Jerusalem Daily News

INTERPRETED BY: DR. ANDY 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 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 12:1-25

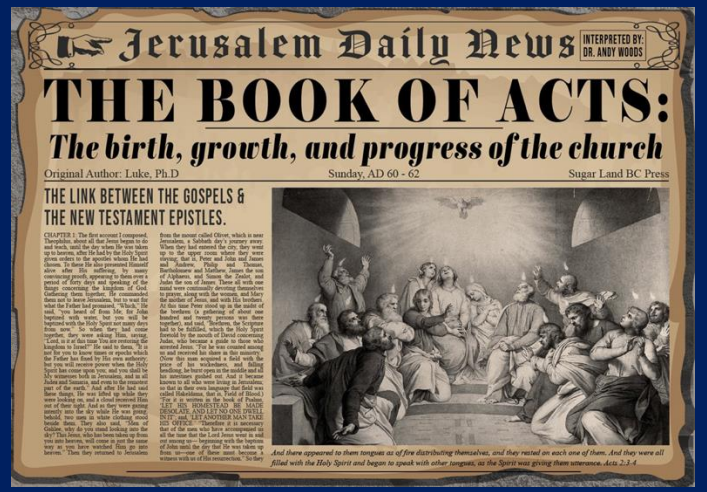
4th Persecution of Jerusalem Church

I. James' Death (12:1-2)

II. Peter's imprisonment (12:3-5)

III. **Peter's Deliverance (12:6-17)**

IV. Results of Peter's Escape (12:18-25)

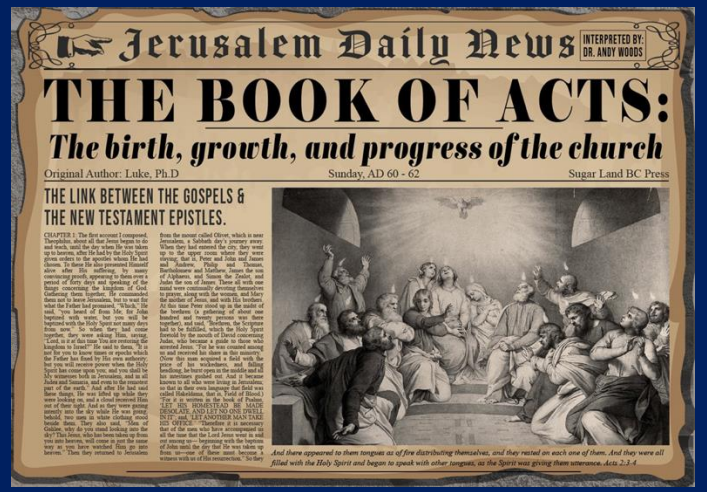


III. Peter's Deliverance

Acts 12:6-17

A. Peter's escape (6-11)

B. **Peter's arrival at Mary's house (12-17)**



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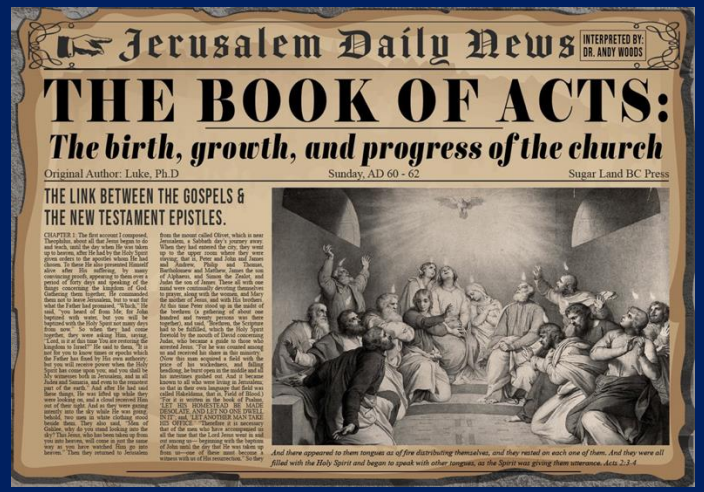

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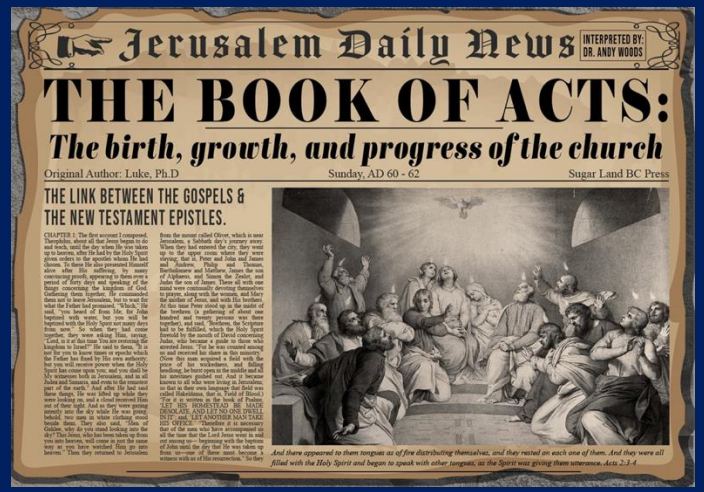
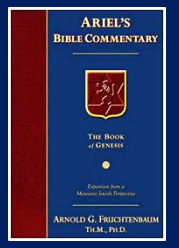


Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

The Book of Acts, 273-74



"John Mark played a minor role in the book of Acts, but a major role in the history of the church in that he wrote the Gospel of Mark. He had two names: John, which in Hebrew is *Yochanan*, and Mark or Marcus, his Latin name. He probably also had a Greek name, but it was not given. According to Colossians 4:10, John Mark was a cousin of Barnabas. He was best known among the Romans, and it was for them that he wrote his Gospel. This is also the reason that he was better known by his Latin name, Mark, rather than his Jewish name of *Yochanan* (or John)."

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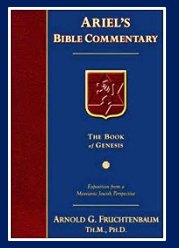

"John Mark appears a total of eight times in the New Testament: Acts 12:12, 25; 15:37, 39; Colossians 4:10; II Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24; and I Peter 5:13. In I Peter 5:13, Peter referred to Mark as his 'son,' which means Peter was the one who led Mark to the Lord. Subsequently, Mark became his disciple."

the King's Dream

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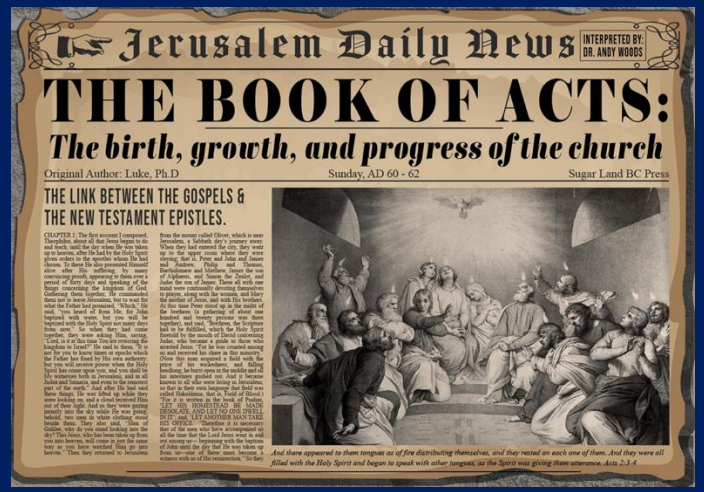

