NEW TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

ACTS – PART ONE

Lesson 23

Biblical-Literacy.com

© Copyright 2006 by W. Mark Lanier. Permission hereby granted to reprint this document in its entirety without change, with reference given, and not for financial profit.

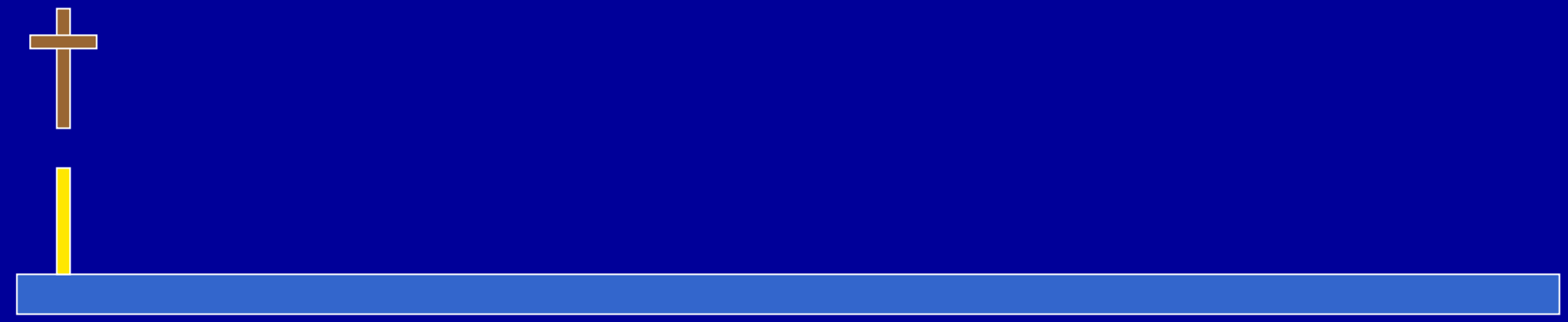
Background

- Book (Scroll) 2
  - Dr. Luke --> Theophilus
- Incredible Accuracy

Where Did Luke Get His Info?

- “We” Passages
  - Firsthand
  - Paul
  - Mark
  - Peter
  - Philip
  - Jerusalem

Timeline



Apr/
May
30ad

61ad

Major Sections

- Birth of the Church (1-5)
- Persecution and Church Expansion (6-9:31)
- Acts of Peter and Entrance of Gentiles (9:32-12:24)
- Paul's First Mission Trip and Apostolic Decree (12:25-16:5)
- Church Grows Around Aegean Sea (16:6-19:20)
- Paul's Unexpected Route to Rome (19:21-28:31)

