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# A Bible Survey



*A Three Year Course of Study for Adults*

**Section Ten: Acts of the Apostles**  
**Year 3, Quarter 2**

**Compiled by Gene Taylor**

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# Preface

These lessons were first compiled over a three year period from April 1988 through March 1991. The then Westside church of Christ in Tallahassee, Florida (Now the Centerville Road church relocated to 4015 Centerville Road in Tallahassee) determined to place all their Sunday morning Bible classes on the *Amplified Bible Curriculum* (Hereafter referred to as *ABC*) developed by JoLinda Crump and Cathy Valdes.

While their curriculum recommended materials from preschool through senior high, we desired to place our college, young adult, and adult classes on the same schedule. The volume of material in L.A. Mott's studies, recommended in the *ABC* for source material and lesson development, did not easily lend itself to a once a week study since he designed his lessons to be studied twice each week.

Considering these factors, I took it upon myself to compile these lessons. We used them successfully while cycling through the curriculum twice in our senior high, college, young adult, and adult classes from April 1988 through March 1994. They were edited and revised prior to the second study of them. They have been revised a second time and reformatted in 1997.

I have tried to parallel the *ABC* as much as possible so that adults and children would be studying the same lesson at the same time only on different levels. But this series, or any one of its twelve study guides, may be used independently.

Each lesson contains a schedule for daily Bible reading. It can be used as a format for family devotionals in the home even if the whole family is not on the curriculum.

I hope you enjoy your study.

Gene Taylor  
July 1997

# Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Preface .....   | 1  |
| Table of Contents .....                               | 2  |
| <b>Lesson One:</b> The Ascension .....                | 3  |
| <b>Lesson Two:</b> The Church Begins .....            | 5  |
| <b>Lesson Three:</b> Peter Imprisoned .....           | 7  |
| <b>Lesson Four:</b> Ananias and Sapphira .....        | 9  |
| <b>Lesson Five:</b> Stephen .....                     | 11 |
| <b>Lesson Six:</b> Philip .....                       | 12 |
| <b>Lesson Seven:</b> The Conversion of Saul .....     | 14 |
| <b>Lesson Eight:</b> Cornelius .....                  | 15 |
| <b>Lesson Nine:</b> The First Journey of Paul .....   | 17 |
| <b>Lesson Ten:</b> The Second Journey of Paul .....   | 19 |
| <b>Lesson Eleven:</b> The Third Journey of Paul ..... | 22 |
| <b>Lesson Twelve:</b> Paul's Trial .....              | 24 |
| <b>Lesson Thirteen:</b> Paul's Voyage to Rome .....   | 27 |

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# Lesson One: The Ascension

## Lesson Text

Acts 1:1-26

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 1:1-14

### Tuesday

Acts 1:15-22

### Thursday

Acts 1:23-26

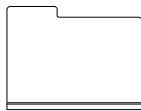
### Friday

Psalm 69

### Saturday

Psalm 109

## Lesson Concept



### GODHEAD

Fulfilling prophecy

### A Charge to the Apostles (1:1-5)

1. What former writing is connected with this book?
2. Who is Jesus addressing in verses one through eleven?
3. What were the “many infallible proofs, mentioned in verse three?
4. Taking context into consideration, what is “the Promise of the Father” in verse four?

### A Question about the Kingdom (1:6-8)

5. What likely gave rise to the question asked by Jesus’ apostles in verse six? What do you think they meant by this question?
6. Does Matthew 21:43 have any bearing on the question asked in verse six? Explain.
7. What is Jesus’ answer to the question posed in verse six? Why do you think He answers as He does?
8. What would the coming of the Holy Spirit do for the apostles? Why did Jesus want them to wait for its coming before giving their testimony?
9. What was the nature or purpose of the power referred to by Jesus?

### The Ascension (1:9-11)

10. How would the ascension of Jesus aid the apostles’ understanding in times to come?
11. Who spoke to the apostles concerning the ascension? Why?

### The Upper Room (1:12-14)

12. What groups of people gathered in the upper room?
13. With what were the people in the upper room occupied at this time?

**Judas' Replacement (1:15-26)**

14. Are the Old Testament references applied to Judas in verses 15 through 20 direct prophecies of him? How do they concern him?
15. In light of verses 21 through 26, define and discuss the nature and function of the apostolic office.
16. How many were proposed to take the place of Judas? Why only this number?
17. Who was chosen? How was the choice manifested?

