

ACTS 1-9

Acts 1:1 As you know, I prepared a prior narrative [Gospel of Luke], O Theophilus, emphasizing the things which Jesus began [setting a precedent] - to both perform [active signs and miracles] and teach [doctrine] –

Acts 1:2 Until the day in which He was taken up [assumption], after issuing orders through the Holy Spirit to the apostles [disciples are *students*, apostles are *teachers*] whom He Himself had chosen,

Acts 1:3 To whom [His apostles] He also presented Himself alive and well by many convincing proofs [investiture] after His suffering [enduring the crucifixion], being seen by them forty days, even as He continued to communicate things concerning the kingdom of God [earthly, Messianic, Israeli].

Acts 1:4 Furthermore, having assembled with *them*, He directed them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to continue waiting for the promise of the Father, which you previously heard about [initial hearing] from me,

Acts 1:5 That on the one hand, John baptized with water [*ritual* baptism], but you, on the other hand, will be baptized by means of the Holy Spirit [*real* baptism] not many days after this one.

Acts 1:6 So then, after they came together, they asked Him a question, inquiring: “Lord, are you going to restore the [earthly] kingdom to Israel at this time?”

Acts 1:7 Consequently, He replied to them face-to-face: “It is not for you to know the chronological events [in succession] or the fixed times [beginning, duration and ending of future dispensations] which the Father appointed by means of His own supreme authority [the timing of this future event is none of your business].

Acts 1:8 Nevertheless, you will receive power after the Holy Spirit comes upon you. Furthermore, you will be My witnesses [second *kingdom* commission] in both Jerusalem and in all Judea, as well as Samaria and as far as the end of the land [Jewish Palestine].”

Acts 1:9 Then, after communicating these things, He was taken up [assumption] as they were watching, and a cloud enveloped Him out of their sight.

Acts 1:10 Furthermore, while they were gazing intently as He proceeded into heaven, consider this, two men [angels] also stood beside them in white clothing,

Acts 1:11 Who then asked: “Men, Galileans, why are you standing here, gazing intently into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken away from you [assumption] up into heaven, shall return [2nd advent] in the same manner in which you have seen Him depart [ascension] into heaven.”

Acts 1:12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called Olivet, which is considered to be about a Sabbath day’s journey from Jerusalem.

Acts 1:13 And when they arrived, they entered the upper room where they were staying, both Peter and John, also James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James *the son* of Alphaeus and Simon the enthusiast, and Judas [Jude Thaddaeus] *the brother* of Jacob.

Acts 1:14 They were all busily engaged in prayer with one purpose, together with the women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as His brothers.

Acts 1:15 Now during the course of these days, Peter, standing up in the midst of the brethren [100% Jewish audience] – the number of people together with him was about one hundred twenty – said:

Acts 1:16 Men, brothers and sisters, it was necessary for the scripture [Psalm 41:9] to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke in advance through the mouth of David concerning Judas [Iscaiot], who became the guide for those who arrested Jesus,

Acts 1:17 Since he was counted to be part of us and had obtained a share of this ministry.

Acts 1:18 Now, on the one hand, this man acquired a parcel of land with dishonest money. However, after falling headfirst [bloated, swollen], he burst open in the middle [at the waist] and all his internal organs [intestines] spilled out.

Acts 1:19 And it became known [common knowledge] to all those who lived in Jerusalem, so that that parcel of land came to be called in their own language [dialect], Akeldamach, that is, a bloody parcel of land [worst real estate on the planet].

Acts 1:20 For it stands written in the Book of Psalms [69:25]: “Let his place of residence become desolate and let no one become a dweller in it.” Furthermore, a different kind of person had to take over his official position.

Acts 1:21 Therefore [since we have a vacancy], it is necessary - from the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus entered and exited from our presence,

Acts 1:22 Beginning from the baptism [water] of John up to the day when He was taken up from us [assumption] - *that* this person from among us [small circle of candidates] must be a witness to His resurrection with us.

Acts 1:23 Consequently, they nominated two: Joseph, the one called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

Acts 1:24 Then they began to pray, requesting: “Lord, knowing the mentality of the soul of all men, show clearly which one of these two You have chosen,

Acts 1:25 So that he may take over [fill the vacancy] this ministerial position, specifically the office of an apostle, since Judas transgressed with the result that he died and was transported to his own private location [region in hell].”

Acts 1:26 Then they cast their lots [two pebbles with names on them] and the vacant position represented by the selected lot fell to Matthias. Consequently, he was chosen to be together with the eleven apostles [numbered as one of the Twelve *kingdom* apostles].

Acts 2:1 Now when the day of Pentecost arrived [the Jewish festival celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, feast of weeks, feast of harvest], they were all together [twelve apostles attending a Jewish festival] at the same location,

Acts 2:2 And suddenly a sound came from heaven like a violent rushing [howling] wind and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

Acts 2:3 Then tongues [languages] appeared to them, which were distributed [divided], and one like a flame [fire] settled upon each of them [allocation],

Acts 2:4 Furthermore, all [those who were present on this occasion, perhaps the Apostles only] were filled with the Holy Spirit [emphasis on the sign-gift] and began to speak with different languages as the Spirit [emphasis on the Giver of the gift] appointed them to speak boldly.

Acts 2:5 Now there were Jews residing [sojourning, transitory habitation] in Jerusalem, devout men from each nation under heaven [commonwealth of Israel].

Acts 2:6 Then, as this outcry [the noise of a loud roaring wind accompanied by voices] began to occur, a multitude came together and was amazed, because each one began to hear them [the disciples] speaking in their own [native] language.

Acts 2:7 Furthermore, they were astounded and inquisitive, and asked: “Look, aren’t every one of them who is speaking Galileans?”

Acts 2:8 Also, how is it possible that we are hearing each one in their own respective language according to where we were born –

Acts 2:9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, including those who settled in Mesopotamia, as well as *in* Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

Acts 2:10 As well as *in* Phrygia and Pamphylia, *in* Egypt, and *in* parts of Libya near Cyrene, and those who were visiting from Rome,

Acts 2:11 Both Jews and proselytes [converts to Judaism], Cretes and Arabs - hearing them [the apostles] as they spoke about the mighty deeds of God in our languages?

Acts 2:12 Now they were all amazed and astonished and were greatly perplexed, one of a different kind [from a different country and native language] asking face-to-face to another of a different kind [from a different country with a different native language]: “What does this mean?”

Acts 2:13 But others of a different kind [with an explanation rather than a question], mocking, said: “They are full of sweet new wine!”

Acts 2:14 But Peter, holding his ground with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: “Jewish men, especially all those who are residents of Jerusalem, let this be known to you, in fact, pay attention to my words,

Acts 2:15 For, these men are not drunk, as you assume, for it is the third hour of the morning.

