

New Testament Seminar & Read-Through (17 weeks)

September 22, 2019 - Acts 1-13

The Book of Acts

- Acts
 - Acts of the Apostles
 - Luke – part II
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- The Story of:
 - Peter (Chap 2-12)
 - Paul (Chap 13-end)



The Book of Acts – dated 1644

The Book of Acts

- a work of ‘ancient history’
- Many confirmations outside of the Bible to accuracy
- Emphases? That the Christian movement is not a threat to Roman order and should be welcomed rather than repressed.



The Book of Acts – dated 1644

The Book of Acts

- Date: About AD 63 or later
 - No reference to the burning of Rome and the persecution of the Christians there (AD 64)
 - the martyrdom of Peter and Paul (possibly 67)
 - destruction of Jerusalem (70)
 - No outcome of Paul's trial.
- Theme: Luke shows how the gospel spread rapidly from Jerusalem to the whole Roman Empire, and from its Jewish roots to the Gentile world.



The Book of Acts – dated 1644

BOOK OF ACTS

Author	Luke, the Doctor																			
Time	2 yrs - 33-35 AD ca.				14 yrs - 35-48 AD ca.				17 or 19 yrs - 48-65 or 67 AD ca.											
	FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH										FOUNDER OF CHURCHES									
Sections	Spirit of the Church		Growth of the Church		Persecution of the Church		Expansion of the Church		First Journey of Paul		Second Journey of Paul		Third Journey of Paul		Arrest of Paul		Trials of Paul		Imprisonment of Paul	
Chapters	1	4	5	7	8	9	10	12	13	15	16	18	19	20	21	23	24	26	27	28
Topics	Peter				Peter & Philip				Paul											
	To the Jews				To the Gentiles in/around Israel				To the Gentiles outside Israel											
Place	Jerusalem				Judea & Samaria				Uttermost Parts of the Roman Empire											

Pentecost

- Jewish Holiday – Feast of Harvest / Feast of Weeks
 - celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest
- First fruits Celebration → 50 days → Pentecost
- (celebrated) 50 days after Easter
- The Feast of Shavuot commemorates the anniversary of the day when God gave the Torah to the Hebrews at Mount Sinai.

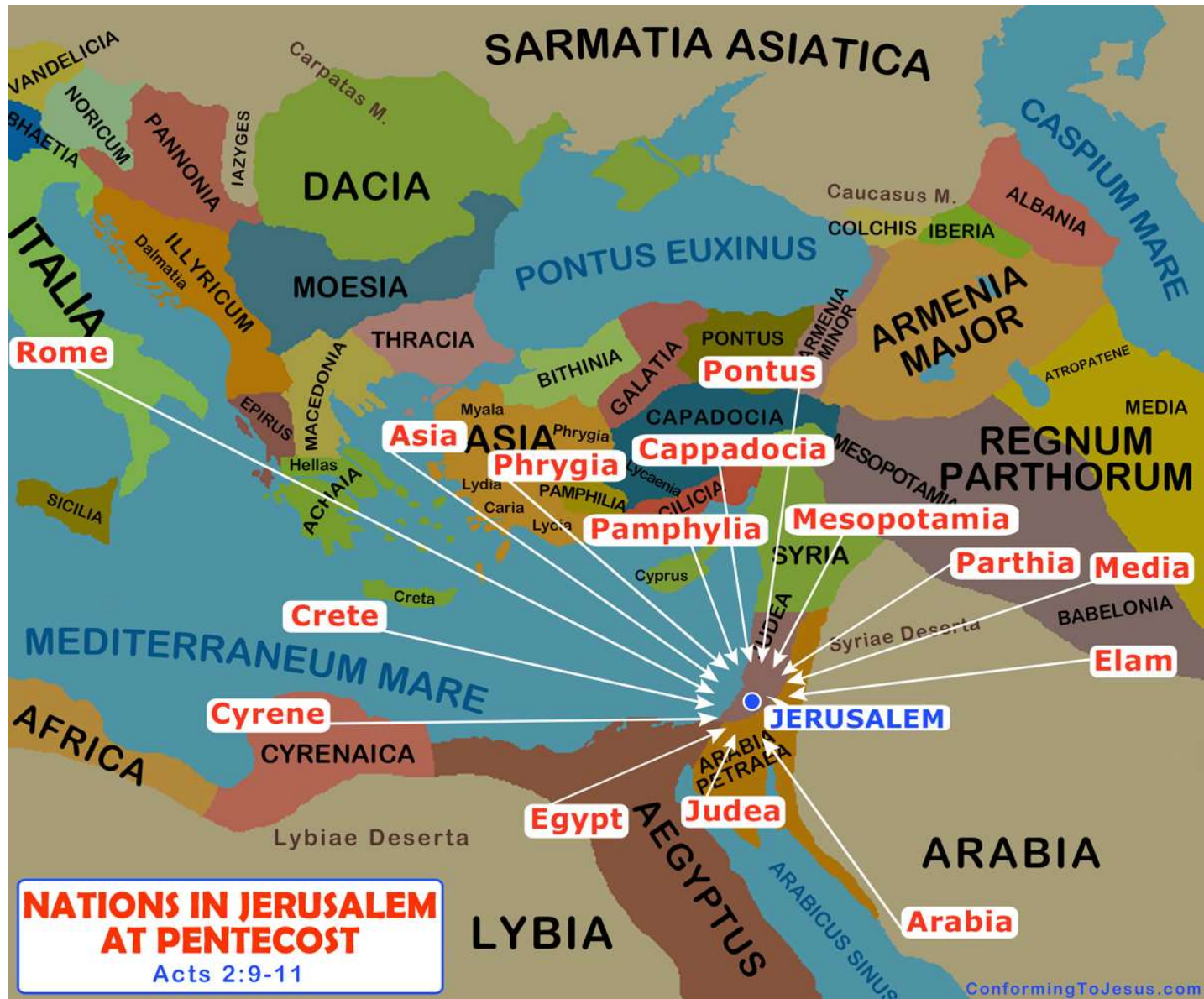
Pentecost

- One of the '3 big Jewish Holidays' – Passover & Feast of Tabernacles / Booths
- Holy Spirit descends on/in the Apostles in Jerusalem (while celebrating the Festival of Weeks – first fruits)
- Jesus → fulfillment of Passover
Holy Spirit → fulfillment of Pentecost

Pasqua rosatum

In Italy it was customary to scatter rose petals from the ceiling of the churches to recall the miracle of the fiery tongues






Acts 8 - Philip



Acts 8 - Philip

The Spirit takes Philip away. The verb here for being caught up ἁρπάζω (harpazō), appears twice in Acts (in Acts 23:10 Paul is taken away from a scene to protect him) and twelve other times in the New Testament (Matthew 11:12, 12:29, 13:19; John 6:15, 10:11-13, 27-29 [2x]; II Corinthians 12:2-4 [2x; Paul caught up into the third heaven]; I Thessalonians 4:15-17 [saints being caught up in the air]; Jude 1:22-23; Revelation 12:5). His instant removal makes clearer still that God is at work. It recalls Jesus' removal in Luke 24:31. Like Elisha, Philip is directed in ministry (I Kings 18:12, 46; II Kings 2:16 [a similar taking up]; similarly 11:24). (Bock, Acts (Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament), 345-46)



We often hear,
Life is short... better
enjoy it"!

How about,
"Eternity is long, better
prepare for it"!

Ministry of the Apostles
by Fyodor Zubov
1660

