

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 1: The first account I composed, Theophilus, 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 given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen. To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me, for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 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." And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem

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 Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons was there together), and said, "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was counted among us and received his share in this ministry." (Now this man acquired a field with the price of his wickedness, and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out. And it became known to all who were living in Jerusalem; so that in their own language that field was called Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'LET HIS HOMESTEAD BE MADE DESOLATE, AND LET NO ONE DWELL IN IT'; and 'LET ANOTHER MAN TAKE HIS OFFICE.' Therefore it is necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us—beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection." So they



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

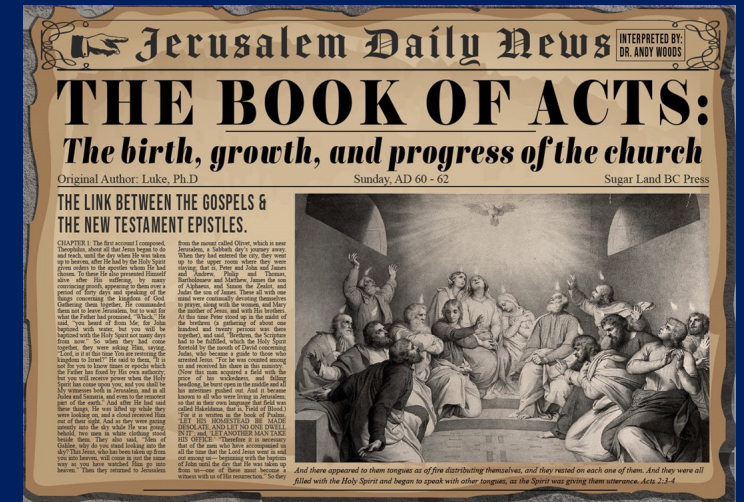
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Acts 6:1–15

First Deacons & Stephen's Arrest

I. Appointment of the First Deacons (6:1-7)

II. Stephen's Arrest (6:8-15)



From Peter to Paul

| Reference | Center | Person | Place | Outreach |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Acts 1–12 | Jerusalem | Peter | Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria | Jewish |
| Acts 13–28 | Antioch | Paul | Uttermost parts | Gentiles |

From Peter to Paul

Peter

Heals a man lame from birth (3:1-11)

Heals by shadow (5:15-16)

Success is a cause of jealousy (5:17)

Confronts a sorcerer (8:9-24)

Raises Dorcas (9:36-41)

Jailed and miraculously freed (12:3-19)

Paul

Heals a man lame from birth (14:8-18)

Heals by handkerchief (19:11-12)

Success is a cause of jealousy (13:45)

Confronts a sorcerer (13:6-11)

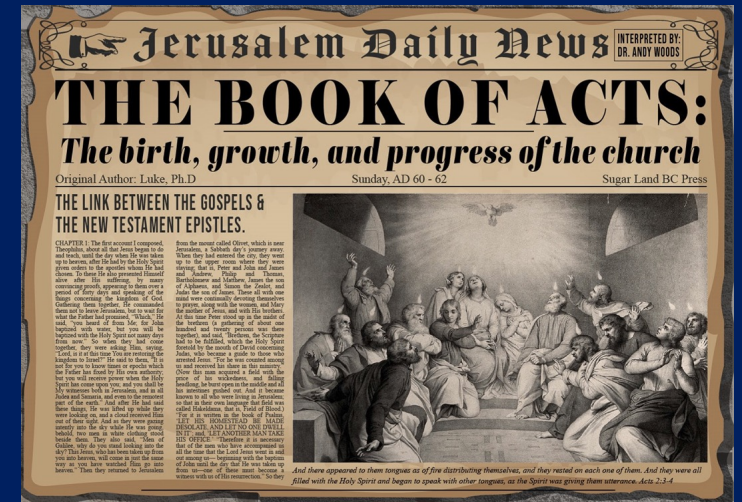
Raises Eutychus (20:9-12)

Jailed and miraculously freed (16:25-34)

II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

- A. Description of Stephen (8)
- B. Disputations against Stephen (9-10)
- C. Conspiracy against Stephen (11)
- D. Arrest of Stephen (12)
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II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

A. Description of Stephen (8)

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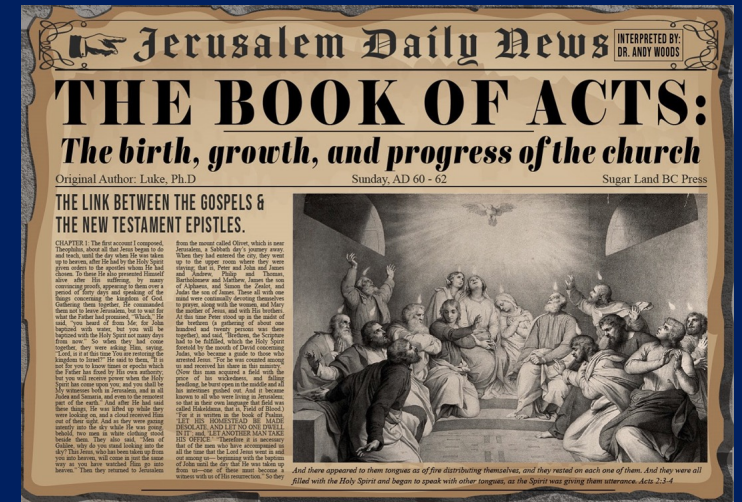
C. Conspiracy against Stephen (11)