Acts 2:16 But this [speaking in foreign languages] is that [*partially* fulfilled prophecy] which was written by the prophet, Joel [2:28-32],

Acts 2:17 And God said: It will come to pass in the last days *that* I will pour out from My Spirit [emphasis on the gift] upon individual flesh [human beings]; then your sons and daughters will proclaim

a divine revelation and your young men will see visions and your older men [senior citizens] will have dream visions.

Acts 2:18 As a matter of fact, I will also pour out My Spirit upon My male slaves and upon My female slaves in those days and they will proclaim a divine revelation.

Acts 2:19 Furthermore, I will produce wonders in the heaven above and miraculous signs upon the earth below: blood and fire and a smokey mist [vapor].

Acts 2:20 The sun will be changed from its normal appearance into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome Day of the Lord [Tribulation period] comes.

Acts 2:21 Furthermore, it will come to pass *that* each person who calls upon the name of the Lord will be delivered.

Acts 2:22 Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man from God who was displayed and demonstrated to you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God [the Father] performed through Him [Jesus Christ] in your midst just as you yourselves know,

Acts 2:23 This man, having been appointed by the plan and foreordination of God, delivered-up [to the authorities by false arrest] by the hand of criminals, you have murdered by crucifixion,

Acts 2:24 Whom God raised up [resurrected], having untied the pains of death, in view of the fact that it was not possible for Him to be retained in custody by it [death has no power over the Son of God].

Acts 2:25 For David said about Him [in Psalm 16]: 'I try in advance to see the Lord before me through everything, since He is always at my right side, so that I might not become upset and disturbed.

Acts 2:26 Because of this, the mentality of my soul became cheerful and my tongue rejoiced. Likewise, then my flesh will also dwell with confidence,

Acts 2:27 Because You [God the Father] will not abandon my soul to Hades [the underworld], nor will You permit Your holy One to experience corruption [putrefaction].

Acts 2:28 You revealed to me the way of life. You will keep on filling me with gladness with Your countenance.

Acts 2:29 Men. Brothers. While it is relevant and timely, let me speak frankly face-to-face to you concerning our patriarch, David, since he both died and was buried. In fact, his tomb continues to be with us up to this very day.

Acts 2:30 Therefore, since he was a prophet and because he knew *that* God had sworn an oath to him that from the offspring of his reproductive organ, He would appoint One [the Messiah] upon his throne,

Acts 2:31 Knowing this beforehand, He spoke concerning the resurrection of the Messiah, that He would not be left behind in Hades, nor would His flesh [physical body] see corruption.

Acts 2:32 This Jesus God [the Father] raised up [resurrected], (Whose witnesses we [apostles and their followers] all are),

Acts 2:33 And consequently, being exalted to the right hand of God [session] and receiving the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He poured out this [gift of speaking in other languages] which you now see and hear,

Acts 2:34 By all means, David did not ascend into heaven, but instead he said: The Lord [God the Father] said to my Lord [the Messiah], Sit at My right hand,

Acts 2:35 Until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.

Acts 2:36 Beyond any doubt, therefore, let the entire house of Israel know that God [the Father] made Him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Acts 2:37 Now, after they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart [mentality of their soul] and replied face-to-face to Peter and the rest of the apostles: “What should we do, men, brothers?”

Acts 2:38 Then Peter replied face-to-face to them: “Repent [change your mind] and be baptized, each one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit,

Acts 2:39 For the promise is for you and your children and for all [Jewish believers] who *are* far away [dispersion, outside the commonwealth of Israel], as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

Acts 2:40 And with many other words he testified and appealed to them, saying repeatedly: “Be saved [rescued, liberated] from this dishonest and crooked generation [*old* Israel].”

Acts 2:41 Consequently, those who welcomed his message were baptized, and to be sure, about three thousand souls were added [to *new* Israel] on that day.

Acts 2:42 Furthermore, they continued to spend their time [listening and learning] in the teaching [doctrine] of the apostles and fellowship [building new relationships], breaking bread [metonym for a meal] and praying.

Acts 2:43 Meanwhile, a profound respect was developing by each soul. In addition, signs and wonders were performed by the apostles.

Acts 2:44 Furthermore, all those who believed were staying at the same place and sharing everything [primarily community meals] in common,

Acts 2:45 Even trying to sell their possessions and personal property and distributing them [the proceeds] to all men, in view of the fact that someone [visitors in town who did not have funds to extend their stay longer] may have a need [lack something].

Acts 2:46 And with one mind they spent much time daily in the temple, as well as breaking bread in various private homes, sharing food with happiness and a mentality of the soul characterized by simplicity,

Acts 2:47 Praising God and maintaining a gracious attitude face-to-face with the entire people. And the Lord added to those who were being saved daily.

Acts 3:1 Now, Peter and John entered the temple during the three o'clock hour of prayer [accompanied by the offering of incense],

Acts 3:2 And a particular man, who was lame from his mother's womb [birth], was being carried, whom they placed daily at the entrance to the temple which was called Beautiful, for the purpose of asking for alms [charitable giving] from those who were entering the temple,

Acts 3:3 Who, having seen Peter and John about to enter the temple, began to ask to receive alms [charitable giving].

Acts 3:4 Then Peter, accompanied by John, while fixing his eyes intently upon him, said: "Look at us."

Acts 3:5 In response, he began to fix his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.

Acts 3:6 Then Peter said: "I do not have at my disposal silver or gold, but that which I have, this I will give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, get up and start walking."

Acts 3:7 And as he grasped his right hand, he began to raise [lifted] him up and his feet and ankles became strong.

Acts 3:8 Then, after leaping up, he stood and walked step-by-step and entered the temple with them, walking around and leaping and praising God.

Acts 3:9 And each person saw him walking around and praising God.

Acts 3:10 Furthermore, they began to recognize him because he was the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple for alms [charitable giving]. In fact, they were filled with astonishment and bewilderment because of that [miracle of healing] which had happened to him.

Acts 3:11 And while he was clinging to Peter and John, the entire crowd [people inside the temple] rushed together to them in the colonnade [porch], the one called Solomon's, utterly astonished.

Acts 3:12 Now, when Peter saw the crowd of people, he addressed them with discernment: "Men, Israelites, why are you amazed at this? Or, why are you staring at us, as though we made him walk by means of our own power or godliness [spirituality].

