

It is Hard to
Carry Out the
Great
Commission
if You Stay at
Home...

**Introduction to The Acts of the Ascended Jesus Christ and
The Acts of the Holy Spirit Using the Apostles and Other
Early Church Leaders
Curt Golike of Teach the Story Ministry in Golden, CO**

**The Great Commission is Tough to Carry Out, if You Stay
At Home (Acts Chapters 1-7 is at Home!)**

Some Themes for the Entire Book

Nov 12

Acts 8:1 – 15:35

**Necessary Transitions in Ministry to Carry Out the Great
Commission**

19

Acts 15:36 – 19:22

Paul on Two More Missions

26

Acts 19:23-28:31

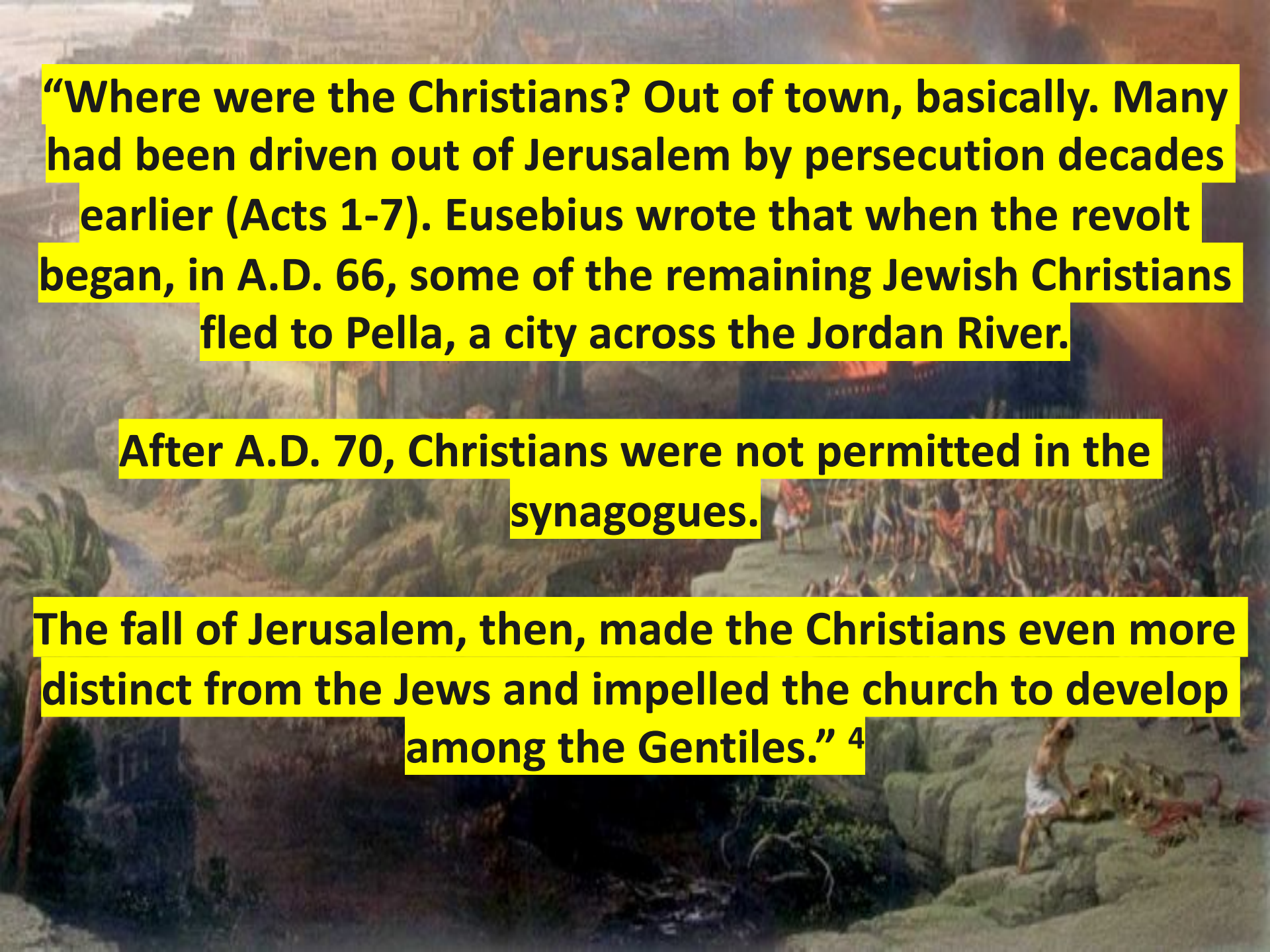
**Paul on Mission in Chains, But Free to Share Under
Roman Protection**

Dec 3

Acts 28:30-31

A Sudden Ending and Segways to Epistles

Dec 10



“Where were the Christians? Out of town, basically. Many had been driven out of Jerusalem by persecution decades earlier (Acts 1-7). Eusebius wrote that when the revolt began, in A.D. 66, some of the remaining Jewish Christians fled to Pella, a city across the Jordan River.

