

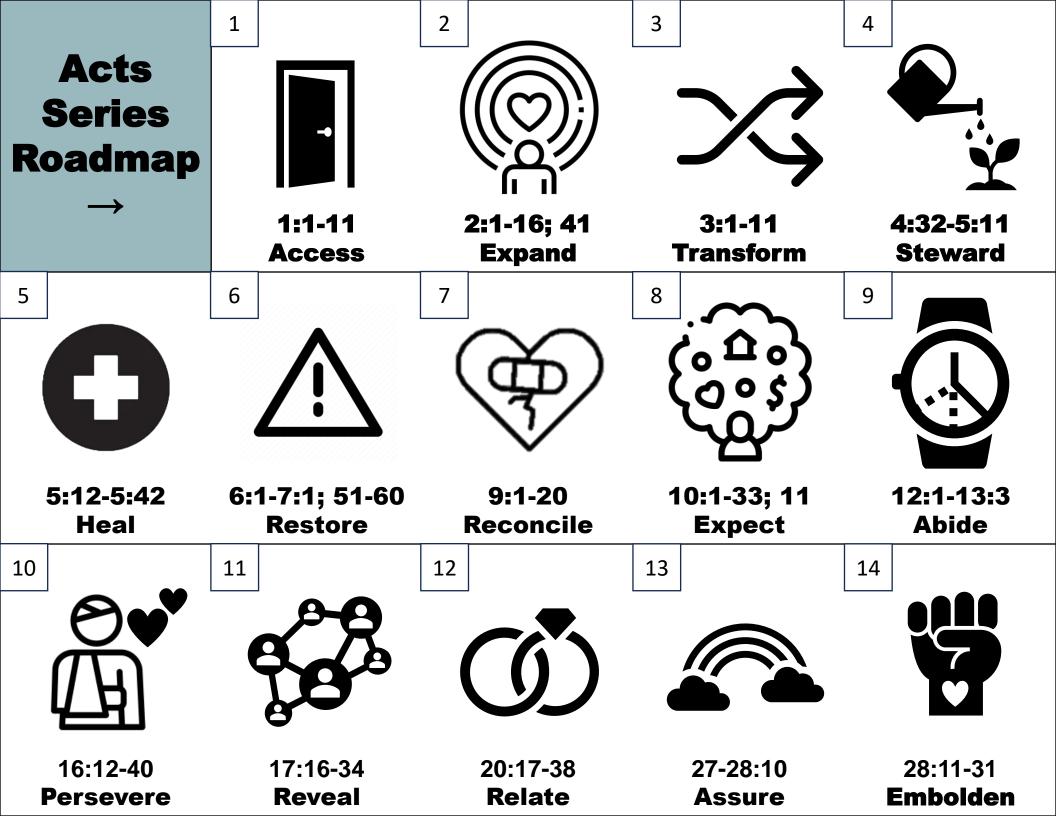
May 21st 2023 - August 20th 2023

Red Hills Church

Series Summary

Through our study of Acts we observed how the ascension introduced a new paradigm for experiencing God's transformative presence. While Christ incarnate may have departed in a material sense, the gift of His Spirit invited us to let Him permeate every corner of our lives. Luke shared accounts of individuals being intimately changed by the Spirit, but we also saw the external ripples which followed these encounters: men and women working fervently to extend God's love within their contexts. Not from their own power or love, but by the love through which they first received. This is the pattern which is repeated throughout Acts, where we see God's faithfulness steward His mission forward, adorning those who abide in Him with peace and assurance that He is carrying out a good work. It is through this frame where we find ourselves emboldened – not by anything that we may or may not have

done, but by the knowledge of what He did (and is doing) for us.



Sermon Main Points

- 1. The ascension of Christ enables the presence of God to go from one place in Jesus, to all places in us.
- 2. Spirit empowerment is encountering God's presence and extending His love to others within our context.
- 3. Everyday, the promise of Christ invites us into a position where we can experience transformation.
- 4. When you commit to the Christian life, you become the steward of what was always God's in the first place.
- 5. Christ desires to see healing in this world, and when we abide in Him, He calls us to desire the same.
- 6. Often fear may inspire us to pursue preservation, but faith challenges us to desire restoration.
- 7. Christian love is characterized by repentance, regeneration, and reconciliation.
- 8. Faithful expectancy is believing that God will do great things, without a need to know "what", "how" or "when".
- 9. Trust in Christ allows us to abandon our anxiety of the future, and abide in the empowering peace of the present.
- 10. The challenge of our missional work is preserving a heart of prayer and praise in the face of severe hardship.
- 11. Evangelism is introducing/revealing Christ's ongoing work of redemption within our context.
- 12. Saying "yes" to Christ means saying yes to His mission: leading people to know His love.
- 13. We can find assurance in any circumstance by recalling the arc of God's faithfulness.
- 14. In the Kingdom of Heaven, boldness is born out of love: it expects renewal, acts in urgency, and cultivates gratitude.