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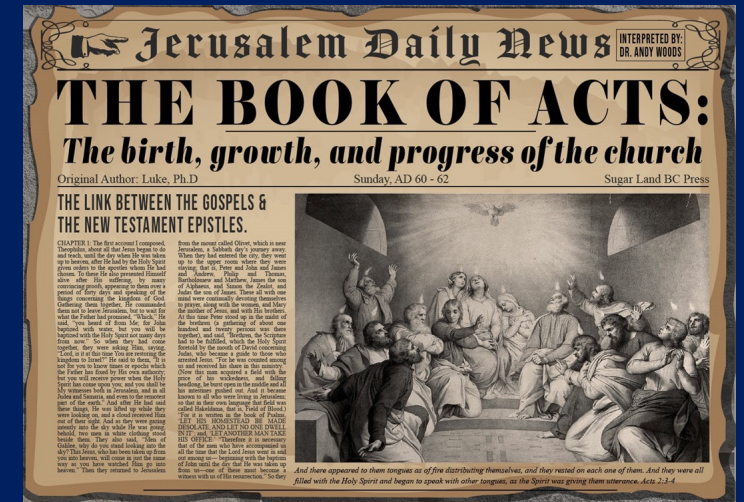
G. Opportunity of Stephen (7:1)



A. Acts 6:8

Description of Stephen

1. Grace (8a)
2. Power (8b)
3. Miracles (8c)



Stephen's Miracles

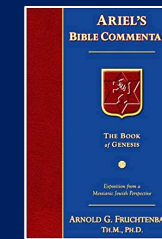
(Acts 6:8)

| MIRACLE | GREEK | STEPHEN'S MINISTRY |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Powers | <i>Dynamis</i> | Acts 6:8 |
| Signs | <i>Semēion</i> | Acts 6:8 |
| Wonders | <i>Teras</i> | Acts 6:8 |



Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

The Book of Acts, 129

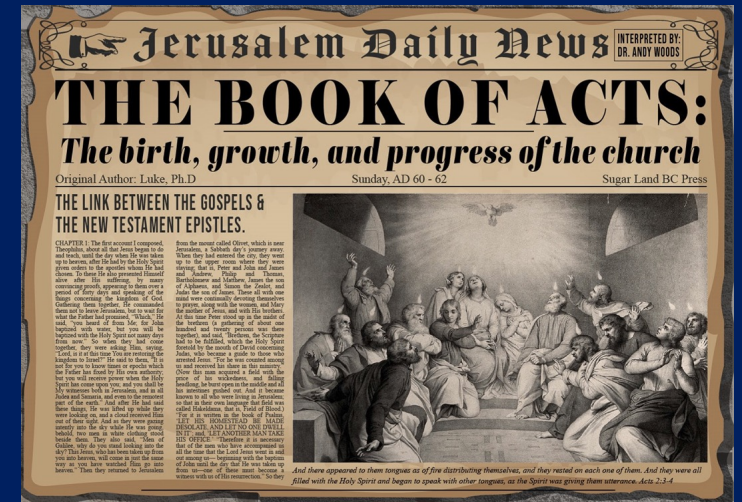


“Verse 12 provides evidence of apostolic authority. The account of the second persecution of the church begins by describing the apostolic signs (v. 12a). Again it is important to note that in the book of Acts, only the apostles and the apostolic [de]legates, who were appointed by the apostles by the laying on of hands, were able to perform miracles, signs, and wonders (e.g. Acts 6:8).[113] This fact has come out four times before (Acts 2:43; 3:6-7; 4:22, 33), and now it is repeated once again in this verse.”

II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

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THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

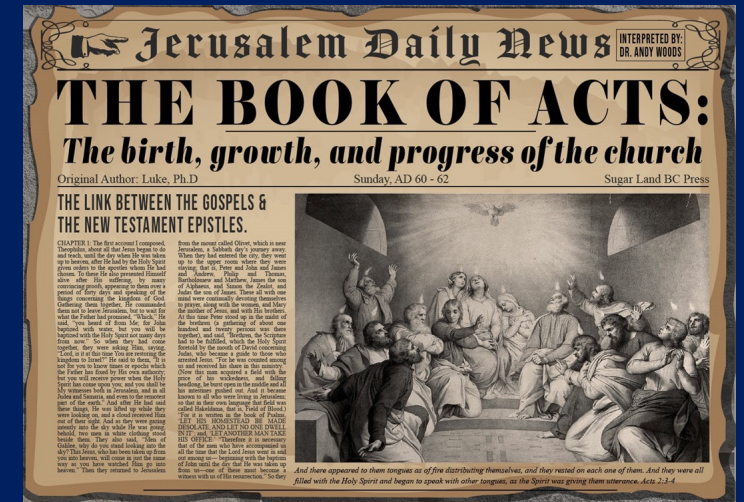
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1. Acts 6:9