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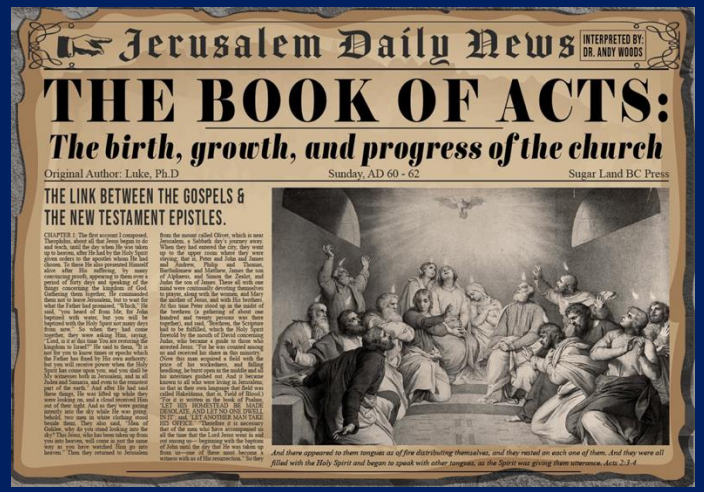
b) Rhoda's report to the apostles (14)

c) Disciples' unbelieving response (15)



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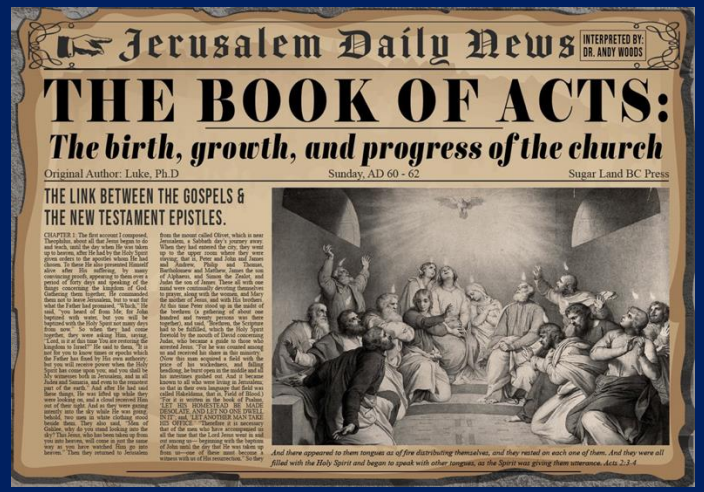

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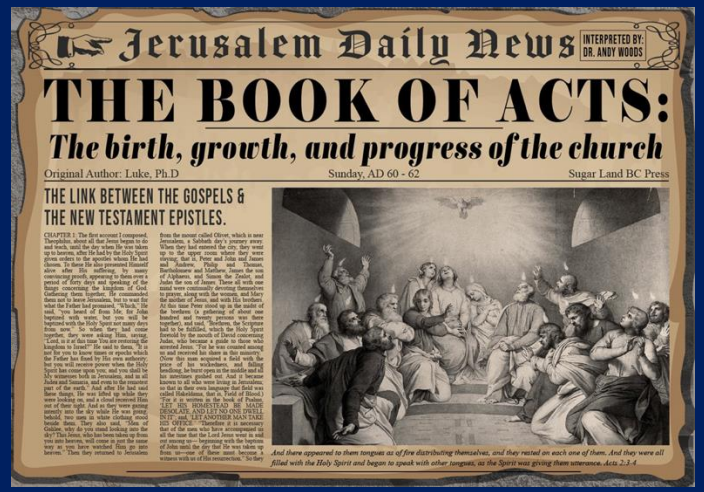

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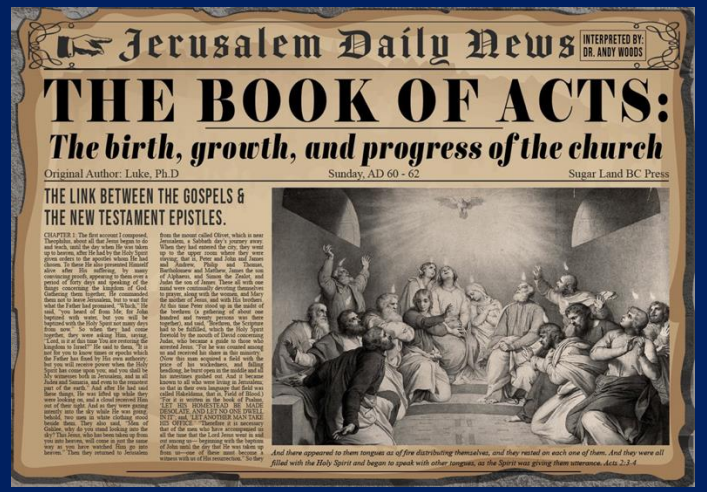

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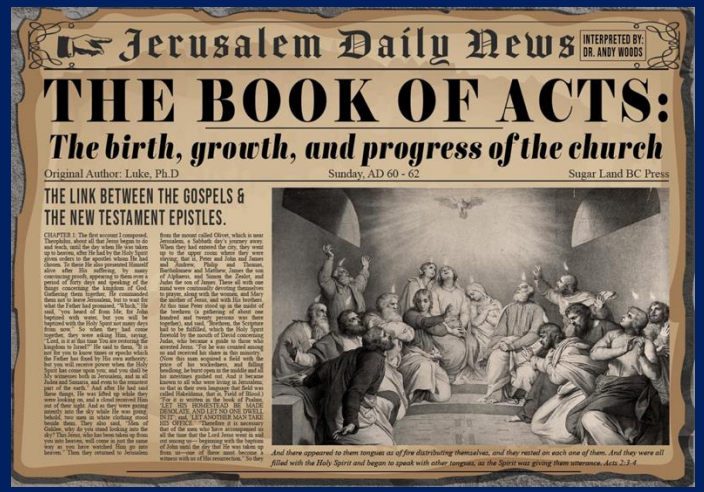

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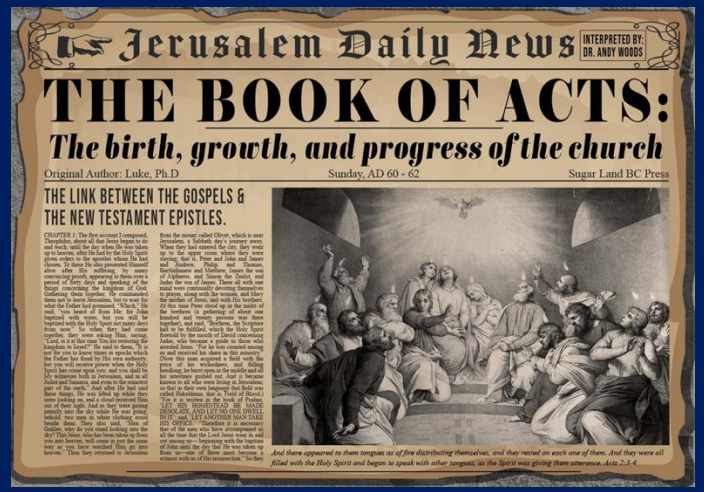

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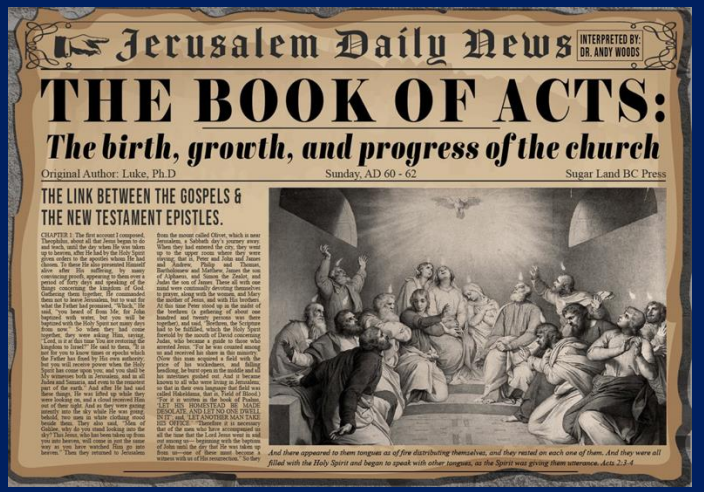

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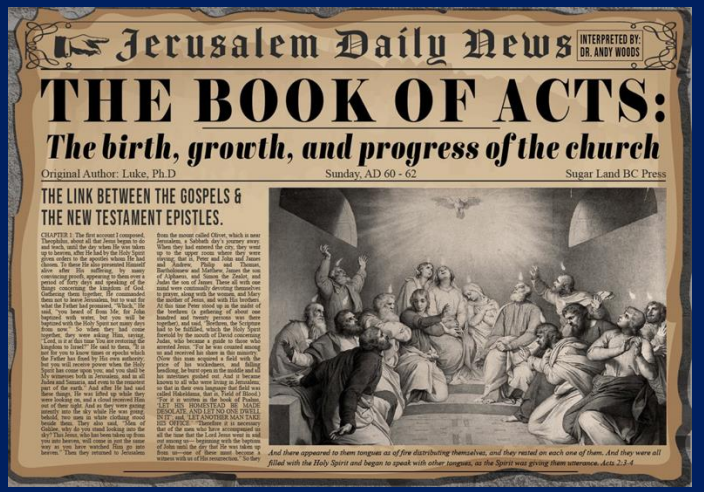

Acts 1:13-14

“13 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**. 14 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**.”