After A.D. 70, Christians were not permitted in the synagogues.

The fall of Jerusalem, then, made the Christians even more distinct from the Jews and impelled the church to develop among the Gentiles.”⁴

The Mission of the Church
Scope and Strategy

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

The Power and the Tactical Plan
For the Church to Carry out her Mission – as
the Bride of Christ

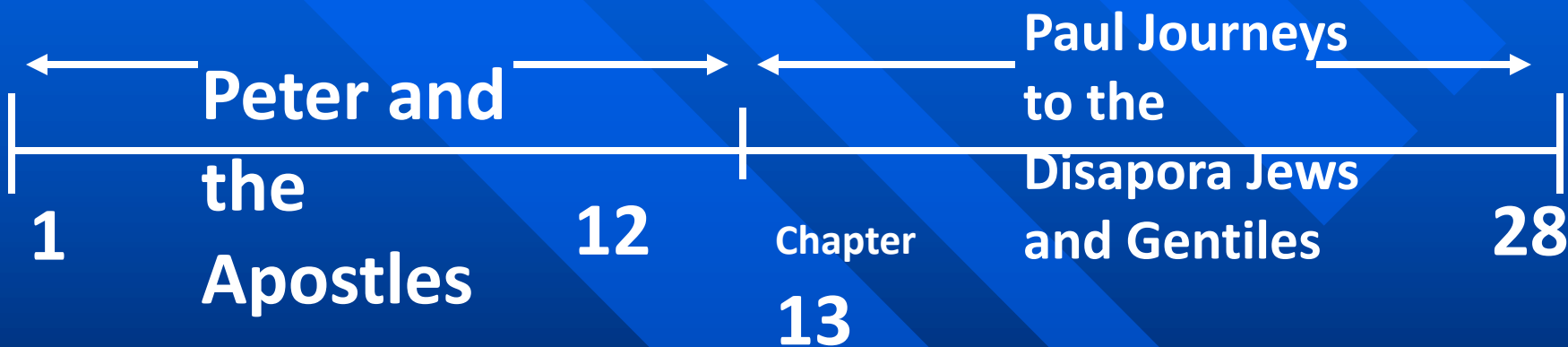
“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem (chapters 1-7), and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

Acts is All Fast Paced As The Church Expands, and the New Covenant Of Christ's Blood Takes Effect

Home Church:
Jerusalem...

Home Church
Antioch...



Resolving the Samaritan Problem and 1st Reach to the Close-in Gentiles

Moving out to Asia Minor Europe and the Capital - Rome

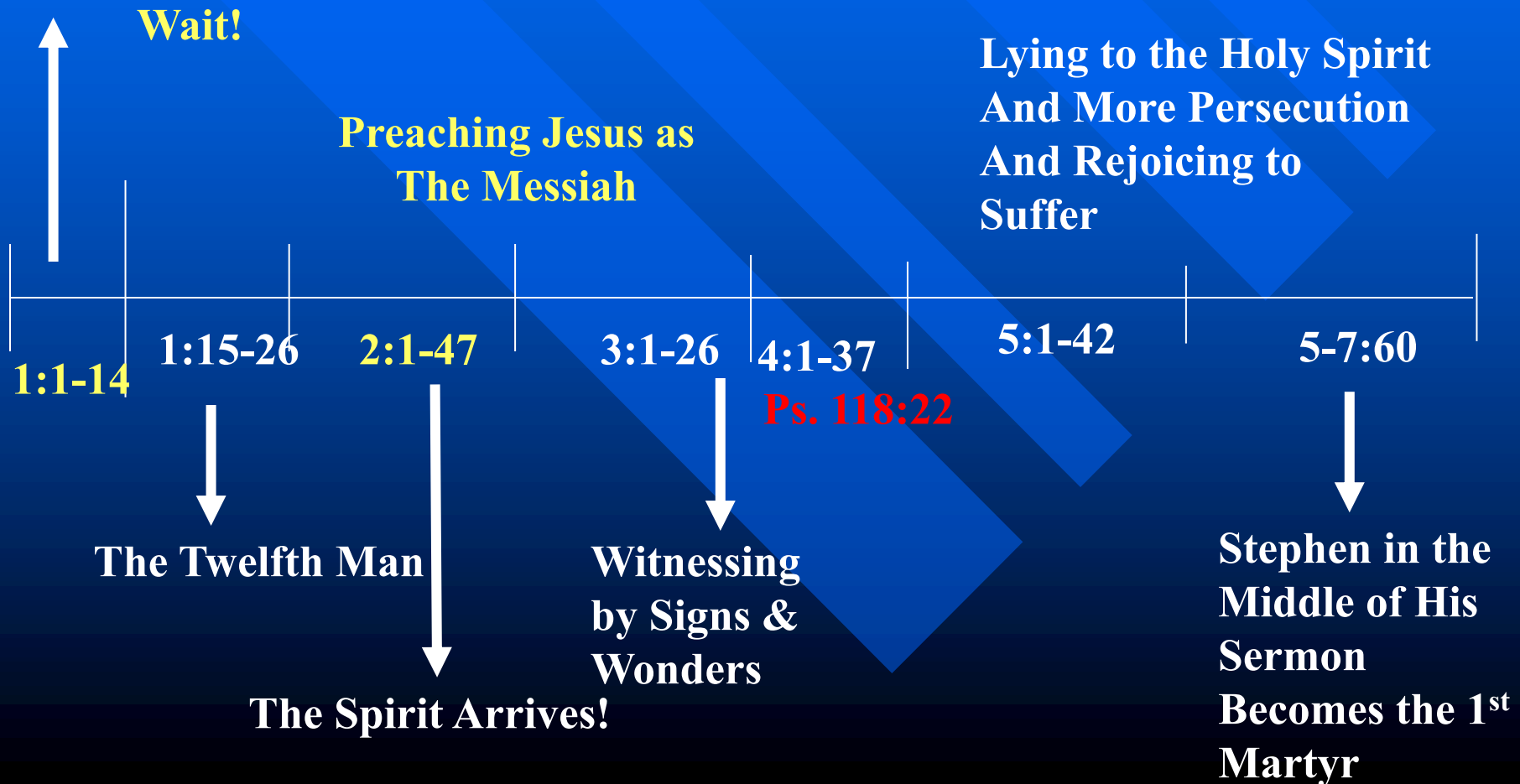
What is Acts?