Sources of the Attack

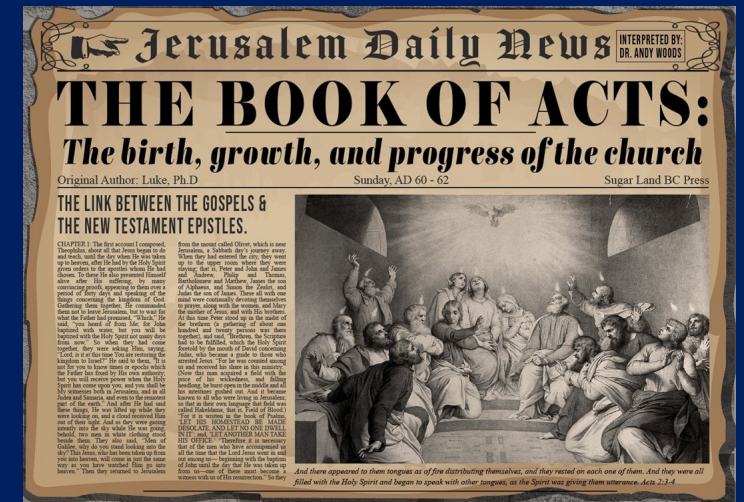
- a) Libertine (9a)
- b) Cyrene (9b)
- c) Alexandria (9c)
- d) Cilicia (9d)
- e) Asia (9e)



1. Acts 6:9

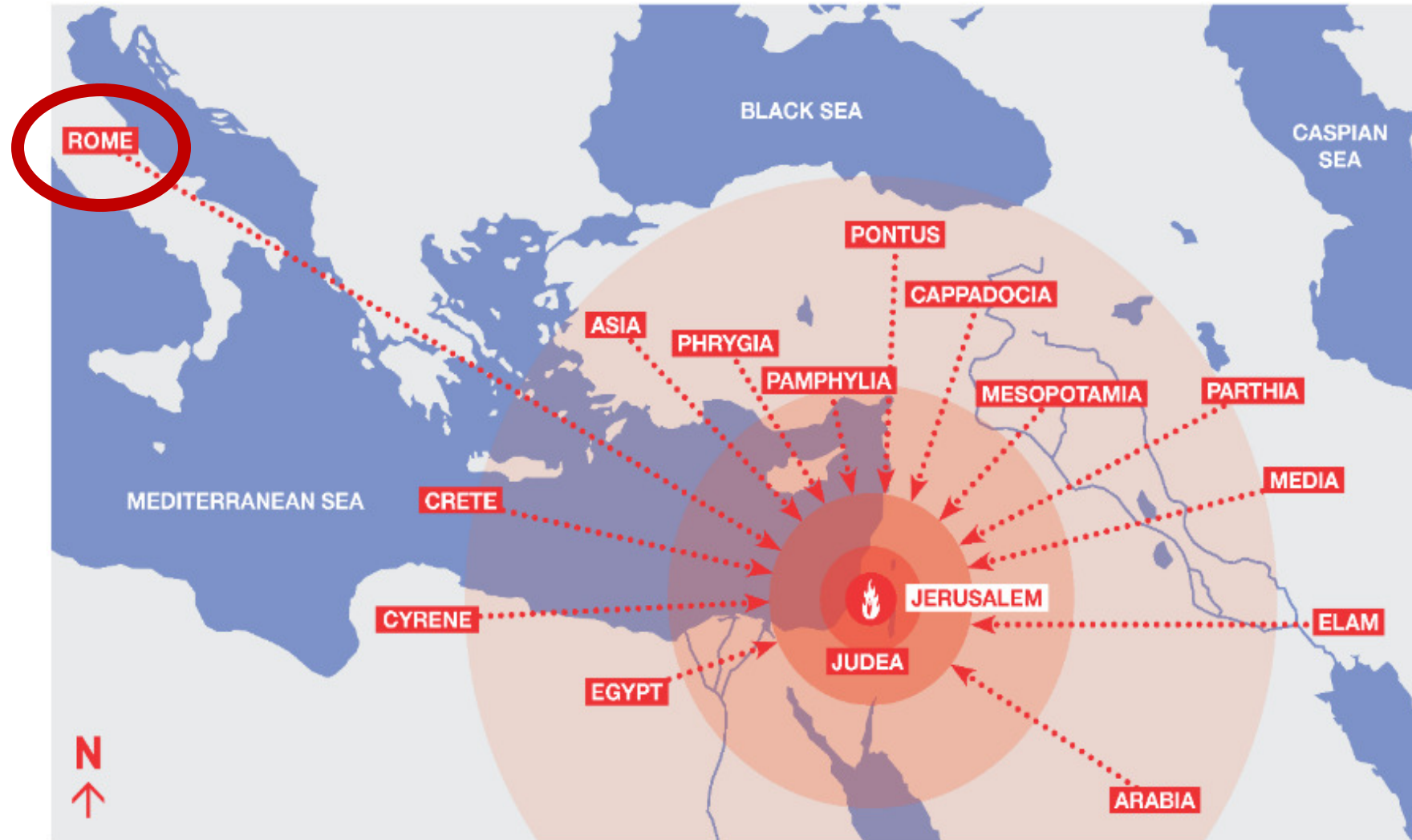
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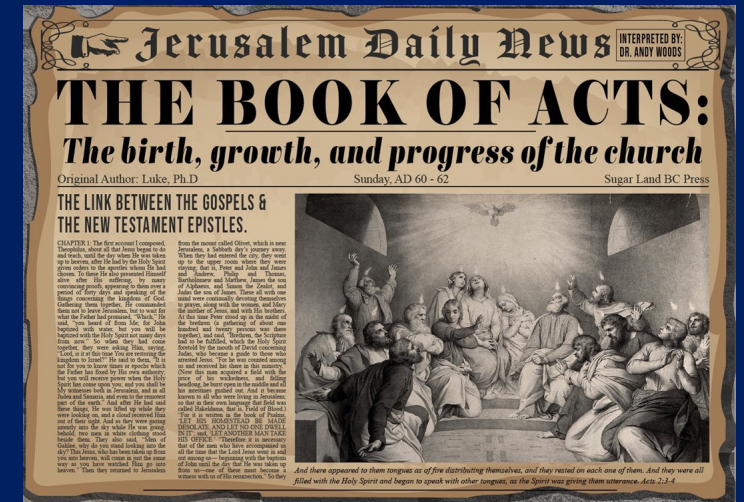
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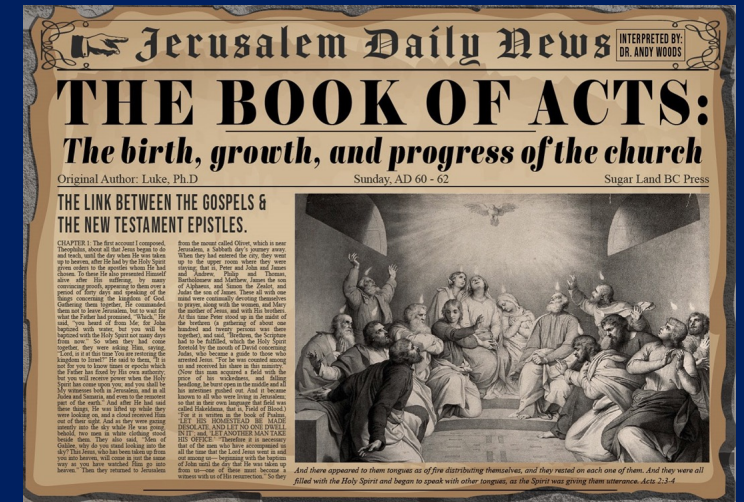
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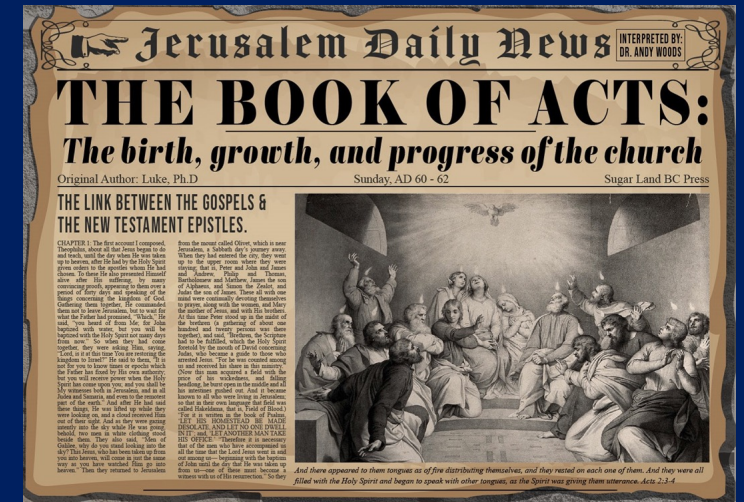
Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles



