

An Attempt To Listen To God On
Surbey of The Actz of The Apostles

By

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Survey of The Acts of The Apostles

The Introduction

Observations:

- 1) The book of the Acts contains 18 chapters, 1007 verses, and takes approximately 2 hours and 6 minutes to read.
- 2) The key verse is: "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Ch. 1:8)
- 3) The ancient names for this book were: "The Gospel of the resurrection" and "The Acts of the Holy Spirit".

This is the only unfinished book in the Bible and that is because it contains the history of Paul only to that point of His life. The life and work of Paul was not finished for there was a fourth missionary journey which can be proven from other books of the New Testament.

It is interesting to note that in the entire book of Acts there is not a mention of the gospel or the saints opposing slavery. It was an accepted way of life, and just as today, some employers are good and some are bad, so it was in that ancient day.

The Major Themes

Acts is a continuance of all that Jesus began to do and teach (ch 1:1). The Lord is not on this earth bodily now, but those who are believers are here in His stead for the spread of the gospel. However, before they can ever be effective in the spread of the gospel, there must be the empowering by the Holy Spirit.

- 1) In our earthly sojourns we are either working with God or Satan.
 - a) We are building up evangelically or nutritionally the saints of God. If we are splitting the saints or maintaining divisions, we are working with Satan.

The effectiveness of the gospel message¹.

- 1) In church gatherings there are often reminders of the 5000 who got saved but to this the Acts adds:
 - a) "And the same day there were added onto them about three thousand souls." (ch 2:41)
 - b) "And the Lord added to the church daily." (ch 2:47)
 - c) "The number of the men was about five thousand." (ch 4:4)
 - d) "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both men and women." (ch 5:14)
 - e) "And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly." (ch 6:7)
 - f) "Then the churches were multiplied." (ch 9:31)
 - g) "And a great number believed." (ch 11:21)
 - h) "But the word of God grew and multiplied." (ch 12:24)
 - i) "And so were the churches . . . increased in number daily." (ch 16:5)
 - j) "So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed." (ch 19:20)
 - k) "These that have turned the world upside down." (ch 17:6)
- 2) The gospel certainly was effective for there are at least eight assemblies started, as well as those in Judea, Galilee and Samaria (ch.9:31). The specific ones mentioned are:
 - a) Jerusalem (ch 8:1)
 - b) Churches in Judaea, Galilee and Samaria (ch 9:31)
 - c) Antioch (ch 11:26)
 - d) Antioch, Syria and Cilicia (ch 15:23)
 - e) Lystra and Iconium (ch 16:2)

¹ It is sometimes said the word "power" is the same as "dynamite", such is not the case. It is the word used of the miracles of our Lord and indicates "mighty power". Dynamite blows things apart, the Gospel is a message of glorious reconciliation

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- f) Corinth (ch 18:1)
- g) Ephesus (ch 18:19; 20:17)

It is quite evident that the Christian church was to be mission minded, and Christianity was, and is, a self propagating religion therefore, it cannot be localized anywhere. The local church must be the same however, effective gospel preaching is only such when individuals are in touch with God and are clean channels for the Holy Spirit to work through.

Wherever the missionaries went, churches were established which became self-governing and self-supporting. Christian Jews were not sent out from Jerusalem to Antioch to take charge, elders were ordained and instructions were given on how they were to develop the work (ch 14:21–23). This does not mean an ordination ceremony, but rather, they were chosen, for so the word is translated (2 Cor. 8:19). They would only have been chosen if they had the qualifications. It must be understood that God never appoints a man to this work if he does not have the other qualifications. How does a man become an overseer? What are the mechanics?

The recognition is based on five prongs:

- a) Personal exercise: “If any man desire overseership (1 Tim. 3:1); this must be preceded by a willing mind (2 Cor 8:16); and it must not be due to what he has in his bank account, position in the world, somebodys relative, or the senior elders choice, followed by a group of “yes men” (1 Pet. 5:2).
- b) The congregation’s recognition because the shepherding characteristic is manifested.
- c) Assembly recognition (1 Thess. 5:12) in that the saints know them.
- d) He has the qualifications (1 Tim. 3:1)
- e) He knows the saints and they must know him (Jn. 10:3)
- f) Divine sovereignty (Acts 20:28); the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers (1 Tim. 3:1-7).

