

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS

### I. AN INTRODUCTION

#### A. THE AUTHOR OF THIS BOOK

1. The author of this inspired, historical account is \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, close friend and fellow laborer with the Apostle Paul. (Col. 4:14; Philem. 1:24; 2 Tim. 4:11)
2. The internal evidence is strong that Luke was a traveling companion with Paul; this is clear by the “\_\_\_\_\_” passages, where Luke switches to the \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ plural, indicating that he was physically present. (Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-21:18; 27:1-28:16)
3. Luke wrote his third Gospel and his \_\_\_\_\_, identified as “Acts” to a specific man by the name of \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-3)

#### B. THE DATE OF THIS WRITING

1. It is with solid, deductive reasoning that we can conclude Luke wrote Acts early on, approximately AD 60-62...
  - a. This best explains the \_\_\_\_\_ of Acts, as Luke brought the events up to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. The Roman officials mentioned throughout Acts are \_\_\_\_\_ of, if not \_\_\_\_\_ towards Christianity. (Acts 18:12ff.; 19:30-31, 37; 25:24-25; 26:32; 27:3)
2. Arguments *against* the later date view after AD 70...
  - a. Luke does *not* mention Paul’s \_\_\_\_\_ (AD 66-68).
  - b. Emperor Nero’s outbreak (AD 64) of horrific \_\_\_\_\_ of Christians is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Luke is silent on the monumental event of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ in AD 70.
  - d. The author demonstrates no familiarity with \_\_\_\_\_.

### C. SOME PURPOSES FOR WRITING THIS DETAILED RECORD

1. To write out an \_\_\_\_\_ of the growth of early Christianity.  
(Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1)
2. The book of Acts provides an inspired \_\_\_\_\_ between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_; without it, the loss would be absolutely devastating.
3. Acts demonstrates that the Gospel was \_\_\_\_\_ exclusive to the Jews only, but for the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Luke's historical account displays the spread of Christianity, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit throughout the Roman Empire despite intense opposition.
5. Luke's historical narrative was used as an evangelistic \_\_\_\_\_ for Paul's trial before Caesar. (Acts 25:10-12; 27:24)

### D. SOME BENEFITS TO STUDYING THIS BOOK TODAY

1. The early Church experienced tremendous \_\_\_\_\_ and Satanic attack; likewise, we may be pressured to give up or give in, but God is up for the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. While people are getting saved and new churches are being planted today, we must keep in mind that the early Church (without means of modern transportation or communication) was able to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ upside down through the \_\_\_\_\_.