer*** the door. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 14 | - | When she *recognized* Peter's voice, she was so ***overjoyed*** she *ran* *back* without *opening* it and *exclaimed*, "Peter is at the door!" |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 15 | - | "*You're* out of your *mind*," they told *her*. When she kept ***insisting*** that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel." |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 16 | - | But Peter kept on ***knocking***, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 17 | - | Peter *motioned* with his *hand* for them to be ***quiet*** and *described* *how* the Lord had *brought* him out of prison. "*Tell* James and the *other* *brothers* and *sisters* about this," he said, and then he left for *another* *place*. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 18 | - | In the *morning*, there was no ***small*** *commotion* among the soldiers *as* to what had *become* of Peter. |

### Herod's Death

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 19 | - | After Herod had a *thorough* *search* *made* for him and did not find him, he ***cross-examined*** the guards and ordered that they be *executed*. Then Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and *stayed* there. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 20 | - | He had *been* ***quarreling*** with the people of ***Tyre*** and ***Sidon***; they now *joined* together and ***sought*** an ***audience*** with him. After ***securing*** the ***support*** of ***Blastus***, a ***trusted*** ***personal*** servant of the king, they asked for *peace*, because they ***depended*** on the ***king's*** *country* for their *food* ***supply***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 21 | - | On the *appointed* *day* Herod, ***wearing*** his ***royal*** *robes*, *sat* on his throne and *delivered* a public ***address*** to the people. |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 22 | - | They *shouted*, "This is the voice of a god, not of a man." |
|  | Acts | 12 | : | 23 | - | *Immediately*, because Herod did not *give* ***praise*** to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was *eaten* by ***worms*** and died. |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 24 | - | But the word of God *continued* to *spread* and ***flourish***. |

### Barnabas and Saul Sent Off

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 12 | : | 25 | - | When *Barnabas* and *Saul* had *finished* their ***mission***, they *returned* from *Jerusalem*, *taking* with them John, also called Mark. |

## Acts 13

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 1 | - | Now in the *church* at Antioch there were prophets and *teachers*: Barnabas, ***Simeon*** called ***Niger***, ***Lucius*** of *Cyrene*, ***Manaen*** (who had been brought up with *Herod* the ***tetrarch***) and Saul. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 2 | - | While they were ***worshiping*** the Lord and *fasting*, the Holy Spirit said, "Set ***apart*** for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to *which* I have called them." |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 3 | - | So after they had ***fasted*** and *prayed*, they *placed* their hands on them and sent them off. |

### On Cyprus

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 4 | - | The *two* of them, sent on their *way* by the Holy Spirit, went down to ***Seleucia*** and sailed from there to *Cyprus*. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 5 | - | When they arrived at ***Salamis***, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish *synagogues*. John was with them as their ***helper***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 6 | - | They traveled through the whole ***island*** until they came to Paphos. There they met a Jewish sorcerer and *false* prophet *named* ***Bar-Jesus***, |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 7 | - | who was an ***attendant*** of the proconsul, ***Sergius*** ***Paulus***. The proconsul, an ***intelligent*** man, sent for Barnabas and Saul *because* he *wanted* to hear the word of God. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 8 | - | But Elymas the sorcerer (for that is what his *name* *means*) *opposed* them and *tried* to turn the proconsul from the faith. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 9 | - | Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 10 | - | "You are a *child* of the *devil* and an ***enemy*** of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of ***deceit*** and ***trickery***. Will you never *stop* ***perverting*** the right *ways* of the Lord? |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 11 | - | Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be *blind* for a time, not even able to see the light of the *sun*." *Immediately* ***mist*** and *darkness* came *over* him, and he ***groped*** about, ***seeking*** someone to *lead* him by the hand. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 12 | - | When the proconsul saw what had *happened*, he believed, for he was amazed at the *teaching* about the Lord. |

