Chapter 1

(1) The former writing I have made, O Theophilus {friend of God},[a] of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

(2) Until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen:

(3) To whom also He showed Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen by them forty days,[b] and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:[c]

(4) And, being assembled together with *them,* commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the Promise of the Father, which, *He said,* you have heard from Me.

(5) Because John truly baptized with water; but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

(6) When they had therefore come together, they asked Him, saying, Lord, will You at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

(7) And He said to them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons,[d] which the Father has put in His own power.

(8) But you shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you shall be witnesses to Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth.

(9) And when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight {Thursday, Iyar 26 [Apr.-May] 2/26/4071 A.H./C-29 A.D.}.[e]

(10) And while they looked steadfastly towards heaven as He went up, two men stood by them in white robes;

(11) Who also said, You men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, Who has been taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven.

(12) Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount of Olives,[f] which is from Jerusalem a sabbatf day's journey {Saturday}[f] {about 1000 yds.; 0.91 km.}.[g]

1:1a – Theophilus {Θεόφιλος}– "friend of God" see Luke 1:3 - former treatise - writing – i.e. the Gospel of Luke

1:3b - being seen by them 40 days this puts His ascension 10 days before Pentecost - seen by over 500 at once I Cor. 15:5-8

1:3c – many bodies of the saints who slept also arose and appeared throughout the city Mat. 27:52-53

1:7d – See note on Mat. 24:32

1:9e - 483 years since Cyrus' decree to restore [4071 A.H./C-29 A.D.]
- See: Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History
- see Appendix K: What Day of the Week Was Jesus Crucified?
See Appendix L: The Modern Jewish Calendar and Holy Days and The Jewish Calendar at www.TheWordNotes.com

1:12f – Mount of Olives will split – Zech. 14:4

1:12g - Sabbath's day journey – 2000 cubits, about 1000 yards or 0.91 Kilometers - see Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures

(13) And when they had come in, they went up into an upper room,[h] where both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas *the brother* of James stayed.[i]
(14) These all continued with one accord in prayer and requests to God, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.
(15) And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about one hundred and twenty,)
(16) Men *and* brothers, this scripture must have been fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit by the mouth of David spoke before concerning Judas, who was guide to those who took Jesus.
(17) Because he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.
(18) Now this man purchased a field with the reward of sin; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.[j]
(19) And it was known to all those who live in Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.[k]
(20) Because it is written in the book of Psalms,

Let his home be desolate, and let no man live in it: and his position of authority let another take.[l]

(21) Therefore of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
(22) Beginning from the baptism of John, to that same day that He was taken up from us, one must be ordained to be a witness with us of His resurrection.
(23) And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.[m]
(24) And they prayed, and said, You, Lord, Who know the hearts of all *men,* show which of these two You have chosen,
(25) That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by sin fell, that he might go to his own place.

1:13h – large upper room – Mat. 26:18f; Mark 14:15
1:13i - see list of disciples at the end of Matthew
1:18j - Judas hung himself - apparently the rope broke and his belly split open when he hit the ground - See Mat 27:5
1:19k - Mat. 27:8; Zech. 11:12-13 - Aceldama [Aramaic] - field of blood
1:20l - Ps. 109:8
1:23m - these two fit the requirements of verse 22 - they had to have been with Jesus from the time of John's baptism until He was taken up to heaven

(26) And they cast their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias;[n] and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Chapter 2

(1) And when the day of Pentecost had fully come {Sunday, Sivan 7 [May-June] 3/7/4071 A.H./C-29 A.D.},[a] they were all with one accord in one place.

(2) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

(3) And there appeared to them split tongues like fire, and it sat upon each of them.

(4) And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other languages,[b] as the Spirit gave them utterance.

(5) And there were living at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

(6) Now when this was told abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because every man heard them speak in his own language.

(7) And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?

(8) And how do we hear every man in our own tongue {language; dialect},[c] in which we were born?

(9) Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and those who live in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

(10) Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

(11) Cretes and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our languages the wonderful works of God.

(12) And they were all amazed, and were wondering, saying one to another, What does this mean?

1:26n - See "Equdistant Letter Sequences - Signature of God #2" at www.TheWordNotes.com - the Hebrew code lists Matthias [omitting Judas] in the list of disciples found in Isaiah 53 – see also: His Name Is Jesus by Yacov Rambsel

2:1a - see Appendix K: What Day of the Week Was Jesus Crucified? ; Appendix L: The Modern Jewish Calendar and Holy Days and The Jewish Calendar at www.TheWordNotes.com; Lev. 23:16

2:4b - languages - tongues - glossais {γλωσσαις}

2:8c - tongue - dialect - dialekto - {διαλεκτω}; language - Note: What is taking place is the opposite of what happened at the tower of Babel. At the tower of Babel men had gathered together to "make a name" for themselves [Gen. 11:14] and God confounded their languages. Here men are gathered to worship God and God enables men to hear the Gospel in their own language.

(13) Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.[d]
(14) But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said to them, You men of Judea, and all *you* who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to my words:
(15) Because these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *but* the third hour of the day {9 a.m.}.[e]
(16) But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
(17) **And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:**
(18) **And on My servants and on My handmaidens I will pour out in those days of My Spirit; and they shall prophesy:**
(19) **And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke:**
(20) **The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord[f] comes:**
(21) **And it shall come to pass, that whoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.[g]**
(22) You men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know:
(23) He, being delivered by the predetermined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and killed:
(24) Whom God has raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that He should be held by it.
(25) Because David spoke concerning Him,
I foresaw the Lord always before my face, because He is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

2:13d - new wine (sweet wine, alcoholic) gluekous {γλευκους}
Note: King James Version does not make a distinction between "new wine" and "sweet wine", but it is clear from the context that the disciples were accused of being drunk. The Greek text uses the word gluekous [we get the word glucose from] which is sweet wine. Technically, "new wine" is grape juice that has not fermented, "sweet wine" is alcoholic [grape juice that has fermented].
2:15e - third hour of the day - 9 o'clock in the morning - people who get drunk usually do so at night or late evening, not early in the morning
2:20f - the day of the Lord – Armageddon
2:19-21g - Joel 2:28-31

(26) **Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:**
(27) **Because You will not leave my soul in hell,[h] neither will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.[i]**
(28) **You have made known to me the ways of life; You shall make me full of joy with Your countenance {smile}.[j]**
(29) Men *and* brothers, let me freely speak to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.
(30) Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that He would raise up Christ of his descent, according to the flesh, to sit on his throne;
(31) He seeing this beforehand spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in hell, neither did His flesh see corruption.
(32) This Jesus God has raised up, of which we all are witnesses.
(33) Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has brought this forth, which you now see and hear.
(34) Because David has not ascended into the heavens: but he said himself,
The LORD {Jehovah} said to my Lord, You sit on My right hand,
(35) **Until I make Your enemies Your footstool.[k]**
(36) Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty, that God has made this same Jesus, Whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ.
(37) Now when they heard *this,* they were pricked in their heart, and said to Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brothers, what shall we do?
(38) Then Peter said to them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
(39) Because the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all who are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.
(40) And with many other words he did testify and encourage, saying, Save yourselves from this wicked generation.

