

# Acts of the Apostles

## Beginning of The Church

chapters

- 1 Stand by Me
- 2a Empowered
- 2b United
- 3 Placed
- 4a Emboldened
- 4b Accountable
- 5 Worthy
- 6 Serving
- 7-8 Baptizing
- 9a Calling
- 9b Healing
- 10-11 Including
- 12 Praying

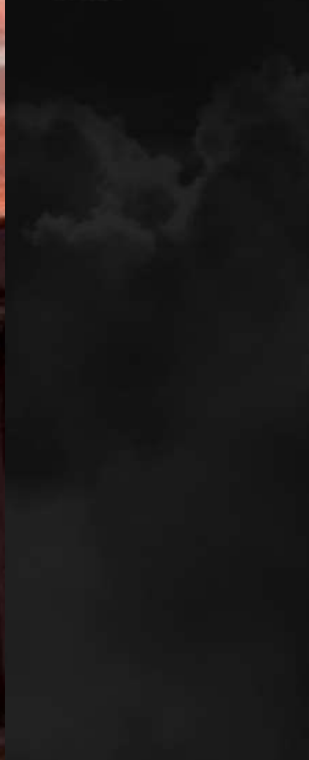


**Luke, c. 1886**  
by James Tissot



**Cathedral of Saint-Étienne,  
Bourges, France  
built 1100-1200, dedicated to  
the first Christian martyr,  
Saint-Étienne, or Stephen**





## Acts 1:1-2 – Luke’s 2nd vol. of “Luke-Acts”

The former treatise have I [Luke] made,  
O Theophilus,  
of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,  
until the day in which he was **TAKEN UP**,  
after that **HE** through the Holy Ghost had given  
commandments unto the apostles whom he had  
chosen.

**For HE will stand by us . . .**

**Acts 1:1-2 – Luke's 2<sup>nd</sup> volume**

**Acts – The Acts – Acts of Apostles**

**28 short chapters**

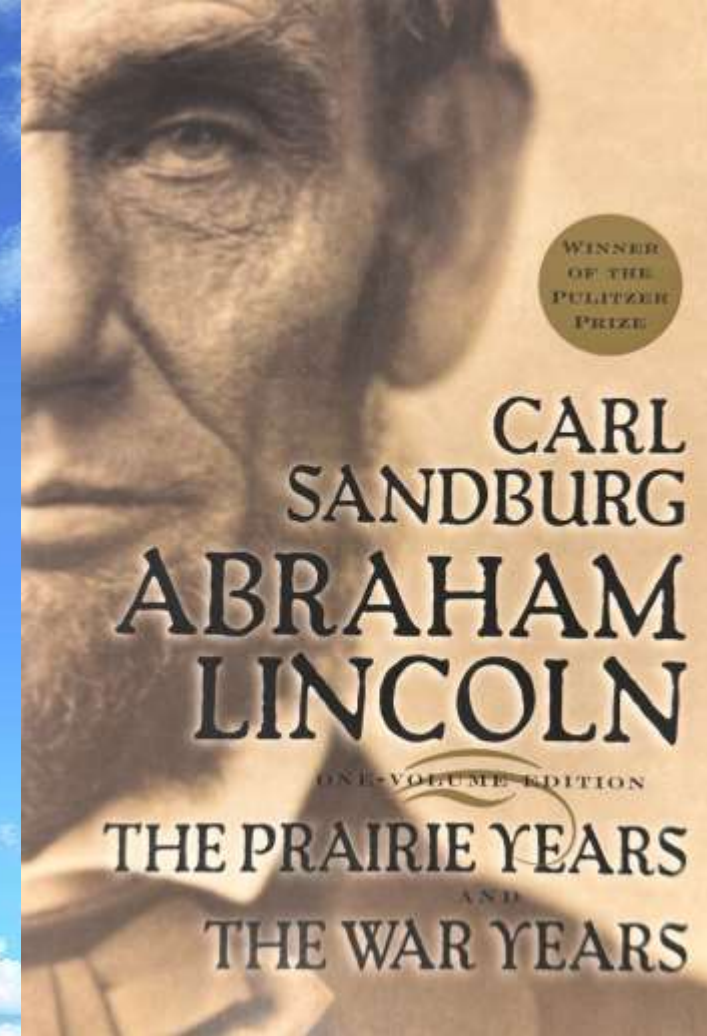
**Carl Sanburg's *Abraham Lincoln***

**37 disks for 45 hours covers 700+ pages**

**yet this is the condensed version**

**down from his 6 volume opus**

**Acts is the *short version*  
mostly of Peter & Paul**



# Acts of the Apostles

History of the Early Church  
by the Beloved Physician Luke

Date: c. A.D. 63 *likely cause*

- ✓ No mention of Paul's death, which tradition holds was during Nero's persecution & burning of Rome **A.D. 64**
- ✓ No Mention of Rome's destruction of Jerusalem in **A.D. 70**

