

1. What is the book of Acts?

1. Unique book in the N. T. --- All the previous books are Gospels and all the following books are letters Acts is neither in fact it is the bridge between the two.
2. Partial fulfillment of: Jn. 14:12
3. Part 2 of a 2-part series of writings by a first century doctor named Luke.
 - He wrote more lines in the N. T. than any other writer including Paul.
 - By all accounts, Luke is the only Spirit inspired writer of the Scriptures who was not Jewish.
4. it is a Part 2, but in some respects it isn't:
 - Acts is not really the sequel—it is only the trailer to the real sequel.
The real sequel is US!!!!
 - The world has seen part One now they desperately need to see part Two and that is up to us.

3. Acts paints a picture of a church that is quite different than most churches we're used to.

1. Spirit directed --- We are seeing a lot of the activity of the Spirit in our churches, but He is operating like a partner in a business instead of the out-right **OWNER**.
 - Paul before he received the call to cross over to Macedonia said, **Acts 16:6-7**
 - What kind of evangelism strategy is that? A Spirit led one!!!
 - Another thing, have you ever noticed who gave the altar calls in Acts?
 - Peter preaching on the day of Pentecost --- The crowd broke in and said, **Acts 2:37**.
 - Again, Paul and Silas having a worship service in a Philippian jail and the jailer rushes in after God demonstrates His presence and says "Sirs what must I do to be saved?"

4. Acts is a misnamed book – Called the Acts of the Apostles in most translations, I think, it is misnamed.

- First, it covers the acts of only 2 apostles (Peter, and Paul) and none of the others.
- The two most prominent figures besides aforementioned were not apostles but deacons (Stephen and Phillip occupy a full 2 ½ chapters of Acts)
- Even more than these, Luke's own intro. to his book requires us to rename it: **Acts 1:1** "all that Jesus began to do"
 - I think a better name for Acts would be "The Acts of Jesus Christ"---a name to which I think Paul would agree.
 - Having well over ½ the book written about him --- Paul says this about his ministry: **Rom. 15:18-19**
 - Key word here in verse 1 is "**began**"
 - Acts is what Jesus continued to do --- **still alive—still active**, He's just changed bodies, from physical to spiritual.
 - Today, how far has Jesus moved? Moved into you and me and now He's moving us into world that does know Him.
 - Acts has no real ending because it is still being written as Jesus works His acts through us-- what part will you play?