

# The Message

## The Movement Begins

### Small Group Discussion

⇒ *What were one or two of your favorite lessons or insights you gained from your reading this week – either in Knowing the Bible 101 or in your assigned passages from the Bible?*

### The Church Is Born!

*The Early Years*

Acts 1-12

When they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

(Acts 1:6)

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

(Acts 1:7-8)

**Acts***A Quick Overview*

⇒ The Author: Luke

⇒ The Audience: Theophilus

⇒ The Sequel (To Luke)

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. (Acts 1:1-2)

⇒ The Topic: The Movement Of Jesus

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

**Acts***The Early Years*

Acts 1-12

⇒ The Ascension

⇒ Pentecost: The Spirit Comes

⇒ Peter's Message: 3000 Respond

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:37-39)

⇒ The Church Is Born: Rapid Growth

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. . . . Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (Acts 2:42 & 46-47)

⇒ Early Challenges: Persecution & Problems

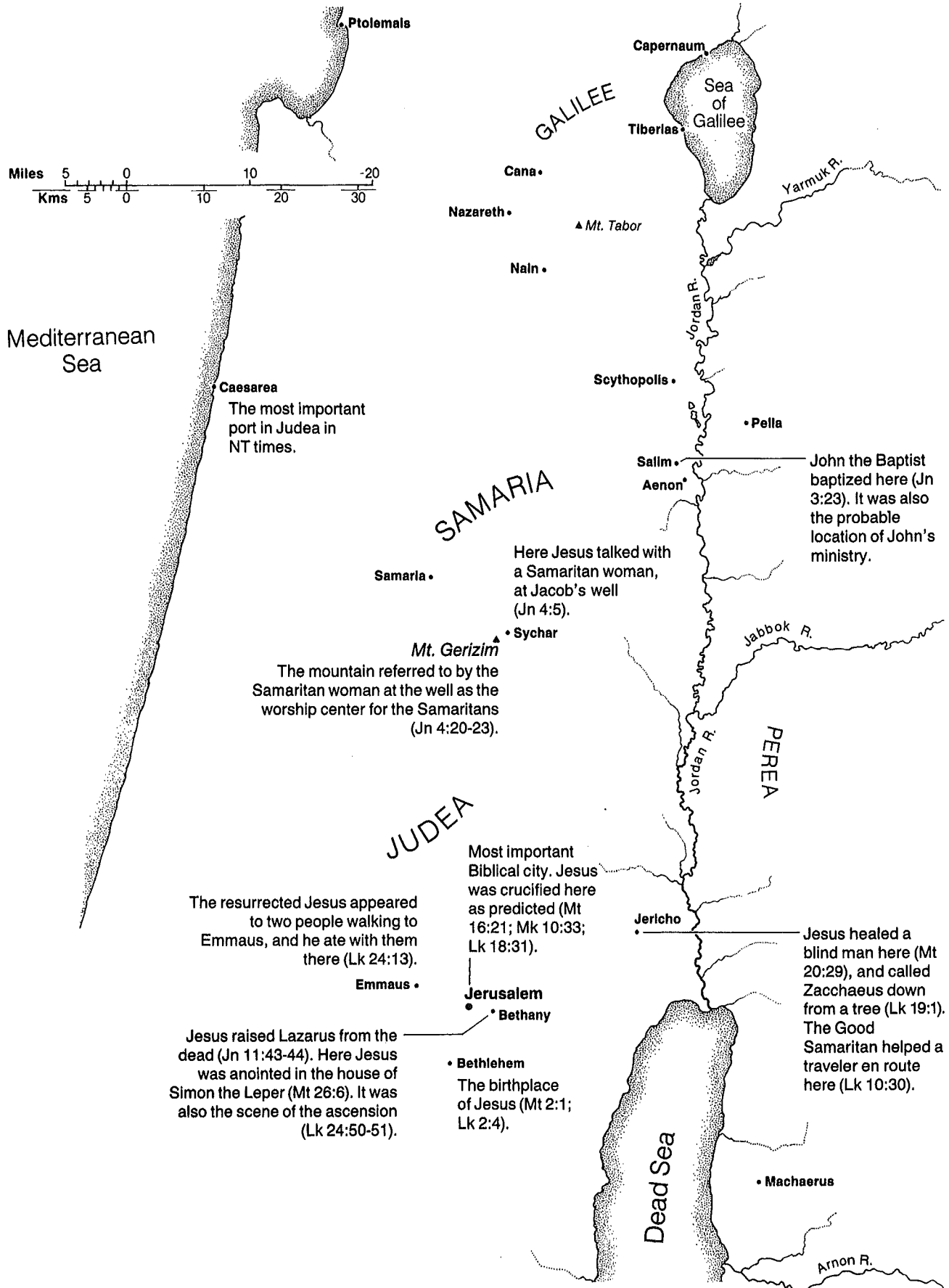
⇒ Persecution Increases: The Movement Spreads

