

**#9 —May 31/June – “THE SEASON OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH”  
“THE BOOK OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES”**

**Overall Theme: “THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE”**

**Sub-Theme: “AM I READY TO GO TO HEAVEN...*TODAY!!*”**

**B. S. G. Topic: “THE SEASON OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:”  
A Reading/Study Guide of “The Book of the ACTS of the Apostles”**

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**INTRODUCTION:** *(May 31)*

“The Season of Pentecost,” Pentecost occurring 50 Days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ Pentecost, also, recognizes “The Birth of the New Testament Church.” In today’s times, “Pentecost” includes periods of time for persons to receive/receive a “re-filling” of the Holy Ghost/Holy Spirit.

**Emphasis:** Receiving/Re-filling/Maintaining of the Holy Ghost/Holy Spirit

**QUESTION:** “What will you/your Church do during this special season?”

Together, these 2 sub-themes form an important means for helping you to be ready to inherit an Everlasting Life with Jesus Christ! Isn’t that **ASTOUNDING, PRODIGIOUS, AWESOME, too WONDERFUL** for any word in our vocabularies to describe? **JUST THINK: our MANSION in HEAVEN is already prepared for us. It is just waiting for us to get to it - AND – all it takes is for us to be ready to inherit it – through our OBEDIENCE to GOD, exhibited by our GODLY, RIGHTEOUS LIVING as is in HIS WORD throughout the Bible (as you observe in your colored markings showing OBEDIENCE to GOD (depicting GODLY/RIGHTEOUS LIVING, using your red marker) vs. DISOBEDIENCE to GOD exhibited by UNGODLY/UNRIGHTEOUS LIVING, using your green marker**

## **BACKGROUND:** (*May 31<sup>st</sup>*)

120 Apostles and followers of Jesus Christ – including women – went into the Upper Room in Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Ghost. After 10 days, they received the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4). (Note: 40 days of Jesus on earth after His Resurrection, plus 10 days of waiting for the Holy Ghost = 50 days. These 50 days = ***Pentecost***: “The Birth of the New Testament Church.”)

Beginning with ***Pentecost***, many wonderful things occurred: The Church - called **“The Way”** - began, as described in **“The Book of the Acts of the Apostles,”** etc.

## **INFORMATION to KNOW DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE, etc.:** (*May 31<sup>st</sup>*)

- 1) Praying and Fasting. Be prepared for the receiving/re-filling/maintaining of the Holy Ghost (essential if you want eternal life with Jesus Christ).
- 2) Reading and studying the “First Church,” (The Book of Acts).
  - a) The Command to Wait (Acts 1)
  - b) Pentecost Comes (Acts 2:1-13)
  - c) Peter’s Sermon and its Results = “True Salvation” (Acts 2:32-41)
  - d) The First Church”: The **“ACTS”** of Peter, Paul, and others
    - \*Witnessing - Preachings, Teachings, Ministering, etc.
    - \*Performing Miracles; Enduring Persecutions, Oppositions, Threats, etc.
- 3) **NOTE**: For easier/quicker accessibility, input information into your Smart Device.

# **SECTION ONE: The Book of Acts - WITNESSING IN JERUSALEM**

## **PART A: THE HISTORY OF THE EARLY CHURCH, called "THE WAY"**

### **Chapter 1:** *(June 1)*

1. Introduction to Acts; The Promise of the Holy Ghost... 1-3
2. Some Appearances of the Resurrected Jesus Christ...4-8
3. The Ascension of Jesus Christ..9-11
4. The Waiting on the Holy Ghost..12-14
5. The Appointment of Matthias as the 12<sup>th</sup> Apostle..15-26

### **Chapter 2:** *(June 2)*

Being Filled with the Holy Ghost, speaking with other tongues..1-4

*"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound as of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."* (Acts 2:1-4; All Scriptures quoted from KJV)

2. Peter's **First** Sermon..14-39 (Salvation in 3 steps)

*"...Then Peter said unto them, 1) Repent and 2) be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ [why?] for the remission of sins, and 3) ye shall receive the gift of The Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38) (Question: Why in Jesus' Name?*

