Jerusalem Daily News Interpreted by: or. and woods

THE BOOK OF ACTS:

The birth, growth, and progress of the church

Original Author: Luke, Ph.D

Sunday, AD 60 - 62

Sugar Land BC Press

THE LINK BETWEEN THE GOSPELS & THE NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLES.

CHAPTER I: The first account I composed. Theophins, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit green orders to the apostles whom He had chosen. To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to then over a period of forty days and speaking of the days of the convention of the state of the convention of the state of the days of th

from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying, that is, Peter and John and James and John and John



And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Acts 2:3-4



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Introductory Matters



- Title
- Authorship
- Biography
- Place of writing
- Recipient
- Purpose
- Message

- Method
- Sources
- Date
- Structure
- Scope
- Themes
- Unique characteristics

Acts 1 Chapter Summary

- I. Prologue (1-5)
- II. Jesus' Ascension (6-11)
- III. Return to Jerusalem (12-14)
- IV. Matthias Chosen (15-26)



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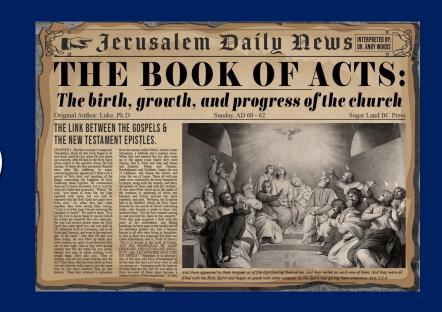
I. Prologue Acts 1:1-5

- A. Connection to Luke's Gospel (1-2a)
- B. Jesus' Post-Resurrection Ministry (2b-3)
- C. Promise of the Holy Spirit (4-5)



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Luke 1:1-4

¹ Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³ it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; 4 so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.



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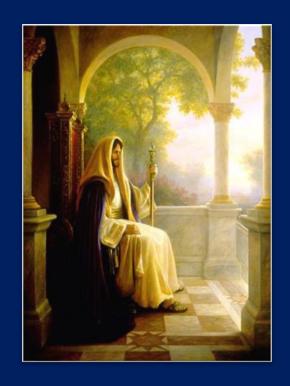


Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; **And** the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.⁷ There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

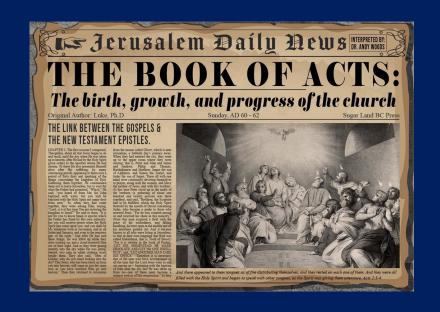
Matthew's Purposes

- To explain that Jesus in whom they had believed was the long-awaited Jewish Messiah
- To explain why the kingdom had been postponed even though the king had arrived
- To explain the interim program of God during the kingdom's absence



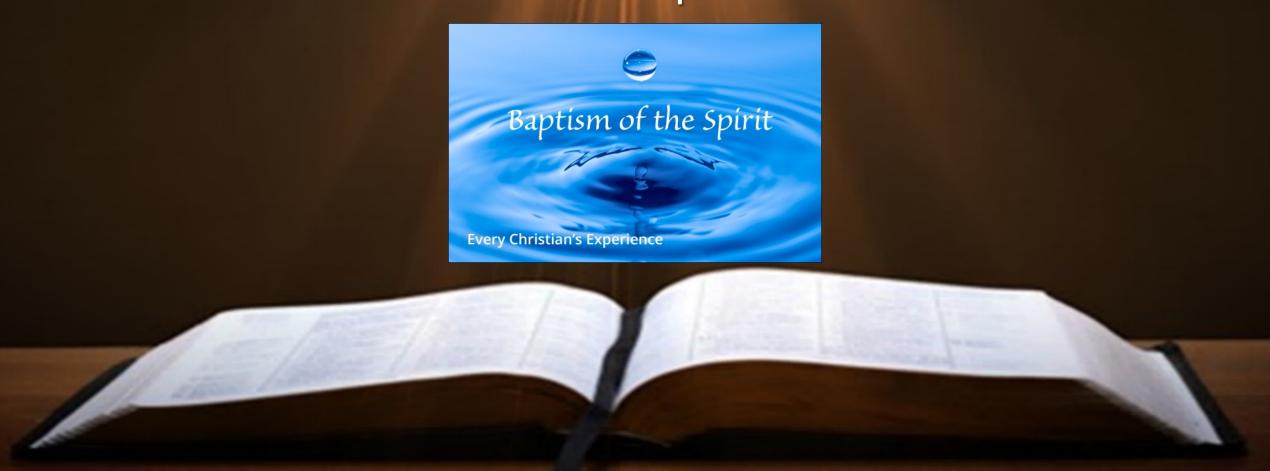
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1 Corinthians 12:13

"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."