⇒ Saul's Conversion: The Start Of A New Era

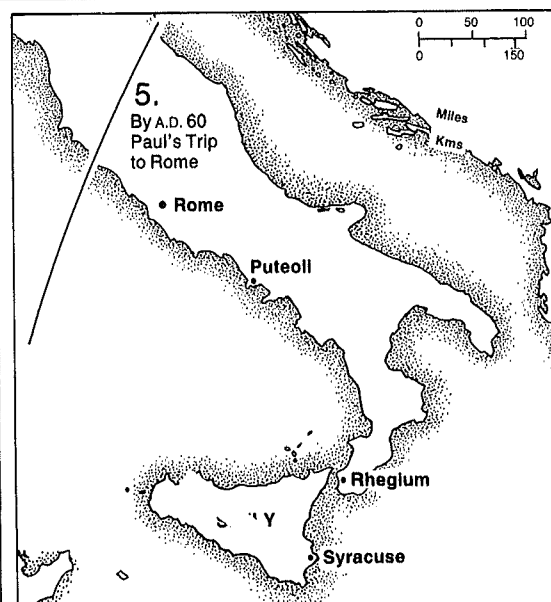
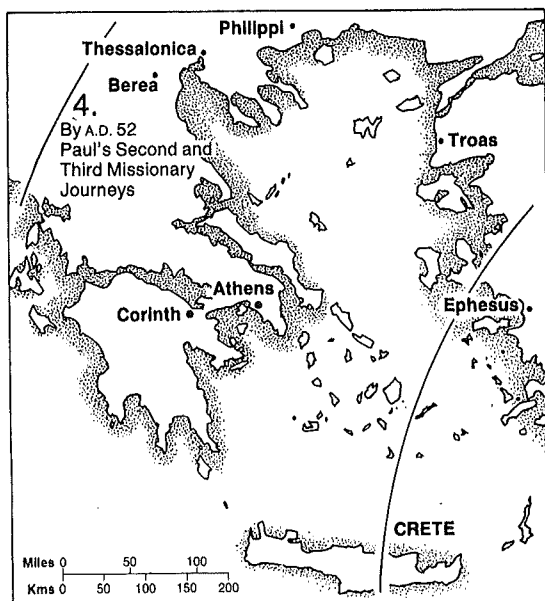
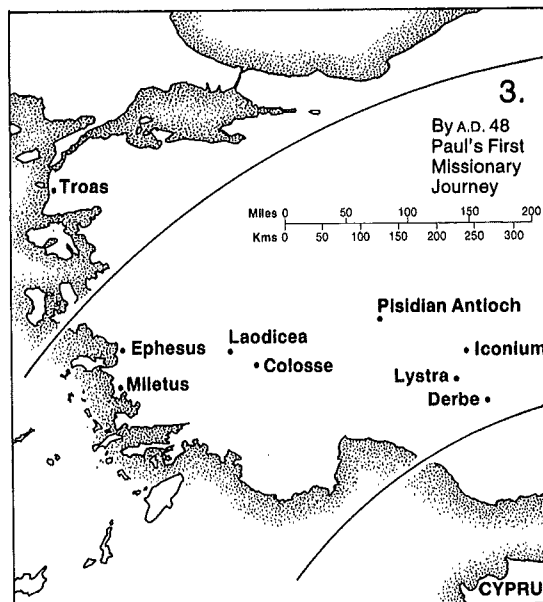
