Session 10
Acts

All the King's Men

The Story of Scripture: Understanding the Bible from Genesis to Revelation

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Session Objectives:

1. Understand the purpose of Acts
2. Identify the structure of Acts and how is contributes to its purpose

5-12-5-5-12
Old Testament

Pentateuch	History	Poetry	Major Prophets	Minor Prophets
5 Books	12 Books	5 Books	5 Books	12 Books

4-1-21-1
New Testament

Gospels	History	Letters	Prophecy
4 Books	1 Book	21 Books	1 Book

Creation

The Problem

The Problem

The Solution: Covenant God

Covenant Promises

Covenant Promises

The Covenant King

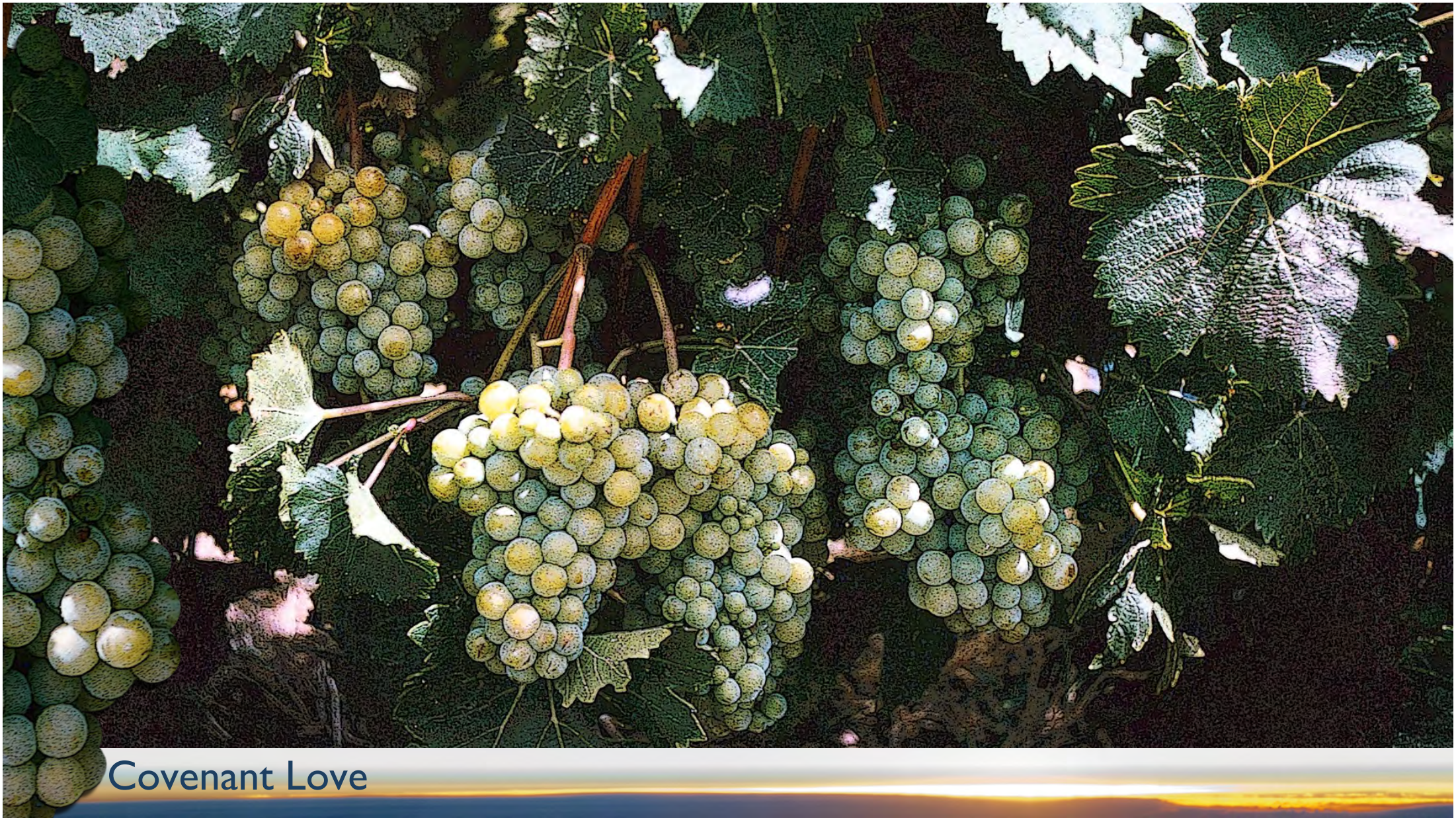
The Covenant King

Covenant Worship

Covenant Worship

Covenant Consequences

Covenant Consequences



Covenant Love

BRITTANIA
BELGICA
GERMANIA
Rhine R.
Vistula R.
Lutetia
Loire R.
Atlantic Ocean
GAUL
ALPS MTS.
SARMATIA
Dnieper R.
Dniester R.
Volga R.
Vercellae
Po R.
Pola
ILLYRICUM (DALMATIA)
DACIA
BOSPORUS
Caspian Sea
Rhone R.
Rubicon R.
Massalia
Ancona
ITALY
Adriatic Sea
MOESIA
Danube R.
Black Sea
Douro R.
Caesarea Augusta
Corsica
Rome
Cannae
MACEDONIA
THRACE
Byzantium
Heraclea
Sinope
CAUCASUS MTS.
COLCHIS
IBERIA
ALBANIA
Cyrus R.
Balearic Islands
Sardinia
Tyrrhenian Sea
Thessalonica
BITHYNIA & PONTUS
Trapezus
Tagus R.
HISPANIA
Nora
Caralis (Cagliari)
Aegean Sea
Ancyra
Pergamum
Sardis
ASIA
GALATIA
Halys R.
L. Tuz
CAPPADOCIA
ARMENIA
L. Van
Guadalquivir R.
Corduba
Cadiz (Gades)
Caesarea Mauretania
Sicily
Syracuse
Olympia
Athens
Ephesus
Miletus
Malatya
L. Urmia
Tingis (Tangier)
Gibraltar
Cirta (Constantine)
Hippo (Bone)
Carthage
Sparta
ACHAIA
Cyclades Islands
Rhodes
Tarsus
CILICIA
Aleppo
SYRIA
ADIABENE
Arbela
Malta
Crete
Salone
Cyprus
Salamis
Tigris R.
Dura-Europos
Ecbatana
MAURETANIA