### In Pisidian Antioch

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 13 | - | From Paphos, Paul and his *companions* sailed to Perga in *Pamphylia*, *where* John *left* them to return to Jerusalem. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 14 | - | From Perga they went on to ***Pisidian*** Antioch. On the Sabbath they entered the synagogue and *sat* down. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 15 | - | After the *reading* from the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, "*Brothers*, if you have a word of ***exhortation*** for the people, *please* speak." |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 16 | - | Standing up, Paul *motioned* with his hand and said: "Fellow *Israelites* and you Gentiles who *worship* God, *listen* to me! |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 17 | - | The God of the people of Israel *chose* our ancestors; he made the people ***prosper*** *during* their *stay* in *Egypt*; with ***mighty*** *power* he led them out of that country; |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 18 | - | for about forty years he ***endured*** their ***conduct*** in the wilderness; |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 19 | - | and he ***overthrew*** *seven* *nations* in *Canaan*, *giving* their *land* to his people as their *inheritance*. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 20 | - | All this took about ***450*** years. "After this, God gave them *judges* until the time of *Samuel* the prophet. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 21 | - | Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of ***Kish***, of the ***tribe*** of ***Benjamin***, who ***ruled*** forty years. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 22 | - | After ***removing*** Saul, he made David their king. God *testified* *concerning* him: 'I have found David son of ***Jesse***, a man after my own *heart*; he will do everything I want him to do.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 23 | - | "From this *man's* *descendants* God has brought to Israel the *Savior* Jesus, as he promised. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 24 | - | Before the coming of Jesus, John *preached* *repentance* and *baptism* to all the people of Israel. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 25 | - | As John was ***completing*** his work, he said: 'Who do you *suppose* I am? I am not the one you are looking for. But there is one coming after me *whose* *sandals* I am not worthy to ***untie***.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 26 | - | "Fellow children of *Abraham* and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to us that this *message* of salvation has been sent. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 27 | - | The people of Jerusalem and their *rulers* did not ***recognize*** Jesus, *yet* in ***condemning*** him they fulfilled the words of the prophets that are *read* every Sabbath. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 28 | - | Though they found *no* ***proper*** *ground* for a *death* ***sentence***, they asked *Pilate* to have him *executed*. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 29 | - | When they had *carried* out all that was written about him, they took him down from the *cross* and *laid* him in a *tomb*. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 30 | - | But God raised him from the dead, |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 31 | - | and for many days he was *seen* by *those* who had traveled with him from *Galilee* to Jerusalem. They are now his *witnesses* to our people. |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 32 | - | "We *tell* you the good *news*: What God promised our ancestors |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 33 | - | he has fulfilled for us, their children, by *raising* up Jesus. As it is written in the *second* ***Psalm***: "'You are my son; *today* I have *become* your *father*.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 34 | - | God raised him from the dead so that he will never be *subject* to decay. As God has said, "'I will give you the holy and ***sure*** ***blessings*** promised to David.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 35 | - | So it is also ***stated*** ***elsewhere***: "'You will not let your holy one see decay.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 36 | - | "Now when David had *served* *God's* *purpose* in his own *generation*, he fell asleep; he was *buried* with his ancestors and his *body* ***decayed***. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 37 | - | But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay. |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 38 | - | "Therefore, my *friends*, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of *sins* is proclaimed to you. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 39 | - | Through him *everyone* who *believes* is set *free* from every *sin*, a ***justification*** you were not able to ***obtain*** *under* the law of Moses. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 40 | - | *Take* ***care*** that what the prophets have said *does* not *happen* to you: |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 41 | - | "'*Look*, you ***scoffers***, *wonder* and *perish*, for I am going to do *something* in your days that you *would* never *believe*, even if someone *told* you.'" |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 42 | - | As Paul and Barnabas were ***leaving*** the synagogue, the people *invited* them to speak *further* about these *things* on the next Sabbath. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 43 | - | When the ***congregation*** was *dismissed*, many of the Jews and *devout* *converts* to *Judaism* *followed* Paul and Barnabas, who *talked* with them and *urged* them to ***continue*** in the grace of God. |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 44 | - | On the next Sabbath ***almost*** the whole city *gathered* to hear the word of the Lord. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 45 | - | When the Jews saw the *crowds*, they were filled with *jealousy*. They *began* to ***contradict*** what Paul was saying and ***heaped*** ***abuse*** on him. |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 46 | - | Then Paul and Barnabas *answered* them *boldly*: "We had to speak the word of God to you *first*. *Since* you ***reject*** it and do not *consider* *yourselves* worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 47 | - | For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you *may* *bring* salvation to the ends of the earth.'" |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 48 | - | When the Gentiles *heard* this, they were glad and *honored* the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. |
| ¶ | Acts | 13 | : | 49 | - | The word of the Lord *spread* through the whole region. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 50 | - | But the Jewish leaders ***incited*** the God-fearing *women* of *high* standing and the *leading* *men* of the city. They stirred up *persecution* against Paul and Barnabas, and ***expelled*** them from their region. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 51 | - | So they *shook* the ***dust*** off their *feet* as a *warning* to them and went to *Iconium*. |
|  | Acts | 13 | : | 52 | - | And the disciples were filled with *joy* and with the Holy Spirit. |

## Acts 14

### In Iconium

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 1 | - | At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as ***usual*** into the Jewish *synagogue*. There they *spoke* so ***effectively*** that a great number of Jews and *Greeks* *believed*. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 2 | - | But the Jews who *refused* to *believe* *stirred* up the *other* Gentiles and ***poisoned*** their *minds* *against* the brothers. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 3 | - | So Paul and Barnabas *spent* ***considerable*** time there, speaking *boldly* for the Lord, who ***confirmed*** the message of his grace by ***enabling*** them to *perform* signs and wonders. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 4 | - | The people of the city *were* ***divided***; some ***sided*** with the Jews, *others* with the apostles. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 5 | - | There was a *plot* ***afoot*** *among* *both* Gentiles and Jews, together with their *leaders*, to ***mistreat*** them and *stone* them. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 6 | - | But they found out *about* *it* and *fled* to the Lycaonian ***cities*** of Lystra and Derbe and to the ***surrounding*** *country*, |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 7 | - | where they continued to preach the gospel. |