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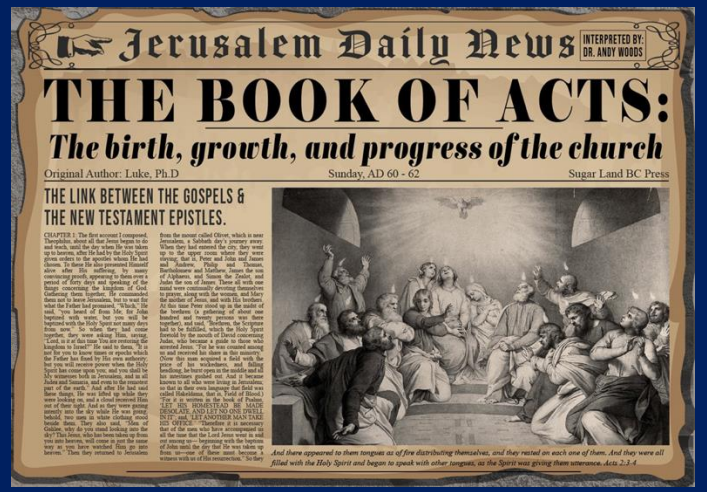

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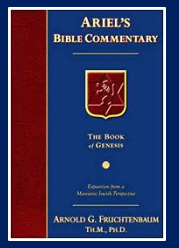
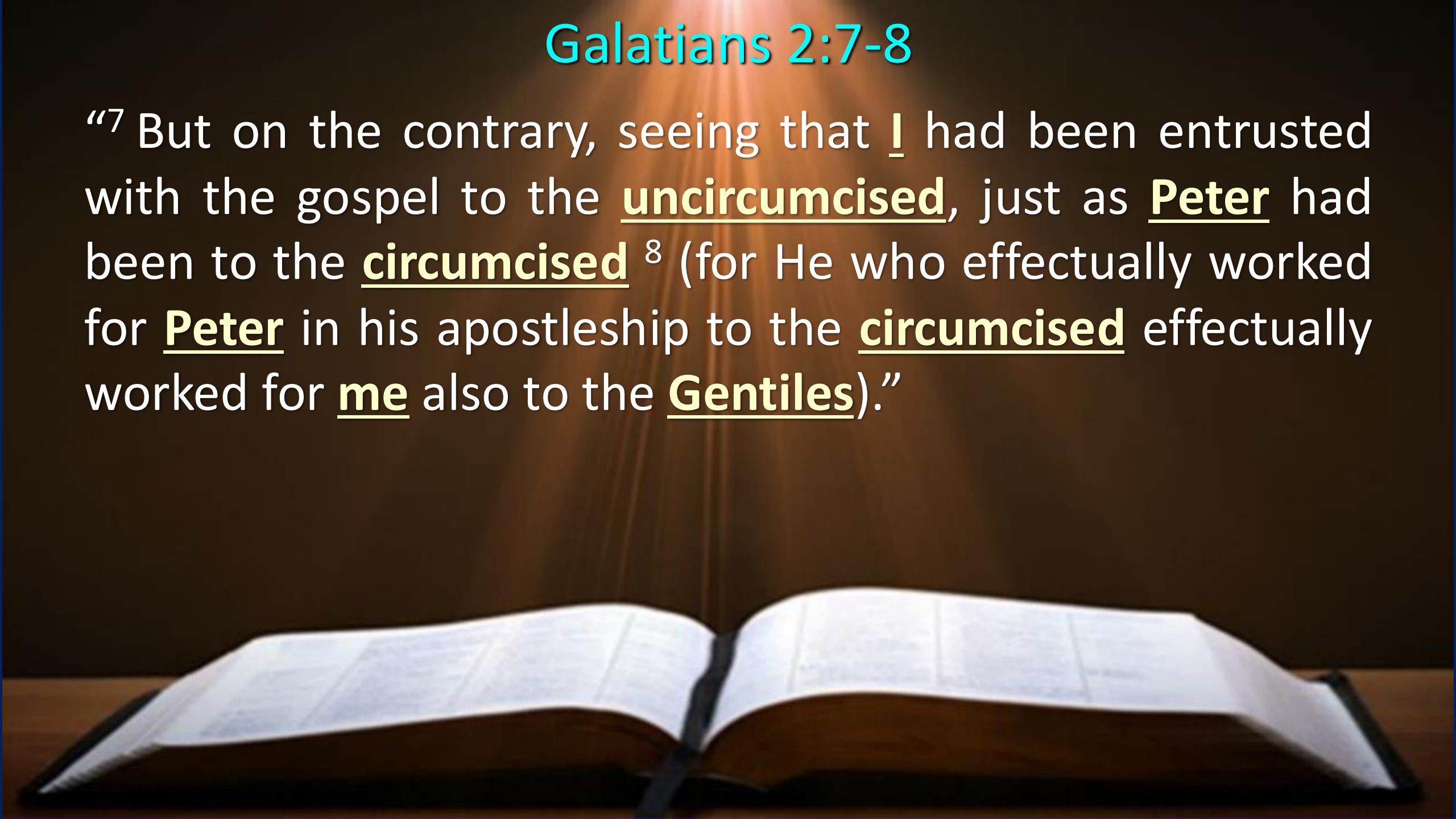


"After having spoken to the disciples, Peter departed, and went to another place (v. 17b). He fled out of Jerusalem. Luke chose not to disclose where Peter went, but we do know something about Peter's travels from other passages. According to I Corinthians 9:5, he had an itinerant ministry; according to I Corinthians 1:12, he spent some time in Corinth; according to Galatians 2:11, he was in Antioch of Pisidia; according to I Peter 1:1, he was in Asia Minor; and according to I Peter 5:13, he was in Babylon."

Galatians 2:7-8

“7 But on the contrary, seeing that **I** had been entrusted with the gospel to the **uncircumcised**, just as **Peter** had been to the **circumcised** 8 (for He who effectually worked for **Peter** in his apostleship to the **circumcised** effectually worked for **me** also to the **Gentiles**).”