East-West division of Roman Empire (AD 395)
Mediterranean Sea
Tripolis
Damascus
Tyre
Tadmor
Euphrates R.
Ctesiphon
Lepcis Magna
Cyrene
Jerusalem
Babylon
Susa
TRIPOLITANIA
CYRENAICA
Alexandria
Pelusium
NABATEA
EASTERN DESERT
Dumah
Memphis
EGYPT
Persian Gulf
Tema
Nile R.
Red Sea
ARABIAN DESERT
Thebes
city
extent of Roman Empire
Roman territory by the time of Julius Caesar (d. 44 BC)
Roman territory by the time of Augustus Caesar (d. AD 14)
Roman territory by the time of Trajan (d. AD 117)
territory controlled temporarily by Rome
DACIA Roman provincial or regional name
MI. 0 100 200 300 400 500
KM. 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800
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Adriatic Sea
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Mediterranean Sea
Aegean Sea
Red Sea
Persian Gulf
Rome
ITALY
Puteoli
Pompeii
MACEDONIA
THRACE
Philippi
Thessalonica
Berea
Byzantium
GREECE
Delphi
Corinth
Athens
Sparta
Sardis
Ephesus
Miletus
Adramyttium
Pergamum
ASIA
BITHYNIA
Heraclea
Sinope
PONTUS
Ancyra
GALATIA
PHRYGIA
Antioch in Pisidia
Laodicea
Lystra
Iconium
Derbe
PAMPHYLIA
Tarsus
CAPPADOCIA
Araxes R.
COMMAGENE
ADIABENE
PARTHIA
MESOPOTAMIA
Tigris R.
Euphrates R.
Antioch
Seleucia Pieria
Seleucia
Tracheotis
CRETE
Gortyna
Salamis
CYPRUS
Paphos
Arvadus
Tripolis
Palmyra
Ecbatana
MEDIA
Sidon
Berytus
Tyre
Ptolemais
Damascus
Caesarea
Pumbeditha
Ctesiphon
Babylon
Nippur
Susa
ELAM
Cyrene
CYRENAICA
Joppa
JUDEA
Jerusalem
Alexandria
LIBYA
Bubastis
Pelusium
Memphis
EGYPT
ARABIA
Heracleopolis
Oxyrrhynchus
ARABIAN DESERT
SAHARA DESERT
Nile R.
Abydos
Thebes
Ombos
Elephantine
PATHROS
city with Jewish population at time of Pentecost
CRETE region attested at Pentecost (Acts 2:9f)
CYPRUS other regions of Jewish diaspora
MI. 0 100 200 300 400
KM. 0 100 200 300 400 500 600

