# - EPOCH SEVEN -TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

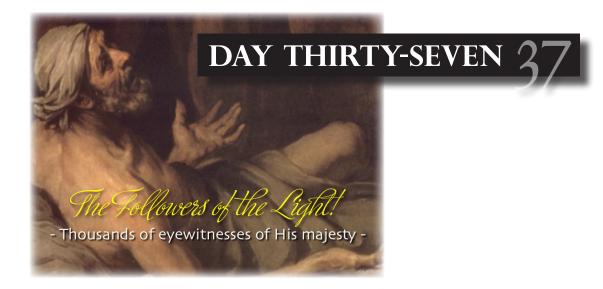




Within the age of time we have found the Bible's explanation of our roots and the ORIGINS of both the human and chosen races. The CHOSEN RACE was delivered from bondage and given the privilege of honoring the Living God among the nations. They inhabit the PROMISED LAND after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, and are given judges, prophets, and kings to guide them as a spiritual nation. *They reside in the beautiful land at the current day, awaiting the promises ofYahweh.* 

The Chosen people rejected God's Law (the Torah) and in so doing rejected Him. The Creator gives them over to 80 years of CAPTIVITY, and afterwards supernaturally restores them to the Promised Land. 400 years of SILENCE ensue during which God is anything but silent. The last prophet speaks, and John the Baptist emerges as the *"voice of one crying out in the wilderness."*(ISAIAH 40).

The *fullness of times* has arrived, and the appropriate spiritual, social, and political sovereignty are all in place. The Roman Empire and the Greek language form a conduit that swiftly launches the Good News throughout the world, based upon the foundation of the Hebrew experience. Jesus or "Yeshua" is the SHINING LIGHT - God Himself. He makes many "disciples" or followers and sends them to the ENDS of the earth!



#### THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT

During Jesus' time on earth He deeply impacted family, friends, and followers. He brought the Good News to the Jews because it was theirs by birthright - He brought the Good News to the nations (Gentiles) because this was His plan from the beginning.

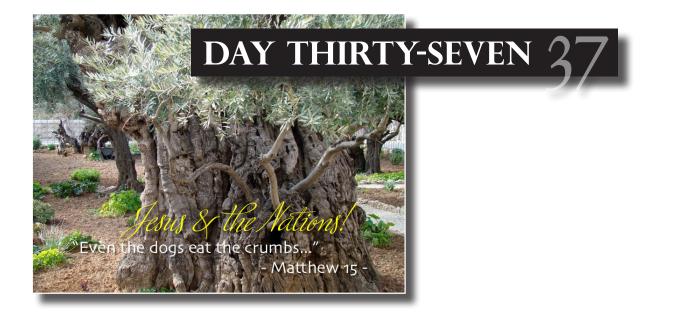
#### READ JOHN 10:16 AND GENESIS 12:3.

 $\sqrt{}$  What do you learn about the statements from these two passages?

Jesus carefully selected 12 *disciples* and about 70 other *men and women* to accompany Him during His public ministry. For 3-4 years they lived, ate, and slept the Kingdom. Their home base was Galilee, with many forays into Jerusalem, Samaria, and *beyond the Jordan*. This band of men and women, along with the Jewish network throughout the empire, would together turn the world upside down. The Gospel of God's Son continues to permeate and explode today!

What each have in common is an understanding that Jesus is the Light of the world.

 $\sqrt{}$  What are the revolutionary aspects to my personal encounter with Jesus Christ?



#### READ MATTHEW 15:20-28

Jesus almost seems cruel in dealing with this woman. Why would the fact she is a Gentile have been held against her?

Why had the woman come to Jesus?

What did her persistence reveal about who she was spiritually? This is what Jesus was talking about in MATTHEW 5:1-11!

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

 $\sqrt{}$  Do I feel like I deserve spiritual favor, or am I content to take the crumbs which fall from the table?

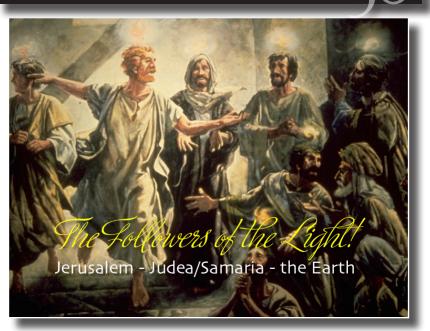
# DAY THIRTY-EIGHT

# ACTS & The New Testament Letters

This study is provided to help you see a general chronology of where the church letters fit in relation to the events of the book of Acts. This may prove valuable as you try to determine the circumstances of the author (particularly Paul) at the time each book was penned.