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	PAUL
Heals a man lame from birth (3:1-11)	Heals a man lame from birth (14:8-18)
Heals by shadow (5:15-16)	Heals by handkerchief (19:11-12)
Success is a cause of jealousy (5:17)	Success is a cause of jealousy (13:45)
Confronts a sorcerer (8:9-24)	Confronts a sorcerer (13:6-11)
Raises Dorcas (9:36-41)	Raises Eutychus (20:9-12)
Jailed and miraculously freed (12:3-19)	Jailed and miraculously freed (16:25-34)

Acts 12:1-25

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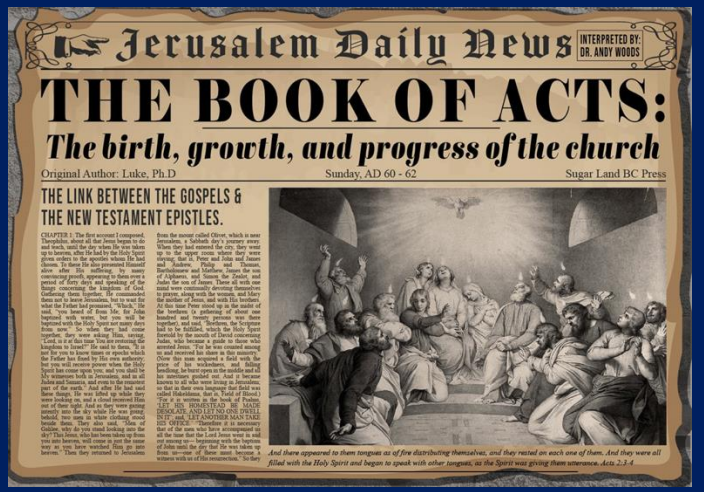
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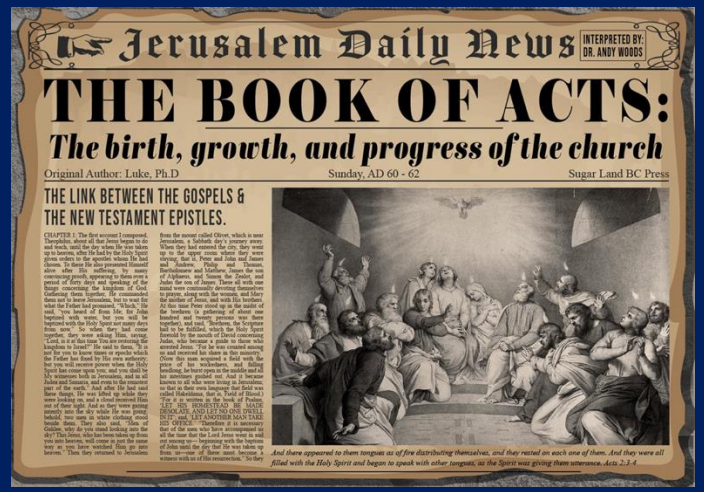
IV. Results of Peter's Escape

Acts 12:18-25

A. On Herod (18-23)

B. On the Church (24-25)



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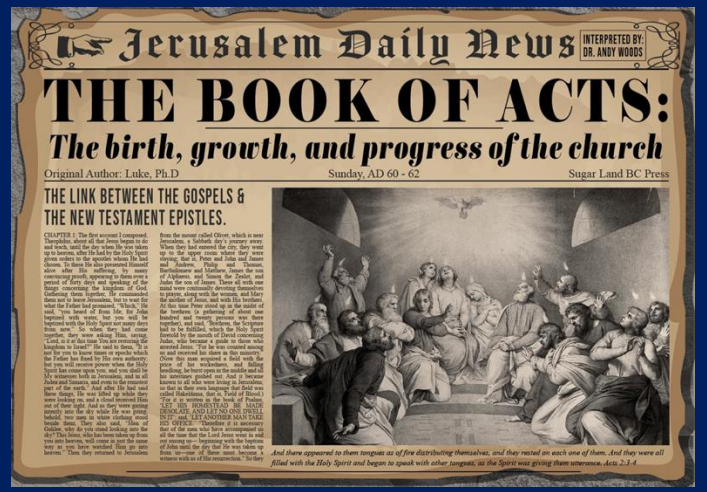

A. Acts 12:18-23

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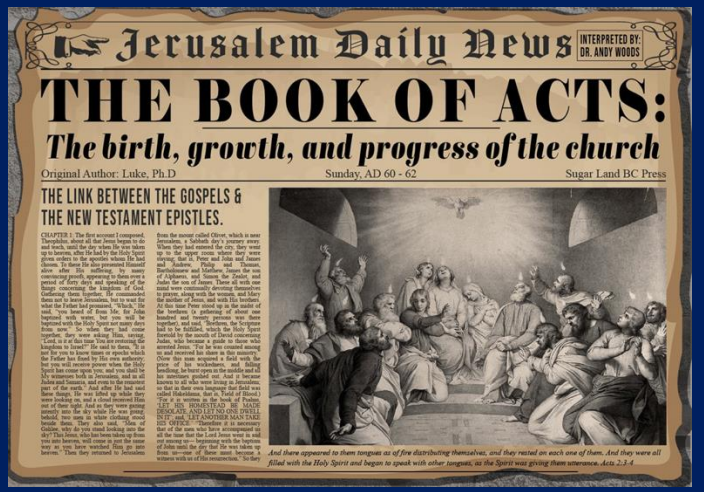

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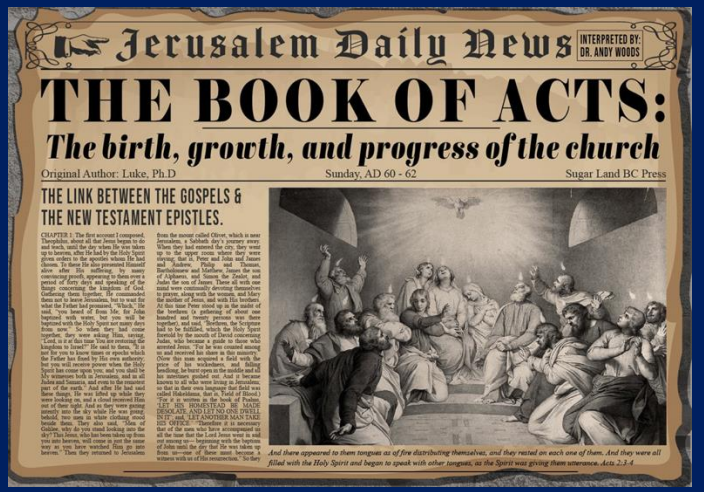


Literal Interpretation

One Meaning

Plain Literal

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

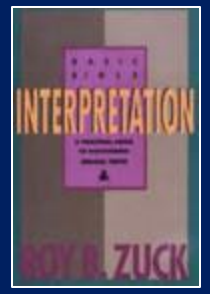
Figurative Literal

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

Chart by Earl Radmacher

Dr. Roy B. Zuck

Basic Bible Interpretation, p.156-57.



"Litotes. A litotes is an understatement or a negative statement to express an affirmation. This is the opposite of hyperbole. When we say, 'He is not a bad preacher,' we mean he is a very good preacher. The understatement is made for emphasis. When Paul wrote, 'I am a Jew … a citizen of no insignificant city' (Acts 21:39, NASB), he meant that Tarsus was in fact a rather significant city. A litotes is at times a belittling statement, as in Numbers 13:33, 'We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.' Luke used a number of litotes. He spoke of '**no small disturbance among the soldiers' (Acts 12:18, NASB)**, 'no little business' (19:24), and 'no small storm' (27:20, NASB)."

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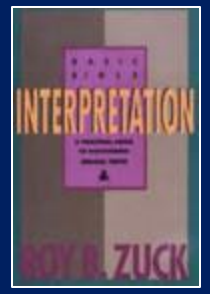

"When Luke wrote that Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch 'a long time' (14:28), the Greek has a litotes. It is literally, 'they stayed there not a little time.' Paul belittled himself with a litotes in 1 Corinthians 15:9, 'For I am the least of the apostles.' This statement of genuine humility was written to highlight God's grace in his life as an undeserving sinner (see v. 10)."