Acts 3:13 The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, glorified His Servant-Son, Jesus, whom you on the one hand delivered up and repudiated before the face of Pilate, when he was determined [after making his judgment] to release Him,

Acts 3:14 And on the other hand, you rejected the Holy One, the Righteous One [the Messiah], and demanded *that* a man, a murderer [Barabbas], be pardoned and given to you as a favor,

Acts 3:15 And murdered the Originator of life whom God raised out from the dead ones, concerning which [resurrection] we are witnesses,

Acts 3:16 Furthermore, upon the ground of the faith in His Name - this man [formerly lame beggar] whom you are scrutinizing and have known in the past and continue to know this very moment - His Name made *him* strong [ability to stand and walk], the faith given to him through Him [Jesus Christ] *made* him sound and complete [body, soul, spirit], contrary to all of you.

Acts 3:17 However, now, brothers, I understand that you did this as a result of ignorance, even as your officials [authorities].

Acts 3:18 But the things *which* God announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets *that* His Messiah would suffer, He fulfilled in this manner.

Acts 3:19 Nevertheless, repent [change your mind] and turn away from [renounce] your sins so that they may be blotted out [wiped away, removed, obliterated],

Acts 3:20 In order that extended periods of restful and refreshing time [restoration and relief, R&R, spiritual strength] may come from the presence of the Lord, and He may send Jesus the Messiah, whom He has appointed [as an envoy or representative], on a divine mission to you,

Acts 3:21 Whom it was necessary [required by divine decree] for heaven to welcome [ascension and session] until the times of restoration, all of which God proclaimed through the mouth of His holy prophets before this age.

Acts 3:22 Moses indeed said that: ‘The Lord your God will raise up a prophet for you from among your brethren who *is* like me. You shall listen to everything He says face-to-face to you, whatever *it is*.

Acts 3:23 And it will come to pass *that* each soul who, if he will not listen to this prophet, *then* he will be rooted out from among the people [new Israel] and utterly destroyed.’

Acts 3:24 Furthermore, indeed, all the prophets, those following Samuel, one after another, at least as many as [those who took their responsibility seriously] ought to speak [fulfilling their prophetic gift], also proclaimed [announced beforehand] these days.

Acts 3:25 You, you are the descendants of the prophets [bound to them by close ties] and of the covenant [those who share in God’s divine promise] which God conferred as the Testator face-to-face with your fathers [ancestors], when He told Abraham face-to-face: ‘Furthermore, by means of your descendants [Jewish race], all the families of the earth will be blessed.’

Acts 3:26 God, having raised up His Son, sent Him on a mission to you [Jews in Israel] first, for the purpose of blessing you, after each one of you turns away from your wicked deeds.”

Acts 4:1 Now while they [both Peter and John] were speaking face-to-face to the people [a distinctive OT covenant term for Israel], the priests and captain of the temple police and Sadducees approached and were ready to attack them,

Acts 4:2 Being greatly disturbed [annoyed, indignant] because they themselves were teaching the people and were proclaiming in the case of Jesus the resurrection out from the dead ones.

Acts 4:3 Consequently, they laid hands upon [seized] them and placed *them* in custody [jail, detention] until the next day, for it was already evening.

Acts 4:4 However, many of those who heard the Word [kingdom gospel] believed and the number of men established was [as part of the remnant of believing Israel] approximately five thousand.

Acts 4:5 Now it came to pass on the next day, after their ruling authorities and official elders and legal scholars had come together [sometimes referred to as the 70] in Jerusalem,

Acts 4:6 Including Annas, the high priest, and Caiaphas and John and Alexander and as many as were relatives of the high priest,

Acts 4:7 And having stood [placed, escorted] them [Peter and John] in their midst, they asked by way of inquiry: “By what kind of authority or by what name did you do this [healing of a lame man]?”

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, being filled by the Holy Spirit, replied face-to-face to them: “Rulers of the people and official elders,

Acts 4:9 Since we [Peter and John] are being questioned [examined] today regarding a good deed *done* to a helpless [infirm] man, by which he was healed from a lifetime impairment,

Acts 4:10 Let it be known to all of you and to every citizen of Israel, that by means of the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised [resurrected] out from the dead ones, by means of this One [the Messiah], this man stands before you healthy [healed, sound body, whole].

Acts 4:11 He is the Stone who was rejected with contempt by you, the builders, who has become the Cornerstone.

Acts 4:12 Furthermore, there is no salvation [Messianic: individual and national deliverance] in any other [exclusivity], for there is no other name under heaven which has been given among men by means of which it is necessary for us to be saved [individual and national deliverance].”

Acts 4:13 Now when they observed the confidence [boldness] of Peter and John and detected that they were uneducated [unlettered] and amateur [untrained] men, they were astonished. Then they began to recognize them, that they had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:14 In addition, seeing the man who was standing together with them, the one who had been healed, they had nothing to say against *them*.

Acts 4:15 However, after ordering them to depart outside of the council chamber, they began to confer [recess behind closed doors] face-to-face with one another,

Acts 4:16 Saying: “What should we do with these men? For indeed, an attesting miracle was performed through them, clearly seen in public by all manner of those who live in Jerusalem, and we are not able to deny *it*.

Acts 4:17 However, so that it does not spread among the people, let us warn them in a threatening tone to stop speaking to the people, not even to one person among men, about this Name.”

Acts 4:18 Consequently, after summoning them, they ordered *them* not to speak at all nor to teach about the Name of Jesus.

Acts 4:19 But Peter and John, replying face-to-face to them with discernment, said: “Whether it is law-abiding in the sight of God to obey you rather than God, you may judge,

Acts 4:20 For we are not able to stop speaking about the things which we saw and heard.”

Acts 4:21 Now after they issued additional threats, they released them, because they could find nothing at all that they could punish them for in the presence of the people, since they all continued to glorify God for what had occurred,

Acts 4:22 For the man, upon whom this miracle-sign of healing had occurred, was more than forty years old.

Acts 4:23 Now after they were released, they went face-to-face to their own people [believers in Jesus Christ: the new Israel] and reported everything that the chief priests and official elders had told them face-to-face.

Acts 4:24 And after they heard *this*, they raised a voice with one mind before God and said: “Absolute Master, You who created the heaven and earth and sea and all things in them,

Acts 4:25 Who by the mouth of Your servant, David, our forefather, through the Holy Spirit, asked: ‘Why do the Gentiles behave arrogantly [wild snorting like an intractable horse] and the people cultivate and practice empty things?’

Acts 4:26 The kings of the earth stood up [aligned themselves with] and our officials [Jewish] became a group of conspirators at the same location [a unified coalition in Jerusalem] against the Lord and His Messiah,

Acts 4:27 For truly they were joined together [became a conspiratorial force] in this city [Jerusalem], against Your holy servant-son, Jesus, Whom you anointed, both Herod [Jewish king] and Pontius Pilate [Roman governor], together with the nations [Gentiles] and the people [unbelievers] of Israel,

Acts 4:28 For the purpose of doing as many things as Your hand [*anthropomorphism*: controlling power of God] and Your sovereign plan determined beforehand [predestined] to occur.

