

UNDERSTANDING THE TRANSITIONAL NATURE OF ACTS Pt. 1

A. AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS

You must remember when studying the book of Acts that ...

1. It is a continuation of the book of _____. (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1)

2. It is primarily a _____ sequence to the Gospel narratives (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) that is _____ in nature rather than a _____ epistle that is _____ and _____ in nature.

3. It is a _____ book that records the major events that transpired in the first _____ years of the Church.

4. Its key verse and outline is _____.

5. It explains the early church's response to the _____ of our Lord. (Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 24:44-49)
 - How does this explain Acts 2:38?

B. AN EXPLANATION OF THE TRANSITIONS IN ACTS

1. From a _____ emphasis to a _____ emphasis.

- What was the great hope of Israel in the O.T.?
- What was the primary emphasis of Christ's ministry in the Gospels?
- Though Christ predicted that He would build His _____ (Mt.16:18), the disciples were still anticipating the establishment of the earthly _____ when the book of Acts begins (Acts 1:2-7)
- What is the blessed hope of the Church?
- Did Peter re-offer the Kingdom in Acts 3?

2. From a Jewish national _____ (synagogue-type fellowship) to a Jew-Gentile-believer-as-one _____ (church-type fellowship).

- Compare Matthew 10:5-7 with Mt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8
- Did the early Church respond well to the GC? (Acts 8:1-4; Acts 10:1-11:19)
- Did they catch on to the GC?
- What transition needed to occur in the thinking of these Christians? (1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 2:11-18, 3:2-8)

3. From an Old Testament _____ emphasis (with minimal grace dealings) to a New Testament _____ emphasis (with maximum grace dealings).

- Did Peter need to grow in grace?
- Did Paul need to stay grace-oriented?
- What can you learn from all this?