



## Tell Me the Story of Jesus

## Lesson 25 – Acts 01

### People — Who is involved?

*The author – Luke*

*The original recipient – Theophilus*

*Jesus – speaking to His apostles*

*The apostles – hearing His last instructions and seeing Jesus ascend.*

*120 disciples including the apostles (vs. 15).*

### Places — Where does it happen?

*The ascension of Jesus takes place from the Mount of Olives (vs. 12).*

*The meeting of the disciples was in an upper room in Jerusalem (vs. 12-13).*

### Pearls — What information will help me to understand better?

*Intro – This book is entitled “Acts of the Apostles.” Actually, it contains only some of the acts of some of the apostles...primarily those of Peter (1-12) and Paul (13-28).*

*Intro – The author is Luke, the same author who wrote to Theophilus in the Gospel narrative.*

*Intro – The purpose of the book is to chronicle the first thirty years of Christianity showing how that the gospel was taken to the whole world.*

*Intro – By the use of 1<sup>st</sup> person pronoun “we,” it appears that Luke was personally with Paul at least in that part of Acts discussed in 16:10-17; 20:5-21; and 27:1-28.*

*Intro – The book of Acts provides the background and setting for 13 of Paul’s epistles.*

*Intro – The book of Acts records five visits of Paul to Jerusalem (9:26f; 11:28f; 15:1f; 18:21f; 21:15f).*

*Intro – The student will want to look for twenty-four public addresses and/or excerpts from sermons.*

*Intro – Like Genesis, this is a book of beginnings: beginning of the Christian age, “the last days”; the beginning of preaching the gospel and the salvation of men in Christ; the beginning of the Holy Spirit’s work among the apostles; and the beginning of the church of Christ.*

*Vs 5 – Here we have a promise to the apostles. In 2:33 a promise to Christ is mentioned. In 2:38 a promise to those who are baptized is to be remembered.*

*Vs 8 – This verse contains the theme statement for the book of Acts: “You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem” (chap. 1-7); “in all Judea and Samaria” (chap. 8-12); and “to the end of the earth” (13-28). Notice also, this verse mentions the Holy Spirit whose work is also an important theme.*

*Vs 16 – Jesus appears to be referring to Psalm 41:9 here.*

*Vs 18 – Judas hanged himself (Matt. 27:5). This is further detail on what happened to his body afterward*

*Vs 21 – The criteria for selection of the apostle to take Judas’ place is here recorded.*

### Perspectives – What may I learn from this chapter?

1. *The apostles were to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit’s power to come upon them.*
2. *Jesus clearly had a plan for the apostles to carry the gospel to the whole world.*
3. *There was a successor to Judas who died before the gospel was offered to man, but there have been no other successors to the apostles because they could not meet the qualifications.*