2:27h - hell - Hebrew: sheol {שׁאול} - place of souls after death for good and bad - see Luke 16:19-31 – the rich man and Lazarus
2:27i - He did not see corruption - the Jews believed that the body began to decompose after three days [this is why Martha told Jesus - "by this time he stinketh" referring to her brother Lazarus who had been in the tomb 4 days already John 11:39] – Ps. 16:10
2:25-28j - Ps. 16:8-11 - countenance - facial expression - light of Your smile
2:34-35k- Ps. 110:1

(41) Then those who gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *to them* about three thousand souls.
(42) And they continued holding firm to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
(43) And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.
(44) And all who believed were together, and had all things common;
(45) And sold their possessions and goods, and divided them to all *men,* as every man had need.
(46) And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, ate their food with gladness and singleness of heart,
(47) Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Chapter 3
(1) Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour* {3 p.m.}.[a]
(2) And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful,[b] to ask donations of those who entered into the temple;
(3) Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked for a donation.
(4) And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look at us.
(5) And he gave heed to them, expecting to receive something from them.
(6) Then Peter said, Silver and gold I do not have; but such as I have I give you: In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
(7) And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.[c]
(8) And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.
(9) And all the people saw him walking and praising God:
(10) And they knew that it was he who sat for donations at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

3:1a - ninth hour - 3:00 in the afternoon
3:2b - Beautiful Gate - there were three gates on the east, the middle gate which led directly to the Temple was called the Beautiful Gate - In the New Jerusalem [Rev. 21:13] there will be three gates on each side of the city
3:7c – lame man cured – <u>Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible</u>

(11) And as the lame man who was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon's,[d] greatly wondering.
(12) And when Peter saw *it,* he answered to the people, You men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? or why do you look so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we have made this man to walk?
(13) The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our forefathers, has glorified His Son Jesus; Whom you delivered up, and denied Him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *Him* go.
(14) But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted to you;
(15) And killed the Prince of Life, Whom God has raised from the dead; of which we are witnesses.
(16) And His Name through faith in His Name this man has been made strong, whom you see and know: yes, the faith which is by Him has given him this perfect wholeness in the presence of you all.
(17) And now, brothers, I know that through ignorance you did *it,* as *did* also your rulers.
(18) But those things, which God beforehand had shown by the mouth of all His prophets, that Christ should suffer, He has so fulfilled.
(19) Repent therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out,[e] when the times of refreshing comes from the presence of the Lord;
(20) And He shall send Jesus Christ, Who beforehand was preached to you:
(21) Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoring of all things,[f] which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.
(22) Because Moses truly said to the forefathers,

the Lord your God shall raise up a Prophet to you of your brothers, like me; Him you shall hear in all things whatever He shall say to you.

(23) **And it shall come to pass, *that* every soul, which will not hear that Prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.**[g]
(24) Yes, and all the prophets from Samuel and those who followed after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

3:11d - Solomon's Porch - a covered entry-way on the east side of the temple in the outer courtyard of the Gentiles - Herod had reconstructed the porch that Solomon had built - it was known for its beauty and was probably where Jesus' disciples were when they were showing Him the beauty of the building - see Mat. 24:1
3:19e - blotted out - literally - lifted out of the book
3:21f - times of restoring - Armaggedon - when Christ returns to restore the earth and reign on the present earth for 1000 years
3:22g- Deut. 18:18-19

(25) You are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our forefathers, saying to Abraham,

And in your Descendant shall all the peoples of the earth be blessed.[h]

(26) To you God, having raised up His Son Jesus, first sent Him to bless you, in turning everyone of you away from his sins.

Chapter 4

(1) And as they spoke to the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

(2) Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

(3) And they laid hands on them, and put *them* in jail until the next day: because it was now evening.

(4) Nevertheless many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

(5) And it came to pass in the morning, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

(6) And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas,[a] and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kin of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

(7) And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what Name, have you done this?

(8) Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, You rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

(9) If we this day are being examined for the good deed done to the lame man, how it is he has been made whole;

(10) Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead, *even* by Him this man stands here before you whole.

(11) He is the Stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the head of the corner.[b]

(12) Neither is there salvation in any other: because there is no other Name under heaven given among men, by which we must be saved.

(13) Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

(14) And seeing the man who was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

(15) But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

(16) Saying, What shall we do to these men? because indeed a notable miracle has been done by them which *is* evident to all those who live in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny *it*.

3:25h - Gen. 22:18

4:6a - Annas and Caiaphas high priests - Caiaphas is the son-in-law of Annas
- we believe that Annas had been the high priest and then gave the title to his son-in-law, but out of respect both are still referred to as high priests – see John 18:13; Luke 3:2

4:11b - Ps. 118:22-23; Is. 28:16

(17) But that it spreads no further among the people, let us strictly threaten them, that they not from this time forward speak to any man in this Name.
(18) And they called them, and commanded them to not speak at all nor teach in the Name of Jesus.
(19) But Peter and John answered and said to them, Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.
(20) Because we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.
(21) So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way that they might punish them, because of the people: because all *men* glorified God for that which was done.
(22) Because the man was over forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shown.
(23) And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them.
(24) And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, You *are* God, Who has made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:
(25) Who by the mouth of Your servant David has said,

Why did the heathen {ungodly nations} rage, and the people imagine vain things?

(26) **The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against His Christ.**[c]
(27) Because truly against Your holy Child Jesus, Whom You have anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles {non-Jews}, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,
(28) In order to do whatever Your hand and Your counsel determined beforehand to be done.
(29) And now, Lord, hear their threats: and grant to Your servants, that with all boldness they may speak Your word,
(30) By stretching forth Your hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the Name of Your holy Child Jesus.
(31) And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit,[d] and they spoke the word of God with boldness.
(32) And the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither did anyone say of any of the things which they possessed were his own; but they had all things in common.
(33) And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

4:25-26c - Ps. 2:1-2
4:31d – filled with the Holy Spirit – they had been baptized by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a one-time event that occurs when a person believes in Jesus – the filling of the Holy Spirit may occur many times because we are earthen vessels with cracks and leaks – we need repeated filling!