### In Lystra and Derbe

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 8 | - | In Lystra there *sat* a man who was *lame*. He had been that way from *birth* and had *never* *walked*. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 9 | - | He *listened* to Paul as he was speaking. Paul *looked* ***directly*** at him, saw that he had faith to *be* *healed* |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 10 | - | and called out, "*Stand* up on your *feet*!" At that, the man *jumped* up and began to walk. |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 11 | - | When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian *language*, "The *gods* *have* come down to *us* in human *form*!" |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 12 | - | Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called ***Hermes*** because he was the *chief* ***speaker***. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 13 | - | The *priest* of Zeus, *whose* *temple* was *just* outside the city, *brought* ***bulls*** and ***wreaths*** to the city *gates* because he and the crowd *wanted* to ***offer*** *sacrifices* to them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 14 | - | But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul *heard* of this, they ***tore*** their *clothes* and *rushed* out into the crowd, *shouting*: |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 15 | - | "*Friends*, *why* are you *doing* this? We *too* are *only* human, *like* you. We are *bringing* you *good* *news*, *telling* you to *turn* from these ***worthless*** *things* to the *living* God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 16 | - | In the *past*, he *let* all *nations* go their *own* way. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 17 | - | Yet he has *not* left *himself* *without* ***testimony***: He has *shown* *kindness* by *giving* you ***rain*** from heaven and ***crops*** in their ***seasons***; he ***provides*** you with ***plenty*** of *food* and ***fills*** your *hearts* with joy." |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 18 | - | *Even* with these *words*, they had ***difficulty*** ***keeping*** the crowd from ***sacrificing*** to them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 19 | - | Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd *over*. They ***stoned*** Paul and dragged him outside the city, *thinking* he was *dead*. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 20 | - | But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe. |

### The Return to Antioch in Syria

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 21 | - | They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 22 | - | strengthening the disciples and *encouraging* them to remain true to the faith. "We *must* go through *many* *hardships* to *enter* the kingdom of God," they said. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 23 | - | Paul and Barnabas *appointed* *elders* for them in *each* church and, with *prayer* and *fasting*, committed them to the Lord, in *whom* they had *put* their ***trust***. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 24 | - | After *going* through ***Pisidia***, they came into *Pamphylia*, |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 25 | - | and when they had preached the word in *Perga*, they went down to Attalia. |
| ¶ | Acts | 14 | : | 26 | - | From Attalia they *sailed* back to Antioch, where they had been committed to the grace of God for the *work* they had *now* ***completed***. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 27 | - | On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had *opened* a *door* of faith to the Gentiles. |
|  | Acts | 14 | : | 28 | - | And they *stayed* there a long time with the disciples. |

## Acts 15

### The Council at Jerusalem

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 1 | - | *Certain* people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: "*Unless* you are circumcised, *according* to the *custom* taught by Moses, you *cannot* be saved." |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 2 | - | This *brought* Paul and Barnabas *into* sharp ***dispute*** and *debate* with them. So Paul and Barnabas were *appointed*, *along* with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 3 | - | The church sent them on their *way*, and as they traveled through *Phoenicia* and *Samaria*, they *told* how the Gentiles had been ***converted***. This *news* made all the believers *very* glad. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 4 | - | When they came to Jerusalem, they were *welcomed* by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they *reported* *everything* God had done through them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 5 | - | Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the ***Pharisees*** *stood* up and said, "The Gentiles *must* be circumcised and ***required*** to *keep* the law of Moses." |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 6 | - | The apostles and elders *met* to *consider* this question. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 7 | - | After much ***discussion***, *Peter* *got* up and *addressed* them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a ***choice*** among you that the Gentiles *might* *hear* from my ***lips*** the message of the *gospel* and believe. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 8 | - | God, who *knows* the *heart*, *showed* that he *accepted* them by *giving* the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 9 | - | He did not ***discriminate*** *between* us and them, for he ***purified*** their *hearts* by faith. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 10 | - | *Now* then, *why* do you ***try*** to *test* God by ***putting*** on the ***necks*** of Gentiles a ***yoke*** that *neither* we *nor* our *ancestors* have been *able* to bear? |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 11 | - | No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are." |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 12 | - | The whole *assembly* *became* *silent* as they *listened* to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and *wonders* God had done among the Gentiles through them. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 13 | - | When they *finished*, *James* *spoke* up. "Brothers," he said, "*listen* to me. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 14 | - | *Simon* has *described* to us how God *first* ***intervened*** to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 15 | - | The words of the prophets are in ***agreement*** with this, as it is written: |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 16 | - | "'After this I will return and *rebuild* ***David's*** ***fallen*** ***tent***. Its ***ruins*** I will *rebuild*, and I will *restore* it, |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 17 | - | that the rest of *mankind* *may* *seek* the Lord, *even* all the Gentiles who bear my name, *says* the Lord, who *does* these things'-- |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 18 | - | things *known* from *long* ago. |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 19 | - | "It is my *judgment*, therefore, that we should not *make* it ***difficult*** for the Gentiles who are *turning* to God. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 20 | - | *Instead* we should ***write*** to them, telling them to abstain from food ***polluted*** by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 21 | - | For the law of Moses has been preached in every *city* from the ***earliest*** *times* and is read in the *synagogues* on every Sabbath." |

### The Council's Letter to Gentile Believers

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 22 | - | Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, *decided* to choose some of their *own* men and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They chose Judas (called *Barsabbas*) and Silas, men who were *leaders* among the believers. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 23 | - | With them they sent the following letter: The apostles and elders, your brothers, To the *Gentile* believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia: ***Greetings***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 24 | - | We have heard that some went *out* from us *without* our ***authorization*** and *disturbed* you, ***troubling*** your *minds* by what they said. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 25 | - | So we all ***agreed*** to choose some men and send them to you with our ***dear*** *friends* Barnabas and Paul-- |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 26 | - | men who have ***risked*** their *lives* for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 27 | - | Therefore we are *sending* Judas and Silas to ***confirm*** by word of *mouth* what we are ***writing***. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 28 | - | It *seemed* *good* to the Holy Spirit and to us not to ***burden*** you with *anything* *beyond* the following ***requirements***: |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 29 | - | You are to abstain from food ***sacrificed*** to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do *well* to *avoid* these things. ***Farewell***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 30 | - | So the men were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 31 | - | The people read it and were glad for its *encouraging* message. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 32 | - | Judas and Silas, who *themselves* were prophets, said much to ***encourage*** and ***strengthen*** the believers. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 33 | - | After spending some time there, they were sent off by the believers with the ***blessing*** of *peace* to return to those who had sent them. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 35 | - | But Paul and Barnabas *remained* in Antioch, where they and *many* *others* taught and preached the word of the Lord. |

