

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



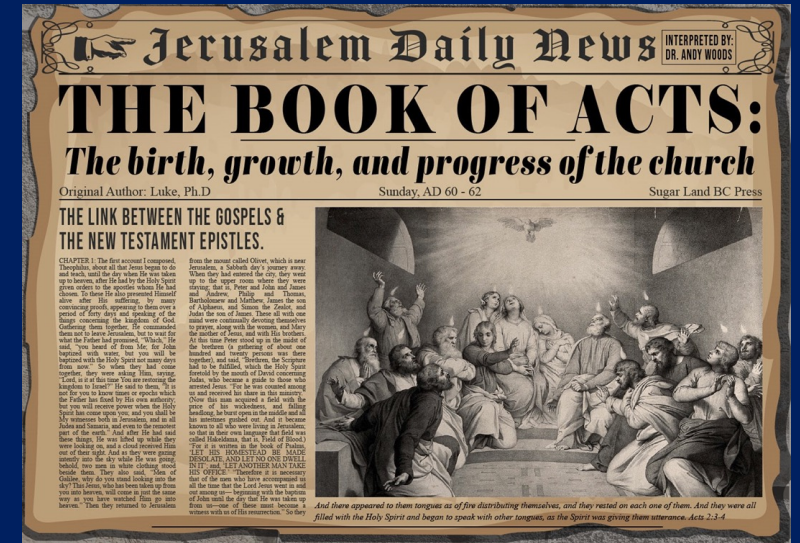
Dr. Andy Woods

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

Acts 2

Chapter Summary

- I. Coming of the Holy Spirit (1-4)
- II. Holy Spirit's Impact (5-13)
- III. Peter's Sermon (14-36)
- IV. Sermon's Impact (37-47)



IV. Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:37-47

A. Salvation (37-41)

B. Church (42-47)

Jerusalem Daily News INTERPRETED BY DR. ANDY WOODS

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CHAPTER 1: The first account (compared, 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. It came to pass that in the second month, about after the Pentecost, by many devout persons appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking of the things concerning the Kingdom of God. They came to have Jerusalem, but to wait the word 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, He said to them, "You are remaining in the city, until you are equipped with power from on high. For I will receive power upon me, and you shall see My signs and wonders in the name of the Lord. And when I have sent you out into the world, you will be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth. And after that I had said these things, He was taken up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight, and as they were gazing upward 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 up 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.