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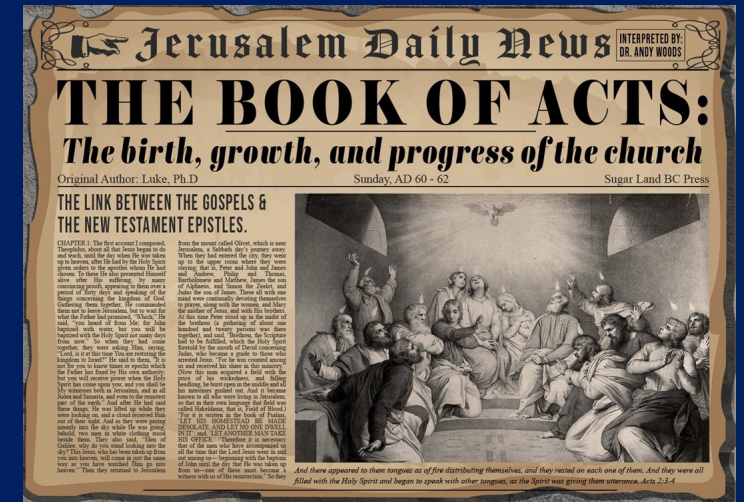
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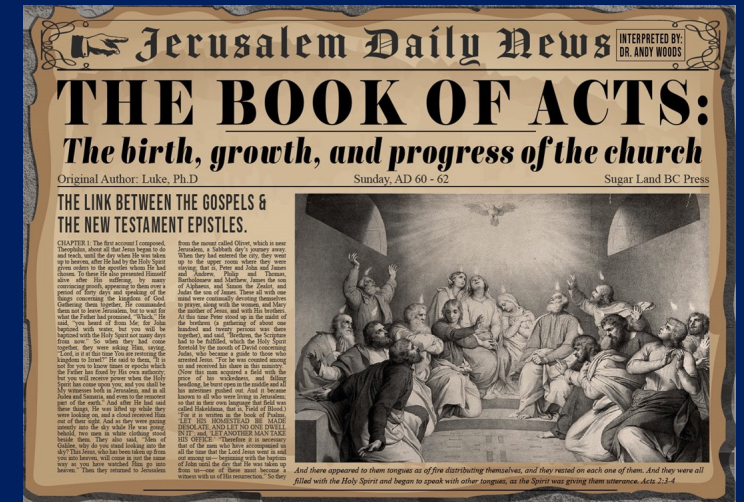