> Pentecost (Acts 2) Stephen martyred (Acts 6:8-7:60) JAMES written Agrippa's persecution, James martyred (Acts 12:1-23) First Missionary Journey (Acts 13-14) Peter at Antioch (Galatians 2:11-16) GALATIANS written from Antioch Jerusalem council, Paul's third visit (Acts 15) Second Missionary Journey 1 THESSALONIANS written 2 THESSALONIANS written Third Missionary Journey 1 CORINTHIANS written 2 CORINTHIANS written ROMANS written Paul's arrest and trial before Felix (Acts 21:26-24:22) Paul before the Sanhedrin Appearance of the Lord (night) Trial before Festus (Acts 25:7-12) Trial before Agrippa (Acts 26) Voyage to Rome (Acts 27:1-28:29) MATTHEW written Arrival in Rome **EPHESIANS** written COLOSSIANS and PHILEMON written PHILIPPIANS written MARK written LUKE written 1 TIMOTHY written 1 PETER written JUDE written HEBREWS written (author unknown) TITUS written 2 TIMOTHY written 2 PETER written **ACTS** written **REVELATION** written JOHN, 1-2-3 JOHN written

# DAY THIRTY-EIGHT 2



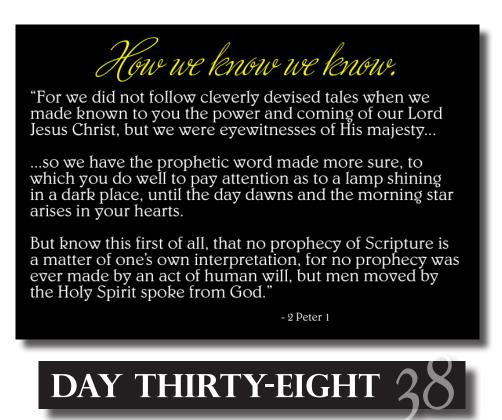
#### **READ ACTS 2**

It is important to recognize that the book of *Acts of the apostles* would best be termed the *acts of the Holy Spirit*. There were Jews and converts from *every nation under heaven* for the Feast of Pentecost, which occurred 50 days after Passover. This was one of the Jews major memorial feasts which were outlined in the books of Moses.

Jesus was very clear with His disciples: *"You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you..."*Some people mistakenly believe that the Holy Spirit was not present before Pentecost, yet He was present at the Creation of everything (GENESIS 1:2) - as was the Son (HEBREWS 1:2).

This outpouring occurred for the express purpose of launching the Good News to both Jews and Gentiles, and to make it clear that the *fullness of times* was at hand. The effect was electric and explosive. These participants then dispersed to every corner of the empire - testifying to the reality of the resurrection. The bold presentation of the Gospel in ACTS 1 is a backdrop for the outpouring of ACTS 2.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous man shall live by faith." - Romans 1:16,17



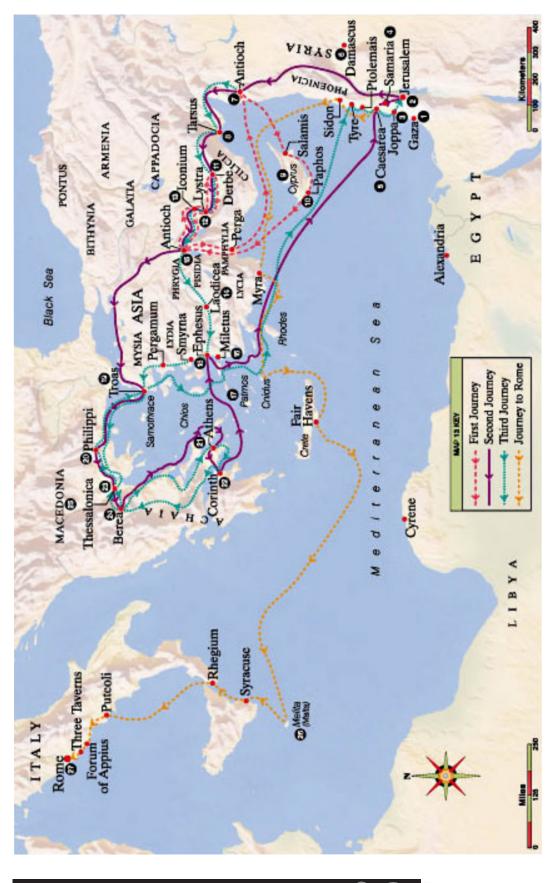
#### READ 2 PETER 1

What did the eyewitnesses supply to the testimony of the Good News?