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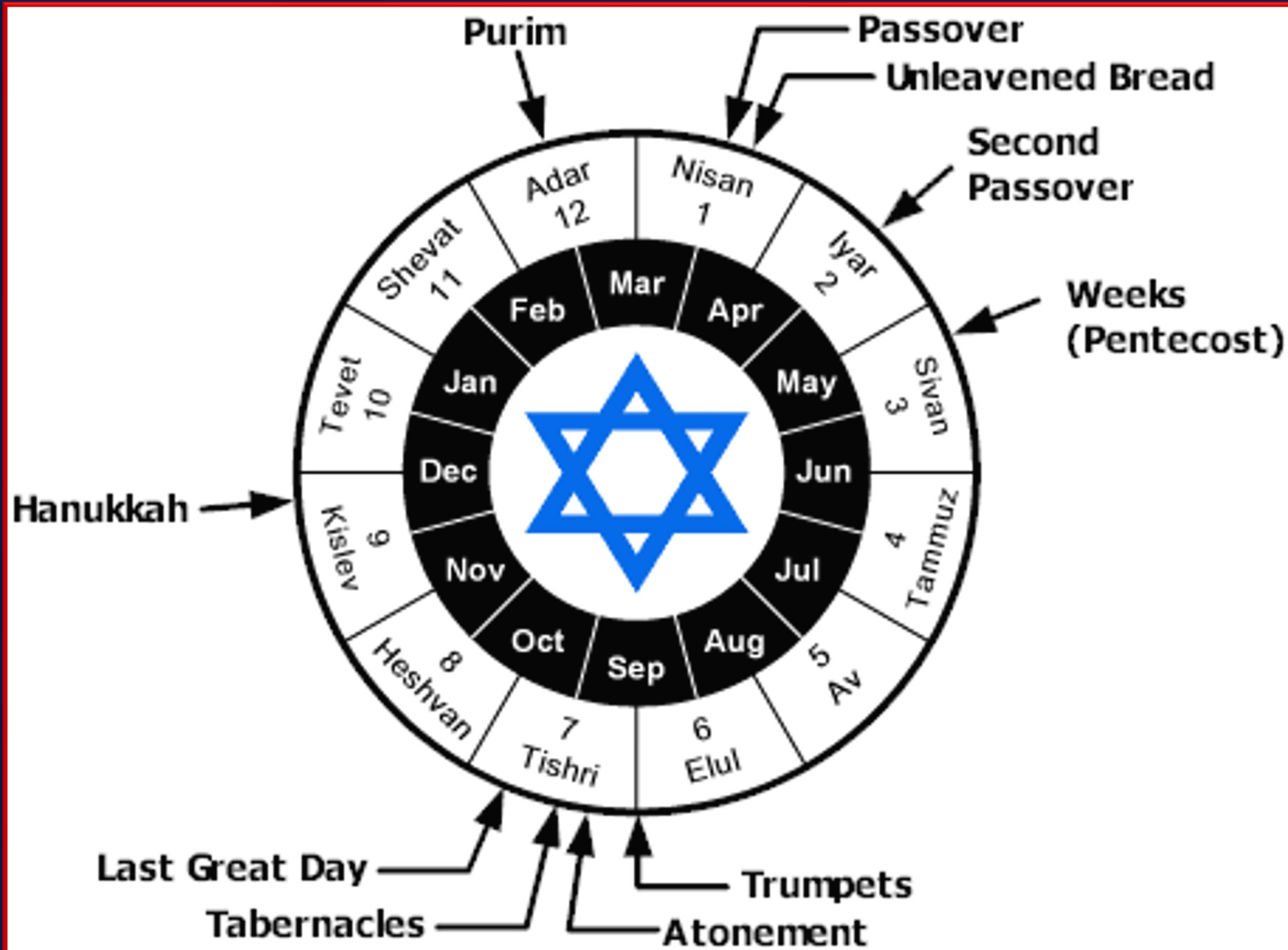
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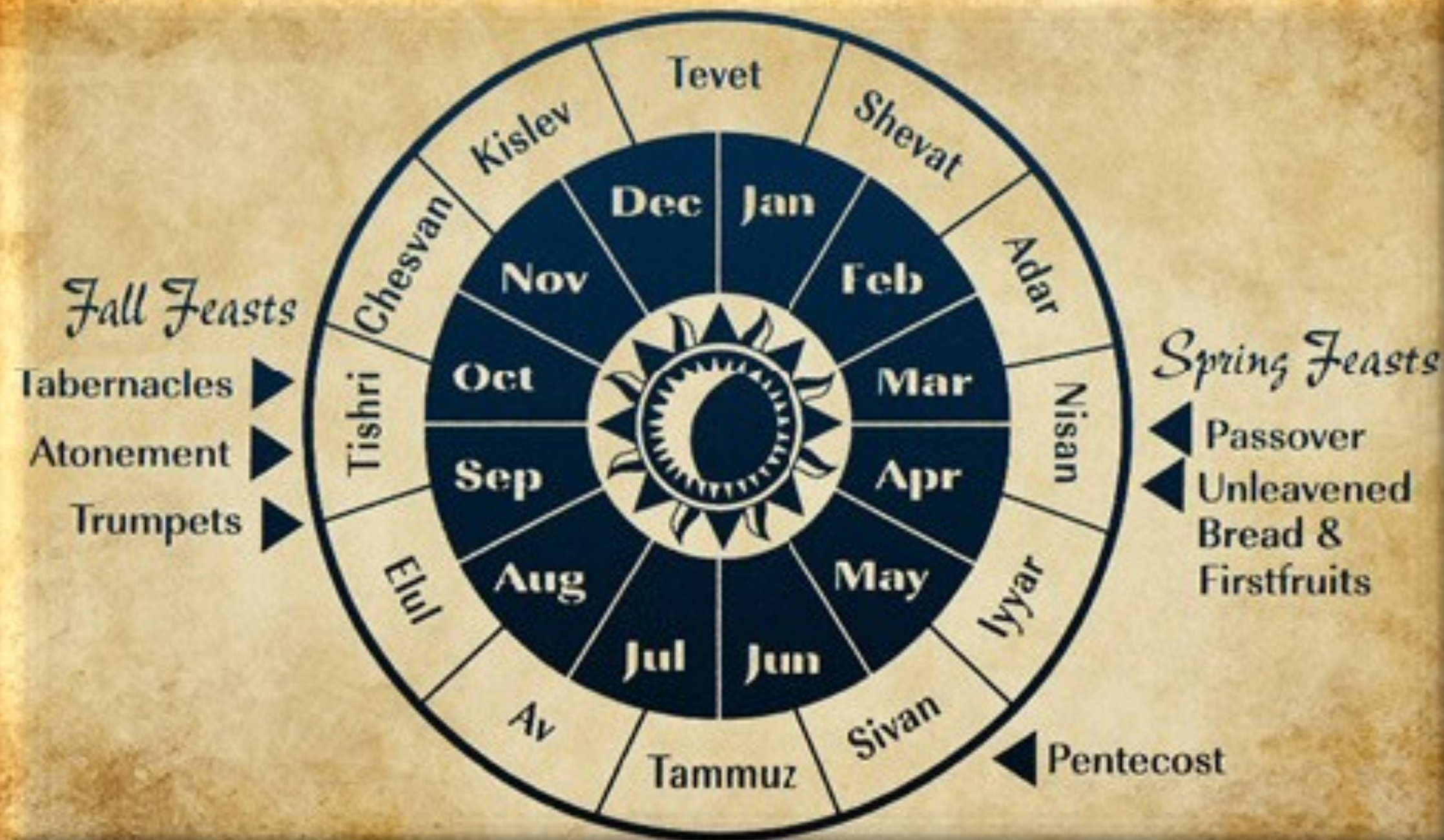
John Adams