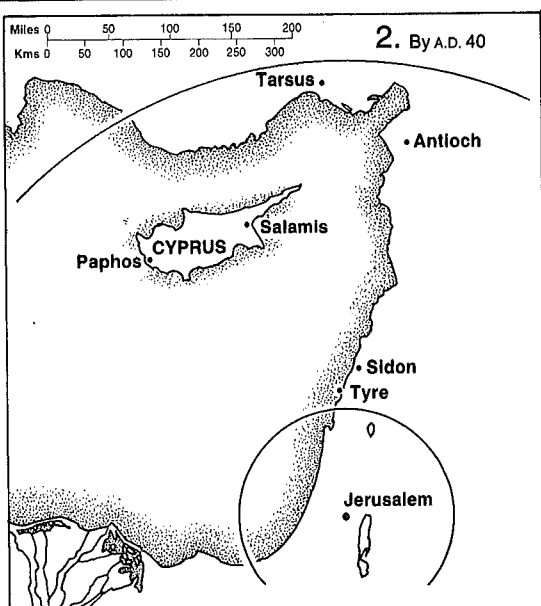
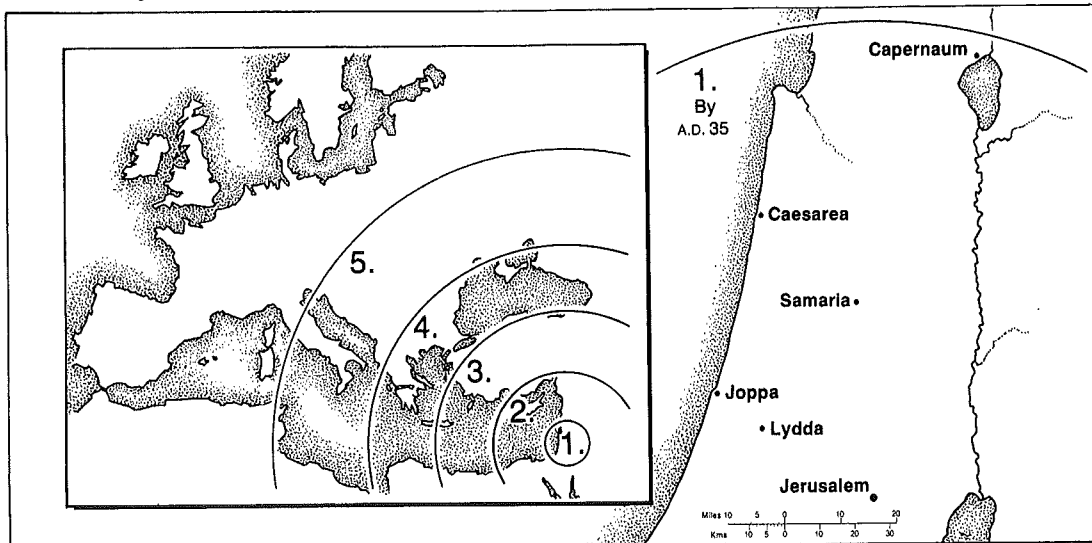
⇒ The New Team: Barnabas & Saul Move To Antioch