# Lesson Two: The Church Begins

## Lesson Text

Acts 2:1-47

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 2:1-13

### Tuesday

Acts 2:14-36

### Thursday

Acts 2:37-47

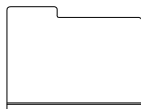
### Friday

Joel 2:28-32

### Saturday

Psalms 16

## Lesson Concept



### CHURCH

Fulfilling prophecy

### The Coming of the Holy Spirit (2:1-13)

1. Of what significance was the Day of Pentecost in the Old Testament?
2. Describe the phenomena observed on the Pentecost recorded in this chapter.
3. What is meant by “other tongues?” What was the purpose of these “other tongues?”
4. What is there about the phenomena of Pentecost that justifies its being described as “baptized in the Holy Spirit?”
5. What were the reactions among the people to the happenings of Pentecost?

### Peter’s Sermon (2:14-36)

6. Since Peter’s sermon falls naturally into three main parts which are listed below, give a heading or a brief summary for each.

a. Vv. 14-21.

b. Vv. 22-36.

c. Vv. 37-40.

7. What is meant by “the last days?”
8. How would you summarize Peter’s explanation of the significance of that moment in the history of the world?
9. What is Peter’s conclusion?

### The Reactions of the People (2:37-42)

10. Since Jesus had said that the Holy Spirit would “convict the world of sin” etc. (John 16:8), considering verse 37, explain the means by which the Spirit did His work.
11. Considering verse 21, why the question of verse 37? Had they not already been told? Explain.

12. Explain the relationship between verse 38 and verse 21. (cf. Matthew 7:21-23 and Acts 22:16)
13. Explain the meaning of the phrase “for the remission of sins” (v. 38) by using the context and the parallel passage, Matthew 26:28. Will either of these passages allow the phrase to mean “because of the remission of sins?”
14. What is the “gift of the Holy Spirit” that is referred to in verse 38?
15. What was done by those who received Peter’s word? What lesson(s) is to be learned here?
16. What does this passage teach about who should be baptized?

**A Portrait of the Church (2:43-47)**

17. Describe the life of the church in the period immediately after Pentecost.
18. Who was doing “wonders and signs” at this point?

# Lesson Three: Peter Imprisoned

## Lesson Text

Acts 3:1 - 4:31

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 3:1-16

### Tuesday

Acts 3:17-26

### Thursday

Acts 4:1-12

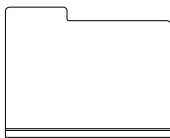
### Friday

Acts 4:13-22

### Saturday

Acts 4:23-31

## Lesson Concept



### CHURCH

Spreading the gospel boldly

### The Healing of a Lame Man (3:1-11)

1. Describe the miracle performed by Peter.
2. From the details of this account of the miracle and from what is said of it in Acts 4:13-22, what establishes the certainty and greatness of the cure?
3. What was the reaction of the people to this healing?

### Peter's Second Sermon (3:12-26)

4. Who comprised the audience for this sermon? How was the sermon especially adapted to the people to whom it was addressed?
5. Give an analysis of the sermon and its two main parts listed below.
  - a. Vv. 12-16.
  - b. Vv. 17-26.
6. List the purposes of repentance as they are stated in verses 19 and 20.
7. What is meant by the phrase "the times of restoration of all things?"

### The Beginning of Persecution: Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin (4:1-22)

8. What Jewish party (sect) was the leader of this early opposition to the apostles? What was the reason for this opposition?
9. How is verse four an illustration of the power of the apostolic message even amidst adverse circumstances?
10. From details given in verses five through twelve, show how Peter takes control of the situation using it for his own purposes.
11. From verses 13 and 14, list the four facts of the case that confronted the Sanhedrin and show the importance of each in relation to the others and to the overall situation. To what conclusion(s) do these facts point?
12. What would have been the honorable course for the Sanhedrin to follow? What was the Sanhedrin determined to do?



**The Reaction of the Apostles (4:23-31)**

13. What was the reaction of the other apostles when Peter and John told them what happened? What accounted for their boldness?
  
14. Describe the help and inspiration the example of Peter and John provides disciples today as they face similar situations and tasks.

# Lesson Four: Ananias and Sapphira

## Lesson Text

Acts 4:32 - 5:42

## Daily Bible Reading



**Monday**  
Acts 4:32-37

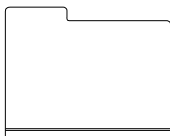
**Tuesday**  
Acts 5:1-11

**Thursday**  
Acts 5:12-26

**Friday**  
Acts 5:27-32

**Saturday**  
Acts 5:33-42

## Lesson Concept



**OBEDIENCE**  
Willing to face  
persecution

### A Second Portrait of the Church (4:32-37)

1. What are some features of the status of the church given in this text?
2. What can be said about the effect of persecution or opposition on the church?
3. How was provision made for the needy among believers?
4. Who was Barnabas? What does the text record him doing? What characteristics does this act reveal about him?

### Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11)

5. Compare and contrast the two attacks that Satan has made on the church, the one in chapter four and this one in chapter five.
6. Give a full explanation of the sin of Ananias and Sapphira.
7. What was the effect of the death of Ananias and Sapphira upon the church?
8. Does this passage illustrate any beneficial effect that can be accomplished through church discipline? Explain.

### A Third Portrait of the Church (5:12-16)

9. What seems to be the condition of the church after facing two problems?
10. How were outsiders generally viewing the church at this time?

### The Apostles Before the Sanhedrin (5:17-42)

11. What was the motivation of the rulers when they arrested the apostles?
12. With what Jewish sect was the high priest identified? How does that help to explain what was behind the persecution?
13. How do verses 19 and 20 represent a bold challenge to the:
  - a. Apostles?
  - b. Sanhedrin?

14. What was found by the officers the morning after the arrest of the apostles?
15. What would have been a reasonable reaction on the part of the rulers to the report of the officers? What was their reaction? What does their reaction indicate about the character of these men?
16. Since the apostles are brought before the Sanhedrin anyway, was their release from prison useless? Explain.
17. Discuss the importance of the principle set forth in verses 27 through 29 as furnishing a precedent to show the responsibility of a disciple of Christ in such a situation.
18. Compare verse 33 with 2:37. How was the effect of the apostolic message similar in the two cases? How was it different? Why the difference?
19. Who was Gamaliel? How did God use him to save the apostles? What advice did he offer?
20. Did the Jewish rulers act consistently in applying Gamaliel's advice? What did they do?
21. How did the apostles view the beating they received?

# Lesson Five: Stephen

## Lesson Text

Acts 6:1 - 7:54

## Daily Bible Reading



**Monday**  
Acts 6:1-15

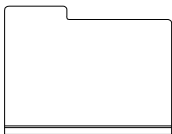
**Tuesday**  
Acts 7:1-19

**Thursday**  
Acts 7:20-38

**Friday**  
Acts 7:39-54

**Saturday**  
John 16:1-6

## Lesson Concept



**FAITH**  
Being faithful  
during trials

### Seven Chosen (6:1-7)

1. What problem arose as the church grew? Who were the “Grecian widows?”
2. Explain the “daily ministration” in light of 2:44ff. and 4:32-35.
3. What was the apostolic solution to the church’s problem of how to care for its needy more efficiently?
4. What is taught in verses 2 through 4 about the work of the apostles? Were the apostles “too good” to serve tables? Explain.
5. What kind of men were to be appointed over the business of serving tables?
6. Did the problem of verses one through six stop the growth of the church? Any lesson(s) here for the church today?

### Charges Against Stephen (6:8-15)

7. Is Stephen the first person after Pentecost other than an apostle who is said to have worked miracles?
8. List the stages of opposition to Stephen found in verses 8 through 14.
9. List the charges against Stephen.

### Stephen’s Defense (7:1-53)

10. What seems to be the two-fold object of Stephen’s speech?
11. How do verses 17 through 43 relate to the charges against Stephen? How do verses 44 through 50 relate to those charges?

### The Death of Stephen (Acts 7:54-60)

12. How did his audience react to Stephen’s speech?
13. Compare verses 55 through 56 with Matthew 26:63-64 and Mark 14:61-62.
14. In the light of John 18:31 and the necessity of bringing Jesus before Pilate to get the death sentence, how would you explain the action of verses 57 through 59?
15. Who held the garments of those who stoned Stephen?

# Lesson Six: Philip

## Lesson Text

Acts 8:1-40

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 8:1-8

### Tuesday

Acts 8:9-17

### Thursday

Acts 8:18-25

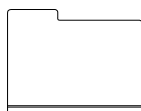
### Friday

Acts 8:26-40

### Saturday

Luke 13:1-5

## Lesson Concept



### CHURCH

Growing stronger  
due to persecution

### The Gospel in Samaria (8:1-25)

1. Describe the aftermath of the death of Stephen. How do verses one through four show that God is ruling the world? (cf. 4:27-28; Phil. 1:12-14)
2. What caused the Samaritans to give heed to the preaching of Philip. What relationship was there between his message and the signs he performed?
3. Under whose influence had the Samaritans previously been and why?
4. What important precedent does verse 12 establish as to who should be baptized?
5. What was accomplished by the laying on of the apostles' hands? What sort of blessings of the Spirit were imparted on this occasion? What conclusion(s) can be drawn with regard to the duration and purpose of these special powers?
6. How can Simon be used to refute the doctrine of "once saved, always saved?"
7. How does a person who has been baptized gain pardon from sins committed after baptism?

### Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch (8:26-40)

8. What was the role of the angel in the conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch?
9. What conclusions can be reached about the character of the Ethiopian from the following?
  - a. His position.
  - b. His long trip and its purpose.
  - c. What he was doing as he was riding in his chariot.
  - d. The attitude reflected in verse 31.
10. Was the Ethiopian saved before Philip came to him? Explain.

11. What was the Spirit's role in the conversion of the Ethiopian? Did it agree with earlier evidence, especially from Acts 2, concerning the manner in which the Spirit works to bring about the conversion of sinners? Explain.
12. How would Philip's question (v. 30) help him know how to proceed? What would the answer tell him about this man?
13. What passage was the Ethiopian reading? Is that a good place to begin preaching Jesus? Explain.
14. What are some things that must be taught when one preaches Jesus?
15. What did early preachers say about baptism when they preached Jesus? (cf. Acts 2:38)
16. What circumstantial evidence in this text contributes toward understanding how baptism was performed?
17. Why do you suppose the Ethiopian went on his way rejoicing after his baptism?
18. What did Philip do following this encounter with the Ethiopian? Any lesson(s) for us?

# Lesson Seven: The Conversion of Saul

## Lesson Text

Acts 9:1-43

## Daily Bible Reading



**Monday**  
Acts 9:1-10

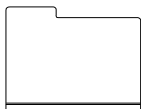
**Tuesday**  
Acts 9:11-16

**Thursday**  
Acts 9:17-22

**Friday**  
Acts 9:23-31

**Saturday**  
Acts 9:32-43

## Lesson Concept



**SALVATION**  
Requiring five steps

### The Conversion of Saul of Tarsus (9:1-19a)

1. How was Saul an example of what Jesus predicted in John 16:1-3?
2. To what extreme did Saul go in his opposition to the disciples? What was his motivation?
3. What was the purpose of the Lord's appearance to Saul? Was it a part of the plan of salvation applicable to all? Should such appearances be expected today? Explain.
4. What do you think must have been Saul's state of mind when given the information in verse five? What had he thought of Jesus before? What does he learn now?
5. What does it mean that Saul was "a chosen vessel?"
6. Was Saul saved on the road to Damascus? How do you know?
7. Does the term "Brother Saul" (v. 17) indicate that Saul was already a Christian brother before he was baptized? Explain. (cf. Acts 2:29; 3:17-19; 13:15, 38)

### Saul's First Preaching of Christ (9:19b-30)

8. Describe the radical change that took place in Saul.
9. What was Saul's message about Jesus? What amazed his audiences?
10. Why were the disciples in Jerusalem slow to accept Saul? Describe the role of Barnabas in this matter.
11. Why did Saul go to Tarsus? Why was it a natural place for him to go?

### A Fourth Portrait of the Church (9:31)

12. Describe the state of the church throughout Palestine after Saul's conversion.

### Peter in Lydda and Joppa (9:32-43)

13. What two remarkable miracles were performed by Peter? What was the effect of each?
14. What is meant by the "good works and charitable deeds" (v. 36) done by Dorcas? What good effects from this kind of personal, individual involvement are evident?

# Lesson Eight: Cornelius

## Lesson Text

Acts 10:1 - 11:30

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 10:1-16

### Tuesday

Acts 10:17-33

### Thursday

Acts 10:34-48

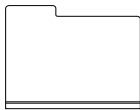
### Friday

Acts 11:1-18

### Saturday

Acts 11:19-30

## Lesson Concept



### GODHEAD

Receiving Holy Spirit baptism

### Cornelius, a Moral and Pious Man (10:1-2)

1. List the characteristics of Cornelius.
2. What conclusions in regard to salvation can be drawn in relation to what is presented about Cornelius in these verses. Explain.

### An Angel of God (10:3-9; cf. 11:13-14)

3. What was the function of the angel in this text? Compare the function of the angel here to that of the angel in the account of the conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch. (8:26-40)

### The Vision on the Housetop (10:9-16)

4. What did Peter see and hear? Did he understand the meaning and significance of his vision at this point? Explain.

### The Arrival of Messengers (10:17- 23a)

5. What was Peter's state of mind after seeing the vision?
6. What removed any doubt Peter might have had about going to the house of Cornelius? Why did he need such preparation and reassurance?