### Disagreement Between Paul and Barnabas

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 15 | : | 36 | - | Some time *later* Paul said to Barnabas, "*Let* us go back and *visit* the believers in all the *towns* where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are *doing*." |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 37 | - | Barnabas *wanted* to take *John*, also called Mark, with them, |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 38 | - | but Paul did not *think* it ***wise*** to take him, because he had *deserted* them in *Pamphylia* and had not *continued* with them in the work. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 39 | - | They had *such* a sharp ***disagreement*** that they ***parted*** ***company***. Barnabas *took* Mark and sailed for *Cyprus*, |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 40 | - | but Paul chose Silas and *left*, ***commended*** by the believers to the grace of the Lord. |
|  | Acts | 15 | : | 41 | - | He went through Syria and Cilicia, *strengthening* the churches. |

## Acts 16

### Timothy Joins Paul and Silas

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 1 | - | Paul came to *Derbe* and then to Lystra, where a disciple named *Timothy* lived, whose *mother* was *Jewish* and a believer but whose father was a Greek. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 2 | - | The *believers* at Lystra and *Iconium* spoke *well* of him. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 3 | - | Paul wanted to take him *along* on the *journey*, so he *circumcised* him because of the Jews who lived in that *area*, for they all *knew* that his father was a Greek. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 4 | - | As they traveled from *town* to *town*, they *delivered* the ***decisions*** *reached* by the apostles and *elders* in *Jerusalem* for the people to obey. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 5 | - | So the *churches* were *strengthened* in the faith and *grew* *daily* in numbers. |

### Paul's Vision of the Man of Macedonia

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 6 | - | Paul and his *companions* traveled *throughout* the region of *Phrygia* and *Galatia*, *having* been kept by the Holy Spirit from *preaching* the word in the province of Asia. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 7 | - | When they came to the ***border*** of Mysia, they tried to *enter* ***Bithynia***, but the Spirit of Jesus *would* *not* ***allow*** them to. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 8 | - | So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 9 | - | During the night Paul had a vision of a *man* of Macedonia *standing* and *begging* him, "Come *over* to Macedonia and *help* us." |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 10 | - | After Paul had seen the vision, we *got* ***ready*** at once to leave for Macedonia, ***concluding*** that God had called us to preach the *gospel* to them. |

### Lydia's Conversion in Philippi

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 11 | - | From Troas we put out to *sea* and *sailed* *straight* for ***Samothrace***, and the next day we went on to ***Neapolis***. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 12 | - | From there we traveled to *Philippi*, a Roman ***colony*** and the *leading* city of that ***district*** of Macedonia. And we stayed there *several* days. |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 13 | - | On the *Sabbath* we went *outside* the city *gate* to the ***river***, where we ***expected*** to *find* a place of prayer. We *sat* down and began to speak to the *women* who had *gathered* there. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 14 | - | One of those listening was a *woman* from the city of ***Thyatira*** named ***Lydia***, a ***dealer*** in ***purple*** ***cloth***. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her *heart* to ***respond*** to *Paul's* *message*. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 15 | - | When she and the members of her household were baptized, she *invited* us to her *home*. "*If* you *consider* *me* a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and *stay* at my house." And she *persuaded* us. |

### Paul and Silas in Prison

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| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 16 | - | Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a ***female*** *slave* who had a spirit by *which* she *predicted* the ***future***. She ***earned*** a *great* ***deal*** of money for her owners by ***fortune-telling***. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 17 | - | She *followed* Paul and the rest of us, *shouting*, "These men are *servants* of the Most *High* God, who are *telling* you the *way* to be saved." |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 18 | - | She kept this up for many days. *Finally* Paul *became* so ***annoyed*** that he *turned* *around* and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus *Christ* I command you to come out of her!" At that *moment* the spirit left her. |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 19 | - | When her owners *realized* that their *hope* of *making* money was *gone*, they *seized* Paul and Silas and *dragged* them into the *marketplace* to *face* the ***authorities***. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 20 | - | They brought them before the magistrates and said, "These men are Jews, and are ***throwing*** *our* city into *an* uproar |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 21 | - | by *advocating* *customs* ***unlawful*** for us ***Romans*** to ***accept*** *or* ***practice***." |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 22 | - | The *crowd* *joined* in the *attack* *against* Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be ***stripped*** and ***beaten*** with ***rods***. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 23 | - | After they had been ***severely*** *flogged*, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was *commanded* to *guard* them *carefully*. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 24 | - | When he *received* these *orders*, he put them in the ***inner*** *cell* and ***fastened*** their feet in the ***stocks***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 25 | - | About *midnight* Paul and Silas were praying and ***singing*** ***hymns*** to God, and the *other* prisoners were listening to them. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 26 | - | *Suddenly* there was *such* a *violent* ***earthquake*** that the ***foundations*** of the prison were *shaken*. At once all the prison doors ***flew*** open, and *everyone's* *chains* came ***loose***. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 27 | - | The jailer *woke* up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he *drew* his *sword* and was about to *kill* *himself* because he *thought* the prisoners had ***escaped***. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 28 | - | But Paul *shouted*, "*Don't* *harm* *yourself*! We are all here!" |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 29 | - | The jailer called for ***lights***, *rushed* in and *fell* ***trembling*** before Paul and Silas. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 30 | - | He then brought them out and *asked*, "***Sirs***, *what* *must* I do to be saved?" |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 31 | - | They *replied*, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household." |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 32 | - | Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the *others* in his house. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 33 | - | At that *hour* of the night the jailer *took* them and *washed* their ***wounds***; then *immediately* he and all his household were baptized. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 34 | - | The jailer brought them into his house and set a *meal* before them; he was filled with *joy* because he had come to believe in God--he and his *whole* household. |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 35 | - | When *it* was *daylight*, the magistrates *sent* their officers to the jailer with the *order*: "*Release* those men." |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 36 | - | The jailer *told* Paul, "The magistrates *have* ordered that you and Silas be *released*. Now you *can* leave. *Go* in *peace*." |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 37 | - | But Paul said to the officers: "They *beat* us *publicly* *without* a *trial*, *even* *though* we are Roman citizens, and *threw* us into prison. And now do they *want* to *get* ***rid*** of us ***quietly***? *No*! *Let* them come *themselves* and ***escort*** us out." |
| ¶ | Acts | 16 | : | 38 | - | The officers *reported* this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were *alarmed*. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 39 | - | They came to ***appease*** them and *escorted* them from the prison, ***requesting*** them to leave the city. |
|  | Acts | 16 | : | 40 | - | After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to ***Lydia's*** house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. Then they left. |