In Between the Testaments

- An unrecognized phenomenon — "God-fearers"
- Wherever Jews established communities, they touched people around them with their belief in the one true God, the Creator of the world and the coming redeemer of Israel.
- Some people would come to faith in God and would actually convert to Judaism. They would become practicing Jews (proselytes)
- But many felt that they could not actually become Jews, even though they "feared God."

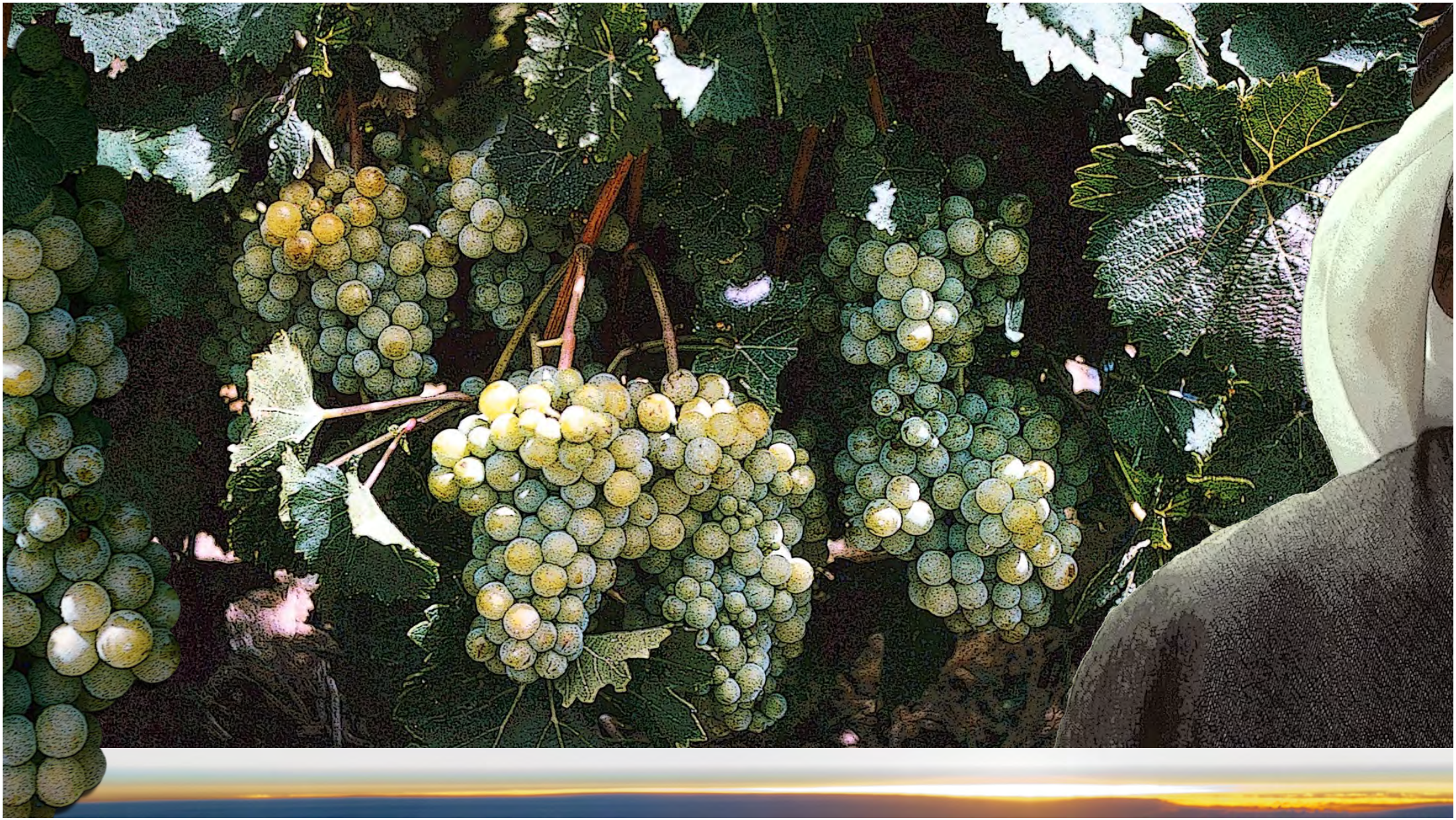
In Between the Testaments

- It was because of God's work through the Diaspora of the Jewish people that a believing Gentile populace existed and was primed for the coming of the Jewish Messiah.

- God had moved kings and kingdoms for the coming of His Son.

- God had used Israel's judgment to spread His people to all places.

- Messianic hope? Mixed, but existing.
  There is always a "faithful remnant."



The King Has Come

The King Has Come

All the King's Men

- **Authorship and Audience (and Date)**

Authorship = *LUKE*

Audience = *THEOPHILUS*

LUKE

- Ancient historians are unanimous in assertion that Luke authored Acts
- Irenaeus (an early church father) provides an extensive testimony

“Luke also, the companion of Paul, recorded in a book the Gospel preached by him . . . but that this Luke was inseparable from Paul, and his fellow-laborer in the Gospel, he himself clearly evinces, not as a matter of boasting, but as bound to do so by the truth itself.”