### The Meeting of Peter and Cornelius and the Preaching of Peter (10:23b-43)

7. What did Peter now realize the purpose of the vision that he had on the housetop to be?
8. Characterize the audience gathered to hear Peter speak.
9. Was Peter's message to Gentiles basically different from his message to Jews? Explain.
10. Is the salvation of the Jews and the salvation of the Gentiles on the same or different conditions? Explain.



**The Holy Spirit on the Gentiles (10:44-48)**

11. What was the purpose of the manifestation of the Holy Spirit on this occasion?
12. In what way does verse 45 point to the purpose of this manifestation? What evidence does verse 47 provide as to its purpose?

**Peter's Explanation at Jerusalem (11:1-18)**

13. How do verses one through three contribute to our understanding of the purpose of the manifestation of the Spirit at Caesarea?
14. How does Peter justify his conduct at Caesarea?
15. What conclusion is drawn by the Jews from the facts presented by Peter?

**The Church at Antioch in Syria (11:19-26)**

16. What is the major new development that is described in these verses?
17. How did Barnabas come to be in Antioch? What did he see when he got there?
18. Give the meaning of Barnabas' exhortation to them.
19. How did Saul come to be in Antioch? Why was he the man for this job?
20. What new name was given to the disciples in Antioch? Why do you think they were the first to be designated in that way?

# Lesson Nine: The First Journey of Paul

## Lesson Text

Acts 13:1 - 14:28

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 13:-13

### Tuesday

Acts 13:14-41

### Thursday

Acts 13:42-52

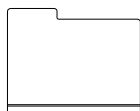
### Friday

Acts 14:1-18

### Saturday

Acts 14:19-28

## Lesson Concept



### CHURCH

Strengthening  
the church

### The Sending of Barnabas and Saul (13:1-3)

1. What is the difference between “prophets and teachers?” How did people other than the apostles receive the ability to prophesy?
2. Since verse four says that Barnabas and Saul were “sent forth by the Holy Spirit,” what can be learned from verses two and three about how the Holy Spirit worked in the early church?

### Preaching on the Island of Cyprus (13:4-12)

3. Name two men Paul and Barnabas met on the island of Cyprus. Describe the attitude or character of each.
4. How does the miracle of verse 11 differ from others mentioned in Acts? What was the effect of this miracle?

### Paul’s Address in Antioch of Pisidia (13:13-43)

5. At first, when mentioned, the order of the names is “Barnabas and Saul,” but after the departure from Cyprus it is “Paul and his company,” then, usually “Paul and Barnabas.” Is there any significance in the change of order?
6. What happened at Perga in Pamphylia?
7. Explain the situation which gave Paul opportunities to speak in Jewish synagogues.
8. Analyze Paul’s sermon found in this text by briefly stating its theme. Explain the importance of this sermon. Describe the immediate response to it.

### Further Work in Antioch of Pisidia (13:44-52)

9. What was the motivation behind the Jewish opposition to Paul?
10. How does one “judge (himself) unworthy of eternal life” (v. 46)?
11. What did Paul do when the Jews rejected the gospel?

12. What success did Paul and Barnabas have in Antioch?
13. How did the Jews get rid of Paul and Barnabas?
14. What is meant by the symbolic act mentioned in verse 51?

**Iconium (14:1-7)**

15. What does verse one suggest as to how belief (faith) is produced in a person?
16. According to verse three, what use was made of “signs and wonders” by the Lord?
17. What was the reaction in Iconium to Paul and Barnabas’ teaching? Who was behind the persecution?
18. For discussion: Should not Paul and Barnabas have been brave and stood their ground for the Lord and His gospel even at the cost of their lives?

**Lystra (14:8-20)**

19. What miracle was performed by Paul? How did the people react to it?
20. How does Paul’s address to the people of Lystra (vv. 14-17) differ from the address in the synagogue at Antioch (13:16-41)? Why was it different?
21. Who were the main enemies of the gospel in every city? What, in verse 19, especially indicates the degree of their hostility?

**The Churches Revisited (14:21-23)**

22. What new stage of the work of Paul and Barnabas is described in these verses?
23. What do these verses reveal about the needs of churches after they have been newly planted?