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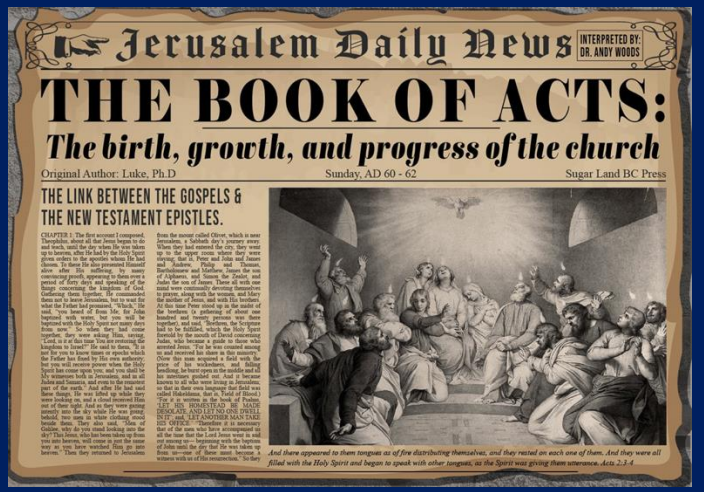
2. **Herod's reaction (19)**
3. Herod's death (20-23)



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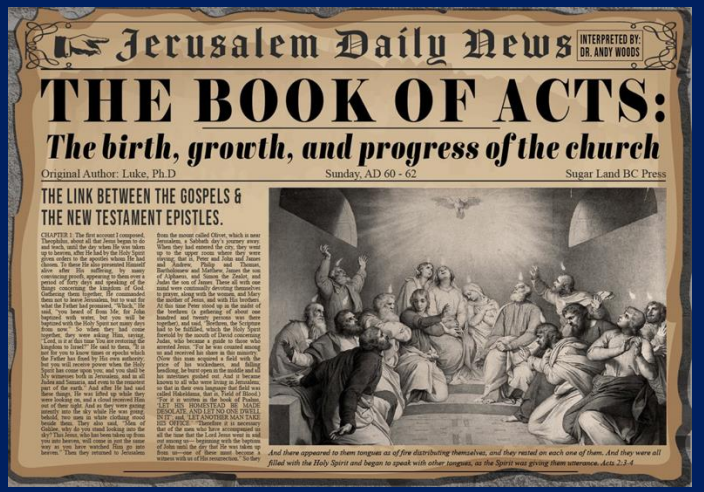
Herod's Reaction

a) Examination of the soldiers (19a)

b) Execution of the soldiers (19b)

c) Departure to Caesarea (19c)



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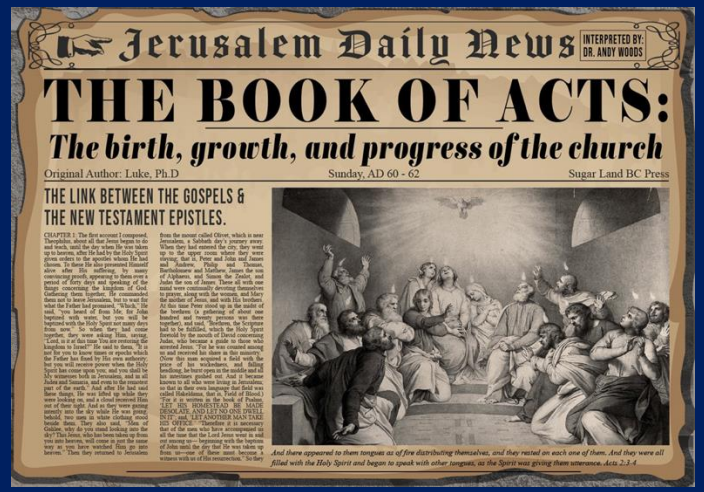


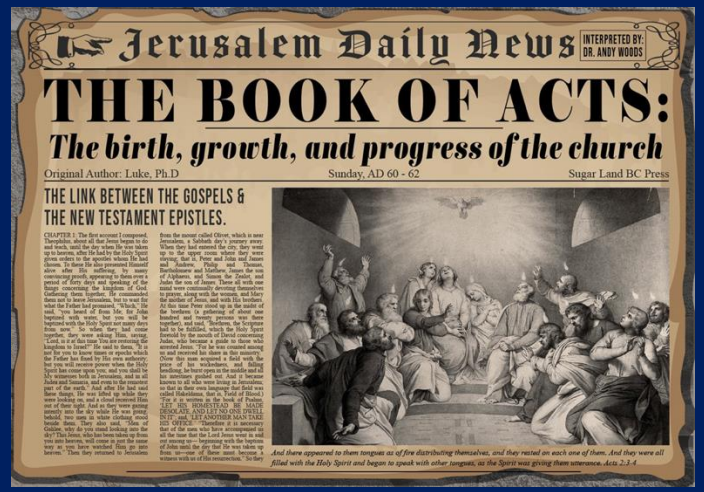
2. Acts 12:19

Herod's Reaction

a) Examination of the soldiers (19a)

b) **Execution of the soldiers (19b)**

c) Departure to Caesarea (19c)



Naturalistic Theories

1. Swoon theory
2. **Theft theory**
3. Hallucination theory
4. Wrong tomb theory

2. Theft Theories

A. Rome

B. Jews

C. Disciples

How Does Jesus Compare?

Deity	Tomb Status
Confucius	Occupied
Buddha	Occupied
Mohammed	Occupied
Jesus	***EMPTY***

G.B. Hardy, Countdown

2. Acts 12:19

Herod's Reaction

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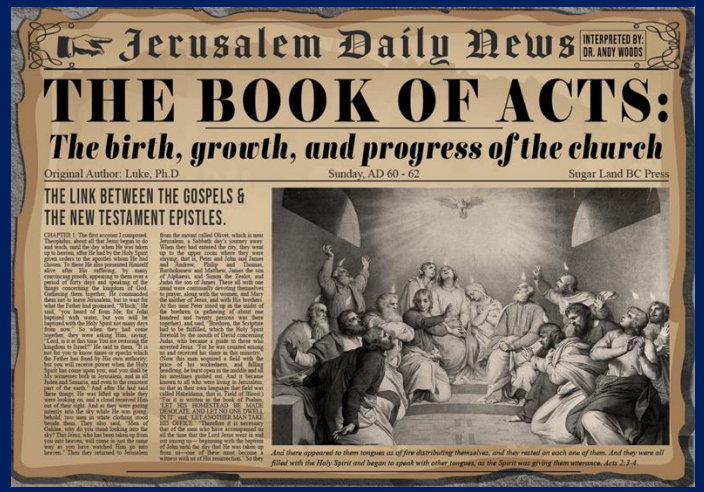
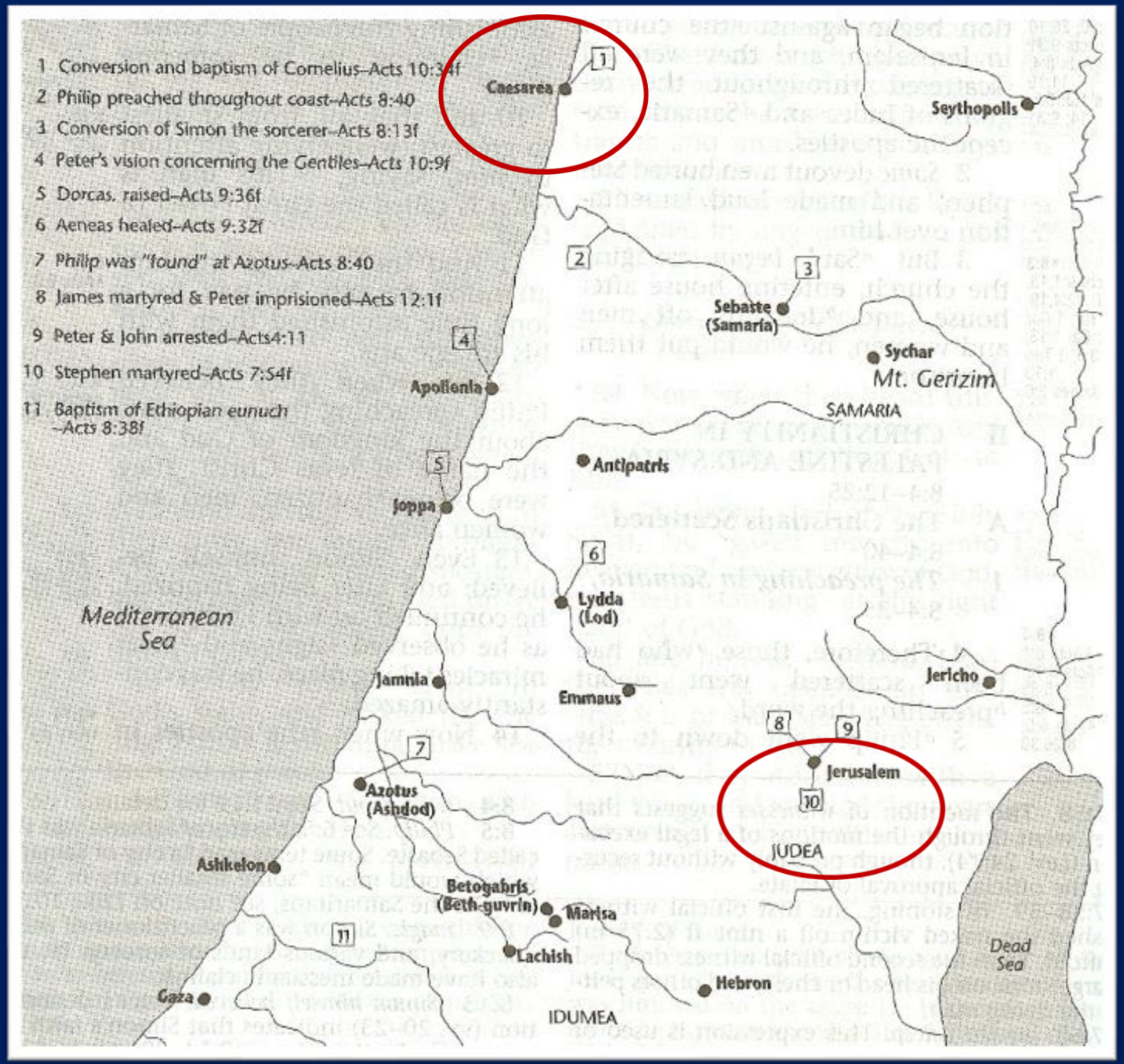
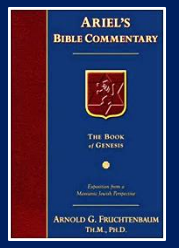