—Irenaeus, *Against Heresies* 3.1.1

“As Luke was present at all these occurrences, he carefully noted them down in writing, so that he cannot be convicted of falsehood or boastfulness.”

—Irenaeus, *Against Heresies* 3.14.1

“Luke was a Syrian of Antioch, by profession a physician, the disciple of the apostles, and later a follower of Paul until his martyrdom. He served the Lord without distraction, without a wife, and without children. He died at the age of eighty-four in Boeotia [a region in central Greece], full of the Holy Spirit.”

—“Anti-Marcionite prologue”
(As cited by J.A. Fitsmyer)
In *The Gospel According to Luke*

LUKE

- Likely a Jewish sympathizer prior to identity with Christ
- Gentile Christian (probably of Syrian origin)
- By trade, a physician (we know nothing of his medical training)
- Not married, no children
- Traveling companion of Paul (post-conversion)
- Traveled in the “apostolic” circle
- Participant in the book of ACTS
  (“we” sections; Acts 16:10-18, 20:4-21:19, 27:1-28:30)
- Referenced by Paul in Colossians 4:14, 2 Timothy 4:11, Philemon 24
- Faithful

THEOPHILUS

- **Recipient of Gospel of Luke — and ACTS**
- **A Christ-follower**
- **Referenced as "most excellent" (GR: *kratistos*)**

This is a title of respect for a person of high social status and wealth, often a person of equestrian rank in Roman society