**The Return to Antioch in Syria (14:24-28)**

24. What did Paul and Barnabas do upon returning to Antioch in Syria?
25. What, if anything, do you find to be remarkable about the terms in which their report is made?

# Lesson Ten: The Second Journey of Paul

## Lesson Text

Acts 15:36 - 18:23

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 15:36 - 16:15

### Tuesday

Acts 16:16-40

### Thursday

Acts 17:1-15

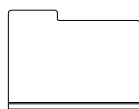
### Friday

Acts 17:16-34

### Saturday

Acts 18:1-22

## Lesson Concept



### SALVATION

Requiring five steps

### The Separation of Paul and Barnabas (15:36-41)

1. What proposal did Paul make to Barnabas?
2. Explain the separation between Paul and Barnabas. Who was Paul's new co-worker? What else do you know of him?
3. What was the first phase of Paul's work on this second journey?

### The Churches of Galatia (16:1-5)

4. Who was the other co-worker added by Paul at Lystra? What is known of his background?
5. Why did Paul have Timothy circumcised but not Titus? (cf. 1 Cor. 9:19-22; Gal. 2:1-5)
6. What "decrees" are meant in verse four?
7. Describe the effect of Paul's visit on these churches.

### The Call to Macedonia (16:6-10)

8. After visiting the churches established the first journey, what decision is faced by Paul and his companions?
9. Since the apostles had been commissioned to carry the gospel to "all the world," why is Paul forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia or Bithynia?
10. What is to be made of the change from "they" in verses six through eight to "we" in verses 10 through 17?

### The Conversion of Lydia (16:11-15)

11. Describe the city of Philippi. How does Paul's work there begin?
12. Describe Lydia before her conversion.
13. How did the Lord open Lydia's heart? Are the hearts of people opened in the same way today? Explain.
14. Since verse 15 is often used in support of infant baptism because of its use of the word "household," does that word necessarily imply infants? Explain.

### **The Conversion of the Philippian Jailor (16:16-40)**

15. How did Paul and Silas come to be in prison? Were the men who made charges against them honest? (Cite evidence for your answer.)
16. Summarize the events that took place during their imprisonment.
17. Why would the jailor want to take his life? What was his question to Paul and Silas? What prompted it? What was their response?
18. Does this incident teach that one only has to believe in order to be saved? Explain.

### **The Gospel in Thessalonica (17:1-9)**

19. Describe the method of Paul's work which is illustrated by his work in Thessalonica.
20. Since the first three verses of this chapter give an excellent summary of the points Paul had to establish in a Jewish synagogue:
  - a. List those points.
  - b. Tell how each point would be proven to be true.
21. List the three classes from which converts were drawn and give the terms which indicate how many from each class.
22. Describe the opposition to Paul's work at Thessalonica. What were the charges against the Christians? What, in the apostolic preaching, would have lent plausibility to those charges? How did such charges misrepresent the truth?

### **Berea (17:10-15)**

23. How was the nobility of the Bereans seen? What is meant by "the Scriptures?" Why was such an examination of the Scriptures a logical and reasonable response to the preaching?
24. What, from this incident, is evidently necessary to believe.
25. Who provided the opposition to Paul at Berea? What did the brethren do in response to it?

### **Athens (17:16-34)**

26. What did Paul find in Athens? How was it distinctive from the other cities in his travels?
27. What two views of Paul were adopted by the Athenians? How does his presentation of the gospel in Athens differ from his preaching in the synagogues? Why did it differ?

28. What is the basis on which all men everywhere are commanded to repent?

29. Describe the three responses to Paul's message.

**Corinth (18:1-23)**

30. In what way was Paul's departure from Athens different from his departures from the other European cities he had visited?

31. What kind of city was Corinth?

32. Who were Aquila and Priscilla? What was Paul's relationship with them?

33. Describe Paul's work during the early part of his stay in Corinth.

34. What crisis is precipitated as Paul presses the claims of the gospel? Describe it.

35. What is the meaning of Paul's symbolic action ("shook out his rainment") and of his words about "blood?" What change takes place in his work at this point?

36. What is remarkable, especially in the circumstances, about the conversion of Crispus?

37. Why did the Lord want Paul to stay in Corinth in spite of opposition there? What encouragement did He provide that would allow him to stay?

38. During Gallio's administration:

a. What charge did the Jews press against Paul?

b. What position was taken by Gallio?

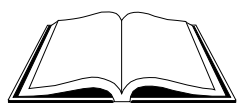
c. Did this persecution turn out differently than the usual persecutions against the apostles? Explain.