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Acts 1:6-7

"6 So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, 'Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?'

7 He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority.'"

Ezekiel 36:24-28

"For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. 25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. ²⁸ You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God."

Zechariah 12:10

"I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn."



Acts 1:6-7

"⁶ So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, 'Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷ He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority.'"

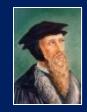


J. Dwight Pentecost

Dwight Pentecost, *Thy Kingdom Come* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1990), 269.

"This passage makes it clear that while the covenanted form of the Theocracy has not been cancelled and has only been postponed, this present age is definitely *not* a development of the Davidic form of the kingdom."





John Calvin

Commentary on Acts 1:6

"He showeth that the apostles were gathered together when as this question was moved, that we may know that it came not of the foolishness of one or two that it was moved, but it was moved by the common consent of them all; but marvellous is their rudeness, that when as they had been diligently instructed by the space of three whole years, they betray no less ignorance than if they had heard never a word. There are as many errors in this question as words. They ask him as concerning a kingdom; but they dream of an earthly kingdom, which should flow with riches, with dainties, with external peace, and with such like good things..."



John Calvin

Commentary on Acts 1:6

"They are also greatly deceived herein, in that they restrain Christ's kingdom unto the carnal Israel, which was to be spread abroad, even unto the uttermost parts of the world...but, in the meantime, they declared thereby how bad scholars they were under so good a Master. Therefore doth Christ briefly comprehend in this short answer all the errors whereinto they fell in this their question, as I shall straightway declare."



Hank Hanegraaff

The Apocalypse Code: Find out What the Bible Really Says About the End Times and Why It Matters (Nashville, TN: Nelson, 2007), 199.

"The quintessential point of understanding for John as well as for the rest of the disciples began to dawn at the time of Christ's postresurrection appearances. Previously they had been under the same misconceptions as modern-day Christian Zionists. They had expected Jesus to establish Jerusalem as the capital of a sovereign Jewish empire. The notion was so ingrained in their psyches that even as Jesus was about to ascend into heaven, they asked, "Lord are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6). Jesus not only corrects their erroneous thinking, but expands their horizons from a tiny strip of land on the east coast of the Mediterranean to the farthest reaches of the earth."



Hank Hanegraaff

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"'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you,' said Jesus, as he was about to be taken up into heaven; 'and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth' (Acts 1:8). In effect, Jesus left his disciples with instructions to exit Jerusalem, embrace the earth, and never again entertain the thought of establishing an earthly Jerusalem. The disciples are no longer permitted to view Israel in exclusivistic parochial categories; their sights instead must be elevated to an inclusive Israel. As Paul put it in the book of Romans, 'Not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children' (Romans 9:6–7). True Israel consists of people from 'from every tribe and language and people and nation' (Revelation 5:9)."



Rick Warren

Purpose Driven Life, 285-86.

"When the disciples wanted to talk about prophecy, Jesus quickly switched the conversation to evangelism. He wanted them to concentrate on their mission in the world. He said in essence, 'The details of my return are none of your business. What is your business is the mission I have given you. Focus on that!' If you want Jesus to come back sooner, focus on fulfilling your mission, not figuring out prophecy. Speculating on the exact timing of Christ's return is futile, because Jesus said, 'No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.' Since Jesus said He didn't know the day or hour, why should you try to figure it out? What we do know for sure is this: Jesus will not return until everyone God wants to hear the Good News has heard it."