Acts – about 30 years of history

- **Peter** w Church in Jerusalem then Lydda, Joppa, Caesarea
- **Paul** w Church in Antioch, 3 Mission Journeys, then to Rome

**MANY ways—Book of Acts is “How Jesus Stood by His Own”**



**“Stand by Me” by Ben E. King in 1961  
written by him & 2 others ...**

**King said it was an update of song  
by Charles Tindley based on Psalm 46**

**“Will not we fear, though the earth be  
removed and thought the mountains be  
carried into the midst of the sea”**

**Taken from “Stand by Me Father”  
by the Soul Stirrers w lead Johnnie Taylor**

**When the night has come**

**And the land is dark**

**And the moon is the only light we'll see**

**No, I won't be afraid - Oh, I won't be afraid**

**Just as long as you stand, STAND by me**



# March 20, 2024 email

While we are talking about prayer, I want to thank you for praying for our Baptist Student Ministry's Beach Reach at South Padre Island these past two weeks. Here are some of the results:

- 1,256 volunteers
- 16,027 van rides given to spring breakers
- 15,362 pancakes served
- 11,795 gospel conversations
- 9,198 people with whom our students prayed
- 276 people who prayed to receive Christ as Savior and Lord
- 94 commitments to Christ
- 79 baptisms on the beach