Acts 4:29 Furthermore, as far as current things stand, Lord, please focus Your attention upon their threats and grant the ability to Your bondslaves to communicate Your Word with every manner of frankness and confidence,

Acts 4:30 While You stretch out Your hand for the purpose of healing, in addition to producing signs and miracles through the name of Your holy servant-son, Jesus.”

Acts 4:31 Then, after their prayer was completed, the place in which they were gathered was shaken and every one of them was filled by the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, they began to speak the Word of God with frankness and confidence.

Acts 4:32 Now, there was one [unified] mind and soul among the crowd who believed [remnant, *new* Israel]. In fact, not one asserted *that* the things [private property] which were at his disposal [private property], anything, was private property [his own possession], but rather it was theirs, i.e., everything *was* communal [unprecedented sharing].

Acts 4:33 Furthermore, with great power the apostles gave periodic testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and a large measure of graciousness [practical application from the filling of the Spirit] was exhibited by all of them.

Acts 4:34 As a matter of fact, no one among them [small group of believers] was impoverished, for as many as were owners [had at their disposal] of land and houses for the purpose of selling [real estate investors], occasionally brought their compensation [price, value of property sold] after they were sold,

Acts 4:35 And occasionally presented *it* [compensation on property sales] at the feet of the apostles. Subsequently, it was distributed [repeated when necessary] to each person to the degree that a certain person had need [qualifications had to be met by each candidate].

Acts 4:36 Now Joseph, who was surnamed Barnabas by the apostles, which translated means Son of Encouragement, a Levite, a Cypriot by nationality,

Acts 4:37 Having a parcel of land at his disposal, after selling *it*, brought the money in person and placed *it* at the feet of the apostles.

Acts 5:1 But a certain man named Ananias with his wife, Sapphira, sold a parcel of land,

Acts 5:2 And misrepresented [financial fraud] part of the purchasing price [low-balled the sales price as part of an income tax fraud scheme], his wife also being implicated, and having brought a certain part [portion of the proceeds], he placed *it* at the feet of the apostles.

Acts 5:3 But Peter asked: “Ananias, why has Satan overwhelmed the mentality of your soul with the result that you have lied with reference to the Holy Spirit and have misrepresented [income tax evasion] part of the purchasing price of the parcel of land?”

Acts 5:4 While it remained *unsold*, did it not remain your possession? Indeed, before it was sold, it existed [was at your disposal] during this time under your authority. Why did you fabricate this transaction in the mentality of your soul? You have not lied to men, but to God [a criminal transaction conducted under the cover of a charitable deed].”

Acts 5:5 Then Ananias, after hearing these words and having collapsed, exhaled his last breath. And great fear came over all those who heard.

Acts 5:6 And after standing up, the younger men covered him up and after carrying *him* out, buried *him*.

Acts 5:7 Now, an interval of about three hours elapsed and his wife, who did not know about that which had transpired, entered,

Acts 5:8 And Peter asked her face-to-face with discernment: “Tell me, did you sell the parcel of land for this much?” And she replied: “Yes, for that much.”

Acts 5:9 Then Peter *asked* her face-to-face: “Why is it that you [and your husband] came to a mutual agreement to test by your craftiness [negative connotation: deceitful and criminal activity] the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who buried your husband *are* at the door and they will carry you out.”

Acts 5:10 Then she immediately collapsed at his feet and expired her last breath [judgment of the accomplice]. And the young men, having entered, found her dead, and after carrying *her* out, they buried *her* next to her husband.

Acts 5:11 Consequently, great fear came over the entire assembly [*new* Israel] and upon all those who heard these things.

Acts 5:12 Now by the hands of the apostles, attesting miracles and many wonders were performed among the people [*new* Israel], and they had one mind and purpose, all of them [the believing remnant], under Solomon’s colonnade.

Acts 5:13 But concerning the rest [unbelievers, *old* Israel], not one had the courage [because of what happened to Ananias and Sapphira] to associate with them [Peter and John], although the people spoke well of them on occasion.

Acts 5:14 Meanwhile, those who believed [that Jesus was the Messiah] were continually being added to the Lord [a growing remnant of believers: *new* Israel] now more than ever, crowds of both men and women,

Acts 5:15 With the result that *they* also carried the sick out into the streets and laid *them* upon beds and pallets [makeshift mattresses], so that when Peter appeared before the public [walking by on one of his daily routes], his shadow might cast a shadow over one of them.

Acts 5:16 Furthermore, a large crowd from the cities [small villages] around Jerusalem assembled on occasion, also carrying sick ones, as well as *those* who were troubled by unclean spirits, who were healed, every one of them.

Acts 5:17 Now, the high priest, having stood up, and all those with him (the religious sect known as the Sadducees), were filled with jealousy [major irritant, political opposition].

Acts 5:18 So, they laid hands on [rearrested] the apostles and put them in the public jail.

Acts 5:19 But an angel of the Lord, after opening the doors of the jail during the night and having brought them out, said:

Acts 5:20 “Go, and while standing your ground [do not be intimidated by the politico-religious leaders of Israel], continue speaking all the words about this life to the people in the temple [to your friends and family, the Jews; Gentiles not included in this commission].”

Acts 5:21 Consequently, after hearing *this*, they entered the temple early in the morning and began teaching. Now, after the high priest arrived, including those who accompanied him, he called together the Sanhedrin [high council], the entire council of elders [senate], and the sons of Israel, and sent *them* [sons of Israel] to the jail for the purpose of bringing [to court for punishment] them [the apostles].

Acts 5:22 But when the officers [young men] arrived, they did not find them in the jail guard-house. Consequently, after returning, they made an announcement,

Acts 5:23 Saying: “We found the jail locked in a state of complete security and the guards standing at the doors. But when we opened *them*, we found nobody inside [escape from jail].”

Acts 5:24 Now, when they heard these words, the captain of the temple guard and also the chief priests were perplexed concerning them [the apostles], as to what might become of this [inexplicable event].

Acts 5:25 Then a certain person, after coming forward, reported to them: “Look! The men whom you put in jail are in the temple, standing their ground [firm and resolute] and teaching the people [exercising their freedom of speech].”

Acts 5:26 Then the captain, having departed with the officers [young male assistants or deputies], brought them back [led them to the council chambers] without force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

Acts 5:27 Nevertheless, having escorted them, they stood before the Sanhedrin and the high priest interrogated them,

Acts 5:28 Saying: “We strictly commanded you with a direct order [their anger had turned to hatred] to stop teaching about this name, and yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are trying to bring this man’s blood upon us.”

Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the apostles, replying with discernment, said: “It is necessary to obey God [allegiance to God is significantly greater] rather than men.