- Timothy Keller, <u>"The Ascension" April 29th, 2020</u>
- Dramilla & Tertin, <u>"Why Does the Ascension of Jesus Matter?" The Bible Project</u>
- Dr. Kara Powell, <u>ChurchPulse Podcast 071</u>
- C.S. Lewis, <u>The Weight of Glory</u>
- <u>2 Maccabees 5</u>
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, <u>The Cost of Discipleship</u>, Ch. 13
- Padre Pio, <u>On Suffering</u>
- Dr. Amy Oden, <u>Right Here Right Now Ch. 1</u>
- Same Jesus, Episode 2: Kingdom
- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity Book III.10
- Mark Sayers, Disappearing Church, Ch. 6
- William J. Larkin Jr., Acts Commentary, pg. 388
- Craig Keener, <u>Acts: An Exegetical Commentary, Vol. 1</u>

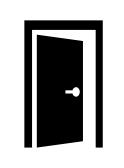
"Bible Basin" Explainer Video -Viewing the Bible as One Story PROPHECY GOSE

Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (1)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez May 21st, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 1:1-11 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

The ascension of Christ enables the presence of God to go from one place in Jesus, to all places in us.



- The ascension of Jesus establishes a doorway between Heaven and Earth. (<u>17:12</u>)
- Jesus has already saved the world, but you are his plan to continue healing it. (25:18)
- If your greatest fear came true, your mission on the Earth would still not change. (<u>28:40</u>)
- We contend for the kingdom, but we don't lose hope when leaders fail. We walk in love. (<u>33:00</u>)

References and Additional Reading:

- Timothy Keller, <u>"The Ascension" April 29th, 2020</u>
- Dramilla & Tertin, <u>"Why Does the Ascension of</u> Jesus Matter?" The Bible Project

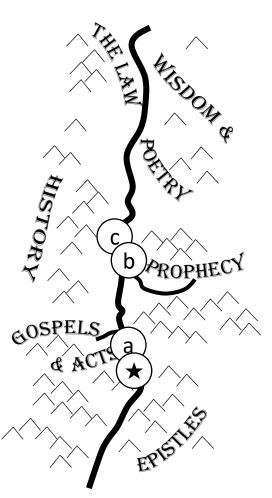
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage serves as the opening to the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Acts makes a point to illustrate that the faithfulness God extended to Israel is now being extended to the building up of His global church.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.1-5 preface connecting Acts to the end of Luke's Gospel
- 2. v.6-7 The question of the Kingdom
- 3. v.8 The command to be witnesses
- 4. v.9-11 The ascension of Jesus

- a) John 16 (<u>4:46</u>)
- b) Dan 7 (<u>14:00</u>)
- c) Ezek 28 (<u>16:05</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (2)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez May 28th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 2:1-16;41 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Spirit empowerment is encountering God's presence, and extending His love to others within our context.



- The spirit of God is not just some thing you can conjure, the spirit of God is God Himself. (<u>11:02</u>)
- We continue Abraham's mission: God wants us to bless the world through His spirit. (<u>19:33</u>)
- Fear pushes us to believe that we need to anxiously try to make God's mission happen when Christ's love invites us to wait for Him. (<u>21:15</u>)
- Be a witness to the love of God in your own life before you try to witness to someone else. (25:26)

References and Additional Reading:

• Dr. Kara Powell, ChurchPulse Podcast 071

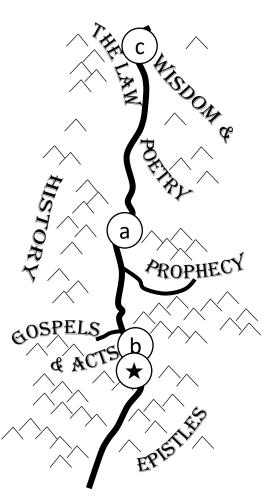
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the beginning of the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Acts makes a point to illustrate that the faithfulness God extended to Israel is now being extended to the building up of His global church.