# Outline of Book of Acts – the Early Church

**1 Intro – Theophilus, Appearances, Ascension**

**2-12 Peter – Church from Jerusalem to Antioch**

2-7 Jerusalem – Peter, John, Ananias & Sapphira, Stephen

8 Samaria – Paul persecutes, Philip, Simon

9 Conversion of Paul

10-12 Conversion of Cornelius, Peter vision of sheets

**13-28 Paul – Church from Antioch to Rome**

13-14 1st Mission – Saul/Paul & Barnabas

15:1-35 1st Church Council in Jerusalem

15:36 – 18:22 2nd Missionary Journey of Paul

18:23 – 21:16 3rd Missionary Journey of Paul

21:17 – 23 Paul to Jerusalem

24-26 Paul to Ceasarea

27-28 Paul to Rome



**Our 13 Weeks**



**NEXT Quarter**

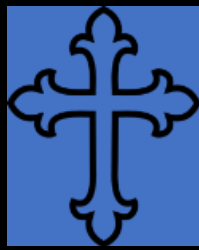


***PREVIEW – where we're going – Acts 1:8***

**But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

**Jerusalem ... Judaea ... Samaria ...**

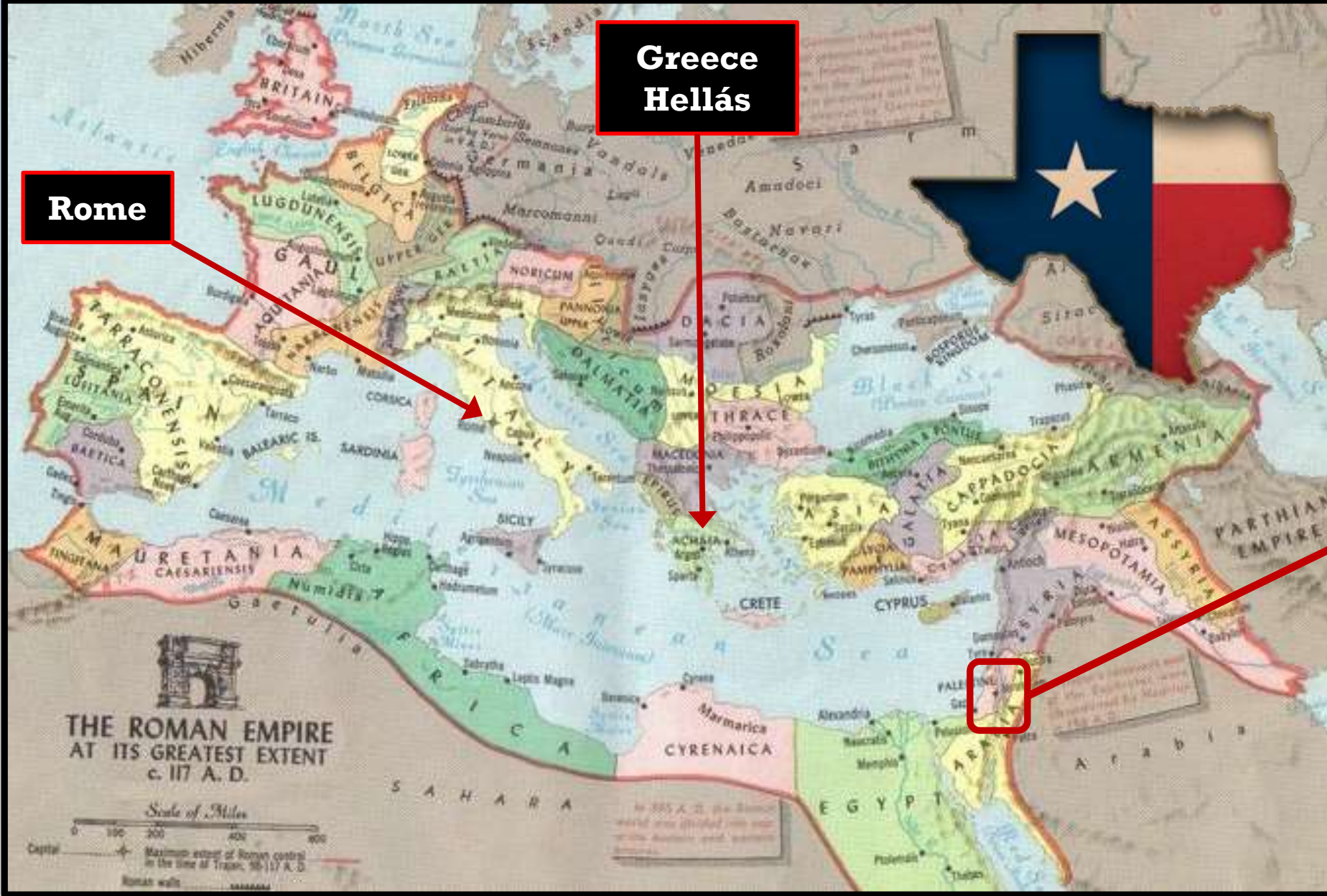
**Uttermost part of the earth**



**Greece  
Hellás**

**Rome**

**Area of Study  
Acts 1-12**



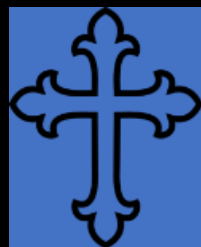
**THE ROMAN EMPIRE  
AT ITS GREATEST EXTENT  
c. 107 A. D.**

Scale of Miles

0 100 200 400 600

Capital → Maximum extent of Roman control in the time of Trajan, 98-117 A. D.

Roman walls



## Greece Hellás

- AD 14 Augustus Dies
- AD 64 Nero burns Rome
- **AD 70 Temple Destroyed**
- AD 313 Constantine Edict
- AD 476 Rome Falls
- ... AD 624 Islam
- ... AD 1091 Crusades
- 1400s Renaissance
- 1500s Reformation