Acts 5:30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you murdered by hanging *Him* upon a cross.

Acts 5:31 God raised up and exalted this One to His right hand *as* Supreme Ruler and Savior, for the purpose of granting repentance and the forgiveness of sins to Israel [kingdom gospel].

Acts 5:32 Furthermore, we [all of the apostles standing before the Sanhedrin] are witnesses to these things and so *is* the Holy Spirit whom God gave to those [remnant of Jewish believers: *new* Israel] who obey Him.

Acts 5:33 Now when they heard this, they became infuriated [cut to the heart in surgical terms] and wanted to kill them [their hatred had turned to revenge motivation].

Acts 5:34 Then a certain person in the Sanhedrin, a Pharisee by the name of Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, after standing up, urged *that* they escort the men [the apostles] outside [of the council] for a brief time.

Acts 5:35 Then he said face-to-face to them: “Men, Israelites, consider objectively [think about the ramifications] within yourselves what you are about to do to these men [hostile intent],

Acts 5:36 Since before these days [once upon a time] Theudas came forward, claiming he was someone of importance himself, whom a number of men became attached to (about four hundred), who was killed and all (as many as had been persuaded by him), were disbanded [completely broken up] and came to nothing.

Acts 5:37 After this man, Judas, a Galilean, came forward during the days of the census and misled [gathered a following] people after him. He also destroyed himself [ruined his reputation, perhaps committed suicide] and all (as many as followed him) were scattered.

Acts 5:38 So, with reference to current events, I suggest to you, withdraw from these men [apostles] and leave them alone, because if this counsel [message] or this work [miracle] is out from men as a source [as opposed to God], it will be demolished.

Acts 5:39 But assuming it is out from God as a source, you will not be able to destroy them, or you may indeed be found fighting against God.” Subsequently, they were persuaded by him.

Acts 5:40 Then, after summoning and beating [flogging: 40 lashes minus 1] the apostles, they ordered *them*: “Stop speaking about the name of Jesus.” Then they released *them*.

Acts 5:41 Consequently, they departed from the presence of the Sanhedrin, while indeed rejoicing that they were considered worthy to be dishonored for the sake of the Name.

Acts 5:42 Furthermore, each day in the temple [publicly] and at home [privately] they did not stop teaching [doctrinal] and preaching [evangelistic] Christ Jesus.

Acts 6:1 Now during these days when the number of student-disciples was increasing, a complaint arose from the Hellenists [Jews from Greece] against the Hebrews [Jews from Israel], that their widows were being neglected during the daily distribution.

Acts 6:2 So, the Twelve, after calling together a large number of student-disciples [disciples are *students*, apostles are *teachers*], announced: "It is not acceptable for us [as apostles who teach] to abandon the Word of God [as table waiters] for the purpose of serving meals.

Acts 6:3 Therefore, brethren, please select from among yourselves seven men who are well spoken of, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we will appoint to take charge over this service.

Acts 6:4 But we [apostles] will continue to be busily engaged in prayer and ministry of the Word.

Acts 6:5 Now in the opinion of the entire assembly, the proposed solution was appealing and responsive, so they selected Stephen, a man filled with doctrine and the Holy Spirit, as well as Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenes and Nicolas, a proselyte [of righteousness] from Antioch,

Acts 6:6 Whom [all seven candidates] they stood before the apostles and after praying, they laid hands upon them.

Acts 6:7 And the Word of God continued to spread and the number of student-disciples in Jerusalem increased [multiplied] greatly. Furthermore, a significant [large percentage] group of priests listened to and obeyed the faith [Bible doctrine, the kingdom gospel, content of belief].

Acts 6:8 Now Stephen, full of grace and power, performed great miracles and signs among the people on a continuous basis,

Acts 6:9 Then certain men came forward from the synagogue (which is called *the synagogue of the Libertines* [Freedmen] and Cyrenians and Alexandrians and those from Celicia and Asia) and engaged in a debate [heckling] with Stephen.

Acts 6:10 But they were not strong enough [in logic or wisdom] to stand up against [resist] the wisdom and the Spirit [spiritual gift] by which he spoke.

Acts 6:11 Then they secretly instigated men to commit perjury [induced to commit an evil and criminal act] by claiming: "We heard him speaking blasphemous [scandalous] words against Moses and God."

Acts 6:12 And they stirred-up [instigated a riot] the people and the elders and the scribes emotionally and after planning their attack and stealthily approaching, they seized him violently and brought [dragged] *him* to the Sanhedrin.

Acts 6:13 And they presented false witnesses who claimed: "This man will not stop speaking words against this holy place and the law,

Acts 6:14 For we have heard him saying that Jesus, the Nazarene, this man will destroy this place and will change the customs which Moses handed down to us."

Acts 6:15 Then all who were sitting in the Sanhedrin, as they fixed their eyes upon him [Stephen, the accused], saw his face as if it was the face of an angel [radiant countenance].

Acts 7:1 Then the chief priest asked: “Can these things [each claim added together into one accusation] be factual [true]?”

Acts 7:2 And he replied: “Men, brethren [fellow countrymen], and fathers, please listen. The God of glory appeared to our forefather [ancestor], Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he settled himself in Charran,

Acts 7:3 And said face-to-face to him: ‘Leave your country [home of idolatry] and your relatives [idolaters] and come into the land [Canaan, later becomes Israel] which I intend to show you [point out].’

Acts 7:4 Subsequently, after departing from the land of the Chaldeans, he settled in Charran, and from there, after his father died, He transferred [God moved or relocated] him [Abraham] into this land [Israel] in which you are now residing.

Acts 7:5 However, He did not give him an inheritance in it, not even a foot of ground [inheriting the land and possessing it are not the same thing]. Yet he had promised to give it to him and his offspring after him as a possession when he did not have a child.

Acts 7:6 Therefore [because of His earlier promise], God proclaimed as follows: ‘Your descendants [Isaac] will be strangers in a foreign [hostile] land and they [the Egyptians] will enslave and mistreat them for four hundred years [generational discipline].’

Acts 7:7 Furthermore, God announced: ‘The nation which they will be subjected to as slaves [Egypt], I Myself will judge [condemn and execute sentence upon], and after these things, they will come out [be released from Egypt] and they will worship Me in this place.’

Acts 7:8 Then He entrusted him with a covenant, the rite of circumcision, and in this manner, he became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day. Then Isaac *fathered* Jacob, and Jacob *fathered* the twelve patriarchs [first generation of Israelites].

Acts 7:9 Now these patriarchs [founding fathers], filled with jealousy [envy], sold Joseph in Egypt, but God was with him,

Acts 7:10 And delivered him [Joseph] out from all of his afflictions [difficult circumstances, oppressions], and gave him favor [goodwill] and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Consequently [due to his favorability rating], he appointed him to an official position of leadership and responsibility over Egypt and his entire household.