*"Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.." (Acts 4:12)*

*"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." (Colossians 3:17)*

3. "**Acts**" of the New Testament Church..40-47

## **PART B. "HAPPENINGS" REGARDING THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:**

### **Chapter 3:** *(June 3)*

1. Peter and John Heal the Lame Man..1-11
2. Peter's **Second** Sermon..12-26

### **Chapter 4:** *(June 4)*

1. **1<sup>st</sup> Persecution of the Church:** Peter and John are Arrested..1-4
2. Peter's **Third** Sermon: To the Jewish Sanhedrin..5-12
3. The Sanhedrin Commands Peter not to Preach in Jesus' Name..13-22
4. The Apostles' Prayer for Boldness..23-31
5. **"ACTS"** of The First Church...32-37

### **Chapter 5:** *(June 5)*

1. The Lie of Ananias and Sapphira..1-11 (**FOR YOU:** What happened? Why?)
2. The Apostles' Mighty Miracles..12-16 (**FOR YOU:** What were these?)
3. **2<sup>nd</sup> Persecution of the Church:** The Apostles are Persecuted..17-42

### **Chapters 6 and 7:** *(June 6 & 7)*

1. The First Church: Deacons are Appointed..1-7 (**For You:** How many? Qualifications?)
2. **3<sup>rd</sup> Persecution of the Church:** Stephen is Martyred..6:8-7:60  
(**FOR YOU:** Do research on Stephen.)

## **SECTION TWO: WITNESSING IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA**

### **Chapter 8:** *(June 8)*

1. **4<sup>th</sup> Persecution of the Church:** Saul (1-4) (**FOR YOU:** What was Saul's life like?)
2. **THE WITNESS OF PHILIP (8:5-40)**
  - a) Philip Witnesses to the Samaritains..5-25
  - b) Philip Witnesses to the Ethiopian..26:39
  - c) Philip continues Witnessing..40
3. **ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS: THE CONVERSION OF SAUL (9:1-31):**

### **Chapter 9:** *(June 9)*

- a) Saul is Blinded..1-9
- b) Saul and Ananias..10-19
  - 1) Saul is Chosen...(15-16)
  - 2) Saul is filled with the Holy Ghost...(17)
  - 3) Saul is Baptized...(18-19)
- c) Saul Preaches in Dasmascus..20-22
- d) Saul Witnesses in Jerusalem..23-31
- e) **THE MINISTRY OF PETER (9:32-11:18)** *(June 10)*
  - 1) Peter Heals Aeneas at Lydda..32-35
  - 2) Peter Raises Tabitha from the dead (a female disciple, called Dorcas) at Joppa..36-43

**Chapters 10:** *(June 10)*

1. Cornelius (Gentile Commander in the Italian Military) calls for Peter..1-8
2. Peter's Vision: Witnesses to Cornelius (and others at Caesarea)..9-33
3. Peter's Sermon to the Gentiles...34-43
4. The Gentiles receive the Holy Ghost..44-48

**Chapter 11:** *(June 11)*

1. Peter's Explanations for his Actions..1-18
2. Witnessing at the Antioch Church (Disciples first called "Christians" v. 26)..19-30

## **SECTION THREE: WITNESSING TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH (12:1 - 28:30)** [Application: Matthew 28:19]

**Chapter 12:** *(June 12)*

1. 5<sup>th</sup> Persecution of the Church: "  
2. James is killed ..1-3  
3. Peter is imprisoned; his miraculous escape..4-19  
3. The Death of Herod Agrippa..20-25

### **THE WITNESS OF PAUL AND BARNABAS –**

## **Paul's First Missionary Journey** (Chapters 13 – 14)

**Chapter 13:** *(June 13)*

1. The Holy Ghost calls Paul and Barnabas...1-43  
(Note: In verse 9, "Saul" begins to be known as "Paul.")
2. The Jews Opposition: Paul and Barnabas turn to the Gentiles...44-52
- 3.

