e.

# INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS

### Acts 1:1-2

ACIS 1.1-2	
The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the dain which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:	ιy
You should be able to answer:	
1. Who was Theophilus?	
2. Give 5 reasons why we believe Luke to be the author of <u>Acts</u> .	
a.	
b.	
C.	
d.	

3.	What is the approximate date of this writing? Proof?
4.	Give at least one structural outline of Acts (Biographical, Historical, Geographical) from memory.

### THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

#### I. <u>BIOGRAPHICAL STRUCTURE</u> (by Persons)

A. Peter & the 11, Acts 1-12

#### B. Paul & His Missionary Teams, Acts 13-28

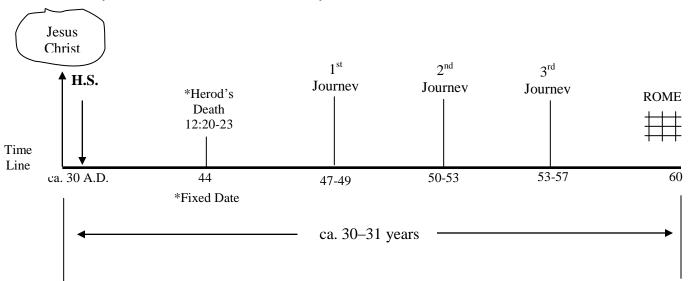
Journey #1, Acts 13, 14 — Paul, \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Journey #2, Acts 15:36-18:22 — Paul, \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_.

Journey #3, Acts 18:23-21:15 — Paul later joined by \_\_\_\_\_\_.

#### II. HISTORICAL STRUCTURE (by Chronology)

Historically, the Book of Acts covers ca. 30 years (from ca. A.D. 30-60)



## III. <u>GEOGRAPHICAL STRUCTURE</u> (by Movement Geographically)

Geographically, the Book of Acts traces the movement of Christianity from Jerusalem to Judea-Samaria, to Antioch of Syria, to Asia Minor, to Greece, and finally to Rome.

Acts 1-7 — Events center around Jerusalem

Acts 8-12 — Events center around Judea & Samaria

Acts 13-28 — Events describe spread of Gospel from Syrian Antioch to Rome

# 5 KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

1.	ACTS is an historical sequel to the Gospels: as such, it provides the background for other New Testament Books.
2.	If no Book of <u>ACTS</u> , then no historical continuity to the New Testament.
3.	<u>ACTS</u> clearly demonstrates the transition between the kingdom message (emphasis of the Gospels) &
	the church message (of the Pauline Epistles).
4.	<u>ACTS</u> is descriptive, not prescriptive.
	It tells what they did, not necessarily what we are to do.
5.	<b>ACTS</b> records the first 30 years of church life: it is not doctrinal in nature.
	Contrast <u>Romans</u> , <u>Galatians</u> , etc.