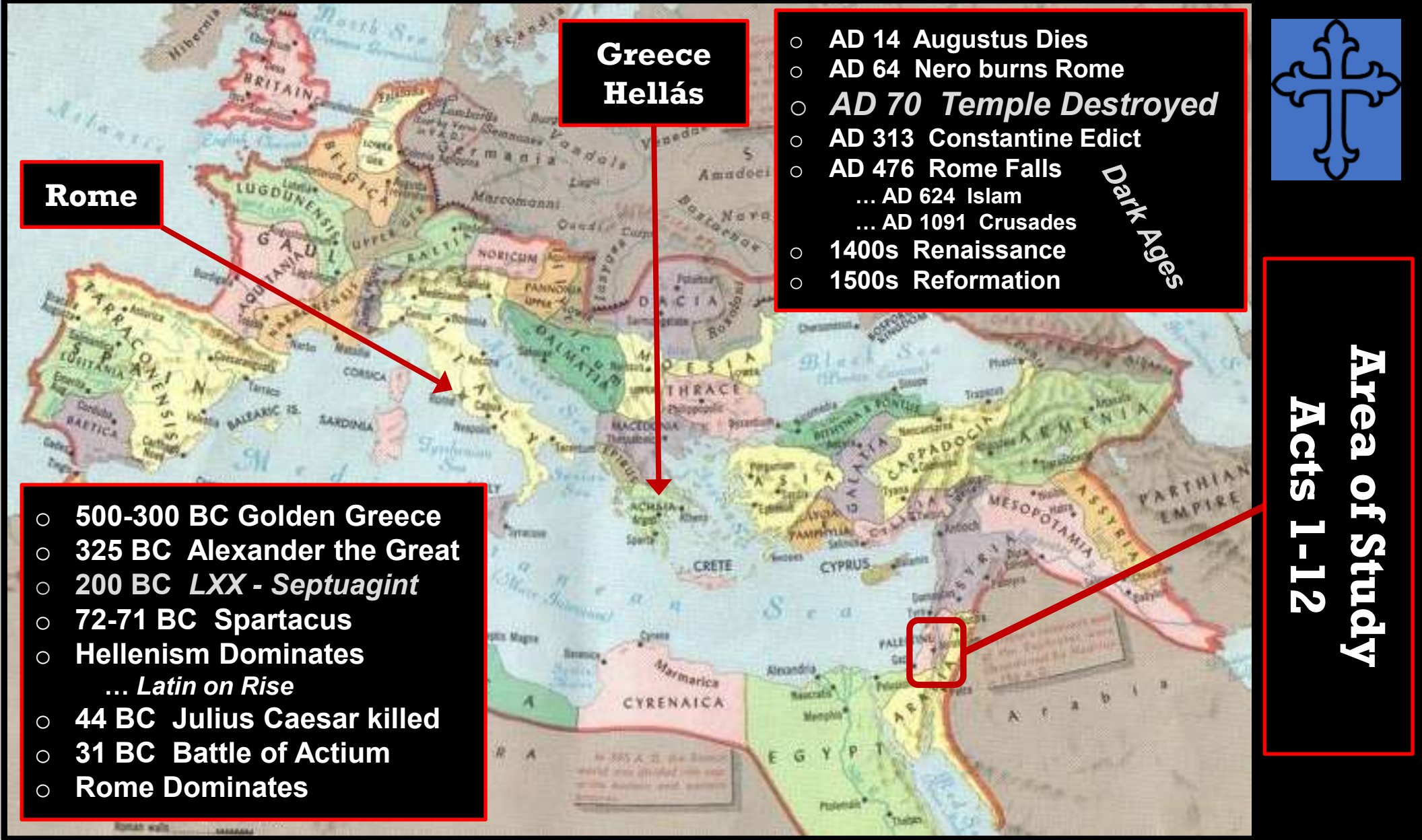
Dark Ages

## Rome

- 500-300 BC Golden Greece
- 325 BC Alexander the Great
- 200 BC *LXX - Septuagint*
- 72-71 BC Spartacus
- Hellenism Dominates
- ... *Latin on Rise*
- 44 BC Julius Caesar killed
- 31 BC Battle of Actium
- Rome Dominates