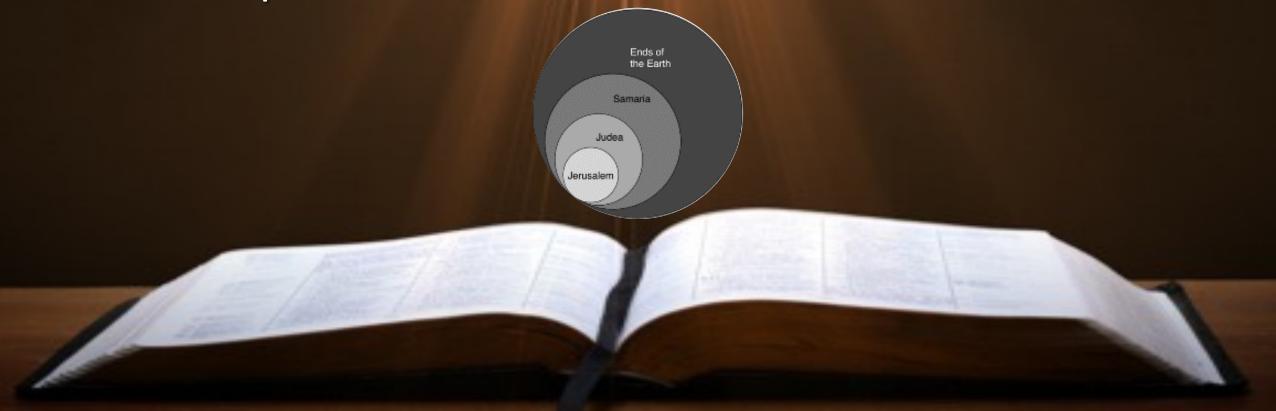
Rick Warren

Purpose Driven Life, 285-86.

"Jesus said, 'The Good News about God's kingdom will be preached in all the world, to every nation. Then the end will come.' If you want Jesus to come back sooner, focus on fulfilling your mission, not figuring out prophecy. It is easy to get distracted and sidetracked from your mission because **Satan** would rather have you do anything besides sharing your faith. He will let you do all kinds of good things as long as you don't take anyone to heaven with you. But the moment you become serious about your mission, expect the Devil to throw all kinds of diversions at you. When that happens, remember the words of Jesus: 'Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is **not fit for the** Kingdom of God."

Acts 1:8

"but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."



Revelation 20:4-6

"4 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life [zaō] and reigned with Christ for ...



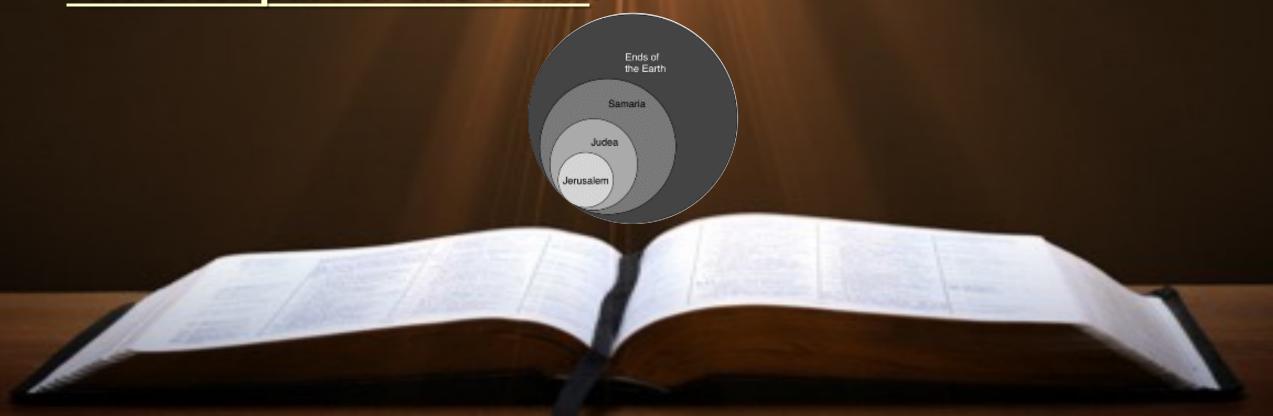
Revelation 20:4-6

... a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead **did not come** to life [zaō] until the thousand years were completed. This is the **first resurrection** [anastasis]. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection [anastasis]; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years."



Acts 1:8

"but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in <u>Jerusalem</u>, and in <u>all Judea and Samaria</u>, and even to <u>the</u> remotest part of the earth."



Structure (Acts 1:8)



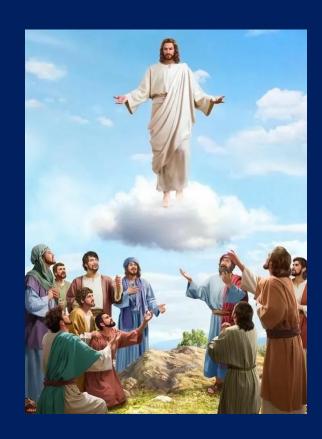
- Jerusalem (Acts 1–7)
- Judea and Samaria (Acts 8–12)
- Remotest part of the earth (Acts 13–28)
 - 1st missionary journey (Acts 13–14)
 - Jerusalem council (Acts 15:1-35)
 - 2nd missionary journey (Acts 15:36 –18:22)
 - 3rd missionary journey (Acts 18:23–21:17)
 - Trip to Rome (Acts 21:18–28:31)



