

THE BOOK OF ACTS

Jesus Continued in the Acts of the Apostles

Rev. Dr. Allen R. Hilton

MOST IMPORTANT: Read The Book of Acts

Please start by light-reading the 28 chapters of the Book of Acts, in whatever translation suits you. (We'll talk more about the relative merits of the translations when we see one another on January 11.)

Then read chapters 1 and 2 more slowly and carefully, and jot down what questions they raise for you.

PREP ARTICLES:

A SAMPLE OF STORIES

Four of the Weirdest Stories from the Book of Acts

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/4-of-the-weirdest-stories-from-the-book-of-acts>

Source: Melbourne Catholic (VIC, Australia)

Consider this an appetizer. It will give you a quick entryway to the Book of Acts through a few of its wildest episodes – hopefully making you hunger for more.

A PREACHER'S LOOK AT LUKE'S OPENING

Brian Peterson, "Commentary on Acts 1.1-11"

<https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revise-common-lectionary/ascension-of-our-lord/commentary-on-acts-11-11-2>

Source: Working Preacher, Luther Seminary

This one will prep you for our first session. The article opens the first page of the Book of Acts for us, from the point of view of a Christian preacher.

A LOOK AT WHY AND HOW WE READ

David A. Reed, "Acts 17.16-34 in an African Context"

https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/ajet/22-1_087.pdf

Source: *The African Journal of Evangelical Theology* (2003)

This explores the purpose and process of our reading. Taking a comparison to Euro-U.S. versus African biblical interpretation as its example, Dr. Reed's article points out how differently scholars and other readers approach biblical texts (like Paul's Acts 17 speech in Athens), depending on the primary questions that drive us to the text.

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES:

Popular and Very Accessible

N.T. Wright, *Acts for Everyone*

https://www.amazon.com/Acts-Wright-Everyone-Bible-Studies/dp/0830821856/ref=asc_df_0830821856/?tag=hyprod-20&linkCode=df0&hvadid=312721175982&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrnd=5334167091639591619&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmidl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9028302&hvtargid=pla587366413394&pvc=1&mcid=13cf1129137f31cc8a828b969c790258&gclid=CjwKCAiAqNSsBhAvEiwAn_tmxWV7iLPyS_mlw4G3Z2XInoTeRVgxlItjhYJX-DnT6N6jOg_MKYDxphoCNy4QAvD_BwE

Scholarly/Academic

Luke Timothy Johnson, *The Acts of the Apostles (Sacra Pagina)*

<https://www.amazon.com/Sacra-Pagina-Luke-Timothy-Johnson/dp/0814659683>

F.F. Bruce, *The Acts of the Apostles*

<https://www.amazon.com/Acts-Apostles-F-Bruce/dp/0851117023>

Amy Jill Levine and Marianne Blickenstaff, eds., *A Feminist Companion to the Book of Acts*

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/themelios/review/a-feminist-companion-to-the-acts-of-the-apostles/>