⇒ More Persecution: James Dies & Peter Lives

# Jesus in Judea and Samaria



# The Spread of the Gospel



## Letters From Leaders

*The General Letters*

### The New Testament (27 Books)

HISTORY (5)		LETTERS (21)		PROPHETS (1)
GOSPELS (4)	Matthew	Romans	PAUL (13)	Revelation
	Mark	1 Corinthians		
	Luke	2 Corinthians		
	John	Galatians		
	Acts	Ephesians		
	Philippians			
	Colossians			
	1 Thessalonians			
	2 Thessalonians			
	1 Timothy			
	2 Timothy			
	Titus			
	Philemon			
	Hebrews	GENERAL (8)		
	James			
	1 Peter			
	2 Peter			
	1 John			
	2 John			
	3 John			
	Jude			

## James

### *Just Do It!*

⇒ *The Author: James (Jesus' Half-Brother)*

Mark 6:3; 3:21 & John 7:2-8/1 Corinthians 15:7/Acts 1:14/Acts 15:13/Acts 21:18/Galatians 1:19 & 2:9

⇒ *The Audience: Scattered Jewish Christ-Followers*

⇒ *The Time: A.D. Mid 40's*

⇒ *The Key Concept: Real Faith . . . Works.*

⇒ *The Tone: Very Practical*

## 1 Peter

### *The Problem Of Persecution*

⇒ *The Author: The Apostle Peter*

⇒ *The Audience: Persecuted Christ-Followers In Western Turkey*

⇒ *The Date: A.D. 62-63*

⇒ *The Key Concept: How To Cope With Suffering*

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good. (1 Peter 4:19)



## **2 Peter**

### *False Teachers 101*

⇒ *The Author: The Apostle Peter*

⇒ *The Date: A.D. Mid 60's*

⇒ *The Audience: Unknown*

⇒ *The Key Concept: The Danger Of False Teaching*

#### Three Marks Of False Teaching

✓ A New Message

✓ A New Morality

✓ An New Emphasis On Money

Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality . . . In their greed they will make up clever lies to get hold of your money. (2 Peter 2:2-3, New Living Translation)

**1 John***The Signs Of A True Believer*

⇒ *The Author: The Apostle John*

⇒ *The Date & Place: Ephesus, A.D. 90's*

⇒ *The Audience: Christ Followers In Asia Minor (Turkey)*

⇒ *The Key Concept: The Signs Of A True Believer*

Three Signs

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. (1 John 4:1-3)

2. \_\_\_\_\_

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 John 1:5-7)

3. \_\_\_\_\_

This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother. (1 John 3:10)

## 2 John

*P.S.*

⇒ *The Author: The Apostle John*

⇒ *The Audience: The Chosen Lady & Her Children*

⇒ *The Date & Place: Ephesus, A.D. 90's*

⇒ *The Key Concept: The Big Three (Revisited)*

It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. (2 John 4-8)

## 3 John

*Dysfunctional Leadership*

⇒ *The Author: The Apostle John*

⇒ *The Audience: Gaius*

⇒ *The Date & Place: Ephesus, A.D. 90's*

⇒ *The Key Concept: Dealing With Dysfunctional Leadership (Diotrephes)*

I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first, will have nothing to do with us. So if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, gossiping maliciously about us. Not satisfied with that, he refuses to welcome the brothers. He also stops those who want to do so and puts them out of the church. (3 John 9-10)

**Jude***False Teachers 102*

⇒ *The Author: Jude (Jesus' Half-Brother)*

⇒ *The Audience: Unknown*

⇒ *The Date: A.D. Mid 60's*

⇒ *The Key Concept: The Danger Of False Teachers*

Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord. (Jude 3-4)

**Hebrews***Jesus Is Better*

⇒ *The Author: Unknown*

⇒ *The Audience: Persecuted Jewish Christ-Followers*

⇒ *The Date: Before A.D. 70*

⇒ *The Key Concept: Jesus Is Better*

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. (Hebrews 1:1-4)

But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises. For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. But God found fault with the people and said:

"The time is coming, declares the Lord,  
 when I will make a new covenant  
 with the house of Israel  
 and with the house of Judah.  
 It will not be like the covenant  
 I made with their forefathers  
 when I took them by the hand  
 to lead them out of Egypt,  
 because they did not remain faithful to my covenant,  
 and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel  
 after that time, declares the Lord.  
 I will put my laws in their minds  
 and write them on their hearts.  
 I will be their God,  
 and they will be my people.

No longer will a man teach his neighbor,  
 or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'  
 because they will all know me,  
 from the least of them to the greatest.  
 For I will forgive their wickedness  
 and will remember their sins no more.

By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear. (Hebrews 8:6-13)

See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first. (Hebrews 3:12-14)

## Your Assignment

- Read *Knowing The Bible 101*
  - Chapter 9: The Book Of Acts – Pages 242-252
  - Chapter 10: The Epistles – Pages 270-274 & 276-277 (1 & 2 Thessalonians)
  
- Bible Passages
  - Acts 13-15
  - Romans 1:18-32
  - Romans 3:9-26
  - Romans 5
  - Romans 7
  - Romans 8
  - Romans 12
  - Romans 13:8-10
  - Romans 14:1–15:7
  - 1 Corinthians 5-7
  - 1 Corinthians 12-13
  - 1 Corinthians 15
  - Galatians 1:6-9
  - Galatians 5:1-26
  - 1 Thessalonians 4:1 – 5:11
  - 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12