Acts 7:11 Then a famine came over all Egypt and Canaan, accompanied by great affliction [dire circumstances, torment]. For example, our fathers were not able to obtain food.

Acts 7:12 So, when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he dispatched our fathers for the first time.

Acts 7:13 Now on the second trip, Joseph was recognized by his brothers and Joseph’s genealogy became evident to Pharaoh.

Acts 7:14 Consequently, Joseph, by sending a message, summoned Jacob, his father, and every relative, about seventy-five souls.

Acts 7:15 So, Jacob went down into Egypt, then died, he and our fathers,

Acts 7:16 And they [our fathers] were transported to Sychem and were placed in the tomb: *he* in that which Abraham had purchased for a set quantity [agreed-upon sum] of silver coins *and they* [in that which was bought by Jacob] from the sons of Hemmor in Sychem.

Acts 7:17 But as the time of the promise which God had declared to Abraham approached, people [the earth's population] increased and were multiplied [by immigration] in Egypt,

Acts 7:18 Until the time when there arose a king of a different kind over Egypt [a virulent anti-Semite], who never knew Joseph.

Acts 7:19 This man, taking advantage of our ancestors by trickery, mistreated our fathers while simultaneously seizing their exposed and abandoned babies with the result that they might not remain alive,

Acts 7:20 During which time, Moses was born. Now he was handsome [well pleasing] in the sight of God, Who took care of [protected] him in the house of his father for three months.

Acts 7:21 And when he was abandoned [in a basket in the river], the daughter of Pharaoh adopted him and reared him as her own son.

Acts 7:22 Consequently, Moses was instructed in every category of Egyptian wisdom and became powerful in his words and deeds.

Acts 7:23 Now when his *age* reached forty years, it entered the mentality of his soul to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel,

Acts 7:24 And while observing a certain man being injured, he retaliated [came to the rescue] and executed vengeance on behalf of the man who was being oppressed by striking and killing the Egyptian.

Acts 7:25 Subsequently, he supposed *that* his brethren would understand that God was going to provide deliverance through his hand, but they did not comprehend [no insight into God's purpose and plan].

Acts 7:26 So, on the next day, he appeared before them while they were arguing and he tried to reconcile them with a view towards peace, saying: 'Men, you are brothers. Why are you bullying [treating indecently, hassling] one another [of the same kind: fellow Jews]?'

Acts 7:27 But the one who was bullying his neighbor pushed him aside, saying: 'Who appointed you ruler and judge over us?'

Acts 7:28 You do not desire to kill me in the same manner in which you killed the Egyptian yesterday, do you?'

Acts 7:29 Then Moses disappeared [vanished] at this word and became a stranger in the land of Midian where he fathered two sons.

Acts 7:30 Now, after forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the deserted region around Mount Sinai in a flame of a thorn-bush fire.

Acts 7:31 And after seeing *it*, Moses was amazed at the sight [spectacle], and when he approached *it* for closer inspection, the Lord's voice came to him:

Acts 7:32 'I *am* the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob.' But Moses, becoming terrified, did not have the courage to listen and fully comprehend *it*.

Acts 7:33 Then the Lord said to him: 'Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place upon which you stand is holy ground.'

Acts 7:34 As I was engaged in observation, I saw the mistreatment of My people who *are* in Egypt and I heard their groaning, therefore, I have come down to rescue them. In fact, I have come here now [God's perfect timing] for the purpose of sending you to Egypt.'

Acts 7:35 This Moses, whom they [Israelites] repudiated by saying: 'Who appointed you ruler and judge,' this same man God sent as both ruler and redeemer along with the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the thorn-bush.

Acts 7:36 This man will lead them out, after performing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and at the Red Sea and in the desert for forty years.

Acts 7:37 This is the Moses, the one who said to the sons of Israel: 'God will raise up a Prophet similar to me on your behalf from your brethren.'

Acts 7:38 This is the one who came with the assembly into the desert, accompanied by our fathers and the angel who had spoken to him at Mount Sinai, who received the living oracles [Ten Commandments] for the purpose of giving *them* to you,

Acts 7:39 Towards whom our fathers were not willing to become obedient, but rather pushed *him* aside [rejection] and turned the mentality of their souls back to Egypt,

Acts 7:40 Having said to Aaron: 'Please make us gods [idols representing the gods that the God had just destroyed] which will go before us, because this Moses who led us out of the land of Egypt, we don't know what has become of him.'

Acts 7:41 And so, they made a calf in those days and offered a sacrifice to the idol and rejoiced [had a wild party] in the works of their hands.

Acts 7:42 Consequently, God turned away from *them* and handed them over to the worship of the host [army] of heaven [demons], just as it was written [Amos 5:25-27] in the book [the Hebrew Bible, Tanakh] of the prophets [the Nevi'im]: 'You, house of Israel, did not bring and present to Me offerings and sacrifices for forty years in the wilderness.'

Acts 7:43 Instead, you adopted the tent of Moloch and the star of your god, Rephan, images which you made for the purpose of worshipping them. Therefore, I will deport [remove] you beyond Babylon.'

Acts 7:44 The tabernacle was a testimony to your fathers in the wilderness [all of its parts painted a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ.], just as He directed when He told Moses to make it according to the pattern which he had seen.

Acts 7:45 Which our fathers, after finally receiving in turn [after rejecting Moloch and embracing the Lord], brought in [national worship] as Joshua [in sync with his military maneuvers] held back [restrained] the Gentiles, whom God expelled [drove out] from the presence of our fathers until the days of David,

Acts 7:46 Who found favor in the sight of God and asked for permission to locate a dwelling place for the God of Jacob.

Acts 7:47 Instead, Solomon built Him a house.

Acts 7:48 However, the Most High [His Shekinah Glory] does not dwell in *structures* built by human hands, just as the Prophet said:

Acts 7:49 ‘Heaven *is* My throne and Earth *is* a footstool for My feet. What kind of house will you build for Me,’ asks the Lord, or ‘where *is* My place of rest?’

Acts 7:50 Did My hand not create all these things?’

Acts 7:51 You stiff-necked and stubborn, uncircumcised in minds and ears, always resisting and opposing [grieving and quenching] the Holy Spirit (just as your fathers *did*, likewise you),

Acts 7:52 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? Furthermore, they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One [Jesus Christ], concerning whom you have now [after crucifying Him] become betrayers [to the Jewish religion] and murderers [of the Messiah],

Acts 7:53 You who have received the law through the directions of angels, but have not guarded and kept *it*.”

Acts 7:54 Now, after hearing these things, they were infuriated [hostility, rage] and cut to their hearts, and they ground [gnashed] their teeth against him.