Passage Outline:

- 1. V.1-4 The coming of the Spirit
- 2. V.5-13 The witness of tongues
- **3. V.14-16** Peter's defense of Joel's prophecy
- **4. V.41** The response to the message and the expansion of the church

- a) Isa 6 (<u>11:51</u>)
- b) Luke 22 (<u>13:21</u>)
- c) Gen 11 (<u>14:00</u>)

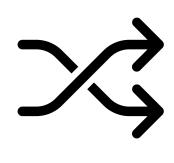


Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (3)

Red Hills Church – Immanuel Garraway June 4th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 3:1-11 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Everyday, the promise of Christ invites us into a position where we can experience transformation.



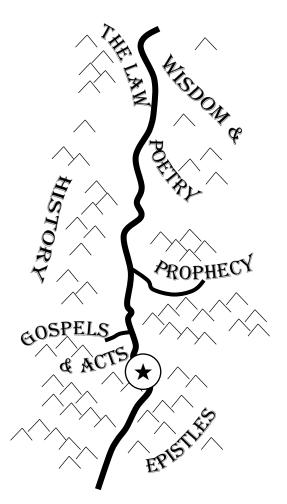
- Whether you are encouraged or enabled, in Christ you are positioned to be transformed. (22:29)
- Our focus needs to shift away from transactions, and towards real life-change. (28:56)
- The Lord always gives what we need, but he also meets you in relationship. He sees you. (<u>31:27</u>)
- Don't let go too quickly. Stay connected to the supports that transform you. (<u>33:24</u>)
- The change in your life isn't just for you, it is for everyone around you who witnesses it. (<u>36:52</u>)

How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found within the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Here we observe the first detailed miracle in Acts, garnering attention to their ministry, but soon inviting conflict from the Jewish leaders in chapters 3-5.

Passage Outline:

- **1. v.1-3** Peter and John encounter a lame man on the way to worship
- 2. v.4-5 Peter draws the man's attention to them
- **3. v.6** Peter proclaims the power of Christ
- 4. v.7-8 The man is healed and leaps in praise
- **5. v.9-11** Witnesses are astonished by the man's healing



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (4)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez June 11th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 4:32-5:11 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

When you commit to the Christian life, you become the steward of what was always God's in the first place



- How we steward a person's worship to God can be an incredible tool or a devastating weapon. (8:01)
- The Holy Spirit moves us from insecurity to trust, from ownership to stewardship, from possessiveness to generosity. (20:12)
- At the heart of holiness is generosity and justice for the poor and the oppressed. (<u>24:16</u>)
- The fault of Ananias and Sapphira is that they approached the presence of God with deception in their hearts and not reverence. (<u>30:40</u>)
- If we are asking ourselves what the bare minimum of financial sacrifices required to worship, then we've completely missed the point. (<u>34:28</u>)

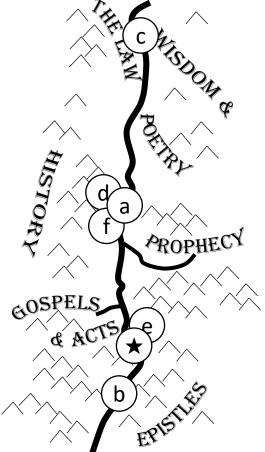
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found within the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Here we observe the first detailed corruption within the church. The correction happens amidst growing scrutiny from the Jewish leaders in chapters 3-5.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.33-35 A precedent for communal giving
- 2. v.36-37 Barnabas gives freely and fully
- 3. v.1-2 Ananias plots a deception of greed
- 4. v.3-11 God's accountability of His new community.

- a) Isa 58 (<u>23:45</u>)
- b) James 2 (<u>25:24</u>)
- **c) Ex 33** (<u>29:00</u>)
- d) Isa 6 (<u>29:15</u>)
- e) John 15 (<u>30:00</u>)
- f) 2 Chron 7 (<u>36:24</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (5)

Red Hills Church – Brett Kindberg June 18th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 5:12-5:42 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Christ desires to see healing in this world, and when we abide in Him He calls us to desire the same.