(34) Neither was there any among them who lacked: because as many as possessed lands or houses sold them, and brought the money from the things that were sold,
(35) And laid *it* down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made to every man according to his need.
(36) And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation, {comfort}) a Levite, *and* of the country of Cyprus,
(37) Having land, sold *it,* and brought the money, and laid *it* at the apostles' feet.

Chapter 5
(1) But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,
(2) And kept back *part* of the price, his wife also knowing about *it,* and brought a certain part, and laid *it* at the apostles' feet.[a]
(3) But Peter said, Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land?
(4) While it remained, was it not yours to own? and after it was sold, was it not in your own power? why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God.
(5) And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the spirit {he died}:[b] and great fear came on all those who heard these things.
(6) And the young men arose, wrapped him up, and carried *him* out, and buried *him*.
(7) And it was about the space of three hours later, when his wife, not knowing what had happened, came in.
(8) And Peter said to her, Tell me whether you sold the land for so much? And she said, Yes, for so much.
(9) Then Peter said to her, How is it that you have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband *are* at the door, and shall carry you out.
(10) Then she fell down immediately at his feet, and yielded up the spirit {died}: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying *her* forth, buried *her* by her husband.
(11) And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.
(12) And by the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were performed among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.[c]
(13) And of the rest no man dared to join himself to them: but the people magnified them.
(14) And more believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)
(15) So much so that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

5:2a - kept back part of it - the land was his to do with as he chose - the problem was that apparently he claimed that he was giving all of the money to the apostles in order to receive the praise of people - see Acts 5:4,8
5:5b - gave up the ghost - gave up his spirit - i.e. he died
5:12c – Acts 3:11

(16) There also came a multitude *out* of the cities all around Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and those who were harassed by unclean spirits: and every one of them was healed.
(17) Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation,
(18) And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.
(19) But the Angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,
(20) Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this Life.
(21) And when they heard *that,* they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, and those who were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.
(22) But when the officers came, and did not find them in the prison, they returned, and told *them*,
(23) Saying, The prison we truly found shut with all security, and the keepers standing outside in front of the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man inside.
(24) Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they questioned of themselves where this would lead.
(25) Then one came and told them, saying, Indeed, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.
(26) Then the captain went with the officers, and brought them without violence: because they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.
(27) And when they had brought them, they set *them* before the council: and the high priest asked them,
(28) Saying, Did we not strictly command you that you should not teach in this Name? and, indeed, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this Man's blood upon us.
(29) Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.
(30) The God of our forefathers raised up Jesus, Whom you killed and hung on a tree.
(31) God has exalted Him with His right hand *to be* a Prince and a Savior, in order to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.
(32) And we are His witnesses of these things; and *so is* also the Holy Spirit, Whom God has given to those who obey Him.
(33) When they heard *this,* they were cut *to the heart,* and took counsel to kill them.
(34) Then there stood up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel,[d] a doctor of the law, who had a reputation among all the people, and commanded that the apostles be put forth a little distance;

5:34d - Gamaliel - Acts 22:3

(35) And said to them, You men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do concerning these men.
(36) Because before these days Theudas rose up, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was killed; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nothing.
(37) After this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of the taxing, and drew away many people after him: he also perished; and all, *even* as many as obeyed him, were dispersed.
(38) And now I say to you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: because if[e] this counsel or this work is of men, it will come to nothing:
(39) But if[f] it is of God, you cannot overthrow it; lest perhaps you are found even to fight against God.
(40) And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten *them,* they commanded that they should not speak in the Name of Jesus, and let them go.
(41) And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name.
(42) And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

Chapter 6
(1) And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry of food.[a]
(2) Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples *to themselves,* and said, It is not reasonable that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.
(3) Therefore, brothers, seek out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
(4) But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
(5) And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:[b]
(6) Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid *their* hands on them.
(7) And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

5:38e - "if this counsel or this work is of men" - the Greek word for "if" in this verse is ean {εαν} which suggests that Gamaliel really suspected that it wasn't of men
5:39f - "if it is of God" - the Greek word for "if" in this verse is ei {ει} which implies that Gamaliel suspected that it was of God
6:1a - the law of Moses specifically provided for widows, but apparently the widows who were Greek speaking Jews from other parts of the country were not being provided for - see Deut. 14:29
6:5b - we believe these are the first deacons - their job was to make sure that all those, primarily the widows, needs were provided for

(8) And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.
(9) Then there arose certain ones of the synagogue, which is called *the synagogue* of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of those of Cilicia[c] and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.
(10) But they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spoke.
(11) Then they recruited men, who said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and *against* God.
(12) And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon *him,* and caught him, and brought *him* to the council,
(13) And set up false witnesses, which said, This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:
(14) Because we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered to us.
(15) And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Chapter 7

(1) Then the high priest said, Are these things so?
(2) And he {Stephen} answered, Men, brothers, and fathers, listen; The God of glory appeared to our forefather Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran,[a]
(3) And said to him, Get out of your country, and away from your kindred, and come into the land which I shall show you.[b]
(4) Then he came out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and lived in Haran: and from there, when his father was dead,[c] he removed himself into this land, in which you now live.