John Adams, *A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America*, 3 vols., American Constitutional and Legal History, ed. Leonard W. Levy (London: Dilly, 1787; reprint, NY: Da Capo, 1971), 3:217



“The moment the idea is admitted into society, that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If ‘Thou Shalt Not Covet,’ and ‘Thou Shalt Not Steal’ were not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society before it can be civilized or made free.”





John 5:39, 46

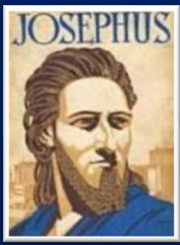
“³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me...⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me.”



Luke 24:27, 44

“²⁷Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures...⁴⁴ Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’”





Josephus

Antiquities 18.3.3

“About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was the Christ. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared.”

OT Prophecies About Christ

Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Manner of Birth	Isaiah 7:14	700 years
Place of Birth	Micah 5:2	700 years
Nationality	Numbers 24:17	1400 years
Tribe	Genesis 49:10	1800 years
Time of and Response to His Messiahship	Dan. 9:25-26	600 years

OT Prophecies About Christ

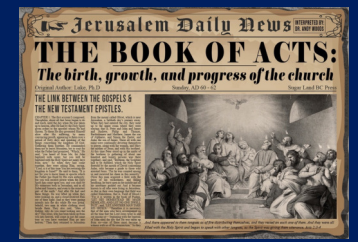
Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Crucified Between Thieves	Isaiah 53:9	700 years
Pierced	Isaiah 53:5	700 years
No Broken Bones	Psalms 22:17	1000 years
Gamble for His Clothing	Psalms 22:18	1000 years
Buried in Rich Man's Tomb	Isaiah 53:9	700 years

Matthew 16:18

“I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build [oikodomeō] My church; and the gates of Hades WILL NOT overpower it.”