- What was Jesus' plan became the plan of the church. We became the Body of Christ. (<u>10:49</u>)
- Do not seek to expose the brokenness around you, instead seek healing, life, and peace for the brokenness in you, (27:00)
- The intent of the scriptures is not to convict others. It is To convict you, where you are at. (<u>28:27</u>)
- Obedience is simply hearing the word of God and acting on it. (<u>31:37</u>)
- Obedience reaches beyond the healing of one's self and reaches towards the healing of the broken world we live in. (<u>32:36</u>)

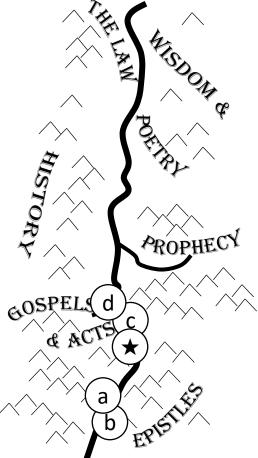
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found within the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Here we observe how healing increases the credibility of the Church. Specifically, amidst great scrutiny from the Jewish leaders in chapters 3-5.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.12-16 The Apostles heal many
- 2. v.16-24 Apostles are freed for a mission
- 3. v.25-28 Persecution from the Pharisees
- 4. v.29-33 Proclamation of obedience
- 5. v.34-39 The verdict
- 6. v.40-41 The joy of the Gospel reigns

- a) 2 Cor 2 (<u>7:30</u>)
- b) 1 Pet 1 (<u>7:30</u>)
- c) Luke 4 (<u>9:45</u>)
- d) Matt 10 (29:41)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (6)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez June 25th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 6:1-7:1; 51-60 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Often fear may inspire us to pursue preservation, but faith challenges us to desire restoration



- When we work for union with God rather than from union with God, we find frustration. (7:39)
- Proximity to the truth hardens the hearts of the proud and transforms the hearts of the humble. (<u>14:48</u> / <u>23:22</u>)
- Worship of God should not become our God. (18:53)
- Fear can temporarily keep you alive, but only God's love allows you to flourish for eternity. (23:36)
- What would it look like for us to stop villainizing, stop victimizing, stop heroizing and started doing the work of reconciliation? (<u>38:39</u>)

References and Additional Reading:

• C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory

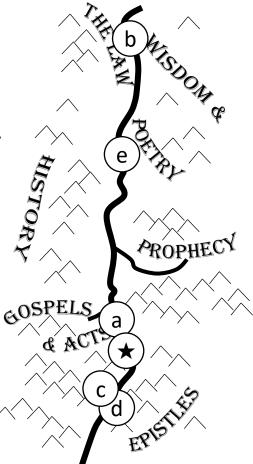
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. This passage chronicles how the church overcame early obstacles (dissension, and persecution). Despite these challenges, the church continues to grow.

Passage Outline:

- 1. V.1-7 The church responds to the needs of its people
- 2. V.8-1 Stephen is seized for his ministry
- **3. V.51-53** Stephen's condemnation of the Jewish leaders
- 4. V.54-60 The martyrdom of Stephen

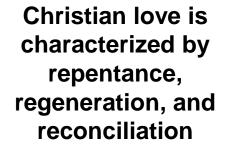
- a) Matt 7 (<u>14:34</u>)
- **b)** Ex 34 (<u>17:05</u>)
- **c)** Eph 6 (<u>27:05</u>)
- d) Col 3 (<u>28:02</u>)
- e) Ps 139 (<u>40:54</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (7)

Red Hills Church – James Busch July 2nd, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 9:1-20 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.





- God can and will truly impact the life of anyone to make them a vessel for his kingdom. (8:52)
- To be a follower of Jesus means that we will face hardship and persecution from those that oppose Him. (<u>12:01</u>)
- We are called to love rather than respond out of frustration, anger, hatred or fear. (<u>14:19</u>)
- By saying, "Here I am, Lord" we can help those that are lost be found. (<u>33:17</u>)

References and Additional Reading:

- <u>2 Maccabees 5</u>
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, <u>The Cost of Discipleship, Ch. 13</u>

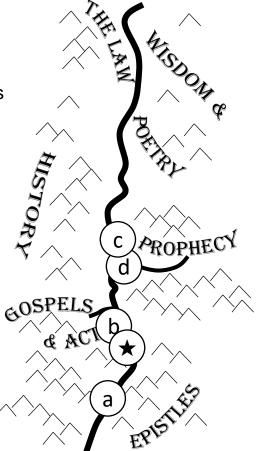
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. The conversion of Saul marks the end of witnessing to Judea and Samaria (ch.6-9), and the beginning of the witness made to "the ends of the earth" (ch.9-28).