B. Acts 6:9-10

Disputations Against Stephen

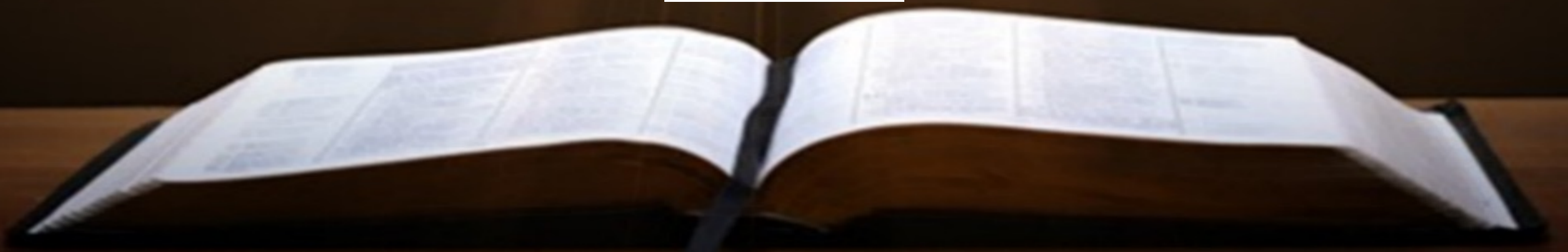
1. Sources of the attack (9)

2. Failure of the attack (10)



Mark 13:11

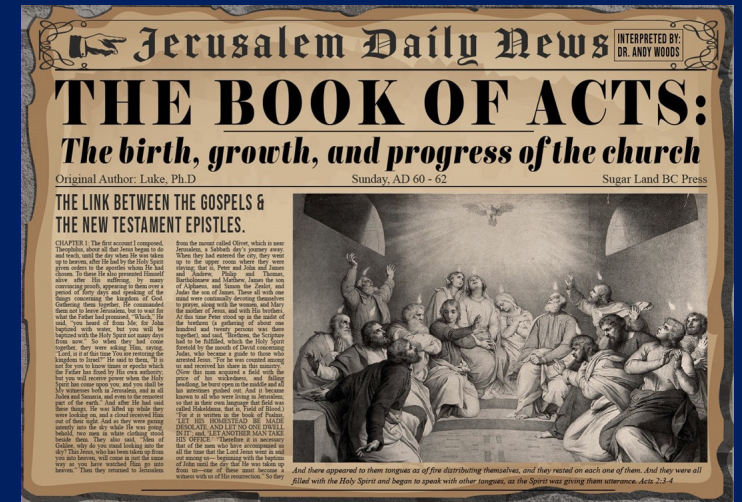
“¹¹ When they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but it is the Holy Spirit.”



II. Stephen's Arrest

Acts 6:8-15

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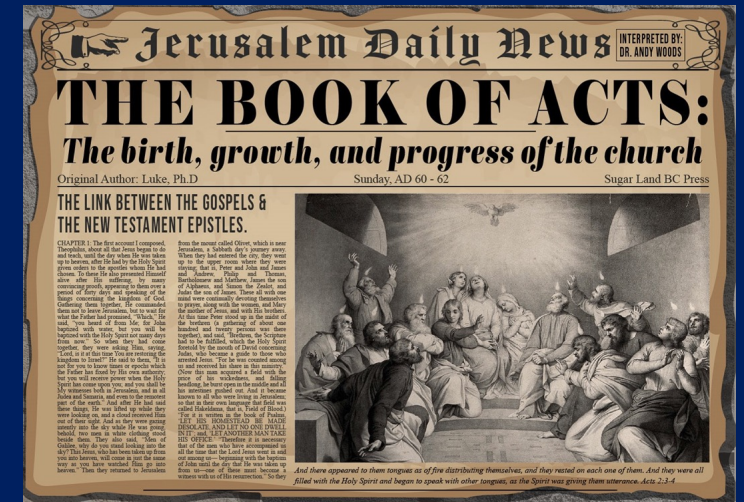