1 Conversion and baptism of Cornelius–Acts 10:34f
2 Philip preached throughout coast–Acts 8:40
3 Conversion of Simon the sorcerer–Acts 8:13f
4 Peter's vision concerning the Gentiles–Acts 10:9f
5 Dorcas. raised–Acts 9:36f
6 Aeneas healed–Acts 9:32f
7 Philip was "found" at Azotus–Acts 8:40
8 James martyred & Peter imprisioned–Acts 12:1f
9 Peter & John arrested–Acts4:11
10 Stephen martyred–Acts 7:54f
11 Baptism of Ethiopian eunuch –Acts 8:38f
Caesarea
Seythopolis
Sebaste (Samaria)
Sychar
Mt. Gerizim
SAMARIA
Apollonia
Antipatris
Joppa
Lydda (Lod)
Mediterranean Sea
Jamnia
Emmaus
Jericho
Jerusalem
Azotus (Ashdod)
JUDEA
Ashkelon
Betogabris (Beth-guvrin)
Marisa
Lachish
Hebron
Dead Sea
Gaza
IDUMEA

Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

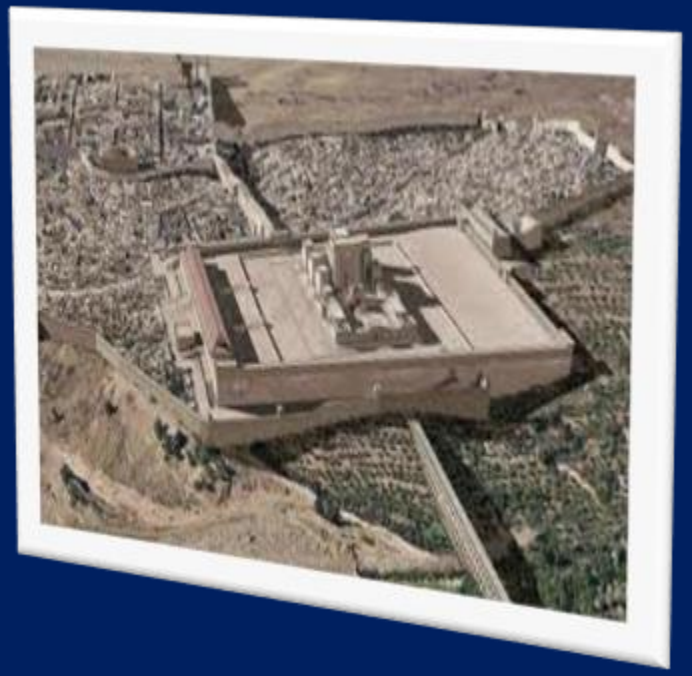
The Book of Acts, 277



"It was then that Herod went down from Judea to Caesarea, and tarried there. This was also a standard procedure for the ruler of Judea following the Passover. Once again Luke proved his Jewishness by showing that from Jerusalem one always goes down. The king tarried in Caesarea because the city was the political capital and Roman headquarters for Judea."

Christ's Five Trips to Jerusalem

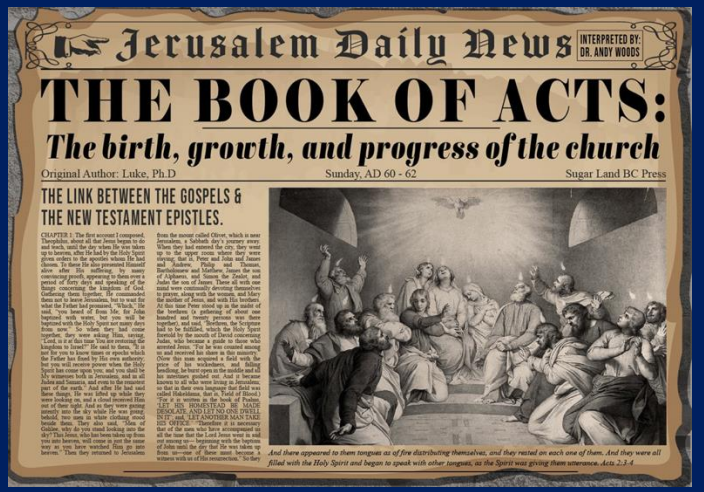
Feast	Verse
Passover	2:23
Unnamed	5:1
Tabernacles	7:2
Dedication	10:22
Passover	13:1



A. Acts 12:18-23

On Herod

1. Soldiers' reaction (18)
2. Herod's reaction (19)
3. **Herod's death (20-23)**



3. Acts 12:20-23

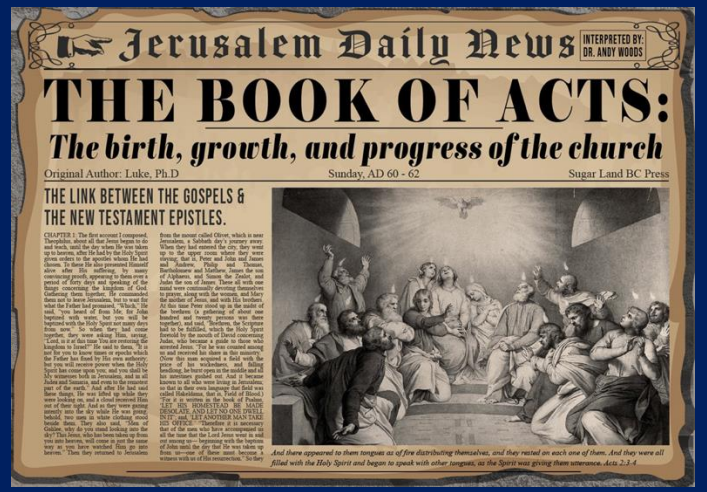
Herod's Death

a) Herod's displeasure with Tyre & Sidon (20)

b) Herod's speech at the Festival (21)

c) Response of the people (22)

d) Judgment upon Herod (23)