## Area of Study

### Acts 1-12

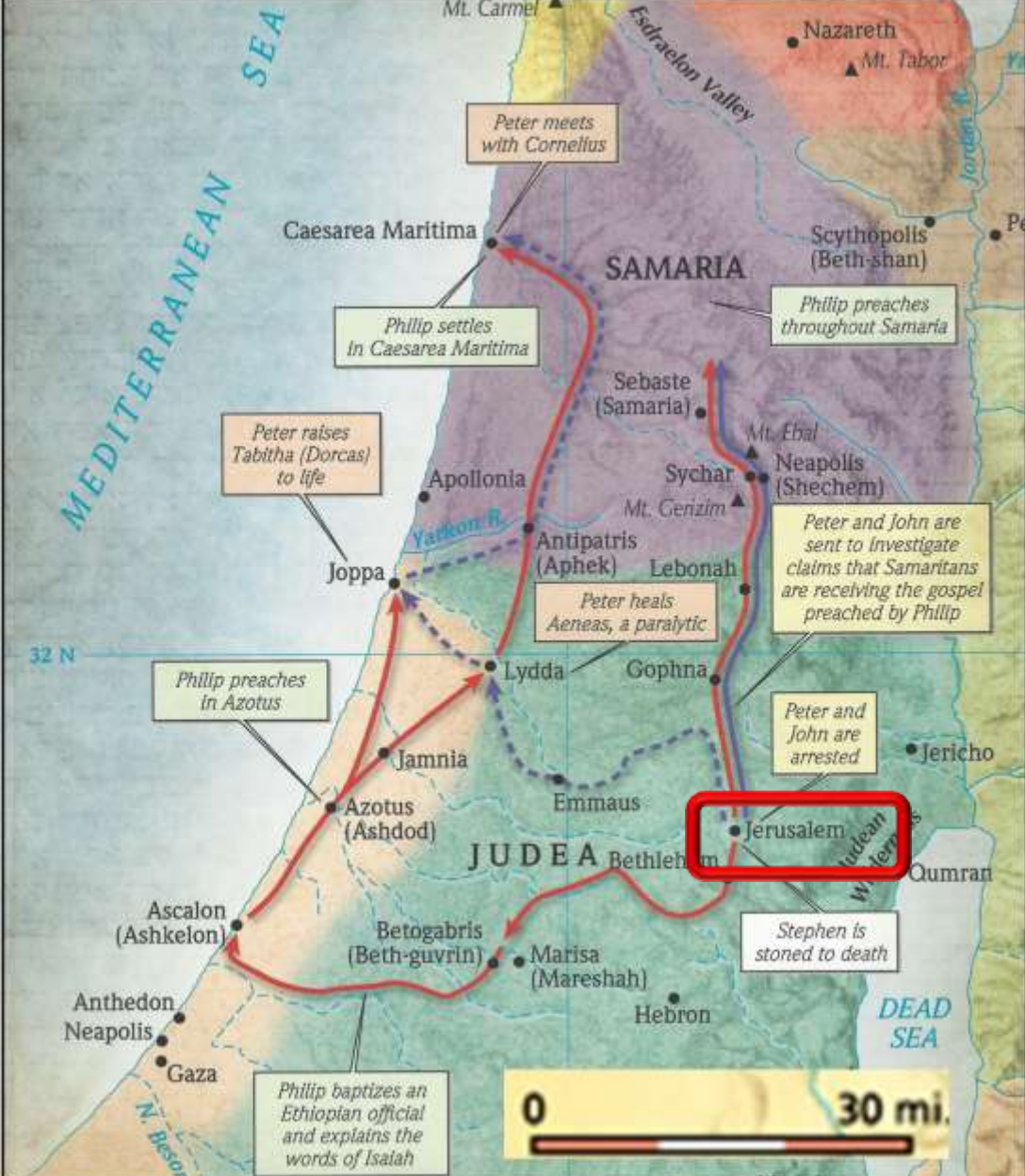


# Israel



Jerusalem





## EXPANSION OF THE EARLY CHURCH

### ACTS 4-11

- City
- ▲ Mountain peak
- ← Philip's routes
- ← Peter and John's routes
- ← - - Peter's routes

# Jerusalem

## Where the church STARTS



## Acts 1:1-2 – Luke’s 2nd vol. of “Luke-Acts”

The former treatise have I [Luke] made,

O Theophilus,

of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until  
the day in which he was **TAKEN UP**,

after that **HE** through the Holy Ghost had given  
commandments unto the apostles whom he had  
chosen.





# Our Church

**“Stand by Me” by Ben E. King in 1961**

**If the sky that we look upon  
Should tumble and fall  
Or the mountain should crumble to the sea  
I won't cry, I won't cry  
No, I won't shed a tear  
Just as long as you stand  
Stand by me**



***Pray for America too***



**Southern Baptist Convention**  
Reaching the world for Christ

**imb**  
connecting

**International Mission Board**  
[www.UMB.org](http://www.UMB.org)

Field personnel appointments 11-8-15	4,707
Career/apprentices	4,098
Overseas baptisms 2013	190,957
Overseas churches 2013	38,989
Overseas church membership 2013	720,951
New churches 2013	13,824
People groups engaged by IMB personnel	949
Unreached People Groups not Engaged	3,201
LMCO goal for Christmas 2015	\$175m
IMB budget for 2016	\$278.8m
World Hunger/General Relief 2014 receipts	\$6.5m

**SBC - 46,000 Churches - [www.SBC.net](http://www.SBC.net)**



*NORTH AMERICAN  
MISSION BOARD*

- 2014 - 985 church plants
- 579 (59%) non-Anglo
- 1 SBC congregation for every 6,282 people
- Canada 1 Canadian National Baptist Convention (CNBC) congregation for every 112,115 people
- NAMB wants 15,000 churches added to the SBC during the period 2012-2022.

**[www.NAMB.net](http://www.NAMB.net)**

# **Disciple**

**One who Learns  
Student**

**1st 12, then ANY**

**Called–Willing**

# **Apostle**

**– One who is Sent**

**– Emissary**

**– 1st 12, then Paul**

**– Called–Designated by Jesus**

**... by Jesus and saw him**

**... miracles, no succession**

**> or a disciple called by Jesus who went to  
night school, got a job—*sent to grow church***



**Apostolic See – or Holy Seat** - name of Roman Catholic Papacy

**Pentarchy** - early Byzantine Christianity

proposed government of universal Christendom

FIVE Patriarchal Sees ... Emperor Justinian I A.D. 527–565

Sanctioned at the Council in Trullo A.D. 692, ranking

**1** Rome **2** Constantinople **3** Alexandria  
**4** Antioch **5** Jerusalem

Since the end of the 4th century, these 5 prominent  
Of course, Popes of Rome held they were tops  
OTHERS ignored Rome ... tensions resulted in  
Schism/Split between East and West.

**Pentarchy** Lost significance after the Muslim rule  
of Alexandria, Antioch, Jerusalem – c. AD. 600-700s

**Protestant Reformation** began in 1400s  
Marked by Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses  
on Oct 31, 1517 to Wittenberg church door



Coat of Arms  
for Holy Seat



**Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses on Oct 31, 1517**  
**Wittenberg Castle Church Door**



**Luke** – Beloved Physician, **not an Apostle**

Date of Acts – 63 A.D., before 70

**Luke a Greek from Antioch**

- Colossians 4:14 – beloved physician
- Philemon 24 – coworker w/ Paul
- II Timothy 4:11 – coworker w/ Paul



**Travelled Eastern Mediterranean to Rome**

Church Father **Irenaeus** (130-202) 1st to name “Acts of Apostles”

Irenaeus a church father, sat under **Polycarp**

Church Father **Polycarp** sat under **John** the Evangelist

**Irenaeus also believed Luke was the author of Acts**

# Theophilos

Common Name & Academic Title

used in Roman & Jewish communities . . .