C. Acts 6:11

Conspiracy Against Stephen

1. Bribery (11a)

2. Charges (11b-c)

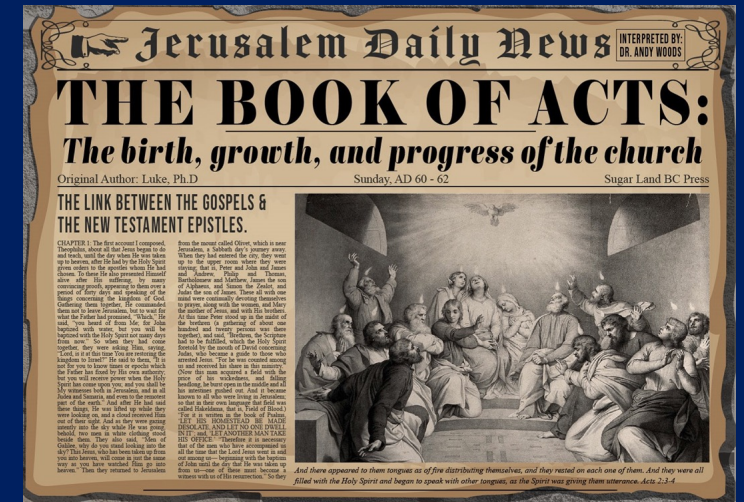


C. Acts 6:11

Conspiracy Against Stephen

1. Bribery (11a)

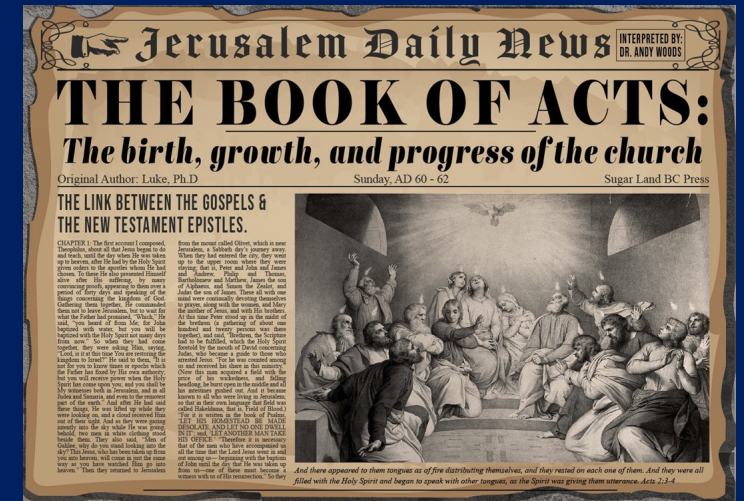
2. Charges (11b-c)



2. Acts 6:11b-c Charges

a) Speaking against Moses (11b)

b) Speaking against God (11c)

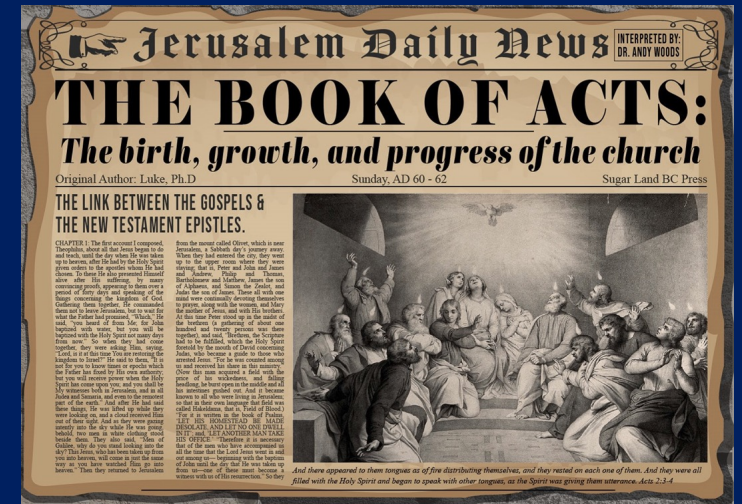




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D. Acts 6:13-14

Charges Against Stephen

1. Charge (13)

2. Substantiation of charges (14)

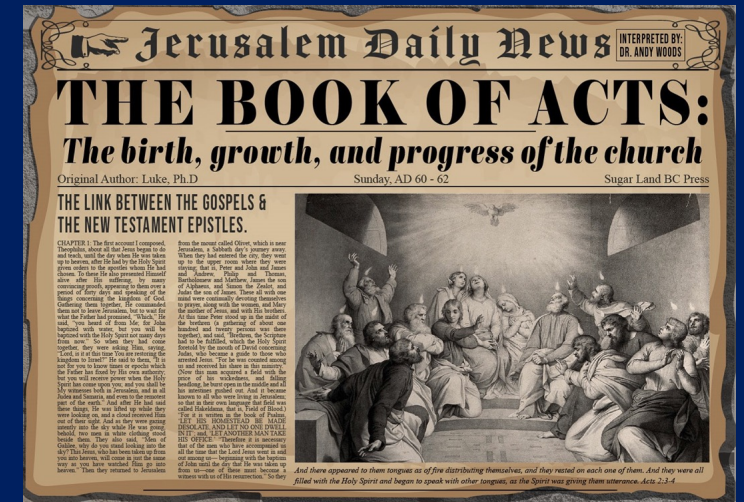


D. Acts 6:13-14

Charges Against Stephen

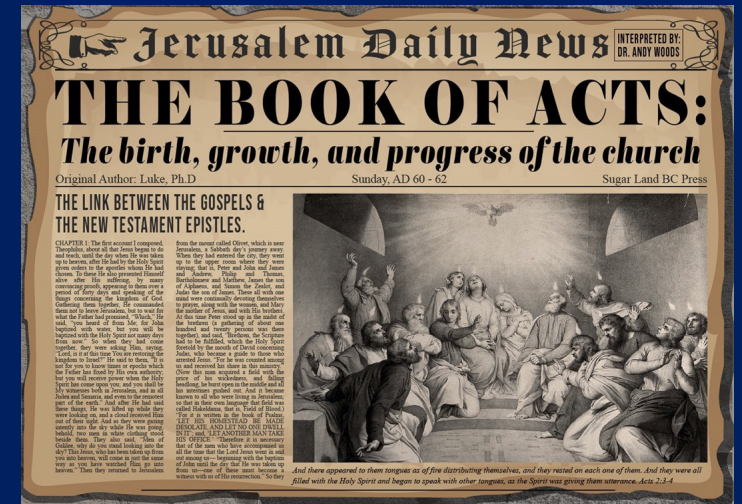
1. Charge (13)