6:9c - Libertines, Cyrenians, Alexandrians, Cilicians, and of Asia - Jews from the various parts of the Roman empire, possibly gathered together for the Feast of Pentecost or one of the other feasts: Libertine, Cyrene, Alexandria, Cilicia, etc.
7:2a - Charran - Haran {The "Ch" is a variant in transliteration of the Hebrew}
7:3b - Gen. 12:1
7:4c – when his father was dead – by this we know that Abraham came to Canaan following the death of his father who was 205 at the time {Gen. 11:31-32} and Abraham was 75 years old at the time {Gen. 11:32 – 12:5} which means that Terah was 130 (205-75=130) when Abraham was born. See note on Gen. 11:26. - See Appendix G: WorldTime Line of Biblical History

(5) But He gave him no inheritance in it, no, not *so much as* to set his foot on: yet He promised that He would give it to him for a possession, and to his descendants after him, when *as yet* he had no child.
(6) And God spoke in this manner, That his descendants should live in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and treat *them* evil four hundred years.[d]
(7) **And the nation to whom they shall be in bondage I will judge, said God: and after that they shall come forth, and serve Me in this place.**[e]
(8) And He gave him the covenant of circumcision: and so *Abraham* fathered Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac *fathered* Jacob; and Jacob *fathered* the twelve patriarchs.
(9) And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,
(10) And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favor and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.
(11) Now there came a famine over all the land of Egypt and Canaan,[f] and great affliction: and our forefathers found no food.[g]
(12) But when Jacob heard that there was corn in Egypt, he sent out our forefathers first.
(13) And at the second *time* Joseph was made known to his brothers; and Joseph's kindred were made known to Pharaoh.[h]
(14) Then Joseph sent, and called his father Jacob to *him,* and all his kindred, seventy-five souls.[i]
(15) So Jacob went down into Egypt, and died, he, and our forefathers,
(16) And were carried over into Sychem, and laid in the tomb that Abraham bought for a sum of money from the sons of Emmor *the father* of Sychem.[j]

7:6d - treated evil 400 years and put into bondage - see Gen. 15:13
- note: based on Gal. 3:17 we know that Israel was not in bondage for 400 years since there was only 430 years from the time the promise was given to Abraham until Moses received the Law [Gal. 3:17]. Israel was in Egypt 215 years – see How Long Was Israel in Egypt? at www.TheWordNotes.com The 400 years is counted from Isaac's 5th birthday. See note on Gen. 15:13 and Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History

7:7e - Gen. 15:14, 16
7:11f - Chanaan - Canaan - See note on 7:2
7:11g – Gen. 42:1-2
7:13h – Gen. 45:1
7:14i - Jacob's kindred, seventy-five souls in all. See notes on Gen. 46:26 and 46:27
7:16j - Gen. 23:1-2

(17) But when the time of the promise drew near, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt,
(18) Until another king arose, who did not know Joseph.[k]
(19) The same dealt subtly with our kindred, and treated our forefathers evilly, so that they cast out their young children, intending to kill them.
(20) During that time Moses was born, and was exceedingly fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months:
(21) And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.
(22) And Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.
(23) And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brothers the children of Israel.
(24) And seeing one *of them* suffer wrong, he defended *him,* and avenged him who was oppressed, and struck the Egyptian:[l]
(25) Because he supposed his brothers would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they did not understand.
(26) And the next day he showed himself to them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, you are brothers; why do you wrong one to another?
(27) But he who did his neighbor wrong pushed him away, saying, Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?
(28) Will you kill me, as you did the Egyptian yesterday?[m]
(29) Then Moses fled at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Midian,[n] where he fathered two sons.
(30) And when forty years had expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sinai an Angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush.[o]
(31) When Moses saw *it,* he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to see *it,* the voice of the Lord came to him,
(32) *Saying,* **I *am* the God of your forefathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.**[p]
Then Moses trembled, and dared not look.
(33) Then the Lord said to him,
Remove your shoes from your feet: because the place where you stand is holy ground.[q]
(34) **I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and have come down to deliver them. And come now, I will send you into Egypt**.[r]

7:18k - Ex. 1:8
7:24l- Ex. 2:11-12
7:28m - Ex. 2:13-15
7:29n - Madian – Midian
7:30o – Ex. 3:2-3
7:32p - Ex. 3:6 - see Mat. 22:32
7:33q - Ex. 3:5
7:34r - Ex. 3:9-10

(35) This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made you a ruler and a judge? the same God sent *to be* a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of The Angel Who appeared to him in the bush.
(36) He brought them out, after he had shown wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red Sea, and in the wilderness forty years.
(37) This is that Moses, who said to the children of Israel,

The Lord your God shall raise up a Prophet to you of your brothers, like me; Him you shall hear.[s]

(38) This is He, Who was in the church in the wilderness with the Angel Who spoke to him in the mount Sinai, and *with* our forefathers: who received the living oracles to give to us:
(39) To whom our forefathers would not obey, but pushed *him* from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt,
(40) Saying to Aaron, Make for us gods to go before us: because *as for* this Moses, who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.[t]
(41) And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifices to the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.
(42) Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets,

O you house of Israel, have you offered to Me slain beasts and sacrifices *for the space of* forty years in the wilderness?

(43) **Yes, you took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which you made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.**[u]

(44) Our forefathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as He had appointed, speaking to Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen.
(45) Which our forefathers who came in afterward also brought in with Jesus {Joshua}[v] into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our forefathers, until the days of David;
(46) Who found favor before God, and desired to find a tabernacle for the God of Jacob.
(47) But Solomon built Him a house {temple}.
(48) However the most High does not live in temples made with hands; as the prophet says,

7:37s - Deut. 18:15
7:40t - Ex. 32:1
7:42-43u - Amos 5:25-26
7:45v - Jesus - i.e. Joshua [Jesus {ιησου} is Greek for the Hebrew name Joshua {יהושע} which means Jehovah saves] – See note on Mat. 1:21 and Lk. 1:31

(49) **Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool: what house {temple} will you build Me? Says the Lord: or what is the place of My rest?**
(50) **Has not My hand made all these things?**[w]
(51) You stubborn and uncircumcised in heart and ears,[x] you always resist the Holy Spirit: as your forefathers *did,* so *do* you.
(52) Which of the prophets have your forefathers not persecuted? and they have killed those who showed beforehand the coming of the Just One; of Whom you have now been the betrayers and murderers:
(53) Who have received the law delivered by angels, and have not kept *it*.
(54) When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with *their* teeth.
(55) But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked up intently into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing[y] on the right hand of God,
(56) And said, Look, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God.
(57) Then they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,
(58) And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him:* and the witnesses laid down their coats at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.[z]
(59) And they stoned Stephen, even as he was calling upon *God,* and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.
(60) And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, do not lay this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Chapter 8

(1) And Saul was consenting to his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.
(2) And devout men carried Stephen *to his burial,* and cried greatly over him.
(3) As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and taking men and women putting *them* into prison.
(4) Therefore those who were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.
(5) Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ to them.
(6) And the people with one accord gave heed to those things which Philip spoke, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.
(7) Because unclean spirits, crying with loud voices, came out of many who were possessed *with them:* and many taken with paralysis, and who were lame, were healed.
(8) And there was great joy in that city.