Rank #1: Senatorial Order
Rank #2: Equestrian Order

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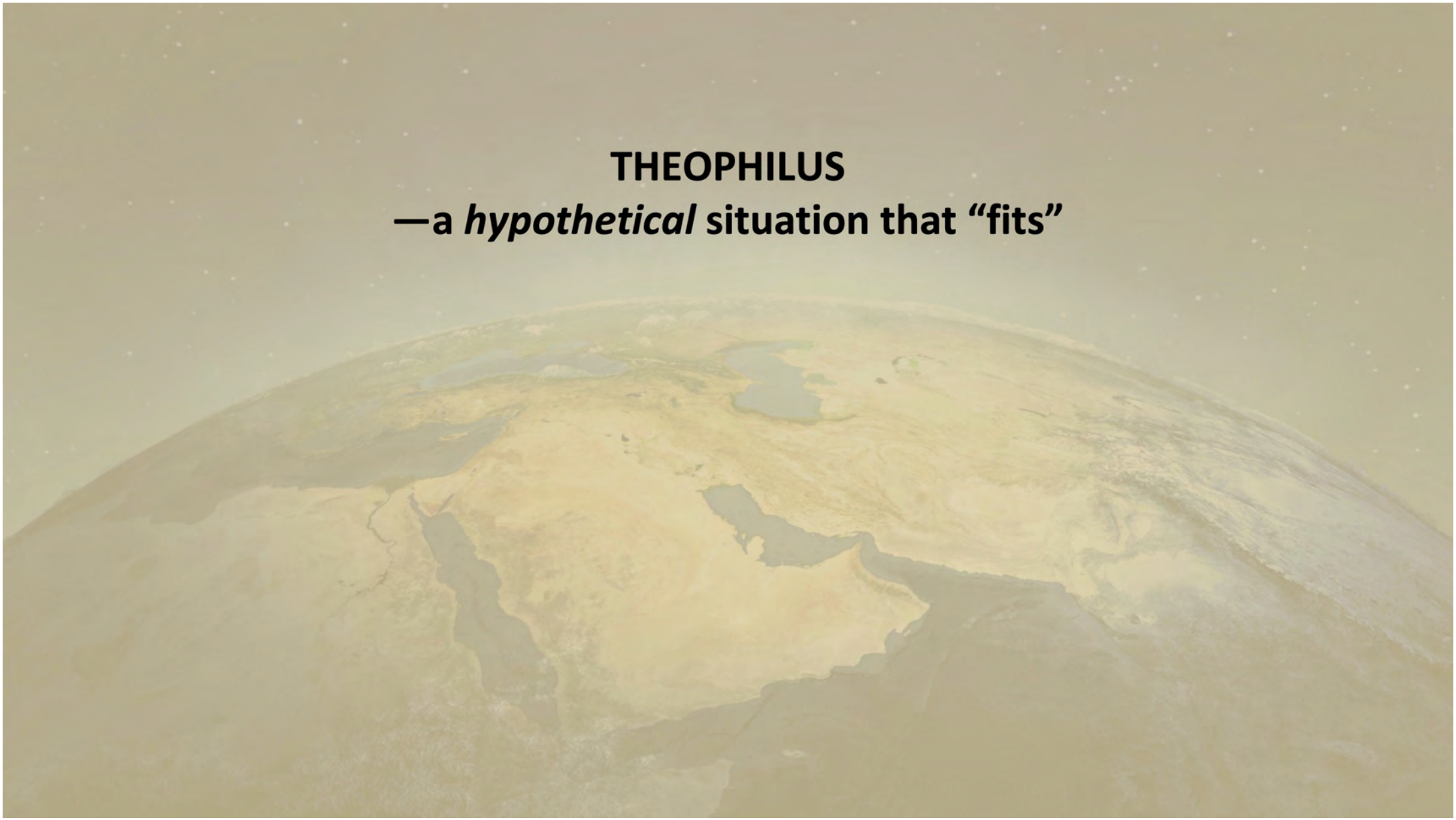
Entrance into Equestrian Order 400 Sesterces (1.2 Million USD)


THEOPHILUS
—a *hypothetical* situation that “fits”

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—a *hypothetical* situation that "fits"

"Theophilus is a new believer from the equestrian order in Rome—excited about his new faith, anxious to spread the word, and eager to learn more and grow. He meets Luke shortly after his arrival in Rome with Paul. Luke has already planned to write both the Gospel and Acts, but is unable both to support himself and devote his time to the arduous and time-consuming task of writing. As Theophilus gets to know Luke and hears of his plans, he becomes convinced (not least by the leading of the Holy Spirit) that he should use his resources to subsidize Luke for the period it would take to write the two volumes and then support the publication of the work."

