

I am going to spotlight the first 177 verses of Acts at 20MPH

Then at the 178th verse we will stop and get the binoculars out and look closer

Acts 1 •Jesus ascends

•The Spirit is promised

•Matthias is chosen to fill Judas' spot

Acts 2 •The Holy Spirit comes

•A powerful message is preached

•3000 receive salvation

•The church is birth

Acts 3

The Church is the Church on the way to church

Acts 3:6-7

Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong.

The activity of the Church draws public attention

Vs 9-10

When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Vs 16

By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through Him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.



The religious rulers get involved

Vs 2-3

They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.

Vs 4

But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

Vs 7-8

They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

Vs 9-10

If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

Vs 12-13

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Vs 14-15

But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

Vs 16

"What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it.

Vs 17But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this Name

Vs 18-19

Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the Name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God.

Vs 20 For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard

Peter and John were released and they went back to the church and told them what had happened

Prayer of the Church

Vs 24

When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God."Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.

Vs 25-26

You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against His Anointed One.'

Vs 27-28

Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.

Vs 29-30

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

Vs 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

The Church is Alive!!

Acts 5

Vs 1-11

Ananias and Sapphira were the first to pretend to be what they were not

Vs 12a The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people.

Vs14 ...more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number.

Vs 17-18

Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail.

Vs 19-20

But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people the full message of this new life."

Vs 21a

At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people.

Vs 21-24

The religious leaders sent for the Apostles – but they were not in the jail

Vs 25

Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people."

Vs 27

Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this Name," he said.

Vs 34-39

But a Pharisee named Gamaliel...Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.

Vs 40

His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

Vs 41

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.



Acts 5:42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Day after day - a nonstop life style

Temple courts - public places

House to house - in private places

They - those following Jesus

Never stopped!!!

Teaching - spending time with others and working through

Proclaiming - to make known (perhaps a 30 second clear proclamation of the truth about Jesus) The good news that Jesus is the Christ

"I will Never Stop"

I will never stop sitting down with others to search the truth about Jesus

I will never stop making the truth about Jesus known

Philippians 2:15b-16a ...you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out (*on to*) the word of life...

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-- it is by grace you have been saved.

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

"But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in Him. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

1Thessalonians 5:19-20 Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Psalm 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

2 Samuel 22:35-38

He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You give me your shield of victory; you stoop down to make me great. You broaden the path beneath me, so that my ankles do not turn. "I pursued my enemies and crushed them; I did not turn back till they were destroyed.