## Acts 17

### In Thessalonica

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 1 | - | When Paul and his *companions* had *passed* *through* ***Amphipolis*** and ***Apollonia***, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 2 | - | As was his *custom*, Paul went into the synagogue, and on *three* *Sabbath* *days* he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 3 | - | ***explaining*** and *proving* that the Messiah had to *suffer* and *rise* from the dead. "This Jesus I am *proclaiming* to you is the Messiah," he said. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 4 | - | Some of the Jews were *persuaded* and *joined* Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and ***quite*** a *few* prominent women. |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 5 | - | But other Jews were *jealous*; so they ***rounded*** up some ***bad*** ***characters*** from the marketplace, ***formed*** a ***mob*** and *started* a ***riot*** in the city. They *rushed* to ***Jason's*** house in *search* of Paul and Silas in order to *bring* them out to the crowd. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 6 | - | But when they did not find them, they *dragged* Jason and some other believers *before* the city officials, *shouting*: "These men who have *caused* ***trouble*** all over the world have now come here, |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 7 | - | and Jason has *welcomed* them into his house. They are all ***defying*** ***Caesar's*** ***decrees***, *saying* that there is *another* *king*, one *called* Jesus." |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 8 | - | When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into ***turmoil***. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 9 | - | Then they made Jason and the others ***post*** ***bond*** and let them go. |

### In Berea

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 10 | - | As soon as it was *night*, the believers sent Paul and Silas *away* to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 11 | - | Now the ***Berean*** Jews were of *more* ***noble*** ***character*** *than* those in Thessalonica, for they received the *message* with *great* ***eagerness*** and ***examined*** the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was *true*. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 12 | - | As a *result*, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men. |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 13 | - | But when the Jews in Thessalonica *learned* that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea, some of them went there *too*, ***agitating*** the *crowds* and ***stirring*** them up. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 14 | - | The believers *immediately* sent Paul to the ***coast***, but Silas and Timothy *stayed* at Berea. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 15 | - | Those who *escorted* Paul brought him to Athens and then left with *instructions* for Silas and Timothy to *join* him as soon as *possible*. |

### In Athens

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 16 | - | *While* Paul was ***waiting*** for them in Athens, he was *greatly* ***distressed*** to see that the city was *full* of *idols*. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 17 | - | So he reasoned in the synagogue with *both* Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who *happened* to be there. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 18 | - | A *group* of ***Epicurean*** and ***Stoic*** ***philosophers*** *began* to *debate* with him. Some of them *asked*, "What is this ***babbler*** *trying* to *say*?" Others ***remarked***, "He ***seems*** to be *advocating* ***foreign*** *gods*." They said this *because* Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 19 | - | Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "*May* we know what this *new* *teaching* is that you are ***presenting***? |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 20 | - | You are *bringing* some ***strange*** ideas to our *ears*, and we would like to know what they *mean*." |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 21 | - | (All the ***Athenians*** and the ***foreigners*** who *lived* there *spent* their *time* *doing* *nothing* but *talking* about and *listening* to the ***latest*** ideas.) |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 22 | - | Paul then *stood* up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every *way* you are very ***religious***. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 23 | - | For as I *walked* *around* and *looked* *carefully* at your ***objects*** of worship, I *even* *found* an ***altar*** with this ***inscription***: to an ***unknown*** god. So you are ***ignorant*** of the very *thing* you worship--and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 24 | - | "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of *heaven* and earth and does not live in *temples* *built* by human hands. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 25 | - | And he is not *served* by human hands, as if he ***needed*** *anything*. *Rather*, he *himself* ***gives*** everyone *life* and ***breath*** and everything *else*. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 26 | - | From one man he made all the *nations*, that they should ***inhabit*** the *whole* earth; and he ***marked*** out their appointed *times* in ***history*** and the ***boundaries*** of their ***lands***. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 27 | - | God did this so that they would *seek* him and ***perhaps*** *reach* out for him and find him, *though* he is not *far* from *any* one of us. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 28 | - | 'For in him we live and ***move*** and have our being.' As some of your *own* ***poets*** have said, 'We are his offspring.' |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 29 | - | "Therefore *since* we are *God's* offspring, we should not think that the *divine* being is like *gold* or *silver* or *stone*--an *image* made by human ***design*** and ***skill***. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 30 | - | In the *past* God *overlooked* *such* *ignorance*, but now he ***commands*** all people *everywhere* to *repent*. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 31 | - | For he has set a day when he *will* *judge* the world with *justice* by the man he has appointed. He has *given* ***proof*** of this to everyone by *raising* him from the dead." |
| ¶ | Acts | 17 | : | 32 | - | When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them ***sneered***, but others said, "We *want* to *hear* you *again* on this *subject*." |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 33 | - | At that, Paul left the ***Council***. |
|  | Acts | 17 | : | 34 | - | Some of the people *became* *followers* of Paul and believed. *Among* them was ***Dionysius***, a ***member*** of the Areopagus, also a *woman* *named* ***Damaris***, and a number of others. |