Christ's Return (Acts 1:11)

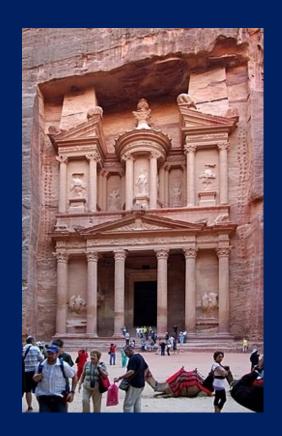


- Physical
- Visible
- Bodily
- Earthly (Job 19:24-25)
- To the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4)



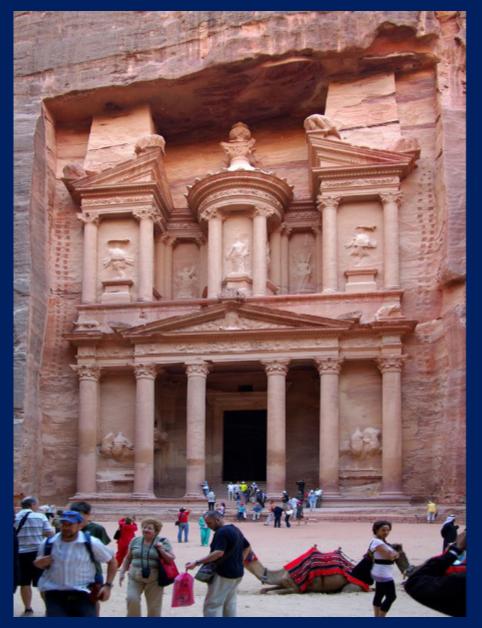
Place of Hebrew Refuge: Petra in Mt. Seir in S. Jordan

- 1. Prepared by God (Rev. 12:6)
- 2. Divine provision of food & water (Isa. 33:16; Rev. 12:6)
- 3. Wilderness (Rev. 12:6, 14)
- 4. Mountains (Isa. 33:16; Matt. 24:16)
- 5. Defensible (Isa. 33:16)
- 6. Jordan (Dan. 11:41)
- 7. Bozrah (Micah 2:12)















Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Footseps of the Messiah, Page 296-97

"Another suggestion is the city now known as **Petra**...this author prefers the identification with *Petra*. *Petra* is located in a basin within Mount Seir, and is totally surrounded by mountains and cliffs. The only way in and out of the city is through a narrow passageway that extends for about a mile and can only be negotiated by foot or by horseback. This makes the city easy to defend, and its surrounding high cliffs give added meaning and confirmation to Isaiah 33:16. Only a few abreast can enter through this passage at any one time, giving this city even greater defensibility."



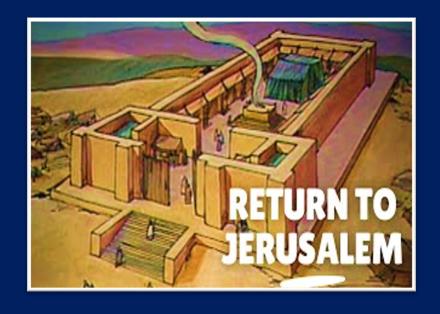
Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Footseps of the Messiah, Page 296-97

"The name Bozrah means 'sheepfold.' An ancient sheepfold had a narrow entrance so that the shepherd could count his sheep. Once inside the fold, the sheep had more room to move around. Petra is shaped like a giant sheepfold, with its narrow passage up to a spacious circle surrounded opening by cliffs...Furthermore, by modern Petra is a site known as Butzeira, which retains the Hebrew Botzrah...It will be a very defensible city located in Mount Seir...Furthermore, as they flee and while they are living there, food and water will be miraculously provided."

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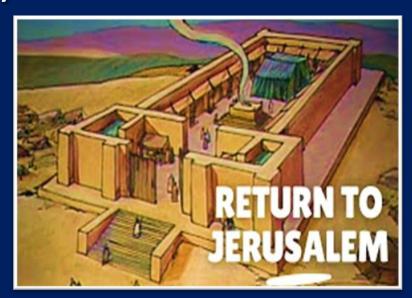




Charles Ryrie

Ryrie Study Bible, page 1340

Acts 1:12: "(RSB:NASB1995U): 1:12 a Sabbath day's journey. About 2,000 cubits, or a little more than half a mile (almost one km)—the distance the rabbis allowed Jews to journey on the Sabbath. This limitation was apparently arrived at on the basis of Ex. 16:29 interpreted by Num. 35:5."



