

# The Bible

## Part Twelve: The Acts and the Revelation

### The Book of Acts

- The Background
  - The Author
  - Date
  - The Purpose

*Luke, tracing through its major leaders, composes a well ordered account of the divinely guided expansion of the Jesus movement as it unstopably and steadily, in spite of much opposition and resistance, progresses through the inroads made by the gospel message in all spheres of human existence from Jew to Gentile and from Palestine to center of the empire.*

- The Outline (Refer to Your Outline)

### The Book of Revelation

- The Background
  - The Author
  - Date
  - Historical Occasion
  - The Purpose

*Thus the book of Revelation could be understood as being written to the church of Jesus Christ of all ages in order to reveal to Christians of all ages God's divine plan centered and manifested in Christ for vindicating His people and His name and judging all unrighteousness in all people and places, so that Christians of any age who read and heed it might be warned against remaining in their disobedience and encouraged in their obedience. Thus finding a blessing both now and at Christ's second coming.*

- The Outline (Refer to Your Outline)

# Outlines of the Acts and the Revelation

## Acts..... A.D. 60-62

- I. The Prologue (1:1-8)
  - A. Luke's Purpose (1:1-3)
  - B. Christ's Commissioning of the Apostles (1:4-8)
- II. The Growth and Expansion of the Church in Jerusalem (1:9-8:3)
  - A. The Prelude to Pentecost (1:9-26)
  - B. The Day of Pentecost: The Age of the Spirit (2:1-46)

Progress Report #1 (2:47b-c)

  - C. The Growth of the Church (3:1-8:3)

Progress Report #2 (6:7)
- III. The Growth and Expansion of the Church in Judea and Samaria (8:4-12:25)
  - A. The Missionary Work of Philip (8:4-40)
  - B. The Conversion of Saul of Tarsus (9:1-31)

Progress Report #3 (9:31)

  - C. The Acts of Peter: Opening of the Church to the Gentiles (9:32-12:25)

Progress Report #4 (12:24-25)
- IV. The Growth and Expansion of the Church to the Ends of the Earth (13:1-28:31)
  - A. Paul's First Missionary Journey (13:1-14:28)
  - B. The Jerusalem Council (15:1-35)
  - C. Paul's Second Missionary Journey (15:36-18:22)

Progress Report #5 (16:5)

  - D. Paul's Third Missionary Journey (18:23-21:16)
  - E. Paul's Arrest and Trial in Jerusalem (21:17-23:22)
  - F. Paul's Transfer and Trial in Caesarea (23:23-26:32)
  - G. Paul's Journey to Rome in Incarceration (27:1-28:15)
  - H. Paul's Stay in Rome (28:16-29)

Progress Report #7 (28:30-31)

## Revelation..... A.D. 81-96

- I. The Prologue: "Things Seen" (1:1-20)
  - A. The Superscription (1:1-3)

- B. The Salutation of John (1:4-8)
- C. The Introductory Vision: The Glorified Christ (1:9-18)
- D. The Commissioning of Writing (1:9-20)
- II. "Things Which Are" (2:1-3:22)
  - A. The Message to the Church of Ephesus (2:1-7)
  - B. The Message to the Church of Smyrna (2:8-11)
  - C. The Message to the Church of Pergamum (2:12-17)
  - D. The Message to the Church of Thyatira (2:18-29)
  - E. The Message to the Church of Sardis (3:1-6)
  - F. The Message to the Church of Philadelphia (3:7-13)
  - G. The Message to the Church of Laodicea (3:14-22)
- III. "Things Which Shall Take Place" (4:1-22:5)
  - A. Heaven Prepares for the Consummation of World History (4:1-5:14)
  - B. The Tribulational Time Period (6:1-18:24)
  - C. The Second Advent and the Consummated Kingdom (19:1-20:15)
  - D. The New Heavens and the New Earth (21:1-22:5)
- IV. The Epilogue (22:6-21)

- First Parenthesis:** Revelation 4-5 – Heaven Prepares for the Consummation of World History.
- Second Parenthesis:** Revelation 7:1-17 – Answers Question of 6:17-- "Who is able to Stand."
- Third Parenthesis:** Revelation 10:1-11:14 – Backdrop of Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls.
- Fourth Parenthesis:** Revelation 12-15 – Events that are Parallel to the Sounding of the Trumpet.
- Fifth Parenthesis:** Revelation 17-18 – The Destruction of the End-Time World Empire, which is Prefigured as Babylon.
- Sixth Parenthesis:** Revelation 21-22:5 – The New Heavens and the New Earth.

The Seven Churches of the Revelation			
Item	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamum
Passage	2:1-7	2:8-11	2:12-17
Tone	Mixed	Positive	Mixed
Virtues	Hard work, perseverance. Does not tolerate wicked men. Endures hardships. Hates Nicolaitans' practices	Suffers persecution and poverty.	Remains true to Christ; does not renounce her faith.
Sins and Weak points	Has forsaken her first love		People there hold the teachings of Baalam and of the Nicolaitans
Key to Change	Remember; repent; do the things you did at first	Do not be afraid. Be faithful, even to the point of death	Repent
Message	Losing one's love for Christ	Fear of suffering	Doctrinal compromise

The Seven Churches of the Revelation				
Item	Thyatira	Sardis	Philadelphia	Laodicea
Passage	2:18-29	3:1-6	3:7-13	3:14-22
Tone	Mixed	Negative	Positive	Negative
Virtues	Love, faith, service, perseverance, doing more than at first	Reputation of being alive	Keeps Christ's word and does not deny His name, endures patiently	
Sins and Weak points	Tolerates Jezebel with her immorality and idolatry	Reputation of being alive, but is dead		Lukewarm, neither cold nor hot. Wretched pitiful, poor, blind and naked
Key to Change	Repent; hold on to what you have	Wake up! Strengthen what remains. Remember what you received, obey it, repent	Hold on to what you have	Buy from Christ refined gold, white clothes, and eye salve. Be earnest, and repent
Message	Moral compromise	Lack of spiritual vitality	failure to hold fast	Lukewarmness; ineffectiveness

### The Tribulation (Rev. 4 - 19)