A Bridge -

- In the NT, taking us from the earthly ministry of Jesus, to the heavenly ministry of Jesus as He works through the Spirit,
- Between Old Covenant Believers (Primarily Jews) and New Covenant Believers (includes believing Gentiles) - He pours out His Spirit on these folks,
- To the Church of Jesus Christ in this age; the Holy Spirit will bring folks to Unity of Faith, as the bride of Christ.
- From Judea to Rome, the seat of Roman power...

The Structure of Acts 1-7, "First in Jerusalem"

Jesus Ascension & Carry Out Step 1 Ministry in or near Jerusalem.....



Key Themes in Acts 1-7

- Jesus is the Messiah, and
- Believers in His name now receive the promised, gift of the Holy Spirit,
- Baptism of the Holy Spirit Set Apart from John's Baptism through Christ's atoning work,
- Other Distinctive Themes-
 - The Boldness of the Disciples because of the Holy Spirit's presence in their lives, "We should obey God rather than men" The appeal to God's judgement rather than men's, and the Holy Spirit as witness (4:19; 5:32).
 - Sharing of Worldly possessions in the face of persecution unifies the church.
 - **Joy of the Holy Spirit's Infilling in the Life of the Apostles and Early Believers (Compare to Jesus – Luke 10:21)**



Team Work!

Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

Acts 1:1-4

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

The Ministering Works of the Holy Spirit in the Life of the Believer

Baptism

- **I Cor. 12:13**
- **Joins us to Christ,**
- **Is the Basis for Victory over sin in the Christian life**
- **Frequently confused with filling**

Indwelling

- I Cor. 6:19
- Is a Gift to brings the presence of God into the life of the believer
- It is permanent and gives the believer **eternal securtiy**
- Sin effects filling and not indwelling

Sealing

- II Cor. 1:22
- No believer no matter how carnal is excepted from the sealing ministry
- Believing and Sealing go together
- The overall thrust of the Biblical concept is also Securtiy for the believer
- His seal keeps us until the day of redemption

Regenerating

- Titus 3:5; Jn. 1:13; 3:3-7; I Pe. 1:23;
- The act of God, which imparts eternal life, in response to **faith** – the two (faith and regeneration) occur simultaneously
- It is not a process, but is instantaneous
- It brings a new nature (See Spiritual gifts – Gal. 5:22-23)

Infilling

- Eph. 5:18; Rom. 12:1-2
- A Command of continuous action is the basis for maturity of the believer.
- Results in Control by the Spirit, the opposite is control by the flesh.
- Repeated experience
- Results of filling:
 - Christ-likeness
 - Worship & Praise
 - Submissiveness
 - Servie

Filling of the Spirit Brings Joy to the Christian Life in Spite of Circumstances

“This same idea of a life marked by the fruit of the Spirit provides the best explanation of Luke’s sole use of the verb (plēroō - πληρόω) in the phrase “full of the Spirit” (Acts 13:52), in Acts. As it is being persecuted, the general experience of the church is described as

”being filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.”

Joy and fullness in the Spirit characterized the church.”²

Bibliography

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<https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-28/ad-70-titus-destroys-jerusalem.html>
5. Israel My Glory. July/August 2023. pp. 20-21