Acts 7:55 But he, filled and at the disposal of the Holy Spirit, looking intently into heaven, saw the [Shekinah] glory of God [celestial splendor] and Jesus, standing at the right hand of God,

Acts 7:56 And said: “Behold, I see the heavens being opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

Acts 7:57 However, while screaming with a loud voice, they stopped their ears and rushed at him with one mind [violent impulse, united in their opposition against him],

Acts 7:58 And after driving *him* out of the city, they threw stones *at him*. Furthermore, the witnesses took off and placed their robes at the feet of a young man [24-40 years old] named Saul.

Acts 7:59 Then [after removing their robes] they continued to throw stones at Stephen as he was calling upon *God*, saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

Acts 7:60 And after kneeling down, he cried out [screamed] with a loud voice: “Lord, do not place this sin against them.” Then, having said this, he passed away.

Acts 8:1 Even Saul was an ardent supporter [cheered from the sidelines] of his death. Then on that same day, a great persecution began to occur against the assembly [remnant of believing Jews] in Jerusalem, and all [primarily those who were meeting together in homes and gardens] were scattered throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

Acts 8:2 Meanwhile, devout men [God-fearing, remnant of Israel] buried Stephen and expressed a loud lamentation [mourning] over him.

Acts 8:3 But Saul continued to inflict damage on the assembly [remnant of Jewish believers] by entering houses and committing men and women to prison after dragging *them* away.

Acts 8:4 Consequently, on the one hand, those [Jewish believers] who were scattered [run out of Jerusalem] went from place-to-place preaching the Word [gospel to the circumcision].

Acts 8:5 On the other hand [as opposed to those who remained in the outskirts of Jerusalem], Philip, having descended into the district of Samaria, began to proclaim the Messiah to them.

Acts 8:6 Furthermore, the people [Samaritans] continued to pay attention with one mind to the things which were repeatedly spoken by Philip, supported by hearing and seeing them, i.e., the attesting miracles which he continually performed,

Acts 8:7 For many, having [possessing] unclean spirits, which screamed [shouted] with a loud voice, came out, and many who were paralyzed [disabled], their crippled [lame] legs were healed.

Acts 8:8 Consequently, there was much inner happiness in that city [Samaria].

Acts 8:9 However, a certain man named Simon, who had beforehand practiced magical arts [sorcery] in the city and had amazed [seduced] the people of Samaria, had declared himself to be a great person,

Acts 8:10 To whom all kinds, from the least to the greatest, said: “This man has the power of God which is considered [called by the local citizens] to be great.”

Acts 8:11 So, they followed and paid attention to him because for a long time he had been amazing them with [black] magic.

Acts 8:12 Now, when they began to believe Philip as he was proclaiming the good news about the [Messianic] Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:13 Furthermore, Simon himself also believed, and after being baptized, he wanted to be attached and devoted to Philip [as an adherent or apprentice of sorts], desiring to invoke amazement, while observing [studying] both the astounding signs and the great, powerful miracles which he performed.

Acts 8:14 Now, the apostles in Jerusalem, having heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, sent Peter and John on a mission [inspection] face-to-face to them,

Acts 8:15 Who [Peter and John], after they had arrived, prayed on their behalf in order that they [the Samaritans] might receive the Holy Spirit [gifts or miracles from the Spirit],

Acts 8:16 For He did not yet reside among them, having fallen upon no one, since before they arrived, they had only been baptized into the Name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 8:17 Then they [Peter and John] laid hands upon them [Samaritan believers] and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:18 Now Simon, having seen that through the laying on of the apostle's hands the Spirit was being given, offered them [Peter and John] money,

Acts 8:19 Saying: "Please give this authority to me, so that on whomsoever I also may lay hands on, he will receive the Holy Spirit."

Acts 8:20 But Peter replied face-to-face to him: "Your money may accompany you in your ruin, because you thought [supposed] you could obtain [procure] the gift of God with money.

Acts 8:21 You do not have a part or share in this matter, because the mentality of your soul is not upright in the sight [judgment] of God.

Acts 8:22 Therefore, repent of this [change your pattern of thinking], your wickedness [vicious disposition], and begin praying to the Lord so that perhaps, as a result, He might forgive you, i.e., the thoughts and intents of your heart [mentality of his soul],

Acts 8:23 For I see that you are operating [*modus operandi*: method of living] in a gall of bitterness [poison of vipers] and a bond of wrongdoing [unrighteousness, iniquity]."

Acts 8:24 Then Simon replied, saying with discernment: "You all [Peter and John], please pray face-to-face with the Lord on my behalf so that none of the things which you said about me materialize."

Acts 8:25 Then, on the one hand, they [Peter and John], after warning and communicating the word of the Lord, began their return to Jerusalem and continued to proclaim the good news in many Samaritan villages.

Acts 8:26 On the other hand, an angel of the Lord spoke face-to-face with Philip, saying: "Get up and proceed toward the south along the road which heads down from Jerusalem into Gaza. This one is deserted."

Acts 8:27 So, after arising, he proceeded on his journey and saw an Ethiopian man, a eunuch, a court official under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of her entire treasury, who had gone to Jerusalem for the purpose of praying and worshipping,

Acts 8:28 And was now returning. Furthermore, while sitting in his chariot, he was also reading the prophet Isaiah.

Acts 8:29 And the Spirit said to Philip: "Approach and become joined to this chariot as a traveling companion."

Acts 8:30 Then, as Philip ran up to it [approached the chariot], he heard him reading aloud Isaiah the prophet [chapter 53]. And he asked: "Do you understand what you are reading?"

Acts 8:31 And he replied: "Indeed, how am I able to unless someone will instruct me?" And he invited Philip to climb up [into the chariot] and sit with him.

Acts 8:32 Now, the contents of the scripture which he was reading out loud were this: “Like a sheep being led to slaughter and like a lamb before his shearer, silent, in this manner He did not open His mouth [points to the Messiah].

Acts 8:33 In His humiliation, the equitable administration of justice due Him was disallowed. Who will relate to posterity [share the historical account, tell the story] that His life was taken from the earth?

Acts 8:34 Then the eunuch, answering Philip with discernment, replied: “I am begging you, with reference to this [passage of Scripture], whom is the prophet referring to – concerning himself or concerning another of a different kind?”

Acts 8:35 Then Philip, opening his mouth and beginning with this scripture, explained the good news about Jesus to him.

Acts 8:36 Now as they were proceeding along the road, they came upon a certain body of water and the eunuch said: “Look, water. What prevents me from being baptized?”

Acts 8:37 And he gave the command for the chariot to stand still.