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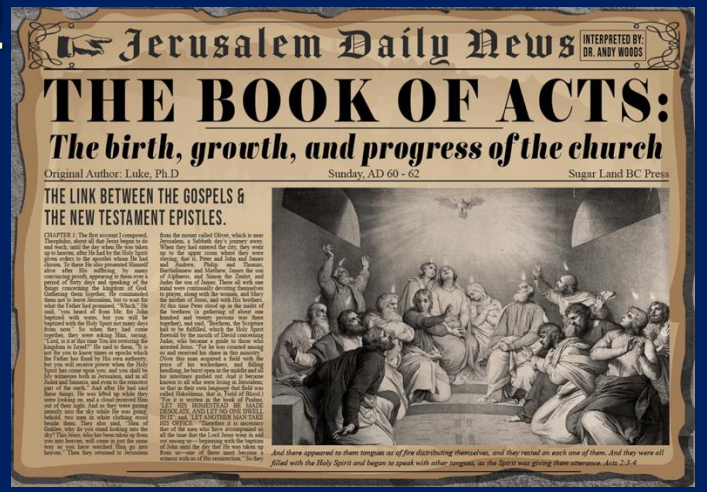

Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles

3. Acts 12:20-23

Herod's Death

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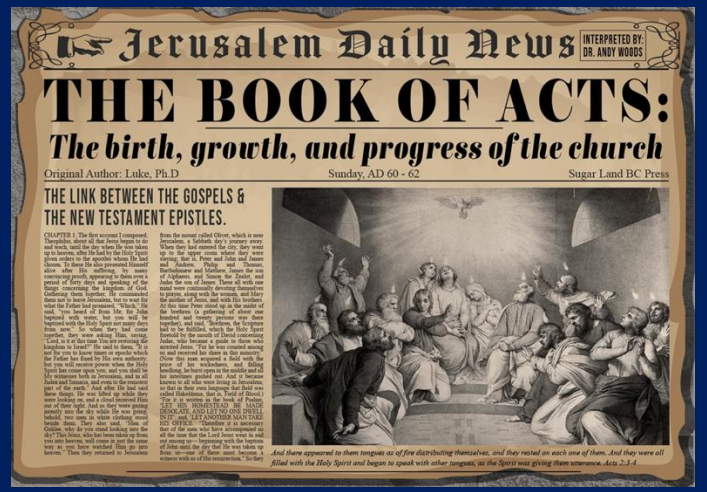

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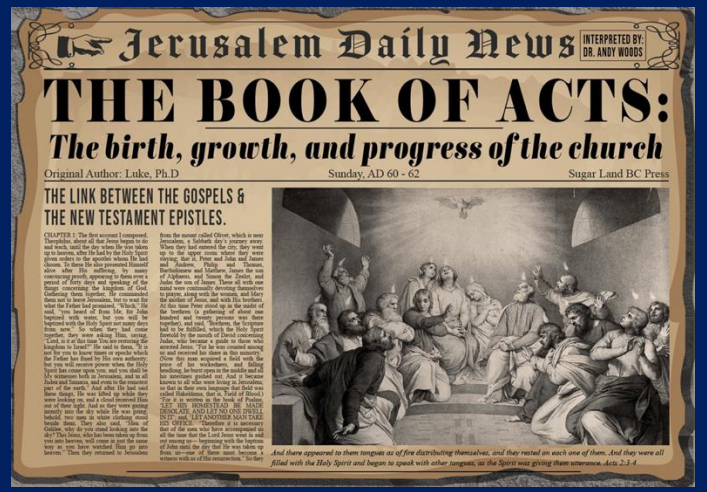

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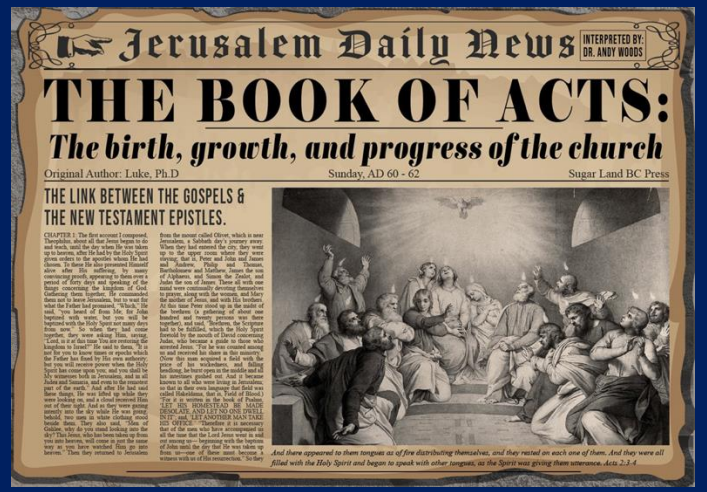


Activities of the Angels
PAST

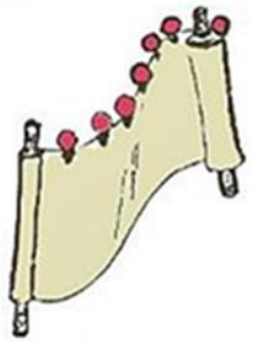
1. Witnessed creation (Job 38:7)
2. **Brought judgment (Gen 19:22; Acts 12:22-23)**
3. Accompanied the Law (Gal 3:19)
4. Announced births of John and Christ (Luke 1:11-13, 26-27)
5. Strengthened Christ (Matt 4:11)
6. Announced resurrection (Matt 28:1-7)
7. Observed Ascension (Acts 1:11)
8. Brought messages (Luke 1:13)

Activities of the Angels
FUTURE

1. Rapture (1 Thess. 4:16)
2. Judged by humans (1 Cor 6:3)
3. **Tribulation judgments (Rev 8:2; 16:1)**
4. Return of Christ (Matt 24:31; 25:31)
5. Bind Satan (Rev 20:1-2)

Tribulation Judgments

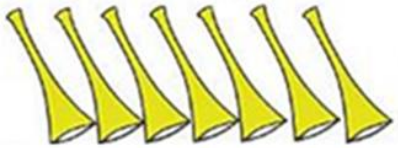
Rapture



Seal Judgments
Revelation 6

Christ's Glorious Appearing

Revelation 8,9
Trumpet Judgments



Bowl (or Vial) Judgments
Revelation 15,16

First Half of the Tribulation

Second Half of the Tribulation

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Scripture and Pride

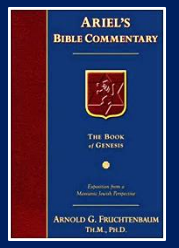
- Prov 16:18
- Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17
- 1 Tim 3:6
- Acts 12:21-23
- 2 Cor 12:7
- 1 Pet 5:5

Hall of the Humbled
(Prov. 16:18; 1 Peter 5:5)

- Satan (Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-17; 1 Tim. 3:6)
- Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:16)
- Herod (Acts 12:20-23)
- Paul (2 Cor. 12:1-10)

Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

The Book of Acts, 278-79



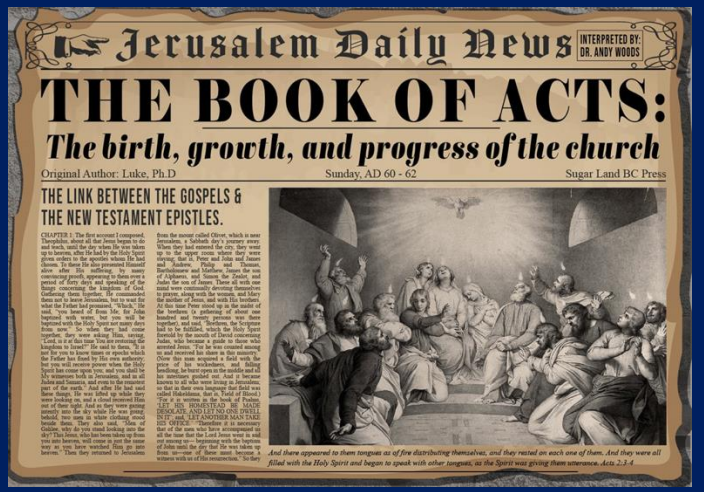
"As a result, Agrippa was eaten of worms. The Greek expression is *genomenos skōlēkobrōtos* and literally means 'becoming worm-eaten.' Robertson notes: 'The word *skóléx* was used of intestinal worms and Herodotus . . . describes *Pheretima*, Queen of Cyrene, as having swarms of worms which ate her flesh while still alive.' In other words, Agrippa died of acute intestinal problems. This was not an uncommon way for someone to die in ancient times. Josephus described the death as occurring five days after the painful stomach condition started, stating 'that the rotting of his flesh produced worms, an item in harmony with the narrative of Luke.'"