Why should we be able to count on the testimony which has been given to us?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

- $\sqrt{}$  What part does the Holy Spirit play in my life with regard to illuminating truth?
- $\sqrt{}$  Convicting me of my sin?
- $\sqrt{}$  Empowering the Word of God in me?
- $\sqrt{}$  Drawing me closer to Jesus and the Father?



Page 108 - Ends of the Earth

#### **JERUSALEM**

The Gospel poured out of Jerusalem into the world after the Day of Pentecost. That very day (ACTS 1-2) there were Jews celebrating the feast from "every nation under heaven." Peter, James, and John were *pillars* in this work, along with the other apostles Jesus had chosen and empowered.

This platform for the Good News was built upon the emerging **Kingdom** and was rooted in the Hebrew scriptures. The Kingdom enemies (per the Jewish leaders) were arrogance and the idolatry of tradition (in order to achieve standing and recognition among men).

The roots in Jerusalem were very Hebrew, and through the Law and the Prophets and the Psalms, grounded the fledgling church in a deep, rich history. **King first, then Kingdom, then church.** 

#### ANTIOCH

The Gospel launched to the Gentiles out of Antioch, primarily under the leadership of men such as Paul, Silas, Barnabas, and Apollos. Antioch was hundreds of miles north of Jerusalem, and poised strategically as a springboard all the way to Rome - and everywhere in around and between.

Antioch was a tool for the expanding Kingdom, a *called out* group of Gentiles taken from the *nations*. Rooted in the Gospel and the letters, the early church stormed the bastions of false gods and worthless idols, calling lost Jews and Gentiles from all over the world to become *one new man* in Christ.

Their chief enemies were paganism and syncretism, against brash idolatry and hybrids which seem to be in never-ending supply as the Kingdom expands into our decaying world.

### **ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

	JUDEA &		HE MINISTRY OF THE RISEN CHRIST ACTS 1:8 ENDS OF THE EARTH			
	SAMARIA	JOURNEY 1	JOURNEY 2	JOURNEY 3	ROME	
WOMEN DISCIPLES 500	JAMES HEBREWS	ROMANS 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS	GALATIANS EPHESIANS PHILIPPIANS COLOSSIANS	THESSALO- NIANS TIMOTHY TITUS	PETER JOHN JUDE	

#### THINK THROUGH THE OVERVIEW ABOVE

#### READ ACTS 1:8

Notice how the Gospel grows just as Jesus said it would - to the *Jew first* and then to *the Greek* (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria - then the world!). (page 108)

There were three *missionary journeys* as the Good News spread from the Jews throughout the world to the Gentiles.

Notice how each *letter* is placed somewhere on this historic growth explosion. From a handful of men and women disciples the world was literally turned upside down by the power of God in and through their lives!

Each of these letters is a tool for the Holy Spirit as we devote our hearts to the King of Kings, and await His coming from heaven.

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THE BOOK OF ACTS CONTINUES TO UNFOLD IN AND THROUGH OUR LIVES !
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Upon the foundation of the Kingdom. The Hebrew demonstration

Within the Mystery of the Church. "One New Man" of all the nations

It is important to understand that the word "church" is used only a few times in the Gospels - but the word Kingdom is used over 100 times.

The historic church has somehow switched this emphasis, not realizing that by diminishing the Kingdom (which is organic, growing in the hearts of Kingdom followers) and focusing on building the church (which is organizational, focused on visibility) - a theological hybrid has been produced that has difficulty reproducing in the soil of the world.

The Hebrew story is the foundation. The Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms revealed the Messiah. The Gospels and the apostles work together to build the house upon the deep roots of the Hebrew faith. (LUKE 24:44)

At the end of the age our Hebrew roots will unfold with the Mystery of the Church and fulfill the Kingdom Heart of the Messiah and His Father (EPHESIANS 2:15).

When the end comes we will be separated into sheep and goats (MATTHEW 25:32). The sheep will move into life. The goats will not.

This is the story of the Biblical Kingdom.