2. Substantiation of charges (14)



1. Acts 6:13 Charges

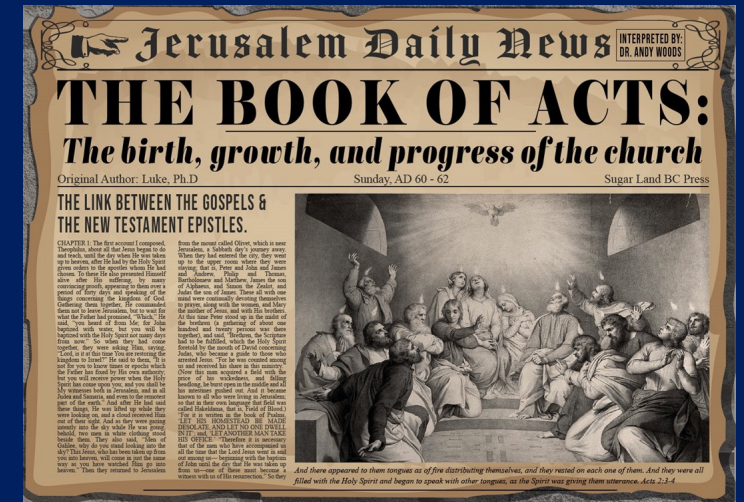
- a) Speaking Against the Temple (13a)
- b) Speaking Against the Law (13b)



1. Acts 6:13 Charges

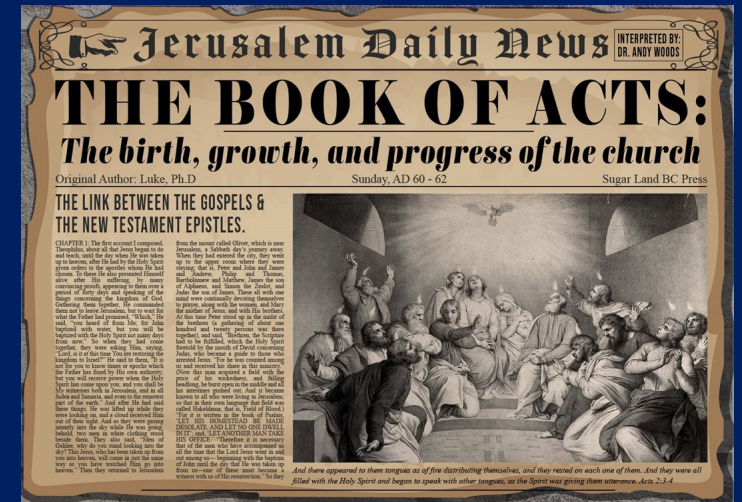
a) Speaking Against the Temple (13a)

b) Speaking Against the Law (13b)



1. Acts 6:13 Charges

- a) Speaking Against the Temple (13a)
- b) Speaking Against the Law (13b)





D. Acts 6:13-14

Charges Against Stephen

1. Charge (13)

2. Substantiation of charges (14)

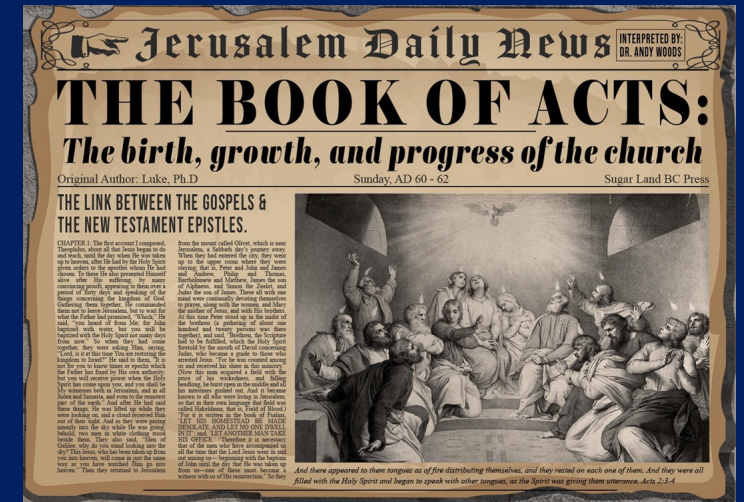


2. Acts 6:14

Substantiation of the Charges

a) Against the Temple (14a)

b) Against the Law (14b)



Matthew 24:1-2

“¹ Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. ² And He said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.”



Luke 19:41-44

⁴¹ “When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, “If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on . . .



Luke 19:41-44

... every side,⁴⁴ and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”



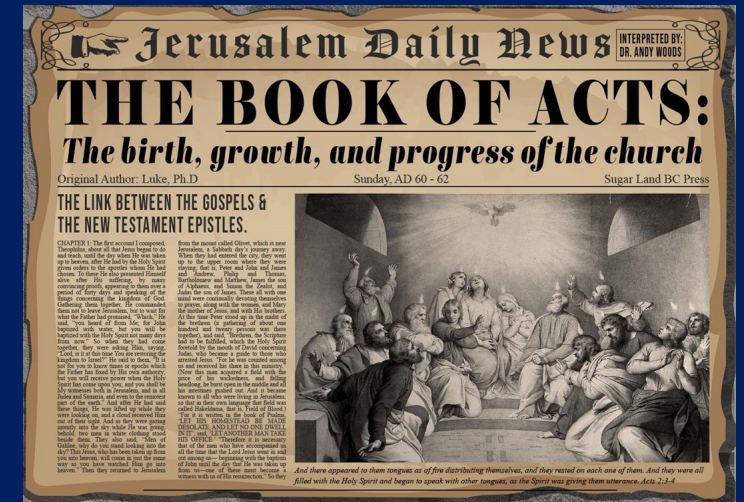


2. Acts 6:14

Substantiation of the Charges

a) Against the Temple (14a)