Acts 8:38 Then they both descended into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

Acts 8:39 Furthermore, when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away [forcible or sudden seizure] and the eunuch did not see him any longer. So, he proceeded on his way, rejoicing.

Acts 8:40 Later, Philip was discovered in Azotus. While passing through, he proclaimed the good news to all the cities until he arrived in Caesarea.

Acts 9:1 Now Saul, still breathing [inspired by] a threat of injury [harm] and murder [slaughter] against disciples of the Lord, having approached the high priest,

Acts 9:2 Asked for letters from him to the synagogues in Damascus in order that if he found any who belonged to the Way [*true* Israel, believers in Jesus the Messiah], both men and women, he might bring them back to Jerusalem bound and arrested.

Acts 9:3 Now while he was proceeding on it [his journey] and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light flashed around him [shone brightly] from heaven, and He Himself [Jesus] appeared.

Acts 9:4 And after falling upon the ground, he heard a Voice which said: “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”

Acts 9:5 And he inquired: “Who are you, Lord?” And he *replied*: “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

Acts 9:6 Now, get up and enter the city and it will be communicated to you what you must do.”

Acts 9:7 And the men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing on the one hand, a Voice, but on the other hand, seeing nobody.

Acts 9:8 Then Saul rose up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he saw nothing. So, leading him by the hand, they brought *him* into Damascus.

Acts 9:9 And he was without the ability to see for three days. Furthermore, he did not eat nor did he drink.

Acts 9:10 Now there was a certain disciple [student] in Damascus named Ananias and the Lord said to him face-to-face in a vision: “Ananias.” And he replied: “Lord, here I *am*.”

Acts 9:11 And the Lord *said* face-to-face to him: “After you get up, proceed on the street called Straight and inquire in the house of Judas for the name Saul from Tarsus, for you see, he will be engaged in prayer.

Acts 9:12 Furthermore, he has seen a man in a vision named Ananias, who came and laid hands upon him in order that he might regain sight.”

Acts 9:13 Then Ananias replied with discernment: “Lord, I’ve heard from many concerning this man, how he did evil things to Your saints in Jerusalem.

Acts 9:14 He also has in his possession in this place [present circumstances] delegated authority from the chief priests to arrest all those who call upon Your name.”

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said face-to-face to him: “Go, because this man is My chosen [elected] instrument [vessel] for the purpose of bearing My name before Gentiles [nations] and kings and even the sons of Israel,

Acts 9:16 For I Myself will show him how many things he must suffer on behalf of My name.

Acts 9:17 Then Ananias departed and entered the house, and while laying hands upon him, said: “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, Who appeared to you on the road you came in on, has sent me on a mission in order that you may recover your sight and be filled by the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 9:18 And immediately *something* like scales fell from his eyes and he regained his sight, and after getting up, he was baptized.

Acts 9:19 And after receiving nourishment, he regained his strength. Now he remained with the disciples [adherents of Christianity, Jewish believers] in Damascus for some days.

Acts 9:20 And immediately he began proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.

Acts 9:21 Now all those who were listening were amazed and asked: “Is this not the man who pillaged those in Jerusalem who called upon this Name, and came here for this purpose, in order that he might arrest and deliver them to the chief priests?”

Acts 9:22 And Saul continued to be endued with power to a great degree and continued to bewilder the Jews, those who lived in Damascus, proving that this man is the Messiah.

Acts 9:23 Now when a number of days had passed, the Jews [politico-religious leaders in Damascus] plotted together to murder him.

Acts 9:24 But their plot became known to Saul. Meanwhile, however, they continued to watch the gates, both day and night, in order that they might murder him.

Acts 9:25 Consequently, the disciples, after escorting him at night, suspended him through an opening in the wall by lowering *him* down in a basket.

Acts 9:26 Subsequently, after arriving in Jerusalem, he kept on trying to collaborate with the disciples [believers in Jesus Christ], but all of them were afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple [believer in Jesus Christ].

Acts 9:27 But Barnabas, taking an interest in him, brought *him* face-to-face with the apostles and explained to them how he saw the Lord on the road and that He spoke to him and how he spoke courageously in Damascus in the Name of Jesus.

Acts 9:28 And so, he resided with them [the apostles], entering into and exiting out of Jerusalem, while speaking courageously in the Name of the Lord.

Acts 9:29 And he kept on speaking and debating face-to-face with the Hellenists [Greek speaking Jews], even though they were actively engaged in trying to murder him.

Acts 9:30 Now the brethren [Jewish believers], having a full knowledge of the situation, escorted him to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus.

Acts 9:31 Then, to be sure, the congregation [assembly: Jewish believers] throughout Judaea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and tranquility [edified by the apostle's teaching], being built up spiritually and conducting themselves with reverence and respect [quality of spiritual life] for the Lord, as well as being multiplied [quantity of believers] by means of exhortation from the Holy Spirit.

Acts 9:32 Now, it came to pass *that* while Peter was traveling through each location [from town-to-town where Jewish believers lived], he came down as a result [of his ministerial circuit] face-to-face to the saints who lived in Lydda.

Acts 9:33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed [disabled], who for eight years reclined on a pallet [makeshift mattress].

Acts 9:34 And Peter said to him: "Aeneas, Jesus Christ will heal you. Get up and pick up your bed." And he immediately stood up.

Acts 9:35 And all kinds [different types of people: male, female, rich, poor, slave, free] who were residing in Lydda and Sharon saw him, who turned [converted] to the Lord.

Acts 9:36 Now, in Joppa there was a certain disciple [female Jewish believer] named Tabitha, which translated means gazelle. This woman was full [abounding in] of good works [legitimate spiritual production], including charitable giving, which she repeatedly engaged in.

Acts 9:37 And it came to pass in those days *that* after becoming ill, she died, and after washing her, they placed her in an upper room.

Acts 9:38 Now, since Lydda was close to Joppa, and the disciples heard that Peter was near there, they sent two men face-to-face to him, urging *him* to come to their place without delaying.

Acts 9:39 And Peter, after getting up, went with them, whom after he arrived, they brought into the upper room. Now all the widows [beneficiaries of her good works] stood by him, crying and showing

the tunics [inner clothing, togas] and coats [outer clothing, robes] which Dorcas had made when she was with them.

Acts 9:40 And Peter, after leading all of them outside and bowing his knees, prayed, and after turning face-to-face to the body, said: “Tabitha, get up!” Then she opened her eyes and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

Acts 9:41 Then, after giving her *his* hand, he lifted her up to a standing position. Then, after summoning the saints and widows, he presented her, alive.

Acts 9:42 Consequently, this [miracle of raising the dead] became known throughout all Joppa and many came to believe on the Lord.

Acts 9:43 And it came to pass *that* he remained [as a house guest] for many days in Joppa with a certain man, Simon the tanner.