## Acts 18

### In Corinth

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| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 1 | - | After this, Paul left *Athens* and went to Corinth. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 2 | - | There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of *Pontus*, who had ***recently*** come from ***Italy*** with his *wife* Priscilla, because *Claudius* had *ordered* all Jews to *leave* *Rome*. Paul went to *see* them, |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 3 | - | and because he was a ***tentmaker*** as they were, he stayed and ***worked*** with them. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 4 | - | Every *Sabbath* he reasoned in the synagogue, *trying* to ***persuade*** Jews and Greeks. |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 5 | - | When *Silas* and *Timothy* came from *Macedonia*, Paul *devoted* himself ***exclusively*** to *preaching*, *testifying* to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 6 | - | But when they *opposed* Paul and *became* ***abusive***, he *shook* out his *clothes* in ***protest*** and said to them, "Your *blood* be on your own ***heads***! I am innocent of it. From *now* on I will go to the Gentiles." |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 7 | - | Then Paul left the synagogue and went *next* *door* to the house of ***Titius*** *Justus*, a worshiper of God. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 8 | - | ***Crispus***, the synagogue leader, and his *entire* *household* believed in the Lord; and many of the ***Corinthians*** who heard Paul believed and were baptized. |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 9 | - | One *night* the Lord spoke to Paul in a *vision*: "Do not be *afraid*; *keep* on *speaking*, do not be *silent*. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 10 | - | For I am with you, and no one is *going* to attack and *harm* you, because I *have* many people in this city." |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 11 | - | So Paul stayed in Corinth for a *year* and a ***half***, *teaching* them the word of God. |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 12 | - | *While* Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews of Corinth *made* a ***united*** attack on Paul and brought him to the place of *judgment*. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 13 | - | "This man," they *charged*, "is ***persuading*** the people to worship God in *ways* ***contrary*** to the law." |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 14 | - | Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to them, "If you Jews were *making* a ***complaint*** about some ***misdemeanor*** *or* ***serious*** ***crime***, it would be ***reasonable*** for me to listen to you. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 15 | - | But *since* it ***involves*** ***questions*** about *words* and ***names*** and your own law--***settle*** the ***matter*** *yourselves*. I will not be a *judge* of *such* *things*." |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 16 | - | So he *drove* them off. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 17 | - | Then the *crowd* there *turned* on ***Sosthenes*** the synagogue leader and *beat* him in *front* of the proconsul; and Gallio *showed* no ***concern*** ***whatever***. |

### Priscilla, Aquila and Apollos

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 18 | - | Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time. Then he left the brothers and sisters and sailed for *Syria*, *accompanied* by Priscilla and Aquila. *Before* he sailed, he had his ***hair*** *cut* off at ***Cenchreae*** because of a ***vow*** he had *taken*. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 19 | - | They arrived at Ephesus, *where* Paul left Priscilla and Aquila. He himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 20 | - | When they asked him to ***spend*** more time with them, he ***declined***. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 21 | - | But as he left, he *promised*, "I will come *back* if it is *God's* will." Then he set sail from Ephesus. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 22 | - | When he ***landed*** at *Caesarea*, he went up to Jerusalem and ***greeted*** the church and then went down to Antioch. |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 23 | - | After spending some time in Antioch, Paul set out from there and traveled from place to place *throughout* the region of *Galatia* and *Phrygia*, *strengthening* all the disciples. |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 24 | - | *Meanwhile* a Jew named Apollos, a native of *Alexandria*, came to Ephesus. He was a *learned* man, with a *thorough* *knowledge* of the Scriptures. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 25 | - | He had *been* ***instructed*** in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great ***fervor*** and *taught* about Jesus ***accurately***, *though* he *knew* *only* the baptism of John. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 26 | - | He began to speak *boldly* in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they *invited* him to *their* *home* and ***explained*** to him the way of God more ***adequately***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 18 | : | 27 | - | When Apollos *wanted* to go to Achaia, the brothers and sisters *encouraged* him and *wrote* to the disciples there to ***welcome*** him. When he arrived, he was a great *help* to those who by *grace* had believed. |
|  | Acts | 18 | : | 28 | - | For he ***vigorously*** ***refuted*** his *Jewish* *opponents* in *public* *debate*, *proving* from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah. |