7:49-50w - Is. 66:1-2
7:51x - uncircumcised of heart and ears - i.e. they act like ungodly unbelievers
7:55y - Jesus is standing - showing His love and support of Stephen and his testimony
7:58z - Acts 22:20

(9) But there was a certain man, called Simon, who previously in the same city used sorcery {magic; fake miracles},[a] and deceived the people of Samaria, pretending that he himself was some great one:
(10) To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man has the great power of God.
(11) And to him they had regard, because for a long time he had deceived them with sorceries {magic; fake miracles}.
(12) But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the Name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.
(13) Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.[b]
(14) Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John:
(15) Who, when they had come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit:
(16) (Because as yet He had not fallen upon any of them: but they were only baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.)[c]
(17) Then they laid *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
(18) And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,
(19) Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Spirit.
(20) But Peter said to him, Your money perish with you, because you have thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.
(21) You have neither part nor lot in this matter: because your heart is not right in the sight of God.
(22) Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray to God, if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.
(23) Because I perceive that you are caught up with bitterness, and *in* the bonds of sin.
(24) Then Simon answered, and said, You pray to the Lord for me, that none of these things which you have spoken come upon me.
(25) And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.
(26) And the Angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, Arise, and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza, which is desert.

8:9a - sorcery - literally: magic {μαγευων}
8:13b - Simon who previously practiced magic (which is fake) now saw true power and recognized that it was real
8:16c - They had been baptized in the Name of Jesus, but had not received the Holy Spirit - it was necessary for the Jewish apostles to see for themselves that the Samaritans believed and the laying on of hands was an identification both to the Jews and to the Samaritans that Jesus was Savior for all and they were one body in Christ Jesus.

(27) And he arose and went: and, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch[d] of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem to worship,
(28) Was returning, and sitting in his chariot reading Isaiah the prophet.
(29) Then the Spirit said to Philip, Go near, and join yourself to this chariot.
(30) And Philip ran there to *him,* and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, Do you understand what you read?
(31) And he said, How can I, unless some man should guide me?[e] And he desired that Philip would come up and sit with him.
(32) The place of the scripture which he read was this,

He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb who is dumb before his shearer, so He did not open His mouth:

(33) **In His humiliation His judgment was taken away: and who shall declare His generation? Because His life is taken from the earth.**[f]

(34) And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I ask you, of whom does the prophet speak these things? of himself, or of some other man?
(35) Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached to him Jesus.
(36) And as they went on *their* way, they came to a certain body of water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what hinders me to be baptized?
(37) And Philip said, If you believe with all your heart, you may be. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.[g]
(38) And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.
(39) And when they had come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.
(40) But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, until he came to Caesarea.

8:27d - eunuch - a man who has been castrated or for some other reason is unable to perform sex - eunuchs were often put in charge of harems since there was no possibility of them having sex with the women – being a eunuch, he would not be allowed to enter the temple [Lev. 21:17-23] so he would not have access to learning from the teachers of the law – see Deut. 23:1; Acts 8:31; Mat. 19:12
8:31e - See Acts 8:27
8:32-33f - Is. 53:7-8
8:37g – modern translations leave out this verse all together because the authors don't believe it - See Appendix I: Examples of Missing Words and Verses in Modern Translations – Bishops'{1568}, Geneva {1587}, King James {1611}, Webster's {1833} Bibles are all in agreement.

Chapter 9

(1) And Saul, still breathing out threats and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest,

(2) And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this Way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

(3) And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shone around him a light from heaven:

(4) And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying to him, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?[a]

(5) And he said, Who are You, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus Whom you persecute: *it is* hard for you to kick against the thorns.[b]

(6) And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what will You have me to do? And the Lord *said* to him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told to you what you must do.

(7) And the men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.[c]

(8) And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought *him* into Damascus.

(9) And he was three days without sight, and neither did he eat nor drink.

(10) And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Look, I *am here,* Lord.

(11) And the Lord *said* to him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for *one* called Saul, of Tarsus: because, indeed, he is praying,

(12) And has seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting *his* hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

(13) Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he has done to Your saints at Jerusalem:

(14) And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your Name.

(15) But the Lord said to him, Go your way: because he is a chosen vessel to Me, to bear My Name before the Gentiles {non-Jews}[d] and kings, and the children of Israel:

(16) Because I will show him what great things that he must suffer for My Name's sake.

(17) And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, Who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me, that you might receive your sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

(18) And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he immediately received sight, and arose, and was baptized.

9:4a – Acts 22:7; 26:14

9:5b – pricks {κεντρα} – thorns – sharp object – possibly ox goad or cattle prod

9:7c - Acts 22:9

9:15d - Gentiles - non-Jews - people of other nations

(19) And when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul was certain days with the disciples who were at Damascus.
(20) And immediately he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.
(21) But all who heard *him* were amazed, and said; Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this Name in Jerusalem, and came here with that intent, that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?
(22) But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived at Damascus, proving that this {Jesus} is truly Christ.
(23) And after many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:
(24) But their laying in wait was made known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.
(25) Then the disciples took him by night, and let *him* down by the wall in a basket.[e]
(26) And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he determined to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple.
(27) But Barnabas took him, and brought *him* to the apostles, and declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the Name of Jesus.
(28) And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.
(29) And he spoke boldly in the Name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians:[f] but they went about to kill him.
(30) *Which* when the brothers found out, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.[g]
(31) Then the churches had rest throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria, and were encouraged; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, were multiplied.
(32) And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all *quarters,* he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda.
(33) And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedfast eight years, and was sick with paralysis.
(34) And Peter said to him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ makes you whole: arise, and make your bed. And he arose immediately.[h]
(35) And all who lived at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and turned to the Lord.
(36) Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha {deer [in Aramaic]},[i] which by interpretation is called Dorcas {deer [in Greek]}:[j] this woman was full of good works and charity which she did.