THEOPHILUS
—a *hypothetical* situation that "fits"

(continued)

"Theophilus personally wants to benefit from Luke's account as a means of facilitating his own knowledge and growth as a Christian, but he also realizes that there are numerous others who could benefit similarly from such a production. Theophilus thus gives generously to support Luke in this endeavor and then funds scribes to make copies of the manuscript for distribution to churches."

—Clint E. Arnold
***Acts*, Zondervan IBBC**

SUMMARY

- **Authorship and Audience (and Date)**

Authorship = *LUKE* (friend of Paul, author of Gospel, physician)

Audience = *THEOPHILUS* (Roman official, Christian, supporter)

Date = AD 60-62, from Rome (end of Acts, Luke is present), after meeting Theophilus

TEXT

- **<u>ACTS 1:1-11</u>**

  1) 1:1-5

  2) 1:6-11

ACTS 1:1-5

A. **<u>Continuity</u>**
   Acts is Luke Part II (Cf. Luke 1:1-4)
B. **<u>Convincing Proofs</u>**
   "Many Convincing Proofs"(Cf. Luke 24:28-43)
C. **<u>Concerning the Kingdom</u>**
   Kingdom = God's promised rule that comes with Jesus
   Messianic program and activity. (32X in Luke)
D. **<u>Command and Promise</u>**
   Stay in Jerusalem, Promise of H.S. (Cf. Luke 24:44-49)