## Acts 19

### Paul in Ephesus

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 1 | - | While *Apollos* was at *Corinth*, Paul took the *road* through the ***interior*** and arrived at Ephesus. There he *found* some disciples |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 2 | - | and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 3 | - | So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 4 | - | Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of *repentance*. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 5 | - | On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 6 | - | When Paul *placed* his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and ***prophesied***. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 7 | - | There were about *twelve* men in all. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 8 | - | Paul *entered* the synagogue and spoke *boldly* there for three *months*, ***arguing*** ***persuasively*** about the kingdom of God. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 9 | - | But some of them became ***obstinate***; they *refused* to believe and publicly ***maligned*** the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had ***discussions*** *daily* in the ***lecture*** ***hall*** of ***Tyrannus***. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 10 | - | This went on for two *years*, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 11 | - | God did ***extraordinary*** *miracles* through Paul, |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 12 | - | so that even ***handkerchiefs*** and ***aprons*** that had ***touched*** him were *taken* to the sick, and their ***illnesses*** were ***cured*** and the evil spirits left them. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 13 | - | Some Jews who went *around* ***driving*** out evil spirits *tried* to ***invoke*** the name of the Lord Jesus *over* those who were ***demon-possessed***. They would *say*, "In the name of the Jesus *whom* Paul ***preaches***, I command you to come out." |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 14 | - | *Seven* *sons* of ***Sceva***, a *Jewish* *chief* *priest*, were *doing* this. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 15 | - | One day the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?" |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 16 | - | Then the man who had the evil spirit *jumped* on them and ***overpowered*** them all. He gave them *such* a ***beating*** that they *ran* out of the *house* ***naked*** and ***bleeding***. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 17 | - | When this became known to the Jews and Greeks *living* in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was *held* in *high* ***honor***. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 18 | - | Many of those who believed *now* came and ***openly*** ***confessed*** what they had done. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 19 | - | A *number* who had practiced *sorcery* brought their *scrolls* together and ***burned*** them publicly. When they ***calculated*** the ***value*** of the *scrolls*, the ***total*** came to ***fifty*** *thousand* ***drachmas***. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 20 | - | In this way the word of the Lord *spread* ***widely*** and *grew* in *power*. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 21 | - | After all this had happened, Paul *decided* to go to *Jerusalem*, ***passing*** through Macedonia and *Achaia*. "After I have *been* there," he said, "I must *visit* *Rome* also." |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 22 | - | He sent two of his ***helpers***, *Timothy* and ***Erastus***, to Macedonia, while he stayed in the province of Asia a *little* *longer*. |

### The Riot in Ephesus

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| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 23 | - | About that time there *arose* a great ***disturbance*** about the Way. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 24 | - | A ***silversmith*** *named* Demetrius, who made *silver* ***shrines*** of Artemis, brought in a *lot* of business for the craftsmen there. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 25 | - | He called them together, *along* with the ***workers*** in ***related*** ***trades***, and said: "You know, *my* friends, that we receive a good ***income*** from this business. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 26 | - | And you see and *hear* *how* this fellow Paul *has* ***convinced*** and *led* ***astray*** *large* *numbers* of people here in Ephesus and in ***practically*** the whole province of Asia. He *says* that gods made by human hands are no gods at all. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 27 | - | There is danger not *only* that our ***trade*** will ***lose*** *its* good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be ***discredited***; and the goddess ***herself***, who is ***worshiped*** *throughout* the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her *divine* ***majesty***." |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 28 | - | When they heard this, they were furious and *began* shouting: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 29 | - | *Soon* the whole city was in an *uproar*. The people seized *Gaius* and *Aristarchus*, *Paul's* *traveling* *companions* from Macedonia, and all of them *rushed* into the theater together. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 30 | - | Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 31 | - | Even some of the *officials* of the province, friends of Paul, sent him a *message* *begging* him not to ***venture*** into the theater. |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 32 | - | The assembly was in ***confusion***: Some were shouting one *thing*, some *another*. *Most* of the people did not even know *why* they were there. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 33 | - | The Jews in the crowd *pushed* *Alexander* to the *front*, and they shouted *instructions* to him. He *motioned* for ***silence*** in order to *make* a *defense* before the people. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 34 | - | But when they *realized* he was a *Jew*, they all shouted in ***unison*** for about two *hours*: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" |
| ¶ | Acts | 19 | : | 35 | - | The city ***clerk*** ***quieted*** the crowd and said: "Fellow Ephesians, ***doesn't*** all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the ***guardian*** of the temple of the great Artemis and of her *image*, *which* *fell* from heaven? |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 36 | - | Therefore, since these ***facts*** are ***undeniable***, you ***ought*** to ***calm*** *down* and not *do* anything ***rash***. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 37 | - | You have brought these men here, *though* they have *neither* robbed *temples* *nor* ***blasphemed*** our goddess. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 38 | - | If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a ***grievance*** *against* ***anybody***, the *courts* are *open* and there are ***proconsuls***. They *can* ***press*** *charges*. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 39 | - | If there is anything *further* you want to *bring* *up*, it must be *settled* in a ***legal*** assembly. |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 40 | - | As it is, we are in danger of *being* *charged* with ***rioting*** *because* of what happened *today*. In that *case* we would not be able to *account* for this *commotion*, since there is no ***reason*** for it." |
|  | Acts | 19 | : | 41 | - | After he had said this, he *dismissed* the assembly. |