9:25e - basket - hamper - large basket - see Mat. 14:20; Mat. 15:37
9:29f – Grecians – Greek speaking Jews
9:30g – Tarsus – Paul's home town
9:34h – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
9:36i - Tabitha - Aramaic for deer
9:36j - Dorcas - Greek for deer

(37) And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber.
(38) And since Lydda was near to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent to him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them.
(39) Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and showing the coats and clothes which Dorcas had made, while she was with them.
(40) But Peter put them all out, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *himself* to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.[k]
(41) And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.
(42) And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.
(43) And it came to pass, that he stayed many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

Chapter 10

(1) There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion[a] of the band called the Italian *band,*
(2) *A* devout *man,* and one who feared God with all his household, who gave many gifts to the people, and prayed to God always.
(3) He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day {3 p.m.}[b] an Angel of God coming in to him, and saying to him, Cornelius.
(4) And when he looked on Him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And He said to him, Your prayers and your gifts have come up for a memorial before God.
(5) And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter:
(6) He is staying with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he will tell you what you should do.
(7) And when the Angel Who spoke to Cornelius had departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of those who waited on him continually;
(8) And when he had declared all *these* things to them, he sent them to Joppa.
(9) In the morning, as they went on their journey, and drew near to the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour {noon}:[c]
(10) And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,
(11) And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending towards him, as it had been a great sheet held at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

9:40k – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
10:1a - centurion - officer in charge of 100 men
10:3b - ninth hour of the day - 3:00 in the afternoon - the hour of prayer – see Acts 3:1
10:9c - sixth hour - noon

(12) In which were all manner of four footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and crawling things, and birds of the air.[d]
(13) And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.
(14) But Peter said, Not so, Lord; because I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.
(15) And the voice *spoke* to him again the second time, What God has cleansed, *that* you shall not call common {or unclean}.[e]
(16) This was done three times: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.
(17) Now while Peter questioned in himself what this vision which he had seen meant, the men who were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,
(18) And called, and asked whether Simon, who was surnamed Peter, was staying there.
(19) While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, Look, three men seek you.
(20) Arise therefore, and get yourself down, and go with them, questioning nothing: because I have sent them.
(21) Then Peter went down to the men who were sent to him from Cornelius; and said, Indeed, I am he whom you seek: what *is* the reason that you have come?
(22) And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one who fears God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by a holy angel to send for you to come into his house, and to hear words from you.
(23) Then he called them in, and lodged *them*. And in the morning Peter went away with them, and certain brothers from Joppa accompanied him.[f]
(24) And the morning after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and close friends.
(25) And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshiped *him*.
(26) But Peter lifted him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.
(27) And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many who had come together.
(28) And he said to them, You know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to keep company, or come to one of another nation; but God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean.
(29) Therefore I came *to you* without hesitation, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what reason you have sent for me?

10:12d - "unclean" animals that the Jews were not permitted to eat - Lev. 11; Deut. 14
10:15e - common or unclean - see Acts 10:28; 11:8
10:23f - 6 men in all went with Peter - Acts 11:12

(30) And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour {3 p.m.}[g] I prayed in my house, and a man stood before me in bright clothing,
(31) And said, Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your gifts are had in remembrance in the sight of God.
(32) Therefore send to Joppa, and call to here Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is staying in the house of *one* Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he comes, will speak to you.
(33) Therefore I immediately sent to you; and you have done well that you have come. Now therefore we are all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded of you by God.
(34) Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Truly I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:[h]
(35) But in every nation those who fear Him, and work righteousness, are accepted by Him.
(36) The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (He is Lord of all:)
(37) That word, *I say,* you know, which was published throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
(38) How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power: Who went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed of the devil; because God was with Him.
(39) And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; Whom they killed and hung on a tree:
(40) God raised Him up the third day, and showed Him openly;
(41) Not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen beforehand by God, *even* to us, who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.
(42) And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He Who was ordained by God *to be* the Judge of the living and dead.
(43) To Him all the prophets give witness, that through His Name whoever believes in Him shall receive forgiveness of sins.
(44) While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the word.
(45) And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles {non-Jews} also.
(46) Because they heard them speak with other languages,[i] and magnify God. Then Peter said,
(47) Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we?
(48) And he commanded them to be baptized in the Name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay certain days.

10:30g - ninth hour - 3:00 p.m.
10:34h - no respecter of persons - no person is more important to the Lord than any other person. A person's social status or wealth mean nothing to the Lord. Anything a person has is a gift from the Lord and totally undeserved.
10:46i - Acts 19:6

Chapter 11

(1) And the apostles and brothers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles {non Jews} had also received the word of God.

(2) And when Peter had come up to Jerusalem, those who were of the circumcision contended with him,

(3) Saying, You went in to uncircumcised men, and ate with them.

(4) But Peter rehearsed *the matter* from the beginning, and explained to them, in order saying,

(5) I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

(6) Upon which when I had fastened my eyes, I considered, and saw four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and crawling things, and birds of the air.

(7) And I heard a voice saying to me, Arise, Peter; kill and eat.

(8) But I said, Not so, Lord: because nothing common or unclean has at any time entered into my mouth.[a]

(9) But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God has cleansed, *that* you shall not call common {or unclean}.

(10) And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven.

(11) And, indeed, immediately there were three men who had already come to the house where I was, sent from Caesarea to me.

(12) And the Spirit told me to go with them, questioning nothing. Furthermore these six brothers accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

(13) And he showed us how he had seen an Angel in his house, which stood and said to him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;

(14) Who shall tell you words, by which you and all your household shall be saved.[b]

(15) And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, as it did on us at the beginning.

(16) Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how that He said, John indeed baptized with water; but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.[c]

(17) Since God gave them the same gift as *He did* to us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; who was I, that I could withstand God?[d]

(18) When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then God has also granted repentance for eternal life to the Gentiles {non-Jews}.

(19) Now those who were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen traveled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but to the Jews only.

11:8a – Acts 10:15, 28
11:14b – Acts 10:5-7
11:16c - Acts 1:5
11:17d – Acts 10:44-47

(20) And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Grecians,[e] preaching the Lord Jesus.
(21) And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned to the Lord.
(22) Then news of these things came to the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.
(23) Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and encouraged them all, that with purpose of heart they would cling to the Lord.
(24) Because he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith: and many people were added to the Lord.
(25) Then Barnabas departed to Tarsus, in order to seek Saul:
(26) And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came to pass, that for a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
(27) And in these days prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch.
(28) And there stood up one of them named Agabus,[f] and signified by the Spirit that there should be a great famine throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.[g]
(29) Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brothers who lived in Judea:
(30) Which they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Chapter 12

(1) Now about that time Herod the king[a] stretched forth *his* hands to harass certain of the church.
(2) And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.
(3) And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (These were the days of Unleavened Bread.)[b]

11:20e – Grecians – Greek speaking Jews
11:28f – Agabus – Acts 21:10
11:28g - See Acts 18:2; 21:10
12:1a – Herod Agrippa I – son of Herod Antipas the 5th son of Herod I
– see notes on Mat. 2:1; Mat. 14:1; Lk. 3:1; Lk. 13:31; Lk. 23:7; Acts 25:13
{see Josephus} - See Appendix O: The Herods of Scripture
12:3b - days of Unleavened Bread - seven days beginning with Passover
– Lev. 23:5-6