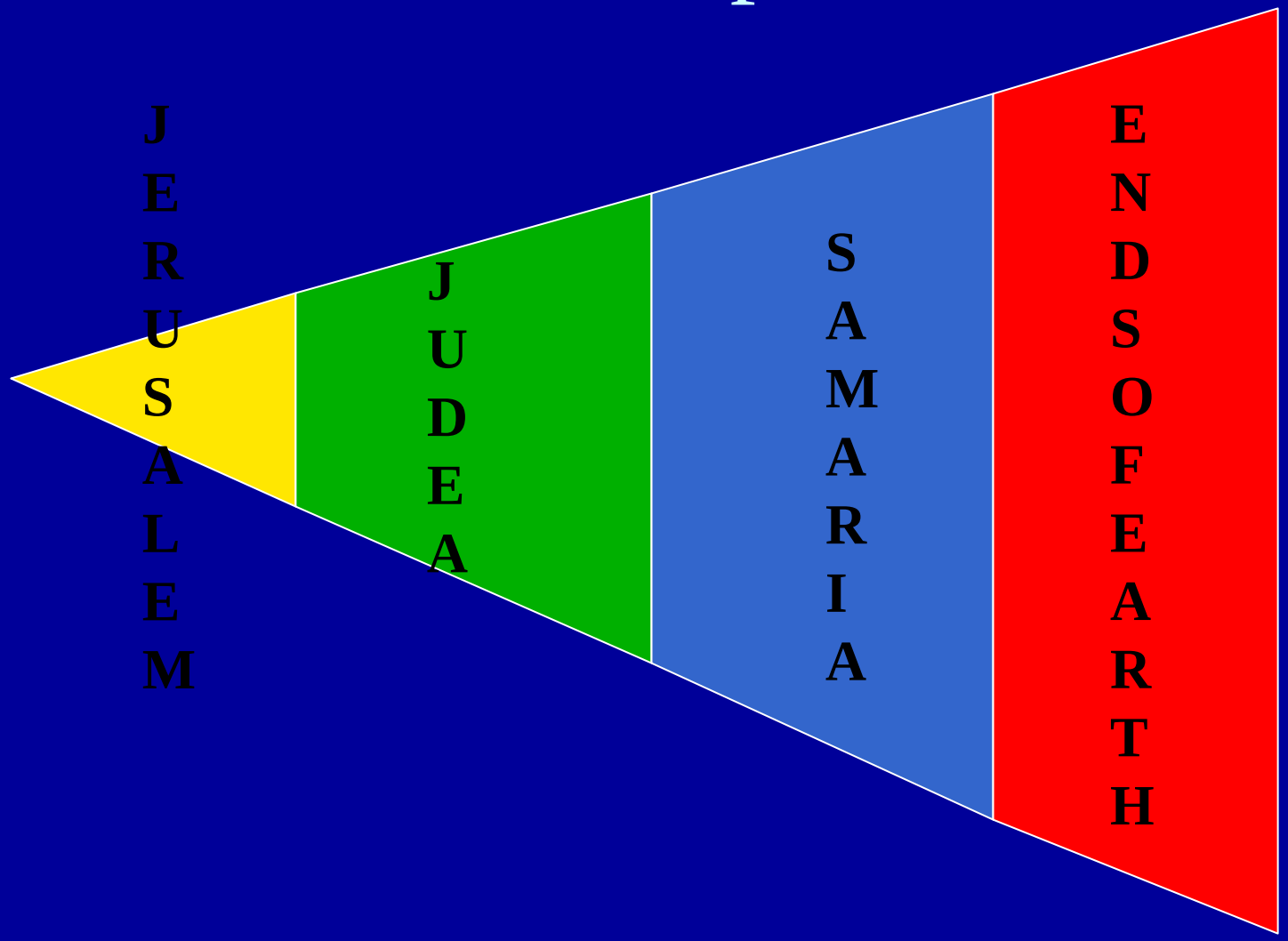
Birth of the Church

- Resurrected Jesus
- Clueless Questioning

"Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" (1:6)

- The Promised Spread

The Spread



Ascension

"After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight." (1:9)

"Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus … will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." (1:11)

Pre-Holy Spirit

- 120 gathering in “constant Prayer”
- A twelfth added

Pentecost

- “Whitsunday”
- From Greek “50th”
- Measured from Easter Sunday
- Jewish Feast of Weeks (Ex.34:22a; Dt 16:9ff)

Holy Spirit

- Rushing Wind / Tongues of Fire
- Speaking in Tongues
- Hearing in Tongues?

What Was Said?

- “The Wonders of God”
- Some Amazed; Some Perplexed
- Some Made Fun

Peter Opens the Door

- Not Drunk
- Joel:

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people … And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

The Message

- You Killed the Messiah
- God Raised Him

  "God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." (2:36)

- Cut to the Heart

“What Shall We Do?”

- Repent (*metanoia*)

  Change Your Mind
- Be Baptized
- Receive the Holy Spirit

The Reaction

- 3000 added

  "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." (2:42)
- Possessions in Common
- Mountain Top

One Day…

- Peter and John to Temple to Pray
- A Crippled Man Begging

"Silver or Gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, walk." (3:6)

- Walks and Jumps!
- Peter speaks to the Onlookers

Peter and John Arrested

- Questioned Before Authorities
- Peter (Holy Spirit) Answers Boldly With Scripture

"He is 'the stone you builders rejected which has become the capstone'."

Reaction

- Sanhedrin in Private Consult
- The Charge and Release
- The Prayer for More

Sharing and Honesty

- Joseph Gives
- Ananias and Sapphira Lie

More Growth

- Many More Healed
- Apostles Arrested
- Angelic Release
- “We gave you strict orders…”
- Gamaliel’s Sage Advice

The Reaction

"The apostles left the Sanhedrin rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ." (5-41-42)

Points for Home

- God is Exciting
- Work on Fellowship
- Be Honest With God
- Let God Be Your Life
- Rejoice in Him