

The angel said to them,
“Fear not, for behold, I bring you
good news of a great joy
that will be for all the people.”

LUKE 2:10

This is what is written:

The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

LUKE 24:46-47

INVINCIBLE *PROGRESS*

Our Study of Luke's Historical Account,
“The Acts of the Ascended King”

THE BOOK OF ACTS

The crucified, risen, and ascended King is *working* for the progress of the gospel thru simple preaching of prayerful disciples to whom God's Spirit is giving power.

This progress can't be stopped, not even by persecution on the outside or by problems on the inside.

“You will be my witnesses
[1] in Jerusalem and
[2] in all Judea and Samaria, and
[3] to the end of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8

THE BOOK OF ACTS

- The gospel advances in Jerusalem.
(chapters 1-7)
- The gospel advances in Judea and Samaria.
(chapters 8-12)
- The gospel advances to the end of the earth.
(chapters 13-28)

INVINCIBLE *PROGRESS*

YEAR IN REVIEW

REVIEWING ACTS

- *Acts 1:1-12* – The risen King assures that the gospel will advance worldwide.
- *Acts 1:13 – 2:13* – Jesus has given his Spirit to his church to empower our obedience.
- *Acts 2:14-41* – Every human must call out to Jesus of Nazareth, the Lord, for salvation.
- *Acts 2:42-47* – **When God's Spirit comes on people, he produces a Jesus-worshiping community.**

To what activities
is a Spirit-empowered
church devoted?

1. It studies what the apostles taught.
2. It gives generously to its needy members.
3. It continually remembers Jesus's sacrificial death.
4. It prays—every kind of prayer.

REVIEWING ACTS

- *Acts 3-4* – Peter’s healing proves (and his following sermon proclaims) that King Jesus alone has the authority to save sinners—to forgive their sin and give life in the kingdom.
- *Acts 4:32 – 5:11* – Even Christian hypocrisy can’t stop the advance of the gospel (but Jesus hates hypocrisy and values integrity).
- *Acts 5:12 – 6:7* – “The word of God continued to spread” (6:7).

REVIEWING ACTS

- *Acts 7* – The gospel must spread past Jerusalem because God can't be “put in a box” (i.e., confined to the temple in Jerusalem).
- *Acts 8* – The gospel breaks every boundary, whether geographic, religious, or ethnic.
- *Acts 9* – The gospel has the power to change anyone, including its hardest opponent.
- *Acts 10-11* – The gospel can save non-Jews!

REVIEWING ACTS

- *Acts 11:19-30* – A healthy church welcomes outsiders in and sends its best insiders out.
- *Acts 12* – Nothing can stop the worldwide progress of the gospel because Jesus is the king of unlimited power and unrivaled glory.
- *Acts 13-14* – The first international advance of the gospel was all of grace.
- *Acts 15* – This gospel of grace cannot be earned by works. It must be received by faith.

REVIEWING ACTS

- *Acts 16* – The gospel advances in every level of society.
- *Acts 17* – The gospel advances in the toughest places.
- *Acts 18* – The gospel can advance in “**sin city**”—an area consumed with business, sports, and immorality.
- *Acts 19* – The greatest seasons of gospel advance may be the most difficult.

REVIEWING ACTS

- *Acts 20* – Every local church should be marked by faithful Christ-centered teaching and consistent Christlike leadership.
- *Acts 21-24* – Nothing can stop the gospel because it is the Lord's will that it progresses.
- *Acts 25-26* – The gospel can hold its own among the “upper crust” of society.
- *Acts 27-28* – God is managing every circumstance to ensure the gospel advances.

CONCLUSION

1. Thank King Jesus for the ways in which you've seen him advance the gospel in 2018.
2. Make sure your primary personal goals for 2019 are aligned with Jesus's primary agenda.