**Theo/philos** means: Theo = God + Philos = Friend

**Theo/logy** = God Study/Logic

**Phila/delphia** = Love Brothers, or Brotherly Love

**Theo/philos** = “Friend of God”

then to all who were *friends* of God

*then* “one who loves God”



# Acts 1:3

To whom also HE shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being SEEN OF THEM FORTY DAYS, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

**Infallible Proofs . . . Forty Days . . . Kingdom of God**

**1 Corinthians 15:6-8**

<sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to more than 500 of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living....

<sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

<sup>8</sup> last of all appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

**THESE appearances *revealed* to ancients & to us a new dimension, a Spiritual World where Christ reigns & works ...**

## Acts 1:4-5

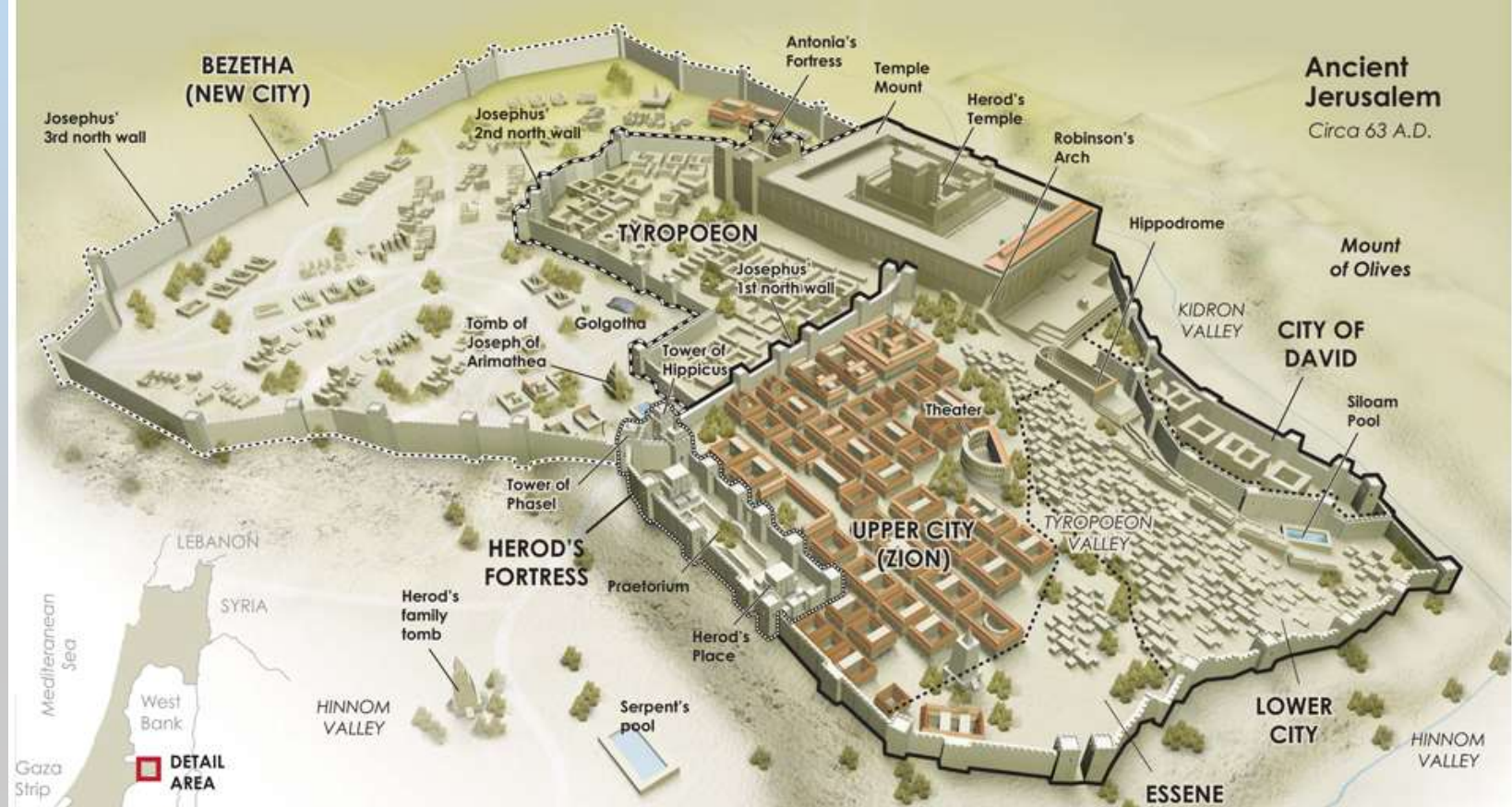
And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from **Jerusalem**, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