## Acts 20

### Through Macedonia and Greece

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 1 | - | When the *uproar* had ***ended***, Paul sent for the disciples and, after *encouraging* them, said ***goodbye*** and set out for Macedonia. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 2 | - | He *traveled* through that *area*, speaking many words of *encouragement* to the people, and *finally* arrived in ***Greece***, |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 3 | - | where he stayed three *months*. Because *some* Jews had ***plotted*** *against* him *just* as he was about to sail for *Syria*, he decided to go *back* through Macedonia. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 4 | - | He was accompanied by ***Sopater*** *son* of ***Pyrrhus*** from *Berea*, *Aristarchus* and ***Secundus*** from *Thessalonica*, *Gaius* from *Derbe*, *Timothy* *also*, and ***Tychicus*** and ***Trophimus*** from the province of Asia. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 5 | - | These men went on ahead and ***waited*** for us at Troas. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 6 | - | But we sailed from *Philippi* after the Festival of Unleavened Bread, and *five* days *later* *joined* the *others* at Troas, where we stayed *seven* days. |

### Eutychus Raised From the Dead at Troas

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 7 | - | On the first day of the ***week*** we came *together* to ***break*** bread. Paul *spoke* to the people and, because he *intended* to leave the next day, *kept* on talking until *midnight*. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 8 | - | There were many ***lamps*** in the upstairs room where we were meeting. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 9 | - | ***Seated*** in a ***window*** was a young man *named* ***Eutychus***, who was ***sinking*** into a ***deep*** ***sleep*** as Paul *talked* on and on. When he was *sound* *asleep*, he fell to the *ground* from the *third* *story* and was ***picked*** up *dead*. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 10 | - | Paul went down, *threw* himself on the young man and *put* his ***arms*** *around* him. "*Don't* be *alarmed*," he said. "***He's*** alive!" |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 11 | - | Then he went upstairs again and *broke* bread and *ate*. After talking until *daylight*, he left. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 12 | - | The people took the young man *home* alive and were *greatly* ***comforted***. |

### Paul's Farewell to the Ephesian Elders

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 13 | - | We went on ahead to the ship and sailed for Assos, where we were going to *take* Paul aboard. He had made this ***arrangement*** because he was going there on *foot*. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 14 | - | When he *met* us at Assos, we took him aboard and went on to ***Mitylene***. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 15 | - | The next day we set sail from there and arrived *off* ***Chios***. The day after that we ***crossed*** over to ***Samos***, and on the following day arrived at Miletus. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 16 | - | Paul had decided to sail *past* Ephesus to *avoid* *spending* time in the province of Asia, for he was in a ***hurry*** to *reach* Jerusalem, *if* *possible*, by the day of Pentecost. |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 17 | - | From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 18 | - | When they arrived, he said to them: "You know *how* I *lived* the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 19 | - | I *served* the Lord with *great* ***humility*** and with tears and in the ***midst*** of *severe* ***testing*** by the ***plots*** of my *Jewish* opponents. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 20 | - | You know that I have not hesitated to *preach* *anything* that would be ***helpful*** to you but have *taught* you *publicly* and from house to house. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 21 | - | I have ***declared*** to *both* Jews and *Greeks* that they must *turn* to God in *repentance* and have *faith* in our Lord Jesus. |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 22 | - | "And now, ***compelled*** by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will *happen* to me there. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 23 | - | I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit ***warns*** me that *prison* and *hardships* are ***facing*** me. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 24 | - | *However*, I *consider* my *life* ***worth*** *nothing* to me; my only ***aim*** is to ***finish*** the ***race*** and ***complete*** the *task* the Lord Jesus has *given* me--the *task* of *testifying* to the good news of God's grace. |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 25 | - | "Now I know that ***none*** of you among *whom* I have *gone* about preaching the *kingdom* will *ever* see me again. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 26 | - | Therefore, I ***declare*** to you *today* that I am innocent of the blood of *any* of you. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 27 | - | For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 28 | - | *Keep* *watch* over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you ***overseers***. Be ***shepherds*** of the church of God, which he *bought* with his own blood. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 29 | - | I know that after I leave, ***savage*** ***wolves*** will *come* in among you and will not ***spare*** the flock. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 30 | - | *Even* from your own *number* men will ***arise*** and ***distort*** the ***truth*** in order to ***draw*** *away* disciples after them. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 31 | - | *So* be on your *guard*! ***Remember*** that for three *years* I never *stopped* *warning* *each* of you *night* and day with tears. |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 32 | - | "Now I ***commit*** you to God and to the word of his grace, which *can* *build* you up and give you *an* *inheritance* among all those who are ***sanctified***. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 33 | - | I have not ***coveted*** ***anyone's*** *silver* or gold or *clothing*. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 34 | - | You yourselves know that these *hands* of ***mine*** have ***supplied*** my own *needs* and the *needs* of my *companions*. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 35 | - | In *everything* I *did*, I *showed* you that by this *kind* of ***hard*** *work* we must *help* the ***weak***, ***remembering*** the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is *more* *blessed* to give *than* to *receive*.' " |
| ¶ | Acts | 20 | : | 36 | - | When Paul had *finished* speaking, he ***knelt*** down with all of them and prayed. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 37 | - | They all ***wept*** as they ***embraced*** him and ***kissed*** him. |
|  | Acts | 20 | : | 38 | - | What ***grieved*** them *most* was his ***statement*** that they would never see his *face* again. Then they accompanied him to the ship. |