# Lesson Eleven: The Third Journey of Paul

## Lesson Text

Acts 18:24 - 21:16

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 18:23 - 19:7

### Tuesday

Acts 19:8-41

### Thursday

Acts 20:1-16

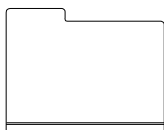
### Friday

Acts 20:17-38

### Saturday

Acts 21:1-16

## Lesson Concept



### CHURCH

Teaching corrects error

### Apollos (18:24-28)

1. Who was Apollos? Tell what you know of his background and personal characteristics. What was he doing at Ephesus?
2. Who were Aquila and Priscilla? Explain the wisdom of their methods in dealing with Apollos.

### Paul's Work in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-22)

3. Why was it necessary for certain disciples to be baptized again? Explain the difference(s) between the baptism of John and that of the great commission.
4. Of what significance is the laying on of hands in verse six? (cf. Acts 8:17-19)
5. What was the first stage of Paul's work in Ephesus? (v. 8) The second stage? (vv. 9-10) Describe the far-reaching effect of his Ephesian ministry.
6. How is the expression "special miracles" (v. 11f) explained in the context?
7. Relate the incident in which certain Jewish exorcists were discredited in Ephesus. What were its effects on the people of Ephesus? What were its effects on believers?
8. What were Paul's travel plans? How did he finally reach where he desired to go?
9. How long was Paul in Ephesus altogether?

### A Riot Over Christianity (19:23-41)

10. Identify the following people and their roles in this incident.
  - a. Demetrius.
  - b. Gaius.
  - c. Aristarchus.

11. Who was Alexander? What sort of a defense do you think he, a Jew, could have offered under the circumstances?
12. How was this incident brought to a close?

**The Journey to Macedonia and Greece (20:1-6)**

13. Where does Paul make a stop between Ephesus and Macedonia? (2 Cor. 2:12-13)
14. What was Paul's state of mind as he left for Macedonia? (2 Cor. 2:12,13; 7:5ff) Give several possible reasons for this state of mind.
15. Noting the use of "us" and "we" in verses five and six, what is their significance in relation to their use in the book of Acts?

**The Meeting at Troas (20:7-12)**

16. What is the significance of this reference to "the first day of the week?"
17. What was the purpose of the gathering? What is meant by the phrase "to break bread?" (vv. 7, 11)
18. What tremendous miracle was performed by Paul on this occasion?

**The Voyage from Troas and Paul's Address to the Ephesian Elders at Miletus (20:1-38)**

19. Why did Paul not go to Ephesus?
20. Why would Paul have a close relationship with these elders?
21. Summarize Paul's speech to these elders.

**The Trip to Jerusalem (21:1-16)**

22. How did the gospel first reach Phoenicia? (cf. 11:19)
23. What warning was Paul repeatedly given as his journey continued?
24. In what way is the close relation between disciples brought out in this passage?
25. Who was Philip? What special gift did his four virgin daughters possess? Under what circumstances, according to the Scriptures, may a woman exercise such a gift?



# Lesson Twelve: Paul's Trial

## Lesson Text

Acts 21:17 - 26:32

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 23:1-25

### Tuesday

Acts 23:26-35

### Thursday

Acts 24:1-22

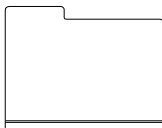
### Friday

Acts 25:6-27

### Saturday

Acts 26:1-32

## Lesson Concept



### FAITH

Knowing God  
cares for us

### Paul and the Customs of Moses (21:17-26)

1. In Paul's reports to James and the elders, who was given credit for his accomplishment among the Gentiles both by him and by them? What can we learn from that?
2. What had the Jewish Christians heard about Paul that threatened the unity of the church? What recommendation did they make to him? For what purpose?
3. Explain the connection between verse 25 and chapter 15 and the discussion over whether or not Gentiles becoming Christians needed to be circumcised.
4. What would allow Paul to consent to do as they suggested?

### Paul Under Arrest (21:27-36)

5. What charges were made against Paul? Who made them? What was the (mistaken) basis of part of the charges?
6. What saved Paul's life?

### Paul's Request to Speak and His Defense (21:37 - 22:21)

7. Who did the chief captain think Paul was? What provided evidence of his mistake?
8. What characteristics of Paul are manifested on this occasion?
9. What two languages did Paul speak on this occasion? Why were two languages used?
10. Summarize Paul's speech. What was the purpose of it? What did he hope to accomplish and explain?