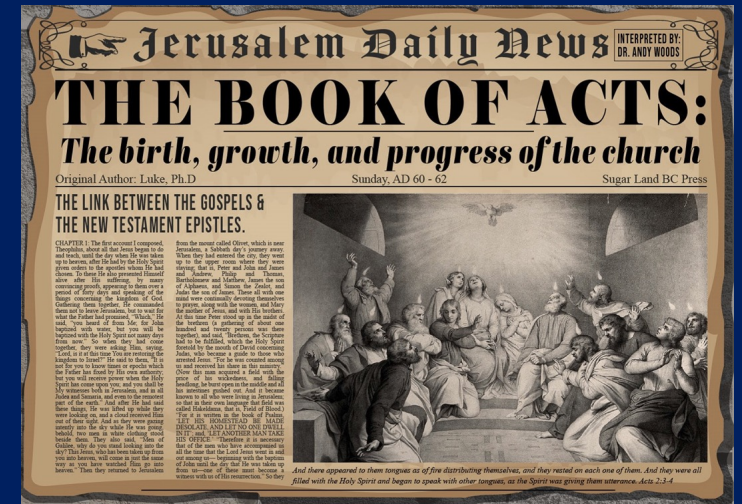
b) Against the Law (14b)



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Charles Ryrie

Dispensationalism (Chicago: Moody Press, 1965), 86.



Literal interpretation “...might also be called plain interpretation so that no one receives the mistaken notion that the literal principle rules out figures of speech.”

Literal Interpretation

One Meaning

Plain Literal

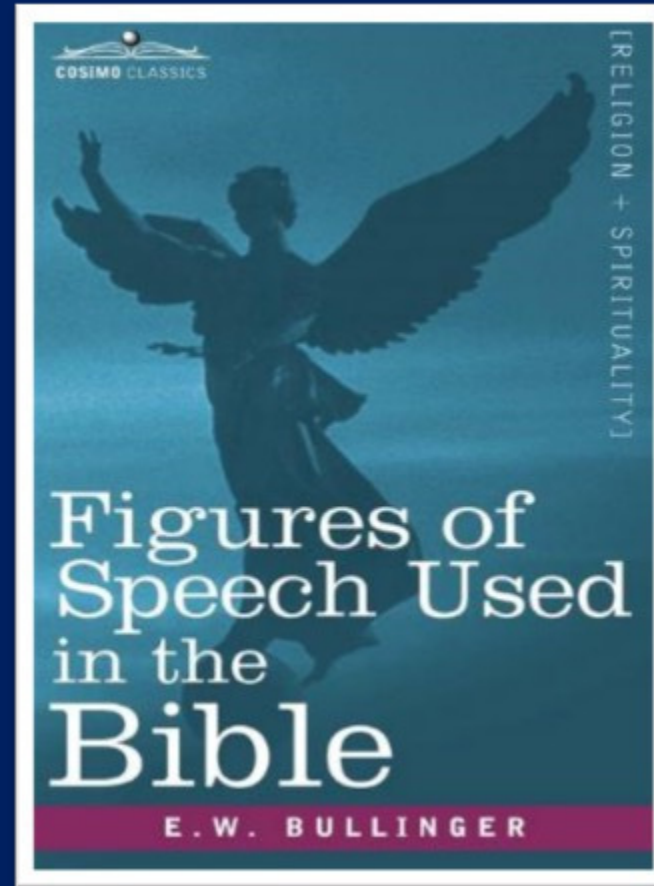
The literal interpretation is the explicit assertion of the words—DENOTATIVE

Figurative Literal

The literal interpretation is the specific intention of the figure—CONNOTATIVE

Chart by Earl Radmacher

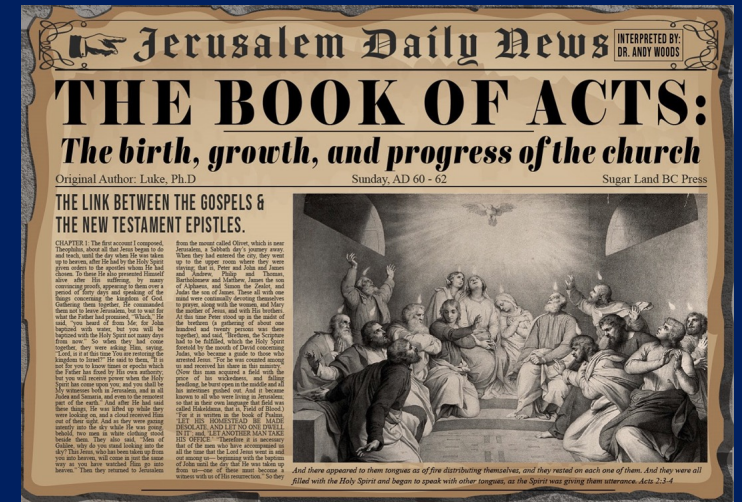
E.W. Bullinger (1837–1913)



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Conclusion

Acts 7 – Stephen’s Speech

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. 7:2-5 | Abraham’s partial obedience |
| 2. 7:6-38 | Israel’s initial rejections and later acceptances |
| 3. 7:39-41 | Israel’s early rebellion against Moses |
| 4. 7:42-45 | Israel reinterpreted Moses’ teachings through a polytheistic framework |
| 5. 7:46-50 | Neither the Tabernacle nor Temple were intended as permanent habitations of God |
| 6. 7:51-53 | Current generation imitating these same rebellions |