(4) And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to sixteen soldiers[c] to keep him; intending after Easter[d] to bring him forth to the people.
(5) Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing by the church to God for him.
(6) And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.
(7) And the Angel of the Lord came upon *him,* and a light shone in the prison: and He struck Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Get up quickly. And his chains fell off from *his* hands.
(8) And the Angel said to him, Put your belt on, and tie your sandals. And he did so. And He said to him, Put your coat on and follow Me.
(9) And he went out, and followed Him; and did not know that what the Angel was doing was real; but he thought he was seeing a vision.
(10) When they were past the first and the second ward, they came to the iron gate that lead to the city; which opened to them of its own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and immediately the Angel left him.
(11) And when Peter had come to himself, he said, Now I know of a certainty, that the Lord had sent His Angel, and has delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and *from* all the expectation of the people of the Jews.
(12) And when he had considered *the thing,* he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.
(13) And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a young girl came to answer the door, named Rhoda.
(14) And when she recognized Peter's voice, she did not open the gate because of gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.
(15) And they said to her, You are mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was so. Then they said, It is his angel.
(16) But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened *the door,* and saw him, they were astonished.[e]
(17) But he, motioning to them with the hand to hold their peace, declared to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go tell these things to James, and to the brothers. And he departed, and went into another place.
(18) Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what had become of Peter.

12:4c - quaternions - four soldiers, so 4 quaternions = 16 soldiers
12:4d - Easter - modern translations incorrectly say Passover, but if it is the days of Unleavened Bread [v. 3], Passover has already passed. – this is one of the places where the King James version varies from the Greek Received Text which also says "Passover" rather than "Easter" – the verse could read: "after the Passover holidays" but the King James version solves this problem by using the word "Easter." The Bishops Bible published in 1568 also uses Easter.
12:16e – they had been praying for him for days, but were astonished at how God had answered their prayers

(19) And when Herod had sought for him, and did not find him, he examined the keepers, and commanded that *they* should be put to death. And he went down from Judea to Caesarea, and stayed *there*.
(20) And Herod was highly displeased with those of Tyre and Sidon: but they came with one accord to him, and, having made Blastus the king's chamberlain their friend, desired peace; because their country was nourished by the king's *country*.
(21) And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made a speech to them.
(22) And the people gave a shout, *saying, It is* the voice of a god, and not of a man.
(23) And immediately the Angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give God the glory: and he was eaten by worms, and gave up the spirit {he died}.
(24) But the word of God grew and multiplied.
(25) And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled *their* ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

Chapter 13
(1) Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger,[a] and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
(2) As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, Separate for Me Barnabas[b] and Saul for the work to which I have called them.
(3) And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.
(4) So they, being sent forth by the Holy Spirit, departed to Seleucia; and from there they sailed to Cyprus.
(5) And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John[c] as *their* minister.
(6) And when they had gone through the isle to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer {magician},[d] a false prophet, a Jew, whose name *was* Barjesus:
(7) Who was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

13:1a - Niger {νιγερ} – black
13:2b – Barnabas – Acts 4:36
13:5c – John – John Mark - Marcus, Barnabas' sister's son [Col. 4:10]
– Barnabas' nephew – Since Barnabas was a Levite [Acts 4:36]
John Mark was also a Levite.
13:6d – sorcerer – magician {μαγον} - Elymos - Acts 13:8

(8) But Elymas[e] the sorcerer[f] (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.
(9) Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Spirit, set his eyes on him,
(10) And said, O full of all subtlety and all mischief, *you* child of the devil, *you* enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?
(11) And now, look, the hand of the Lord *is* upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking someone to lead him by the hand.[g]
(12) Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.
(13) Now when Paul and his company left from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.
(14) But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day {Saturday}, and sat down.
(15) And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, *You* men *and* brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, speak on.
(16) Then Paul stood up, and motioning with *his* hand said, Men of Israel, and you who fear God, give audience.
(17) The God of this people of Israel chose our forefathers, and exalted the people when they lived as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with a mighty arm He brought them out of it.
(18) And about the time of forty years He endured their deeds in the wilderness.
(19) And when He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He divided their land to them by lot.
(20) And after that He gave *to them* judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.[h]
(21) And afterward they desired a king: and God gave to them Saul the son of Cis,[i] a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for a time of forty years.
(22) And when He had removed him, He raised up to them David to be their king; to whom also He gave testimony, and said, I have found David the *son* of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who shall fulfill all My will.[j]

13:8e - Elymas {ελυμας} – an Arabic word meaning wizard or magician
13:8f - sorcerer {μαγος} – magician
13:11g – Elymas mad blind – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
13:20h - judges were given for about 450 years "until" Samuel [through most of Samuel's judgeship] and afterwards they wanted a king - see Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History
13:21i – I Sam. 9:1-2; 10:24
13:22j - I Sam. 16:12

(23) Of this man's descendants God has according to *His* promise raised for Israel a Savior, Jesus:
(24) When John had first preached before His coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.
(25) And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom do you think that I am? I am not *He*. But, there comes one after me, the shoes of Whose feet I am not worthy to loose.
(26) Men *and* brothers, children of the stock of Abraham, and whoever among you fears God, to you the word of this salvation is sent.
(27) Because those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor yet the voices of the prophets who are read every sabbath day {Saturday}, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *Him*.
(28) And though they found no cause of death *in Him,* yet they desired of Pilate that He be killed.
(29) And when they had fulfilled all that was written of Him, they took *Him* down from the tree, and laid *Him* in a tomb.
(30) But God raised Him from the dead:
(31) And He was seen many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people.
(32) And we declare to you good news, how the promise which was made to the forefathers,
(33) God has fulfilled the same to us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm,

You are My Son, today I have fathered You.[k]

(34) And as concerning that He raised Him up from the dead, *now* no more to return to corruption, He said in this way,

I will give you the sure mercies of David.[l]

(35) Therefore He said also in another *psalm,*

You shall not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.[m]

(36) Because David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, and was laid to his forefathers, and saw corruption:
(37) But He, Whom God raised again, saw no corruption.
(38) Let it be known to you therefore, men *and* brothers, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins:
(39) And by Him all who believe are justified from all things, from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.
(40) Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets;
(41) **Look, you despisers, and wonder, and perish: because I work a work in your days, a work which you shall in no way believe, though a man declare it to you.**[n]

