



In the Apostles' Steps

Turning the World Upside Down for
Christ (Acts 17:6)



Overview:

- Introduction: Sharing Truth
- Walking through Acts
 - Mission
 - Message
 - Elements of the Message
 - Responses to the Message
 - Maintenance

Introduction: Sharing Truth

“And the people bowed and prayed
To the neon god they made,
And the sign flashed out its warning
In the words it was forming.
And the sign said:
‘The word of the prophets are
Written on the subway walls
And tenement halls
And whispered in sound of silence.’”

“Sound of Silence”, Paul Simon

Introduction: Sharing Truth

“ For when the Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things that in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, **their conscience also bearing witness**, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else accusing them in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.”

Romans 2:14-16, Paul the Apostle

Introduction: Sharing Truth

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“So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**”

John 20:21

Introduction: Sharing Truth

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Colossians 4:5-6

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“Do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled, but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts,’ (Isaiah 8:12) and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;”

1 Peter 3:14b-15

Walking through Acts: Mission

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

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Acts 5:20

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- Mission documented through the Acts of the Apostles
- Continued through the writing of the 4 gospels, letters

Walking through Acts: Messages

Parts of at least 18 messages, message summaries, and conversations documented in Acts

- 5 by Peter
- 1 by Stephen
- 2 by Philip
- 10 by Paul

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Messenger	Audience	Theme	Reference
Peter	Crowd at Pentecost	Explanation of Pentecost, Jesus's death and resurrection is fulfillment of Prophecy	Acts 2:14-40
Peter	Crowd at Solomon's porch	Explanation of miracle at temple gate; Jesus is resurrected Messiah	Acts 3:12-26
Peter	Sanhedrin	Explanation of the miracle at the temple gate, defense of the gospel	Acts 4:5-12
Peter and the Apostles	Sanhedrin	Defense of the gospel	Acts 5:29-32
Stephen	Sanhedrin	Prosecution of unbelieving Israel	Acts 7
Philip	Samaria	Christ	Acts 8:5-6
Philip	Ethiopian treasurer	Jesus's fulfillment of Isaiah 53	Acts 8:30-35
Peter	Cornelius family and close friends	God's salvation in Christ available to all people	Acts 10:28-43

Walking through Acts: Messages

Messenger	Audience	Theme	Reference
Paul	Synagogue in Antioch of Pesidia	Jesus is Messiah and fulfillment of OT prophecies	Acts 13:16-41
Paul	Idolatrous mob in Lystra	The true God and His goodness	Acts 14:15-18
Paul	Jailer in Philippi	Believe on Christ for salvation	Acts 16:31
Paul	Synagogue in Thessalonica	Scriptural proof that Jesus is the Christ	Acts 17:2-3
Paul	Athenian Leaders at Areopagus	True nature of God and need for repentance	Acts 17:22-31
Paul	Mob at Jerusalem	Paul's personal testimony	Acts 22:1-21
Paul	Sanhedrin	Paul's defense of himself and the gospel	Acts 23:1-6
Paul	Felix's court	Paul's defense of himself and the gospel	Acts 24:10-21
Paul	Agrippa, Bernice, Festus and court	Paul's defense, persona testimony	Acts 26:2-30
Paul	Jewish leaders in Rome	Paul's explanation of imprisonment	Acts 28:17-20

Walking through Acts: Elements of the Message

1. Spirit-filled (Acts 1:8, 2:4, 4:8)
2. God-centered (Acts 2:22-24)
3. Christ-focused (Acts 2:36)
4. Audience-tailored (Acts 2:12-16, 17:22-31)
5. Response-oriented (Acts 2:22, 36-40)
6. Fearlessly-preached (Acts 4:13, 29, 31, 28:30-31, 2 Cor. 3:12, Eph.6:19, Col 4:3-4)
7. Prayer-enabled (Acts 1:14, 3:1, 4:31, Eph. 6:19, Col. 4:3)
8. Persecution-experienced (Acts 5:41-42, 2 Tim. 3:12)

Walking through Acts: Outward Responses

- 1) Violent opposition (Acts 4:1-4, 14:5, 19, 17:5, 13)
- 2) Ridicule (Acts 17:32, Acts 26:24, 1 Pet. 3:3, Jude 18)
- 3) Delay (Acts 17:32, 24:25)
- 4) Acceptance (Acts 2:37, 13:42-44, 52, 17:34)

Walking Through Acts: Maintenance

- 1) Fellowship with Believers (Acts 2:41-42, 3:8 and 4:14)
- 2) Fertile soil (Acts 13:6-12, 16:14-15)
- 3) Follow-up (Acts 14:21-23, 15:36, 41, 20:17-35)
- 4) Further instruction (Acts 18:24-28, 19:1-7)