They were also taught the great principles of Christian giving him prophecy and caring for the poor Saints. (Acts 24:17; 2 Cor. chs. 8-9)

The leading of the Spirit was manifested by the results. When there were no results, it is evident there was no leading of the Spirit (Gal. 5:18; Rom. 8:14). In that far-off day the whole church was a missionary society.

Acts Can Be Viewed:

- 1) Apologetically for establishment of a believer.
 - a) The explanation:
 - i) Of that which happened after the Lord was ascended, continuing on from Luke’s gospel. (ch 1:1)
 - ii) To give assurance to this Roman that the gospel was a legal religion under Rome, therefore, was not a political threat to Rome (the defenses before Felix (ch 24:10-22); Agrippa (ch 26:1-32).
 - iii) Of how the gospel found its origin in the God of Israel and His teachings to them (seen from the Old Testament references. (ch 2:16-21; 25-28; 34-35; ch 3:22-23; 25; ch 4.25-26)
 - iv) Of how the gospel went to the Gentiles. (ch 8:26-39; 10:1-48)
- 2) Theologically
 - a) In the presentations of the Holy Spirit
 - i) Acts contains approximately 13% of the New Testament words but 23% of all references to the Holy Spirit are in it. He is mentioned in forty-one verses ranging from chapters 1:2 - 28:25 and in seventeen of the twenty-eight chapters.
 - ii) His activities
 - 1. He is the endurer of power. (ch 1:8)
 - 2. He is the bestower of divine gifts. (ch 2:4)
 - 3. He gives boldness to speak. (ch 4:13)
 - 4. He manifests His holiness in judgment. (ch 5:5, 10)

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5. The Holy Spirit bore witness to the apostles. (ch 5:32)
6. He gives the ability for administration. (ch 6:3)
7. He appoints elders. (ch 20:28)

iii) He directs by:

1. His restrictions
 - (a) He gave restraint and constraint. (ch 16:6)
 - (b) By visions
 - (i) The man of Macedonia. (ch 16:9)
 - (c) By circumstances
 - (i) Persecution. (ch 11:19-20 after the persecution of Stephen)
 - (d) By communications
 - (i) He spoke to Peter. (ch 10:19)
 - (ii) He guides the evangelist. (ch 8:29)
 - (iii) He gives understanding and guidance. (ch 10:19; 11:12)
 - (iv) He directs in sending out missionaries. (ch 13:2)
 - (v) He gave guidance at the council in Jerusalem. (ch 15:28)

3) Historically

- a) The mentioning of political persons.
 - i) Theophilus (ch 1:1)
 - ii) Festus (ch 25:1)
 - iii) Agrippa (ch 26:1)
 - iv) Bernice (ch 26:30)
- b) The mentioning of events
 - i) The famine in the days of Claudius Caesar 46-47 A.D. (ch 11:28)

4) Biographically

- a) The character of persons
 - i) Barnabas (ch 11:24)

5) Explanatorily

- a) It explains:
 - i) Circumstantially why the Jewish gospel went to the Gentiles:
 1. The rejection of the Jews (ch 13:46) and by their rejection, the purposes of God would be fulfilled (ch 13:47; 18:6; 28:28)
 2. The persecution always arose from the religious peoples.
 - (a) It was the Sadducees who imprisoned Peter and John because they preached the resurrection of Jesus. (ch 4:1-3, 21)
 - (b) The same group imprisoned, threatened, and beat the apostles. (ch 5:17-18, 40)
 - (c) The persecution, of which Stephen was a part, was for religious reasons. (ch 7:54, 58)
 - (d) Chased and drove the Christian Jews out of Jerusalem. (ch 8:1-3)
 - (e) After Paul was converted, the Jews tried to kill him even though he was one of the former friends and associates. (ch 9:23)
 - (f) James the first was killed and Peter imprisoned to please the Jews. (ch 12:1-3)
 - (g) "The Jews of Antioch stirred up the devout and honorable women, and the chief men of the city", to persecute Paul and Barnabas and expel them from the city. (ch 13:50)
 - (h) The Corinthian Jews and "made insurrection with one accord against Paul". (ch 18:12)
 - (i) The Jews who stirred up the Ephesians silversmiths to persecute the Christians. (ch 19:24, 33)
 - (j) The Jews who sought the life of all. (ch 20:3; 23:12)
 - (k) Civil authorities constantly confirmed the political institutions of all despite the false Jewish charges. (17:2-7; 19:35-41; 26:31-32)