Matthew 24:15-16, 20

Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand) ¹⁶ then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains...²⁰ But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on <u>a Sabbath</u>."



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Pro-Matthias Point: They prayed and cast lots, an approved Old Testament method to determine God's will. God did not say otherwise, so the choice stands.

- A. Peter's Proposition (15-20)
- B. Apostolic Qualifications (21-22)
- C. Matthias Selected (23-26)



- A. Peter's Proposition (15-20)
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Message



 Birth and growth of the church numerically, geographically, ethnically.

- Components
 - Numerically (progress reports)
 - Geographically (From Jerusalem to Rome)
 - Ethnically (From Judaism to Gentile domination)

Progress Reports



- Clearest: Acts 1:15; 2:47; 6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:5; 19:20; 28:30-31
- Less clear: Acts 1:15; 2:41; 4:4, 31; 5:14, 42; 8:25, 40; 11:21; 13:49; 17:6



2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is <u>inspired by God [theopneustos]</u> and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."



2 Peter 1:19-21

"19 So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. 20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men **moved** [pherō] by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."



INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE V. 20-21

Men Wrote as they were inspired by Holy Spirit "pherō" = to carry Acts 27:15,17

- Opposite of Knowledge of False Teachers
 - Which is their own imagination
 - Jer. 23:16



Biography



- Paul's companion (2 Tim 4:11)
- Physician (Col 4:14)
- Gentile
 - Col 4:11
 - Acts 1:19



- A. Peter's Proposition (15-20)
- **B.** Apostolic Qualifications (21-22)
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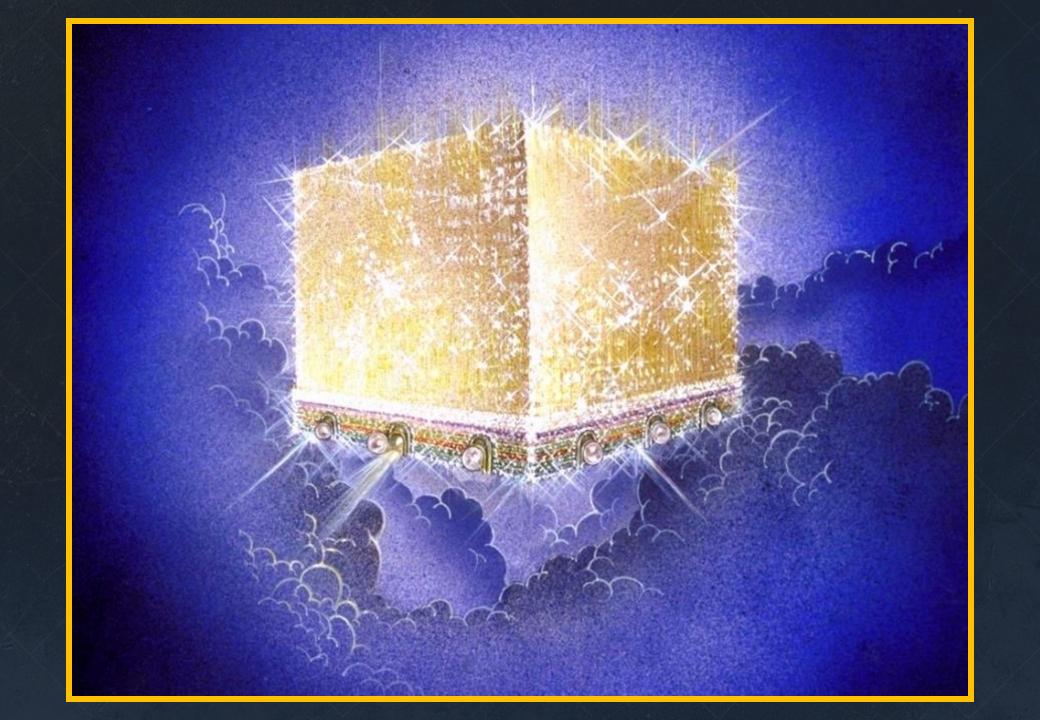


2 Thessalonians 2:3

"Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy [*apostasia*] comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the **son of destruction**."







Message



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Mistaken Replacement?



Pro

- No Spirit yet
- Lots
- Matthias disappears
- Paul

Con

- No textual indication of an error
- Twelve esteemed (2:14; 6:2)
- God's choice (1:24)
- Prov 16:33
- Paul unqualified (1:21-22)
- Focus on Peter & Paul

Conclusion

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