# Jerusalem





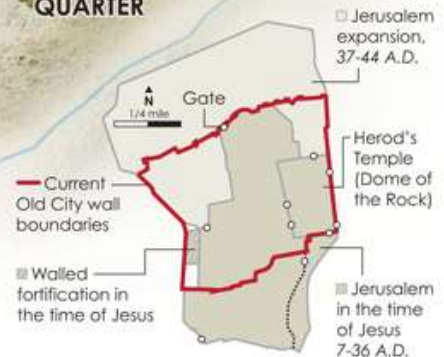




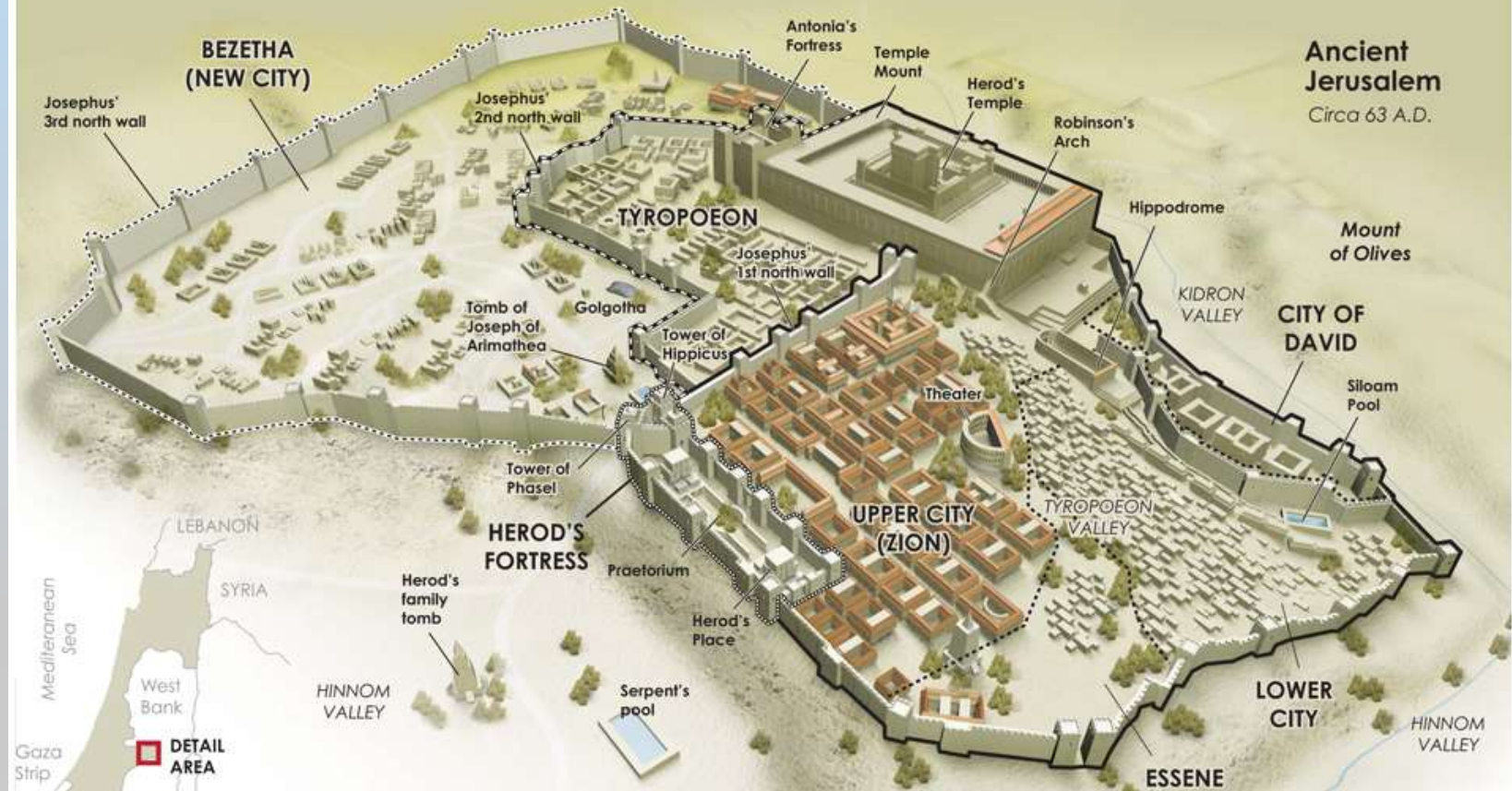
**Ancient Jerusalem**  
Circa 63 A.D.

# Jerusalem

By 34 B.C., under King Herod's rule, ancient Jerusalem went through major redevelopment, crowned with the rebuilding of the Second Temple and a bigger Temple Mount. In 66 AD, the Great Jewish Revolt challenged Roman rule over Jerusalem, resulting in the destruction of the temple and the fall of Jerusalem by 70 CE.