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- (l) That Christianity was a distinct threat to idolatry and pagan business. (ch 16:16; 19:24-25)
 - i. That Christianity was distinctly removed from Judaism, philosophy and superstition. (ch 13:8)

6) Evangelically

- a) That which was preached:²
 - i) The resurrection (ch 4:2)
 - ii) The kingdom of God (ch 8:12)
 - iii) The word of God (ch 13:5)
 - iv) Peace by Jesus Christ (ch 10:36)
 - v) Jesus Christ (ch 5:42)
 - vi) The word of the Lord (ch 8:25)
 - vii) The gospel (ch 8:25)
 - viii) Jesus (ch 8:35)
 - ix) Christ (ch 8:5; 9:20; “that He is the Son of God”)
 - x) The forgiveness of sins (ch 13:38)
 - xi) Preaching the Lord Jesus (ch 11:20)
- b) How it was presented:
 - i) By preaching (ch 8:4)
 - ii) By proving (ch 9:22)
 - iii) By disputing (ch 9:29)
- c) Where it was preached:
 - i) In a home (ch 12:12)
 - ii) In the synagogue (ch 13:14-43)
 - iii) On a desert roadway to a spiritually enquiring Ethiopian (ch 8:29-40)
 - iv) When we look at the journeys of Paul we see that he chose strategic places for the delivery office message. There was Antioch, Philippi, Thessalonica, Corinth, Ephesus, Athens. He believed evidently that where the gospel was established in the center it was spread out from there.
- d) How it is described:
 - i) Glad tidings (ch 13:32)
- e) To whom it was preached:
 - i) The intelligentsia (ch 6:9; 19:8)
 - ii) The common folk (ch 2:6-13)
 - iii) Gentile military officials. (ch 10:34-44)
 - iv) Religious leaders. (ch 23:1-6)
 - v) Before judicial enquiries (chs 24-26)
 - vi) In the open area with philosophers (ch 17:16-31)
- f) How are we to understand? “In every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him” (ch 10:35); “not by works” (Eph. 2:8-9).
- g) The spiritual environment in which it was preached
 - i) Hostility (ch 13:45)
- h) There are 18 messages:

² That which they preached was, to a degree, totally different from what we preach: “be baptized and wash away thy sins” (22:16); “save yourselves from this on toward generation” (2:40); “the kingdom of God” (8:12). Is it possible we are preaching a watered down gospel of accepting Jesus as Saviour but not Lord?, of failing to see the responsibilities connected with salvation?, Or was this strictly for the transition period?

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- i) 7 by Peter
- ii) 1 by James
- iii) 1 by Stephen
- iv) 7 by Paul
- v) 1 by Gamaliel
- vi) 1 by Tertulius

7) Restoratively

- a) This is God's manual for revival.
 - i) While the saints of Acts 1-2 did not need to be revived yet in this book is the cost of evangelism and the pathway to deeper fellowship with God.
- b) What is the pathway for reconciliation of sinner and revival of the people of God?
 - i) Not to be preoccupied with that which is not a present priority. (ch 1:6-7)
 - ii) Concentrate on that which does demand immediate obedience. (ch 1:8)
 - iii) Obedient to the words of the Lord. (ch 1:4; 2:1)
 - iv) Unity among the people of God. (ch 1:13-14)
 - v) Prayer and supplication. (ch 1:14)
 - vi) The availability to be a channel for the Holy Spirit. (ch 2)
- c) They expected results.
 - i) "So spake, that a great number... believed. (ch 14:1)

8) Theologically

- a) Aspects of God:
 - i) God does hear the prayers of sinners. For many years I was taught that the only prayer, and indeed the first prayer, God hears from a sinner is the repentant prayer. This is quite wrong as the narrative concerning Cornelius shows (ch 10:31).
 - ii) God is the Almighty and no power, human or satanic, can thwart His purposes. He gives His servants the grace to accept whatever unsaved man can afflict him with, and he who said: "I will build my church" will build it. No persecution or imprisonment can stop the flourishing of the gospel. That which can hinder it is unbelief and carnality in the saints. Every time there was persecution or judgment from God, it was always followed by growth.
- b) The Presentations Of Christ
 - i) Acts contains a number of titles of Christ that are found nowhere else:

(a) Ones used in other places

Title	Reference
Jesus	ch 1:1
Lord Jesus	ch 1:21
Jesus Christ	ch 2:38
Jesus Christ of Nazareth	ch 3:6
His Son Jesus	ch 3:26
Holy Child Jesus	ch 4:30

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Title	Reference
Jesus of Nazareth	ch 6:14
Jesus Christ is the Son of God	ch 8:37
Lord Jesus Christ	ch 11:17
Holy Child Jesus	ch 4:27, 30
Judge of quick and dead	ch 10:42 cp. 2 Tim. 4:1; 1 Pet. 4:5

(b) Ones found in no other book of the New Testament

Title	Reference
Jesus Christ of Nazareth	ch 3:6
Holy Child Jesus	ch 4:30
Jesus Christ is the Son of God	ch 8:37
Prince of Life	ch 3:15
A Prince and a Saviour	ch 5:31
Holy One and the Just	ch 3:14
Holy Child Jesus	ch 4:27
Judge of the quick and dead	ch 10:42

Contextually With Other Books

- 1) Acts is the double hinge between the gospels and the epistles, in particular Mark and Luke. The object of the book is to show that which the risen Lord does from heaven. It was a continuation of that which he had begun on earth. He said to his disciples: "I will build my church" (Matt. 16:28), and in the book of the Acts that is what he is doing. The development was presented as a continuous work:
 - a) "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47)
 - b) "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women." (Acts 5:14)
 - c) "And the Word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly: and a great number of the priests were obedient to the faith"(Acts 6:7)
 - d) Then were the churches. . . were multiplied" (Acts 9:31)
 - e) "And so mightily grew the word of God and prevailed" (Acts 19:20)

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The Name Of The Book

- 1) The Acts of the Apostles, inaccurate since it mainly deals with only two apostles, Peter and Paul. This name was given to it by Irenaeus in the late 2nd century.
- 2) The Acts of the Holy Spirit, not accurate for He came to bear witness of Christ and not to take a book to tell what he has done.
- 3) The continued Acts of the glorified Jesus by the enablement of Holy Spirit using humanity.

Key Words:

Word	No. of Occurrences	Ist reference	Last reference
One accord	11	Ch 1:14	Ch 19:29
Raised	16	Ch 2:24	Ch 17:31
Resurrection	10	Ch 1:22	Ch 24:21
Pray / ing /ed, re lifted up their voice (in prayer)	33	Ch 1:14	Ch 28:8
(Holy) Spirit	11	Ch 2:4	Ch 21:4
Preach/ed/ ing taught / testified	48	Ch 3:20	Ch 28:31
Increased / grew/ added / multiplied	15	Ch 2:41	Ch 19:20
One heart / soul / accord	8	Ch 1:14	Ch 15:25
Kingdom of God	7	Ch 1:3	Ch 28:31

Peculiarities

- 1) The Angel of the Lord
 - a) The angel of the Lord told them what to do!
 - i) Philip is told to go into the desert by the angel of the Lord. (ch 8:26)
 1. “Then the Spirit said unto Philip.” (ch 8:29)
 - ii) He smote Peter on the side and raised him up saying: “Arise up quickly”. (ch 12:7)
 - b) The angel of the Lord worked miracles.
 - i) “By night opened the prison doors.” (ch 5:19)
 - ii) “The angel of the Lord smote him, because He gave not God the glory.” (ch 12:23)
- 2) At the beginning of this age people were saved but did not receive the Holy Spirit until a later time.³
 - a) The people of Samaria. (ch 8:15-17)
 - b) Saul (ch 9:6, 17) some three days later he received the Holy Spirit.

³ Eph. 1:13 The word “after that ye believed”, which is a single word, indicating immediately upon believing.

