

Week 1 – Course Introduction

Intro to the Course

Welcome along to *Acts of the Apostles (New Testament 2)*. This subject aims to develop your understanding of how the risen and ascended Christ continued to achieve his purposes through the gospel and the Holy Spirit in the work of his apostles.

Acts is not simply a book of history, although it does provide some of the best historical verification for the work of Christians in the early development of the church. It is also a book of theology and outlines for the reader what early Christians believed and taught. It is a book with ongoing relevance and application because it continues to inform Christians today of the way the Lord Jesus continues to work through his gospel and his spirit to bring people to himself.

Let's have fun together delving into God's word in this wonderful book – and train ourselves under God in ministry so that we are better able, but God's spirit' to proclaim Jesus to the ends of the earth.

The plan for the term looks like this:

2.30-4pm (in Delbridge House Meeting Rooms)

Sun 19th March - Introduction to the Acts of the Apostles

Sun 26th March – The Beginning of the Church (Acts 1:1-2:47)

Sun 2nd April – The Church and the Jewish Authorities (Acts 3:1-5:42)
- Note: *Daylight Savings ends today!*

Sun 9th April – The Church begins to Expand (Acts 6:1-9:31)

Sun 16th April Easter Day (no group)

Sun 23rd April – The Beginning of the Gentile Mission (Acts 9:32-12:25)
- Note: *KDN on hols – TBA leading*

Sun 30th April - The Mission to Asia Minor and its Repercussions (Acts 13:1-15:35)
- Note: *KDN on hols – TBA leading*

Sun 7th May – Paul's Missionary Campaign in Macedonia and Achaia (Acts 15:36-18:17)

Sun 14th May – Paul's Missionary Campaign in Asia Minor (Acts 18:18-20:38)
- Note: *This is Mother's Day – should we try and do two units on either 7th or 21st of May (from 12.30-4pm to clear Mothers' Day??)*

Sun 21st May - Pauls' Arrest and Imprisonment – Part 1 (Acts 21:1-24:27)

Sun 28th May - Pauls' Arrest and Imprisonment – Part 2 (Acts 25:1-28:31)

Sun 4th June – Optional Exam (from 2.15-4pm in the Trinity Cottage)

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Resource Books

For most of the *Preliminary Theological Course* (PTC) subjects the *New Bible Dictionary* (Leicester: IVP, 2nd Ed. 1992) is a recommended text. Furthermore it is a useful resource book for the preparation of future Bible studies. Well worth the investment.

You may also find these commentaries helpful:

J.R.W Stott *The Message of Acts* (BST, Leicester: IVP, 1990)

I.H. Marshall *Acts* (Tyndale, Leicester: IVP, 1980)

And more detailed:

D.G. Peterson *The Acts of the Apostles* (Pillar, Grand Rapids: Eerdmanns, 2009)

M. Green *30 Years that Changed the World – a fresh look at the book of Acts* (Leicester: IVP, 2002)

Extra Notes

The purpose of the extra notes you will receive during this course are first to provide a summary of key points from the PTC Notes, and second to provide some extra information that may fill out your understanding of the subject in question. Don't let the extra notes overwhelm you – if you are feeling burdened, then just stick to the PTC book.

Extra Notes can be found at:

<https://trinitycity5pmchurch.org/bible-studies/training-papers/> (and look for Bible > Acts of the Apostles (NT2))

Personal Devotions ('Quiet Times')

Without trying to overload you, doing your 'Personal Devotions' in the book of Acts may help you apply what you learn into your life. If you want suggestions or info on how to do this, feel free to ask me.

I really hope that you enjoy studying *Acts of the Apostles*. I can guarantee that whatever effort you put in will be rewarded as you deal with the Word of God.

Throughout the course feel free to contact me for assistance at any time – mob 0412 620 588 or email: ken.noakes@trinitycity.org.au

Enjoy.



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