

**A Survey of the Book of Acts (Part 3b):**  
***The First Thirty Years of the Church of Jesus Christ***  
Associate Minister's Class

1-30-16

Facilitator: Reverend Kirby Jones, Second Vice-Moderator

INTRODUCTION: The Book of Acts, the only book of history in the New Testament, chronicles the most crucial three decades of church history. Acts presents several themes, which provide important lessons for the church today. They include:

- A pattern for church growth
- Church problems and solutions
- Missionary strategy
- The place of the Holy Spirit in church life, and the life of a believer
- An emphasis on evangelism

I. Review

- a. Careful study of Acts presents to us a clear picture of the ancient church, so that we can better understand the purpose, plan, and function of the modern church.
- b. We have divided Acts into three sections, in order that we might follow the “flow” of church growth in the first 30 years.
- c. These divisions are based on a logical order, founded on Jesus’ charge to the Apostles in Acts 1:8. (HAVE SOMEONE READ)
- d. Acts provides many important purposes.

II. Third Division: Acts 14-28 (“The Uttermost Part of the Earth”)

III. Paul’s Second Missionary Journey Ends, and His Third Missionary Journey Begins (Acts 18)

- a. The Corinthian Church is Established
- b. Crispus is Saved
- c. The Lord Encourages Paul
- d. The Jews Persecution Backfires
- e. Paul Returns to Jerusalem and Antioch
- f. Apollos is Instructed by Aquila and Priscilla

IV. Paul Returns to Asia (Acts 19)

- a. The Ephesian’s Receive the Holy Spirit
- b. Demons Wound the Vagabond Jews
- c. Demetrius Causes a Riot

- V. Paul Concludes His Third Missionary Journey (Acts 20)
  - a. Paul Preaches Until Midnight
  - b. Paul Says “Goodbye” to the Ephesian Elders
  
- VI. The Jews Seek to Kill Paul (Acts 21)
  - a. Paul Goes Back to Palestine
  - b. Paul is Delivered From the Angry Mob