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3) Is there a difference between, “the angel of the Lord” (ch 5:19) and “an angel of God?”⁴ (ch 10:3)

The Character Of The Churches

They were: “edified, and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied. (ch. 9:31)

Conversions

- 1) What was involved in the confessions of faith?
 - a) The Ethiopian eunuch, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”. (ch 8:37)
 - b) Saul (ch 9:6)
 - c) Cornelius (ch 10)

The Long Sections

In Luke’s account he does something which seems to be a waste of space, he gives long discourses and messages. In our foolishness we might think it would have been better to tell of great exploits, and yet God knows they are so important for our understanding. These sections are:

- 1) Stephen’s defense (ch 7)
- 2) The triple conversions (ch 8-10)
- 3) The council at Jerusalem (ch 15)
- 4) The sermon on Mars Hill (ch 17))
- 5) Paul’s defense (ch 22-23)
- 6) Paul before Felix (ch 24)
- 7) Paul before Festus (ch 25)
- 8) Paul before Agrippa (ch 26)
- 9) The ship voyage (ch 27-28)

The Missionary Journeys Of Paul

Paul’s First Journey	
References	ch 13:1 - ch 14:28
Places	a) <u>Outward</u> Seleucia, Cyprus, Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch in Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra Derbe b) <u>Homeward</u> Lystra, Iconic and to Antioch in, Pisidia, Pamphylia, Attalia to Antioch
Approximate distances	1237 miles approximately
Approximate duration	2 years approximately

⁴ The expression “an angel of God” is only found once in Acts 10:3, but in ch 27:23 there is the expression: “the angel of God”. Are these synonymous terms or refer to different individuals?

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Paul's First Journey	
Notable events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Saul's name is changed to Paul (ch 13:9) b) Paul takes precedence over Barnabas (ch 14:12) c) John Mark returns home (15:37-38)

Paul's Second Journey	
References	Ch 15:36 – Ch 18:17
Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <u>Outward</u> Syria, Cilicia, Derbe, Lystra, Phrygia, and Galatia, Mysia, Troas, Samothracia, Neapolis, Philippi, Amphiboles, Apollonia, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth b) <u>Returned</u> Syria, Ephesus, Caesarea, Antioch,
Approximate distances	Approximately 2600 miles, 1100 by Sea, and 1500 by land
Notable events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The contention between Paul and Barnabas (ch 15:36–40) b) The call of Timothy (ch 16:1–4) c) The Holy Spirit restraining Paul (ch 16:6–7) d) The Holy Spirit comes in a dream to Paul (ch 16:8–9) e) The man of Macedonia (ch 16:9) f) At Philippi, Paul's first contact with Europe (ch 16:12–40) g) The imprisonment of Paul and Silas (ch 16:19–24) h) The earthquake (ch 16:25–27) i) At Athens Paul preaches on Mars Hill (ch 17:18–28)

Paul's Third Journey	
References	Ch. 18:23-21:17
Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <u>Outward</u> Galatia, Phrygia, Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, Antioch in Pisidia b) <u>Homeward</u> Ephesus, Colossae, Laodicea, Macedonia, Philippi, Troas, Assos, Mitylene, Chios, Salamis, Miletus, Cos, Rhodes, Patara, Cyprus, Tyre, Ptolemais, Caesarea, Jerusalem <p>The homeward journey was approx. 964 miles in one year</p>
Approximate distances	2900 miles

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Paul's Third Journey	
Notable events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The burning of the books on magic, worth approximately \$5 million (19:19) b) Corinthians was written c) 2 Corinthians was written d) Galatians and Romans were written

The Structure Of Acts

Chs 1–12	Chs 13–28
Jerusalem is the center	Antioch is the center
Peter is the chief figure	Paul is the chief figure
The gospel goes to Samaria	The gospel goes to Rome
The gospel is rejected by the Jews in the homeland	The gospel is rejected by the Jews in the foreign lands
Peter is imprisoned	Paul is imprisoned
There is judgment on Herod	Judgment on the Jews

Peter	Paul
1 st sermon (ch 2)	1 st sermon (ch 13)
Lame man healed (ch 3)	Lame man healed (ch 14)
Simon the Sorcerer (ch 8)	Elymas the Sorcerer (ch 13)
Influence of his shadow (ch 5)	Influence of his handkerchiefs (ch 19)
Laying on of hands (ch 8)	Laying on of hands (ch 19)
Peter worshipped (ch 10)	Paul worshipped (ch 14)
Tabitha raised (ch 9)	Eutychus raised (ch 20)
Peter imprisoned (ch 12)	Paul imprisoned (ch 28)