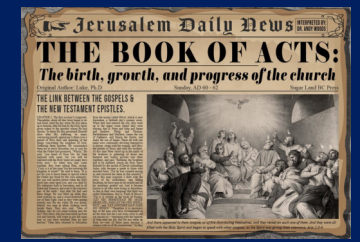
Message



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



Acts 2:47

“praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (NASB)

“praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” (NKJV)



Author	Written	Earliest MSS	Time Span	No. MSS
Cesar	100 to 44 B.C.	A.D. 900	1000	10
Plato	427 to 347 B.C.	A.D. 900	1200	7
Thucydides	460 to 400 B.C.	A.D. 900	1300	8
Tacitus	A.D. 100	A.D. 1100	1000	20
Suetonius	A.D. 75 to 160	A.D. 950	800	8
Homer (Illiad)	900 B.C.	A.D. 400	500	643
New Testament	A.D. 40 to 100	A.D. 125	25 to 50	24,000
Cesar	100 to 44 B.C.	A.D. 900	1000	10

<http://creationrevolution.com/2012/05/should-we-trust-the-bible/>

Manuscript Evidence for Ancient Writings

Author	Written	Earliest Fragment/Copy	Time Span in Years	Number of Manuscripts
Cesar	100 to 44 B.C.	A.D. 900	1000	10
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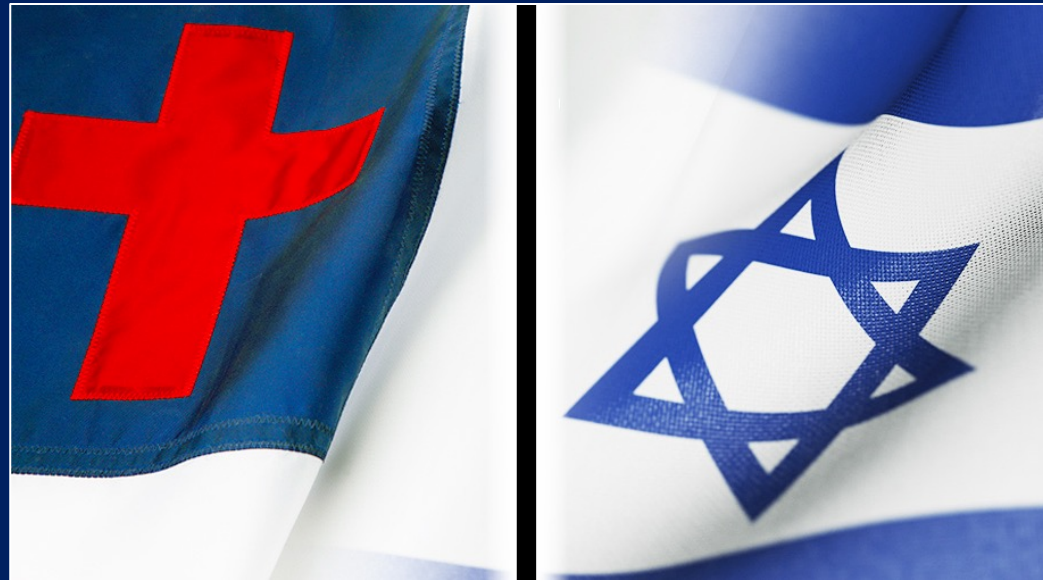
Information in this chart can be found in various sources. This chart was adapted from: Christian Apologetics, by Norman Geisler, 1976, p. 307; and Evidence That Demands a Verdict, by Josh McDowell, 1979, pp. 42, 43.



Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, "Israel and the Church," in *Issues in Dispensationalism*, ed. Wesley R. Willis and John R. Master (Chicago: Moody, 1994), 118.

“In the book of Acts, both Israel and the church exist simultaneously. The term *Israel* is used twenty times and *ekklēsia* (church) nineteen times, yet the two groups are always kept distinct.”



Conclusion

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