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.1-2 Saul seeks to persecute the church
- 2. v.3-6 Saul encounters the Lord
- 3. v.7-9 Saul is blinded and fasts
- 4. v.10-16 The Lord directs Ananias
- 5. v.17-20 Saul is healed and is baptized

- a) Phil 3 (<u>9:26</u>)
- b) John 15 (<u>13:16</u>)
- c) Ezek 3 (<u>18:04</u>)
- d) Dan 10 (<u>18:04</u>)

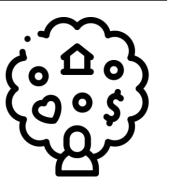


Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (8)

Red Hills Church – Tim Clark July 9th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 10:1-33; 11 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Faithful expectancy is believing that God will do great things, without a need to know "what", "how" or "when"



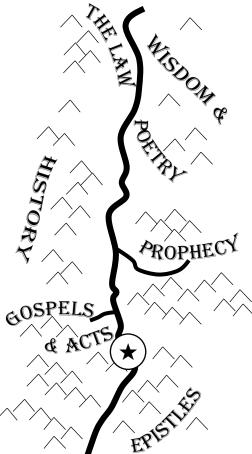
- Expectancy positions us for great things. (<u>11:36</u>)
- Expectation can result in undesired outcomes, where expectancy can result in unexpected answers. (<u>15:01</u>)
- Expectation focuses on you, where expectancy focuses on Him. (24:00)
- Invite an attitude of expectancy, to pray with open hands and believe that God knows better than we do. (<u>25:29</u>)
- Are you ready to obey the Lord if what He wants messes up your expectations? (<u>29:43</u>)

How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. The conversion of Cornelius serves as the beginning of the ministry to the Gentiles, illustrating a pivotal point where Israel's redemptive story radically expands.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.1-8 Cornelius' vision
- 2. v.9-16 Peter's vision
- 3. v.19-23 Peter encounters the messengers
- 4. v.24-33 Peter visits Cornelius
- 5. v.34-43 Peter shares the Gospel
- 6. v.44-48 The Spirit falls on the Gentiles
- 7. v.1-18 Jerusalem's response
- 8. v.19-30 The initiative / of the Antioch church



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (9)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez July 16th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 12:1-13:3 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Trust in Christ allows us to abandon our anxiety of the future, and abide in the empowering peace of the present



- The hope of Jesus is not to give us more control, but rather to give us more trust. (22:24)
- Sin has always been as evil and as horrible as it is always. It's just finding new and unique places to thrive in human brokenness. (<u>25:07</u>)
- We can trust in Jesus both for peace in our anxiety and for justice in our world. (<u>32:15</u>)
- Our ability to experience peace and joy is directly correlated to our trust in Jesus. (<u>32:45</u>)

References and Additional Reading:

- Padre Pio, On Suffering
- Dr. Amy Oden, Right Here Right Now Ch. 1

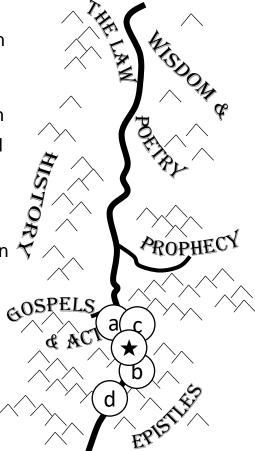
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. A key theme introduced in the account of James' death and Peter's liberation is God's commitment to preserve His church amidst persecution.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.1-4 The persecution of King Herod
- 2. v.5 The prayerful posture of the Church
- 3. v.6-18 The vision and liberation of Peter
- 4. v.19-23 The divine judgement of Herod
- 5. v. 24-3 The expansion A of the Gospel

- a) Mark 8 (<u>13:42</u>)
- b) Rom 12 (<u>19:04</u>)
- c) Mark 12 (<u>28:20</u>)
- d) Phil 4 (<u>33:36</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (10)

Red Hills Church – Kate Swanson July 23rd, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 16:12-40 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