IV. Results of Peter's Escape

Acts 12:18-25

A. On Herod (18-23)

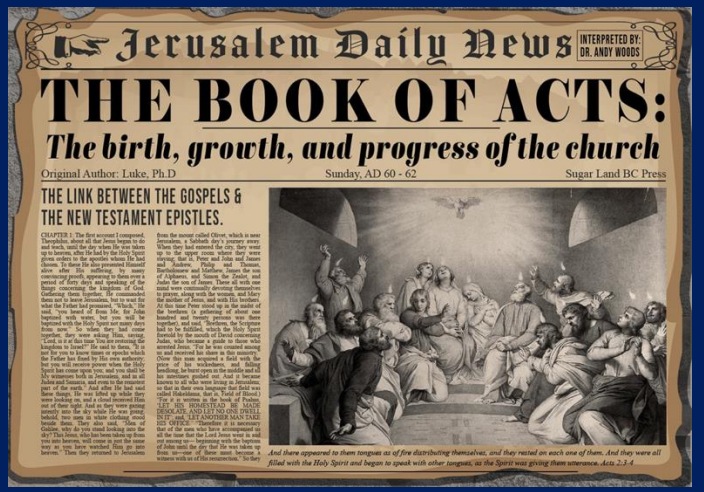
B. **On the Church (24-25)**



B. Acts 12:24-25

On the Church

1. Progress report (24)
2. Paul & Barnabas return to Antioch (25)



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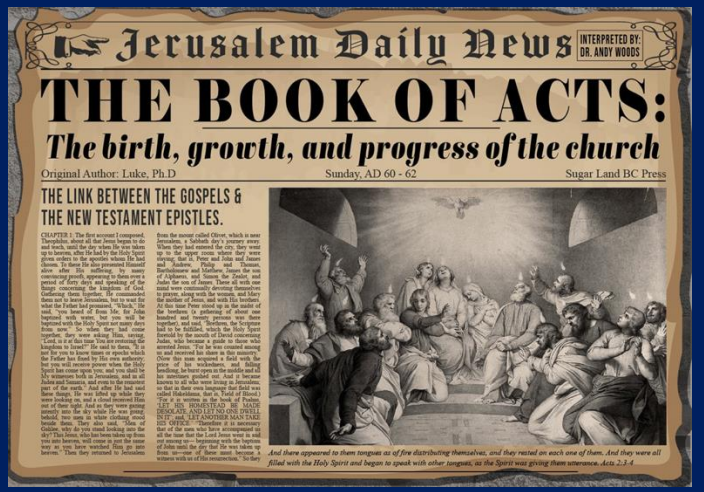
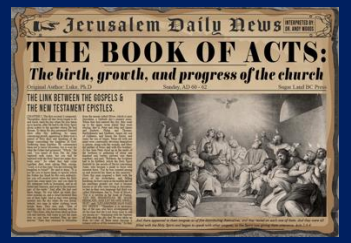
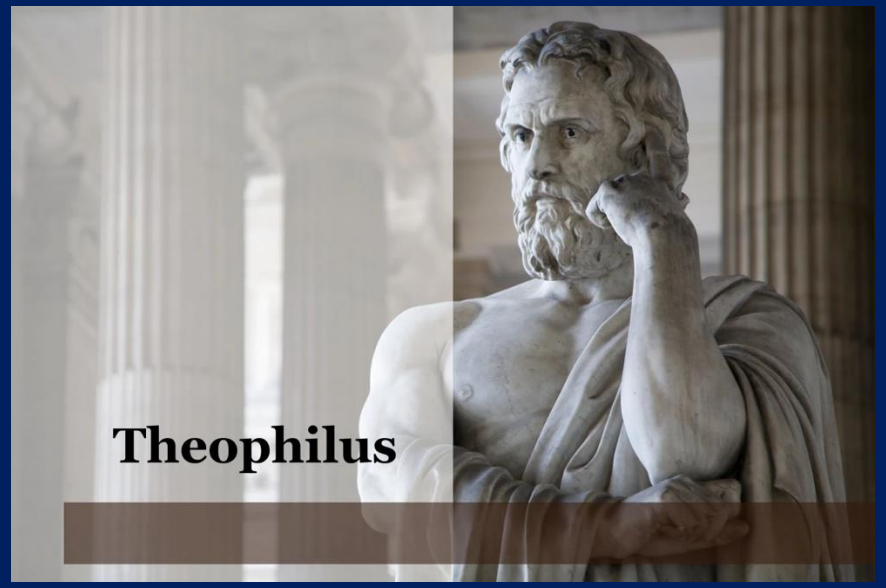
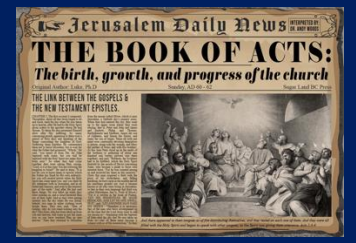




Purpose

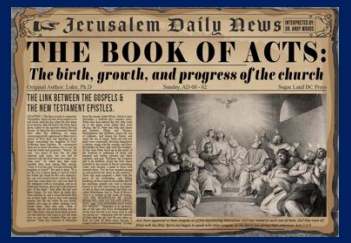
- To present Theophilus with an orderly account of the birth and growth of the church so as to affirm him in what he has believed.





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

B. Acts 12:24-25

On the Church

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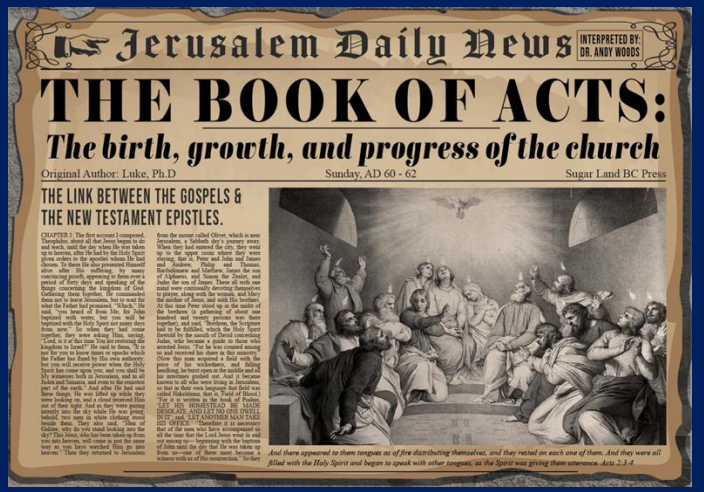


Every Geographical Location in Acts/Epistles

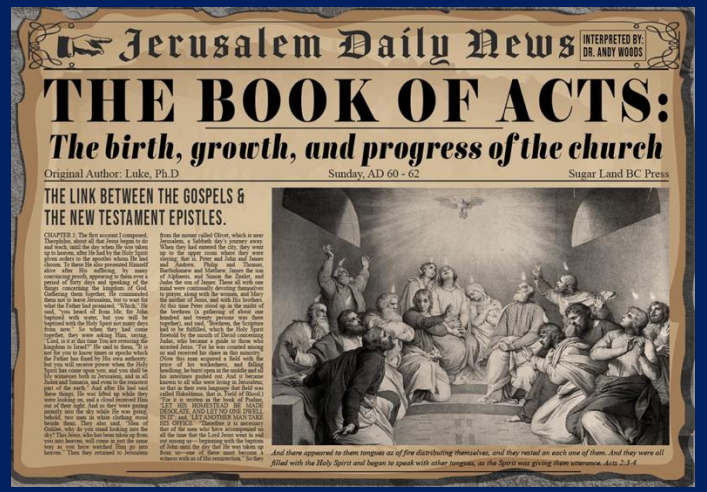
Conclusion

Acts 12:1-25

4th Persecution of Jerusalem Church

I. James' Death (12:1-2)

II. Peter's Imprisonment (12:3-5)

III. Peter's Deliverance (12:6-17)

IV. Results of Peter's Escape (12:18-25)