

STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

Three features:

1. The shift in focus from Peter (1-12) to Paul (13-28).
2. The concentric geographical expansion of witness (Acts 1:8).
3. Seven “Progress Reports”.

Introduction: The Establishment of the Witness (The Creation of the Church) (Acts 1-2)

Progress Report #1: “And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved” (Acts 2:47).

Part I: The Witness to the *Jewish* World [PETER prominent] (Acts 3-12)

A. The Expansion of the Church at **Jerusalem** (3:1-6:7)

Progress Report #2: “So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith” (Acts 6:7).

B. The Witness in **All Judea and Samaria** (6:7-9:31)

Progress Report #3: “Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord” (Acts 9:31).

C. Initial Extension of the Gospel to Gentiles (9:32-12:25)

Progress Report #4: “But the word of God continued to increase and spread” (Acts 12:24).

Part II: The Witness to the **Ends of the** (*Gentile*) **Earth** [PAUL Prominent] (Acts 13-28)

A. The Extension of the Gospel in Asia Minor [Missionary Journeys 1 & 2] (13:1-16:5)

Progress Report #5: “So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers” (Acts 16:5).

B. The Extension of the Gospel in the Aegean Area [Third Missionary Journey] (16:6-19:20)

Progress Report #6: “In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power” (Acts 19:20).

C. The Extension of the Gospel to Rome [Fourth Missionary Journey] (19:21-28:31)

Progress Report #7: “Paul . . . welcomed all who came to see him. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 28:30-31).