ACTS 1:6-11

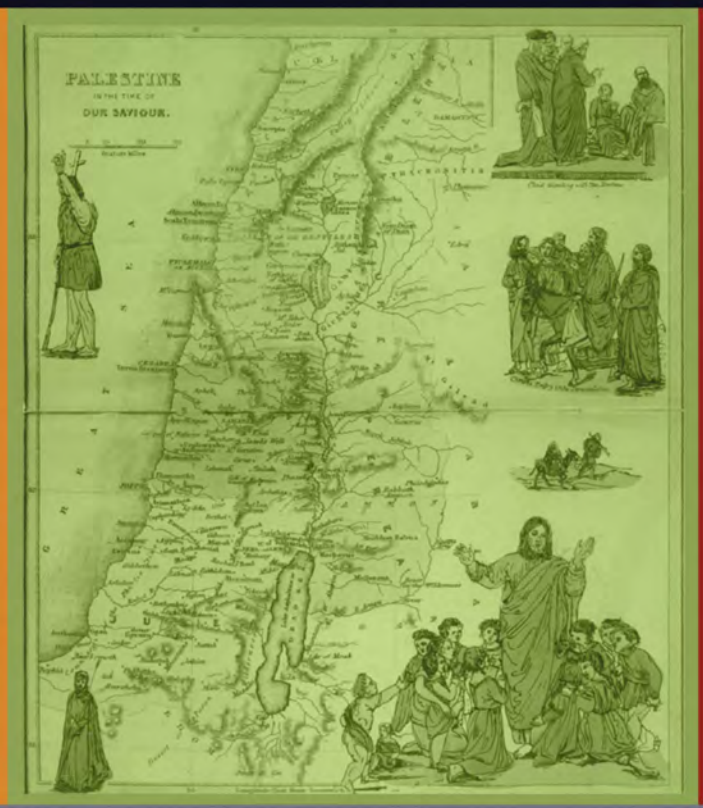
A. **Judgment?** — Not Yet

B. **Holy Spirit?** — Coming Soon

C. **Purpose?** — Be My Witnesses

D. **Place?** — Jerusalem, Judea/Samaria, Ends of Earth

ACTS 1:8
The THESIS and OUTLINE of Luke's Letter



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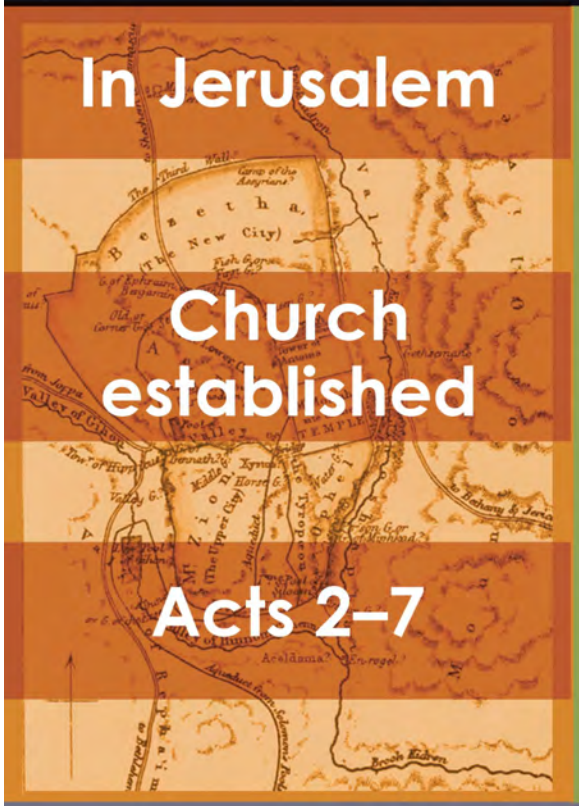

