







THE BOOK OF
ACTS

a book of transitions



| | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John |
|------------------|--|---|---|---|
| |  |  |  |  |
| To: | To the Jew First | Then to the Gentile | To the Greek | Then to all |
| Theme: | Messiah | Servant | Perfect Man/God | Eternal God/Man |
| Faces of: | Lion | Ox | Man | Eagle |

Acts is a Book of Transitions

Part 1

⁶Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. ⁷The first living creature was like a **lion**, the second living creature like a **calf [ox]**, the third living creature had a face like a **man**, and the fourth living creature was like a flying **eagle**.

'Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in **order [organize in a series]** a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, ²just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an **orderly** account **[sequentially, one after another]**, most excellent Theophilus.

²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Where does the Book of Acts fit into the New Testament Canon?



Synoptics



John



Acts
Transition



Romans to 2 Thessalonians
Paul's Church Letters



1 Timothy to Philemon
Instructions for Replacements



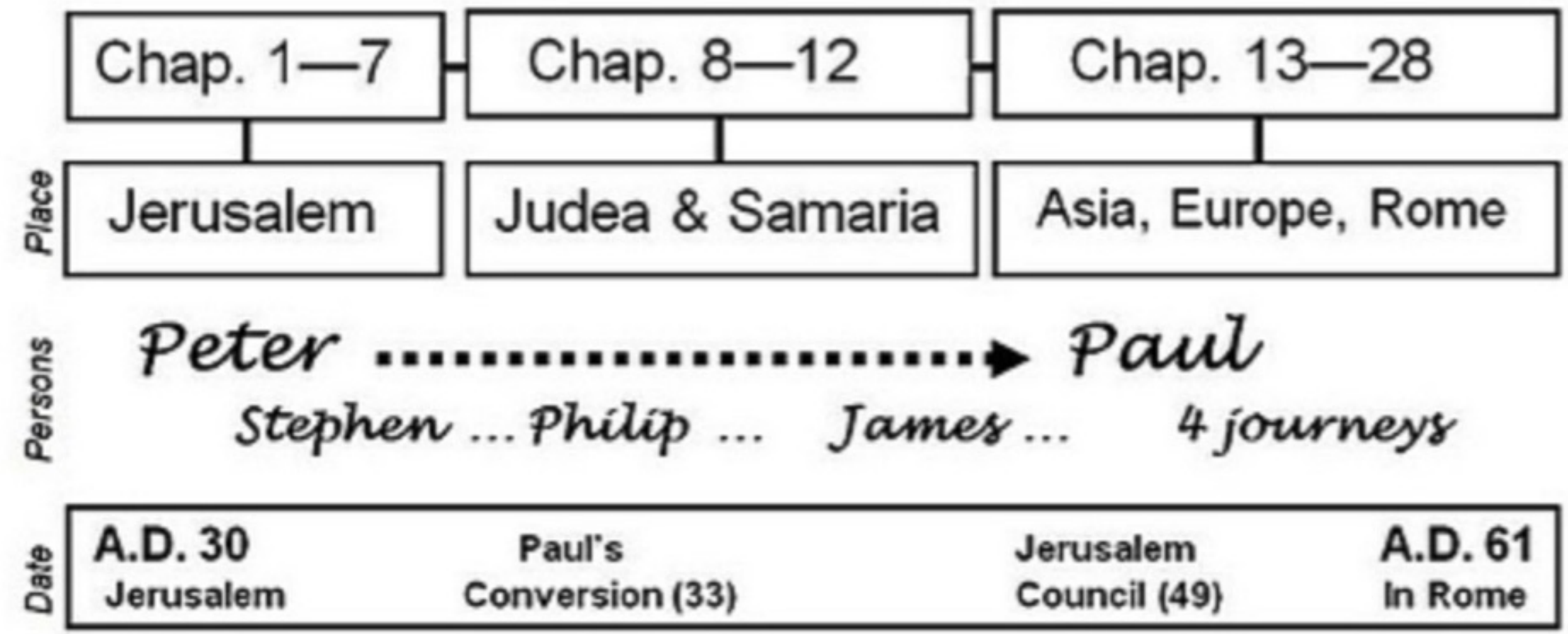
Hebrews to Jude
Corrective Letters





Revelation

Structure of the book of Acts





Acts is a transition in the NT canon
between the Gospels and the Epistles



Acts is a transition from the physical presence of Christ to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ



Acts is a transition from the physical leadership of Jesus to that of first, Peter (with James), then Paul



Acts is a Transition from being under the
Old Covenant of Moses to the New
Covenant of Christ



Acts is a transition from being under the
Law of Moses and Pharisaic Judaism to
the Laws of Christ

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law **[of Moses]** but under grace **[laws of Christ]**. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!



Acts is a transition from a legal economy
to a grace-based spiritual economy



Acts is a transition from people divided by nationality, ethnicity, gender prejudices and suppression, economic prejudices, to one united, newly-created ethnic:

The Body of Christ



Acts has a transition within itself from a
Jewish-dominated church to a Gentile
dominated church

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Acts is a Transition from Temple-centered worship to worship anywhere the Spirit is,

In John 4:21-24, Jesus prepares us for this truth when He said to the Samaritan woman at the well, ²¹Jesus said to her [and He says to us], “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain **[Gerizim]**, nor in Jerusalem **[Acts 8 and finally 70 AD]**, worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews **[as Samaritan believers will find out in Acts 8]**. ²³But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true **[or truth]** worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”



Acts is a Transition from a God-Departed
Temple to the living Temple of God, the Church



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