

ACTS

2. MINISTRY IN JERUSALEM: Acts 3-7

STUDY AHEAD

Luke narrates the movement of the gospel in stages (see 1:8). In the first stage, we see the “acts” of the apostles (and other believers) in Jerusalem, where they encountered much opposition.

Acts 3 – Peter healed a man at the Temple. Then he gave his 2nd sermon. What did he accuse the people of (3:13-16)? Note how this parallel what he said in his 1st sermon (2:23). Peter invited them to do what (3:19,20)?

Acts 4 – The number of disciples was growing rapidly. How many were there in Acts 1:15? In Acts 2:41? In Acts 4:4?

Peter preached his 3rd sermon, this time in front of the same authorities that had killed Jesus. Read what he told them (4:8-12).

The apostles were told to stop talking about Jesus. How did they respond (4:19,20)? The believers were gathered in prayer for the apostles (4:23-31). What did they ask for (4:29,30)? How did God answer (4:31)?

Luke gives another summary (4:32-37). What is the emphasis in this summary?

Acts 5 – Ananias and Sapphira lied about their financial contribution. Why was this such a big deal? Why was God’s judgment on them so severe?

Luke provides another summary (5:12-16). What is emphasized?

The apostles were jailed and forced to stand before the authorities again (5:17-42). What did Gamaliel counsel his peers to do (5:33-39)? Note: Gamaliel was the teacher of another key player in the story. Who was his student (Acts 22:3)?

Acts 6 – The growing numbers forced the leaders to share responsibility with other capable leaders. How did they divide up the work load (6:1-7)?

Stephen’s *position* was deacon; but what was his *gifting* (6:8-10)?

Acts 7 – Read Stephen’s incredible sermon/history defending his faith to his fellow Jewish countrymen. What did he do as he died? Who guarded the cloaks of his executioners (7:54-60)?

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