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Year	Event	Reference in Acts
4 B.C.	The birth of Christ	Lk. 1:26-2:20
30 A.D.	The death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ	Ch 1:1-1:8
	Pentecost	Ch 1:9-2:40
The Word Of God Increases - Ch. 6:7		
35 A.D.	The conversion of Saul	Ch 9:1-9
37 A.D.	Saul's first visit to Jerusalem	Ch 9:26
37-43 A.D.	Paul brought to Tarsus	Ch 9:30
The Churches Were Multiplied - Ch. 9:31		
44 A.D.	Visit to Jerusalem with the gifts from Antioch	Ch 11:30
Word Of God Multiplied - Ch 12:24		
46-48 A.D.	The first missionary journey	Ch 13:4-14:26
50 A.D.	Council at Jerusalem	Ch 15:1-15:32
51 A.D.	The second missionary journey	Ch 13:40
The Church Is Increased - Ch 16:5		
<i>First and second Thessalonians written</i>		
53 A.D.	Second missionary journey ends	Ch 18:22
54 A.D.	Third missionary journey begins	Ch 18:22
55 A.D.	<i>Galatians written</i>	
56 A.D.	<i>First Corinthians written</i>	
57 A.D.	<i>Second Corinthians written</i>	
58 A.D.	<i>Romans written</i>	
The Word Of God Prevailed - Ch 19:20		
58 A.D.	Third missionary journey ends	Ch 21:15
58 A.D.	Paul's arrest	Ch 21:33
58 to 60 AD	Imprisonment in Caesarea	Ch 23:31-23:33
61 A.D.	Paul arrives in Rome	Ch 28:16
62 A.D.	<i>Colossians, Philemon, Ephesians written</i>	

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63 A.D.	<i>Philippians written</i>	
The end of the Acts		
Chronology Of The Book Of The Acts And Beyond		
63 A.D.	Release from the first imprisonment in Rome	
64 A.D.	<i>First Timothy written</i>	
65 A.D.	<i>Titus written</i>	
67 A.D.	Fourth missionary journey	
68 A.D.	Second imprisonment of Rome	
	<i>Second Timothy written</i>	
69 A.D.	Paul's death	

Prayer In The Acts

There are two aspects of the Christian life that go together, prayer and the power of the Spirit. If either is missing the other is curtailed. Therefore, it is not surprising to find prayer mentioned constantly in this book. (chs 1-4, 6, 8-11, 12-14, 16, 20-22, 26, 28), a total of 31 times.

- 1) There is an hour of prayer (ch 3:1)
- 2) The place of prayer (ch 4:31; 16:13)
- 3) Result of prayer (ch 4:31)
- 4) Prayer is reported to happen at different times
 - a) Prayer at the 6th hour (ch 10:9)
 - b) Prayer at the 9th hour (ch 10:3)
 - c) Prayer at midnight (ch 16:25)
- 5) We find people kneeling in prayer (ch 7:60; 9:40; 20:36; 21:5)
- 6) There is continuance in prayer (ch 6:4)
- 7) There is praying to God always (ch 10:2)
- 8) There is prayer without ceasing (ch 12:5)
- 9) There are different places for prayer
 - a) There is prayer in the upper room (ch 1:14)
 - b) There is prayer in the house (ch 10:30)
 - c) There is prayer by the river (ch 16:13)
 - d) There is prayer when in jail (ch 16:25)
 - e) There is prayer on the shore (ch 21:5)
- 10) There are lives which are dedicated to prayer and the ministry of the Scriptures (ch 6:4)
- 11) There are different purposes for prayer
 - a) There is prayerful thanks giving (ch 4:24)
 - b) There is prayer for intercession (ch 7:60)
 - c) There is prayer for guidance (ch 1:14)
- 12) There are different people to pray
 - a) Stephen prays (ch 7:60)

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- b) Saul prays (ch 9:11)
 - c) Peter prays (ch 9:40)
 - d) Paul prays (ch 20:36)
 - e) There is prayer by Paul and Silas (ch 16:25)
 - f) There is prayer by a gathering of people (ch 1:14)
 - g) There is prayer when Paul was about to leave the saints of Ephesus at Miletus (ch 20:17 & 36)
- 13) God hears prayer (ch 10:31)
 - 14) Women were at the prayer meeting but none are recorded as leading in prayer (ch 1:14)
 - 15) No prayer in the Acts ever went unanswered.

Practical Lessons

- 1) The appointment of elders (ch 1:20-26)
- 2) The church as a self propagating servant
- 3) If the Lord is working with them, there will be blessing.

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

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