The challenge of our missional work is preserving a heart of prayer and praise in the face of severe hardship



- We are called to the divine work of sharing the gospel, being resilient in our devotion to Christ and assuming a continual posture of worship. (8:54)
- Pursue those ready to receive (<u>23:15</u>), carry the gospel with integrity and authenticity (<u>25:30</u>), and remember that broken bodies still carry living words. (<u>26:45</u>)
- Whether you are walking through the darkness, or you have walked out of the darkness, you can still lift a song of worship to the Lord. (<u>28:42</u>)
- You are a child of God, you are chosen, and you are made to carry living words. (29:16)

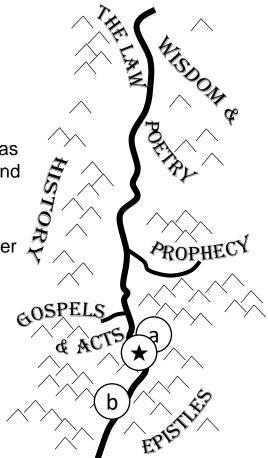
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. In Acts 16-19 we observe Paul's ministry efforts along the Aegean coast, encountering people from Philippi, Thessalonica, Athens, Corinth, and Ephesus.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.12-15 Lydia's conversion
- 2. v.16-18 A slave woman's liberation
- **3. v.19-24** Paul and Silas face imprisonment and deliverance
- **4. v.27-30** The jailer's unexpected encounter
- 5. v.31-34 The jailer's response of faith
- 6. v.35-40 Paul affirms his rights

- a) Acts 1 (<u>6:58</u>)
- b) Gal 3 (<u>8:08</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (11)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez July 30th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 17:16-34 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Evangelism is introducing/revealing Christ's ongoing work of redemption within our context



- In people's minds, Christianity has less to do with Jesus and more to do with how we become like church people. (<u>9:07</u>)
- When we center Jesus, we discover a way of life that transcends and confounds ideologies of our dominant culture. (21:37)
- We're not to be defensive, trying to protect our way of life. We're on the offensive bringing the light of Jesus to people, highlighting his fingerprints in ways that he's already at work in their lives. (<u>33:59</u>)

References and Additional Reading:

- Same Jesus, Episode 2: Kingdom
- C.S. Lewis, <u>Mere Christianity Book III.10</u>

How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. In Paul's address to the Athenians, we observe Paul's first ministry towards Pegan Greeks. His appeal to general revelation is expanded on further in Romans.

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Passage Outline:

- 1. v.16-17 Paul's proactive response
- 2. v.18-21 The inquiry of the Athenian's
- 3. v.22-23 Paul's contextual awareness
- 4. v.24-28 Paul's appeal to general revelation
- 5. v. 29-31 Paul's call to action
- 6. v.32-34 The varied fruits of Paul's efforts

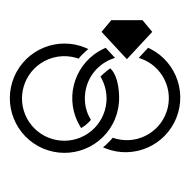
- a) 1 Cor 9 (<u>28:33</u>)
- b) 1 Cor 7 (<u>30:00</u>)

Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (12)

Red Hills Church – Brett Kindberg August 6th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 20:17-38 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

Saying "yes" to Christ means saying yes to His mission: leading people to know His love



- We all have an opportunity to impact lives that we come in contact with, whether it be our neighbors, our family, our coworkers, or our classmates. You have influence in somebody's life. (<u>15:21</u>)
- The good news is not just that we were saved for an eternity. The good news is we can have relationship with Jesus here on this earth. (21:23)
- Recognize that every decision we make represents Christ. (<u>23:14</u>)
- As you look at your family, your neighbors, your community that surrounds you, will you take up the call and say, "I do"? Enter relationship and share the gospel of the Good News. (<u>28:25</u>)

How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

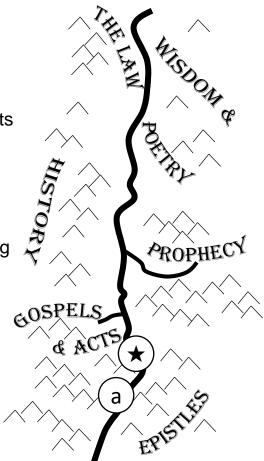
This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Acts 20 is unique because we observe a structure which parallels Paul's New Testament letters. Somewhat surprisingly, this is the only such instance in Acts.