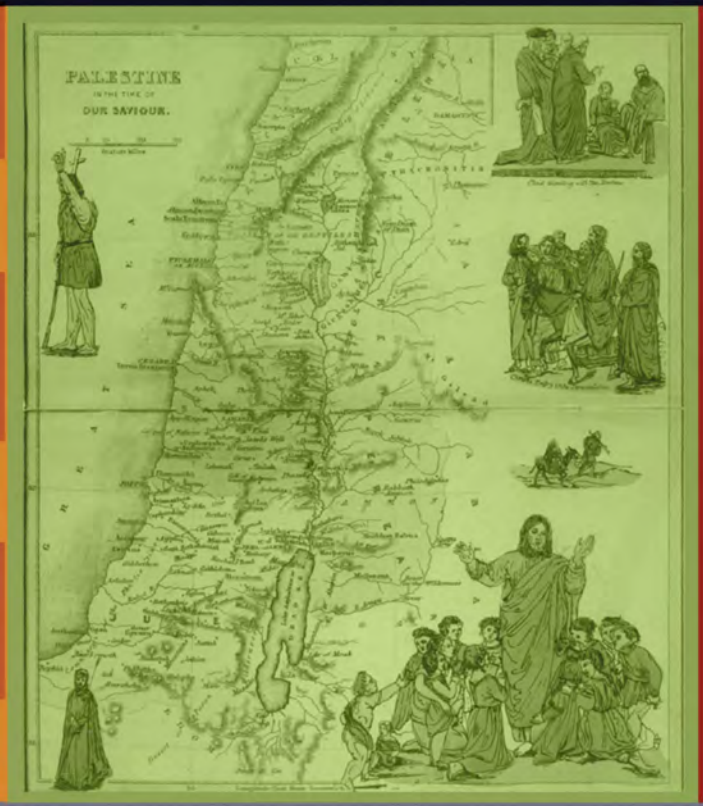

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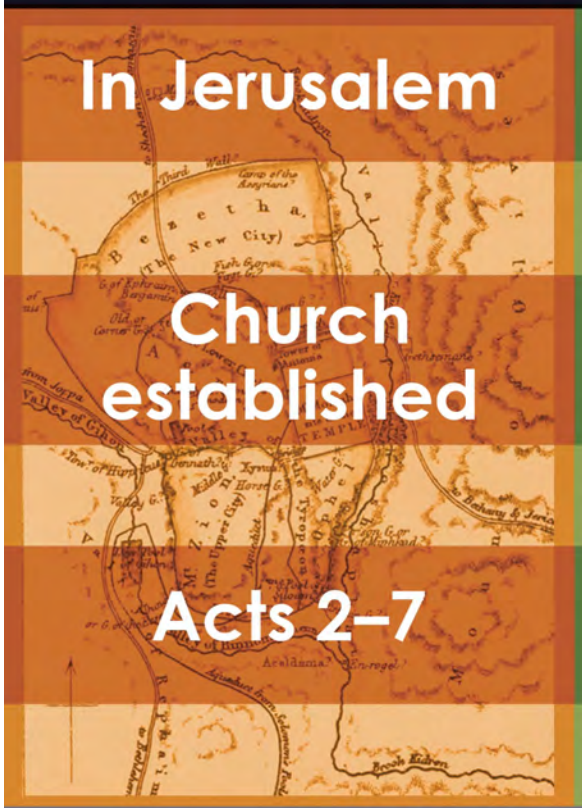
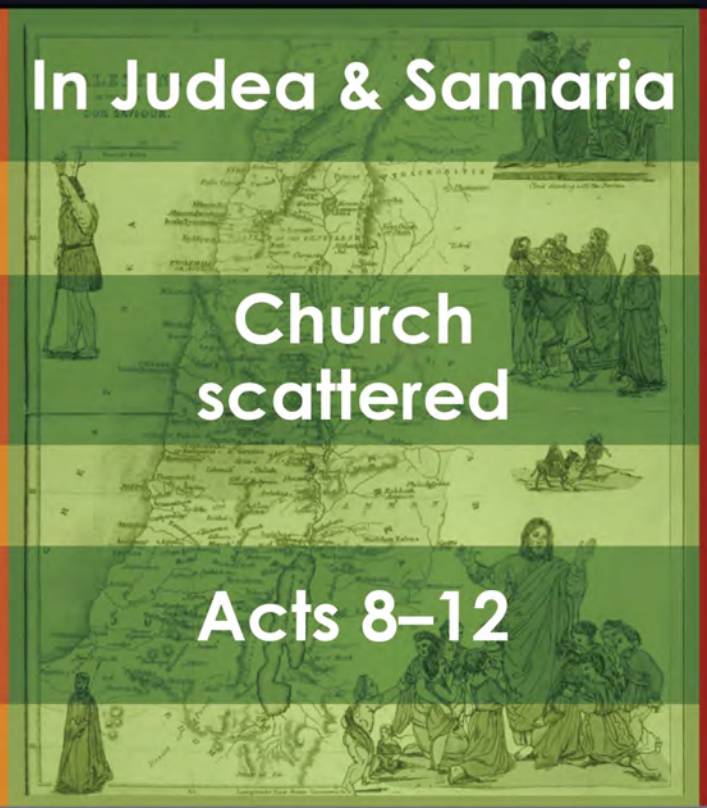


In Jerusalem

Church established

Acts 2–7



In Judea & Samaria

Church scattered

Acts 8–12

ACTS 1:8
The THESIS and OUTLINE of Luke's Letter

In Jerusalem	In Judea & Samaria	To the ends of the earth
Church established	Church scattered	Church extended
Acts 2–7	Acts 8–12	Acts 13–28

ACTS 1:6-11

A. **Judgment?** — Not Yet

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C. **Purpose?** — Be My Witnesses

D. **Place?** — Jerusalem, Judea/Samaria, Ends of Earth

E. **Reason?** — Jesus is leaving (v.9-11)

ACTS FOR YOU

1. Use our resources for Him
2. Anticipate “Lap #2”
3. Learn the Art of “Waiting”
4. Don’t Forget . . .

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“You Gotta Job to Do”

All the King's Men

Living for the King

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