### Interruption of Paul's Speech (22:22-29)

11. How would you describe the attitude of the Jews? Why do you think they had such an acute hostility toward Paul?
12. Why did the chief captain order Paul to be scourged? What saved him from it?

**Paul Before the Sanhedrin (22:30 - 23:10)**

13. Who called the meeting of the Sanhedrin? For what reason?
14. Who was Ananias? What was his attitude toward Paul?
15. What does Paul mean by “you whitewashed wall” (23:3)? How does this designation fit Ananias?
16. Why did Paul make the statement found in 23:6? Does it have any bearing on the Jewish opposition to him? (cf. 24:13-15,20f; 26:4-8,22f)
17. How did the meeting end?

**The Transfer to Caesarea (23:11-35)**

18. What word of encouragement did Paul receive from the Lord?
19. Describe the plot against Paul’s life. Who became co-conspirators in this plot? How was it exposed?
20. What did the chief captain decide to do?
21. What was the purpose of the letter sent to the governor by Claudius Lysias? Why do you think he did not set Paul free?
22. Where was Paul taken? Why? What happened upon his arrival there?

**Paul’s Hearing Before Felix (24:1-27)**

23. Who was Tertullus? What three charges did he make against Paul? Before whom were they made? What was the official position of the one hearing them?
24. When Christianity was referred to as “the sect of the Nazarenes” (v. 5), what was implied in the understanding of Paul’s accusers as to the relation of Christianity and Judaism?
25. What gave Paul cheer as he made his defense? Why?
26. Summarize Paul’s reply to each charge made against him.
27. What did Felix decide concerning Paul? Was there really any reason to wait for Lysias to come? (cf. 23:25-30) Explain.
28. What treatment was accorded Paul?
29. Discuss Paul’s approach to preaching to Felix and Drusilla.

30. Describe the character of Felix. Was he honest? Is there reason to believe that he ever intended to consider the gospel again? Explain.
31. What two motives did Felix have for continuing to hold Paul? Why would he think that Paul had money? (cf. v. 17)

**The Appeal to Caesar (25:1-12)**

32. Who was now governor in place of Felix? What do you know of him?
33. Why did Paul appeal his case to Caesar?

**Paul's Defense Before Agrippa (25:13 - 26:32)**

33. What would seem to be the purpose or occasion for such a visit as seen here by Agrippa to the Roman governor?
35. Did Festus' summary of Paul's case coincide with the actual facts? Explain.
36. What did Festus perceive to be the issues in Paul's case?
37. What, according to Paul, was the purpose of his speech? Summarize that speech.
38. What reaction did Festus have to Paul's speech? What is the implication of the charge he makes?
39. What was Agrippa's reaction to what Paul had said? How did Paul respond?
40. What was now to be done with Paul?

# Lesson Thirteen: Paul's Voyage to Rome

## Lesson Text

Acts 27:1 - 28:31

## Daily Bible Reading



### Monday

Acts 27:1-20

### Tuesday

Acts 27:21-44

### Thursday

Acts 28:1-10

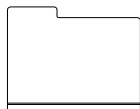
### Friday

Acts 28:11-22

### Saturday

Acts 28:23-31

## Lesson Concept



### FAITH

Facing persecution

### Voyage and Shipwreck (27:1-44)

1. What was the first leg of the voyage? (vv. 1-5) What was the second stage? (vv. 6-8)
2. What is meant by "the Fast?" (v. 9) What is the point of this reference to it?
3. Why would Paul presume to give advice to those running the ship? (vv. 9-10; cf. 2 Cor. 11:25)
4. Discuss the relationship among the three speeches of Paul. (vv. 9-10, 21-26, 30-31)
5. Why was the wheat thrown overboard?

### The Island of Malta (Melita) (28:1-10)

6. Explain the term "natives" ("barbarians," "barbarous people," etc.) used in verse two.
7. Out of all who had been on the ship, why does the attention come to be focused on Paul upon arrival on the island? What was the natives' reaction to this miracle? What two misinterpretations of events were held by them?

### From Malta (Melita) to Rome (28:11-15)

8. How did Paul and the company get off the island?
9. What evidence is there that there were Christians already in Rome before Paul ever arrived there?

### Paul in Rome (28:16-31)

10. What were Paul's circumstances in Rome? What is the significance of these conditions?
11. What were the main points of Paul's explanation of his situation to the leaders among the Jews in Rome? What was their response to Paul's message?
12. What, according to the quotation from Isaiah 6:9-10, is the real explanation of the gospel's failure to bring about the salvation of some who hear it proclaimed?

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