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# Jerusalem

- ✠ **Jeru/Salem = "City of Peace"**
- ✠ **Jeru/Salem = Foundation/Possession of Peace**
- ✠ **Salem, Ariel, Jebus – City of God**
- ✠ **1st Salem – Gen. 14:18, Salem**
- ✠ **1st Jerusalem – Joshua 10:1**
- ✠ **Sits upon Mt. Moriah or Mt. Zion**
- ✠ **David bought threshing floor – made it Capitol**

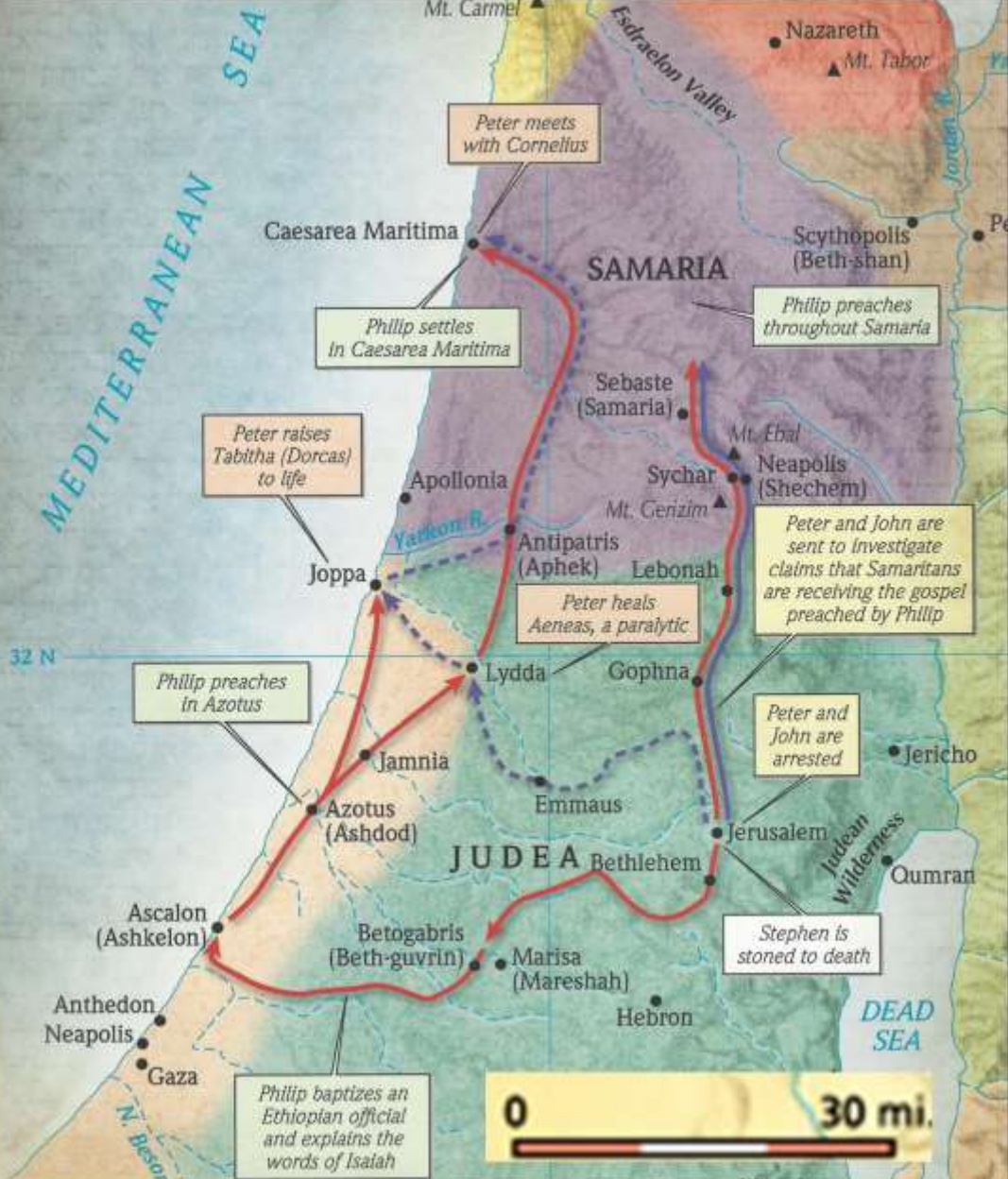


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# **Jerusalem**



## EXPANSION OF THE EARLY CHURCH

ACTS 4-11

- City
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# Acts 1:4-5 wait for the promise Jerusalem



## **Acts 1:6-7**

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, “Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?”

And he said unto them, “It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.”

**Not Know the Times**  
***no one will know for certain***

## **Acts 1:8**

**“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:**

**“and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”**

**Jerusalem ... Judaea ... Samaria ...**

**Uttermost part of the earth**

## **Acts 1:9**

**And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.**

**Take up ... cloud received him**

## **Acts 1:9-11**

**And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, TWO MEN stood by them in white apparel; which also said,**

**Ye men of Galilee,**

**why stand ye gazing up into heaven?**

**this same Jesus, which is taken up from you**

**into heaven**

**shall so come in like manner as ye have**

**seen him go into heaven**



**“Stand by Me” by Ben E. King in 1961**

**Whenever you're in trouble  
won't you stand by me**

**Oh, stand by me**

**Won't you stand by me**

