

# The Book of Acts

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## Essay Questions

LESSON  
ONE

## THE BACKGROUND OF ACTS



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## Essay Questions

1. Discuss the explicit and implicit evidence from the Gospel of Luke that strongly suggests that one person wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts.
2. Discuss the historical evidence from the early church that supports the view that the same person wrote the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts.

3. Which clues can we gain from the New Testament about the author of Acts? How do these clues support the idea that Luke wrote the book of Acts?

4. What evidence suggests that the book of Acts was written after A.D. 70? What evidence suggests it was written before A.D. 70?

5. Describe the original audiences of the book of Acts.

6. Describe the social context of Acts in terms that include a discussion of (1) the Roman Empire and (2) the relationship between the church and the Jews.

7. Demonstrate that Luke's theological perspectives were grounded in the Old Testament's view of history in general and its view of of Israel's history in particular.

8. Compare and contrast the Christian view of the messianic kingdom of God with the views of contemporary Jewish theology and with the view of John the Baptist.

9. How does the theology of the kingdom of God in Luke's gospel prepare us to understand the message of Acts? In your answer, give particular attention to the roles of Jesus and of the apostles.

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## Essay Questions

LESSON  
TWO

## THE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF ACTS



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## Essay Questions

1. What was Luke's twofold purpose for writing the book of Acts? How should this purpose impact our reading of Acts?
2. How and why did Luke use authoritative words and deeds to persuade his readers of the truth of his accounts?





5. Discuss and give examples of internal growth and tension, and external growth and opposition that took place in Judea and Samaria.

6. Discuss and give examples of internal growth and tension, and external growth and opposition that took place at the “ends of the earth,” as it was known in that day.

7. When we make modern application of Luke's message in Acts, why should we take into account the kind of literature Acts is?

8. What discontinuities exist between Luke's original audience and us? How do these affect the way we apply Acts in the modern world?

9. What continuities exist between Luke's original audience and us? How do these affect?

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## Essay Questions

LESSON  
THREE

## MAJOR THEMES OF ACTS



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5. Discuss the authority of the apostles in terms of their function, God's blessings on their ministries, the miracles they performed, and the revelation they received and provided.
6. Discuss the varied strategies and settings of the apostles and their followers as they witnessed to Christ throughout the world.



