

THE BOOK OF

AACMTS

a book of transitions

Acts is a Book of Transitions

Part 4

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



Revelation

Corrective Letters

Another 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

As for the likeness of their faces **[the four Living Creatures around the throne]**, each had the face of a **man**; each of the four had the face of a **lion** on the right side, each of the four had the face of an **ox** on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an **eagle**.

⁶ Before 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. ⁷ The 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**.

1. Acts is a dynamic transition in the NT canon between the Gospels and the Epistles.
2. Acts is a transition from the physical presence of Christ to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ.
3. Acts is a transition from the physical leadership of Jesus to that primarily of first Peter, then Paul.
4. Acts is a Transition from being **under** the Old Covenant to being **under** the New Covenant of Christ.
5. Acts is a transition from being under the Law of Moses and Pharisaic Judaism to the Laws of Christ.

6. Acts is a transition from a **legal** economy to a **mercy/grace**-based, Spirit-empowered economy.
7. 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.**
8. Acts has a transition within itself from a Jewish-dominated church to a Gentile dominated church.
9. Acts is a transition from many animal sacrifices to the singular cross of Christ.

10. Acts is a transition from temple-centered worship to worship anywhere the Spirit is worship!
11. Acts is a transition from a God-Departed Temple to the living Temple of God, the Church
12. Acts is a transition from the Spirit that is with all people, to living within individual believers, to being the Spirit of Christ among believers

With you >>>> **In** you >>>> **Upon** you to be **Among** you

13. Acts is a transition from Israel being set-aside as a nation to individual Jews being saved by faith.
14. Acts is a transition from an elaborate Passover feast to the Lord's table of bread & juice.
15. Acts is a transition from Jerusalem as the church's headquarters to Antioch, to nowhere on earth!
16. Acts is a transition from earth, land-oriented Israel, to the Heavenly-oriented Church.
17. Acts is a transition from a visible kingdom orientation to an invisible orientation.
18. Acts is a transition from affirming signs and wonders to the edifying gifts of the Spirit in the Church.

³how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was **confirmed** to us by those who heard Him, ⁴ God also **bearing witness** both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.

Why the phrase, “**Signs and Wonders**”?

¹⁴And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. ¹⁶Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹¹Now God worked **unusual miracles** by the hands of Paul, ¹²so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

Why the phrase 'signs and wonders'?

Why not just miracles or great miracles?

³⁸Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, “Teacher, we want to see a **sign** from You.” ³⁹But He answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

As biblically literate Jews, the Pharisees would have remembered the unambiguous fire from heaven that Elijah called down on the priests of Baal (1Kgs. 18:38) and the shadow cast by the sun that moved back ten steps at the time of Ahaz (Isa. 38:7–8). These were the kinds of cosmic, supernatural attestations they had in mind when demanding a sign from Jesus.” This is not what He gave them.

Summary: Signs and Wonders, to the Gifts of the Spirit is a transition in the Book of Acts.

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Acts is a transition in leadership from the Sanhedrin to Apostles and Prophets, to Pastor/Teachers.



Acts is a transition from John's water baptism of repentance to the believer's water baptism.

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Acts is a transition from mandatory Sabbath Day worship and gathering to typically the first Day of the week.

One person esteems one day [**Saturday or Sunday**] above another; another esteems every day alike. **Let each be fully convinced in his own mind.**

ROMANS 14:5

So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or **sabbaths**, which are a **shadow** of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

Here is how the Sabbath days are determined:

- **52** weekly Sabbaths, one per week throughout the year
- **7** festival Sabbaths - the high holy days and feast days that have Sabbath work restrictions:
 - Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Tabernacles
- **1** Day in the year of Jubilee, every fiftieth year.

“You shall not fail to bring a sin sacrifice every time you break one of the other ten commandments.”



Acts is a transition from being an assembly of many believers to the one Body of Christ.

It looks like this:

An Assembly is: $1 \& 1 \& 1 \& 1 \& 1 \& 1 \& 1 = 7$

Individuals assembled together.

The Church is: $+1x +1x +1x +1x +1x +1x +1 = 1$

Church, 1 Body of Christ

.... And the Lord **added** to the **[one singular]** church daily those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:47

..... And they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And **a great many** people were **added** to the **[one]** Lord.



Acts is a transition from limited Jewish civil sovereignty
to a Church that has no civil sovereignty



Acts is a transition from Jesus doing to no baptisms
to doing the first baptism in the Book of Acts

¹When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ²And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting **[thus enveloping all of them]**. ³Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

False Teachings and **Practices** Can and
Have Occurred When We Permatize the
Transitions of Acts