Passage Outline:

- **1. v.17** Paul sends for the leaders of Ephesus
- 2. v.18-21 Paul accounts his legacy
- **3. v.25-31** Paul's warnings and exhortations
- 4. v.32-35 Paul's closing comments
- **5. v.36-38** Paul's departure from Ephesus

Other Scriptures:

a) Eph 5 (<u>18:58</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (13)

Red Hills Church – Steve Mitchell August 13th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 27-28:10 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

We can find assurance in any circumstance by recalling the arc of God's faithfulness



- The story of the Bible is a story from going from a garden to a city (<u>7:39</u>)
- If you know Jesus and believe that your journey is framed by His, then life makes sense. With Jesus, our stories can be filled with peace and hope even during the worst kind of storms. (<u>11:04</u>)
- We come to know God's faithfulness where the circumstances of our journey intersect the arc of His journey... we get to see His character and the way in which he cares for us along the way (<u>14:43</u>)
- We cannot tell for sure where it's going, except for an assurance that that wind, the Spirit, will always blow along that line from Garden to City. (<u>19:35</u>)

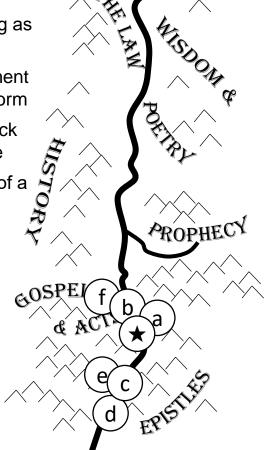
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Paul's journey towards Rome demonstrates God's enduring faithfulness. Luke's approach appears to be reminiscent of Jonah's journey to reach the lost.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.1-12 Paul's warning as he sails for Rome
- 2. v.13-26 Encouragement offered during the storm
- 3. v.27-44 The shipwreck and their deliverance
- **4. v1-6** Paul's survival of a viper bite in Malta
- 5. v7-10 Paul's healing

- a) Acts 23 (<u>13:58</u>)
- b) John 3 (<u>17:51</u>)
- c) 1 Cor 15 (27:16)
- d) 1 John 1 (<u>30:03</u>)
- e) 1 Cor 11 (<u>32:36</u>)
- f) Mark 10 (<u>35:05</u>)



Our Origin Story: Journeying Through The Book of Acts (14)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez August 20th, 2023

An Exposition of Acts 28:11-31 An exposition is an attempt to understand a specific passage in detail.

In the Kingdom of Heaven, boldness is born out of love: it expects renewal, acts in urgency, and cultivates gratitude



- Our faith is not about an ideology or philosophy. It's about loving union with God. (<u>9:32</u>)
- The Kingdom of Heaven is not something that we need to anxiously protect. (<u>21:25</u>)
- Pride is an insecure attempt to qualify the self.
 Boldness is a confidence which comes from a power beyond myself. (<u>24:58</u>)
- We are called to the cruciform, cross shaped life which loves sacrificially. (<u>28:49</u>)

References and Additional Reading:

- Mark Sayers, Disappearing Church, Ch. 6
- William J. Larkin Jr., Acts Commentary, pg. 388
- Craig Keener, Acts: An Exegetical Commentary, Vol. 1

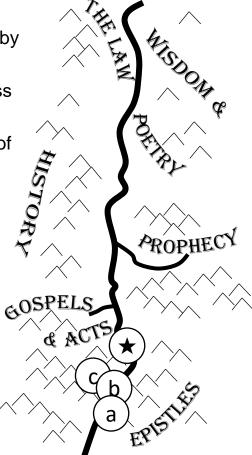
How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

This passage closes the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. Paul's arrival to Rome is the climax of the Acts narrative. The fact that his message preceded him was a testament to both God's and Paul's faithfulness.

Passage Outline:

- 1. v.11-16 Paul greeted by believers in Rome
- 2. v.17-20 Paul's address to the Jewish leaders
- 3. v.21-24 The delivery of a divisive message
- 4. v.25-29 A final exhortation
- 5. v.30-31 Paul's bold ministry continues

- a) 2 Tim 4 (<u>21:01</u>)
- b) Phil 4 (<u>28:33</u>)
- c) Phil 1 (<u>32:44</u>)



These sermon notes are continually evolving. If you have suggestions for improvement, <u>please share them here</u>!