**Chapter 14:** *(June 14)*

1. The Missionary Works of Paul and Barnabas  
Places Visited: Iconium, Derbe, Lystra (Impotent man healed in Lystra),  
Pisidia, Pamphylia, Perga, Attalia, and Antioch ...1-28  
(Note: Elders were Ordained in every Church...23)

**Chapter 15:** *(June 15)*

1. The Council at Jerusalem. a)The Issue: Circumcision of the Gentiles...1-21  
b)The Letter regarding Gentile Believers..22-35
2. Paul and Barnabas separate; Silas is chosen to replace Barnabas..36-49
3. THE WITNESS OF PAUL AND SILAS

### **ASSIGNMENT** - List the places Paul visited.

# **Paul's Second Missionary Journey:**

## **Chapter 16:** *(June 13)*

1. Paul and Timothy ..1-5
2. The Call from Macedonia...6-11
3. Lydia, first baptized convert in Europe; Paul and Silas at Philippi...11-15
4. Paul and Silas in Prison..16-40; conversion of Philippian jailor ...(25-29)

## **Chapter 17:** *(June 17)*

### **THE WITNESS OF PAUL AND SILAS:**

1. Paul Preaches at the founding church of Thessalonica..1-9
2. With opposition from the Jews, Paul and Silas leave Thessalonica, going to Berea and Athens..10-34

## **Chapter 18:** *(June 18)*

1. Paul a) meets Aquila and Priscilla. (**For You:** Describe this couple.)  
b) founds Corinthian church ...1-17
2. Paul and Silas return to Antioch...18-28

**Assignment:** List the places Paul visited.

# **Paul's Third Missionary Journey** (For You: Places Visited?)

## **Chapter 19:** (June 20 - 19)

Apollos talks with John's disciples about the Holy Ghost and being baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus..1-10

1. Special Miracles wrought..11-12

**Assignments:** a) Name 2 kinds of miracles; b) Tell about the 7 sons of Sceva)

2. Paul's Ministry in Ephesus..13-22
3. A Riot Breaks out in Ephesus..23-41 (**For You:** Why the riot?)

## **Chapter 20:** (June 20)

1. Paul's Visits to Macedonia, Greece, Troas, and Miletus..1-16
2. Paul Meets with the Elders at Ephesus..17-38

(**For You:** What was his message to the Elders?)

## **Chapters 21 and 22:** (June 21 - 22)

1. Paul's Journey to Jerusalem.. 1-13 (**FOR YOU:** Describe this journey.)
2. Paul arrives in Jerusalem..14-36
3. Paul talks with the Crowd..37-40, then to the High Council..22:1-30;

## **Chapter 23:** (June 23)

1. Paul before the Sanhedrin: The Plan to kill Paul..1-35

## **Chapter 24:** (June 24)

1. Paul comes before Governor Felix (presented by the lawyer, Tertullus).
2. Paul's Address.

## **Chapter 25:** (June 25)

1. Paul appears before Festus, then King Agrippa..25:23 through **Chapter 26:1-32**

## **Chapter 27:** (June 27)

Paul sails to Rome: His Encounters with a Storm and a Shipwreck

## **Chapter 28:** (June 28)

1. Paul on the Island of Malta/Melita; *Many Miracles occur*...1-15
2. Paul Arrives in Rome...16
3. **Paul Witnesses in Rome**..17-30

**Assignment:** – List names of places to which Paul went.

## **REFLECTIONS FOR YOU - June 29 -30:**

1. What did you learn about Peter? about Paul?
2. List the names of the 12 Apostles. What is significant about each of them?
3. Why is the Name of Jesus essentially important for us today?
4. How do you think the “**REAL Church**” should operate today?
5. How can you make this Season's Readings/Studies applicable to yourself?

*Prayerfully, you enjoyed your Readings and Studies during these Sub-themes of Pentecost and the New Testament Church. May GOD BLESS YOU for the time you spent in your learning experiences!!*

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR ENDEAVORS IN THIS PROJECT!**