13:33k - Ps. 2:7
13:34l - Is. 55:3
13:35m - Ps. 16:10
13:41n - Hab. 1:5

(42) And when the Jews had left the synagogue, the Gentiles {non-Jews} asked that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath {Saturday}.
(43) Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.
(44) And the next sabbath day {Saturday} almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.
(45) But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spoke against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.
(46) Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but since you put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, indeed, we turn to the Gentiles {non-Jews}.
(47) Because the Lord has so commanded us, *saying,* I have set you to be a light to the Gentiles {non-Jews}, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.
(48) And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.
(49) And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.
(50) But the Jews stirred up the devout and honorable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.
(51) But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium.
(52) And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 14
(1) And it came to pass in Iconium, that both of them went together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.
(2) But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles {non-Jews}, and poisoned their minds against the brothers.
(3) Therefore for a long time they stayed speaking boldly in the Lord, Who gave testimony to the word of His grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.
(4) But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.
(5) And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles {non-Jews}, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use *them* despitefully, and to stone them,
(6) They were made aware of *it,* and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region:

(7) And there they preached the gospel.
(8) And there sat a certain man at Lystra, lame in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:
(9) The same heard Paul speak: who steadfastly looking at him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,
(10) Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on your feet. And he leaped and walked.[a]
(11) And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men.
(12) And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercury, because he was the chief speaker.
(13) Then the priest of Jupiter, who was before their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.
(14) *Which* when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard *of,* they tore their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,
(15) And saying, Sirs, why do you do these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach to you that you should turn from these vanities to the living God, Who made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are in them:
(16) Who in times past allowed all nations to walk in their own ways.
(17) Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.
(18) And with these words they scarcely restrained the people, from sacrificing to them.
(19) And *certain* Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drug *him* out of the city, supposing he was dead.
(20) However, as the disciples stood around him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.
(21) And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and *to* Iconium, and Antioch,
(22) Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* encouraging them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.
(23) And when they had ordained for them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on Whom they believed.
(24) And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.
(25) And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia:
(26) And from there sailed to Antioch, from where they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.[b]

14:10a – lame man cured – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
14:26b - Acts 13:1-3

(27) And when they arrived, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles {non-Jews}.
(28) And there they stayed a long time with the disciples.

Chapter 15
(1) And certain men who came down from Judea taught the brothers, *and said,* Unless you are circumcised after the manner of Moses, you cannot be saved.
(2) Therefore when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain others of them, should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this question.
(3) And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles {non-Jews}: and they caused great joy to all the brothers.
(4) And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church, and *by* the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.
(5) But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees who believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command *them* to keep the law of Moses.
(6) And the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter.
(7) And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said to them, Men *and* brothers, you know how that a good while ago God made a choice among us, that the Gentiles {non-Jews} by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel,[a] and believe.
(8) And God, Who knows the hearts, bore them witness, giving them the Holy Spirit,[b] even as *He did* to us;
(9) And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.
(10) Now therefore why do you tempt God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our forefathers nor we were able to bear?
(11) But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.
(12) Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had performed among the Gentiles {non-Jews} by them.
(13) And after they had held their peace, James {the brother of Jesus} answered, saying, Men *and* brothers, listen to me:
(14) Simeon {Peter} has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles {non-Jews}, to take out of them a people for His Name.
(15) And to this the words of the prophets agree; as it is written,
(16) **After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again its ruins, and I will set it up:**

15:7a - Acts 10
15:8b - Acts 10:44-46

(17) **That the remnant of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles {non-Jews}, upon whom My Name is called, says the Lord, Who does all these things.**[c]
(18) God knows all His works from the beginning of the world.
(19) Therefore my advice is, that we not trouble them, who from among the Gentiles have turned to God:
(20) But that we write to them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication,[d] and *from* things strangled, and *from* blood.[e]
(21) Because Moses from old times has in every city those who preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day {Saturday}.[f]
(23) And they wrote *letters* for them after this manner;
"The apostles and elders and brothers *send* greeting to the brothers who are of the Gentiles {non-Jews} in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:
(24) Since we have heard, that certain ones who went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, *You must* be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no *such* commandment:
(25) It seemed good to us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,
(26) Men who have risked their lives for the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ who shall also tell *you* the same things by mouth.
(28) Because it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;
(29) That you abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if you keep yourselves, you shall do well. Fare you well." [g]
(30) So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the letter:
(31) *Which* when they had read it, they rejoiced for the encouragement.
(32) And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, encouraged the brothers with many words, and confirmed *them*.
(33) And after they had stayed *there* a period of time, they were let go in peace from the brothers to the apostles.
(34) Nevertheless it pleased Silas to remain there still.

15:16-17c - Amos 9:11-12
15:20d - See Mat. 5:32
15: 20e – four things Gentiles [non-Jews] were to abstain from: fornication [sex outside of marriage] – see Mat. 15:19; Mark 7:21-22; Gal. 5:19-21 – things that defile a man Gal. 5:19-21 specifically states that those who practice fornication cannot enter the kingdom of God. Jesus specifically condemns churches in the Revelation for fornication. Rev. 2:14, 20
15:21f – Because – the reason given for these particular things is to not cause a stumbling block to the Jews who read the law of Moses every sabbath
15:29g – see Acts 15:20

(35) Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.
(36) And some days afterward Paul said to Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brothers in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, *and see* how they are doing.
(37) And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark.[h]
(38) But Paul did not think it good to take him with them, who had left them from Pamphylia,[i] and did not go with them to the work.
(39) And the contention was so sharp between them, that they separated one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed to Cyprus;[j]
(40) And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brothers to the grace of God.
(41) And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

Chapter 16
(1) Then he {Paul} came to Derbe and Lystra: and, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy,[a] the son of a certain woman, who was a Jewess, and believed; but his father *was* a Greek:
(2) Who was well reported of by the brothers that were at Lystra and Iconium.
(3) Paul wanted him to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those quarters: because they all knew that his father was a Greek.
(4) And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees to keep, that were ordained by the apostles and elders who were at Jerusalem.
(5) And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.
(6) Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia {Minor},[b]
(7) Afterward they came to Mysia, they intended to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit did not allow them.
(8) And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.
(9) And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, calling him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.
(10) And after he had seen the vision, immediately we[c] endeavored to go into Macedonia, believing assuredly that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

15:37h – John Mark - Marcus, Barnabas' sister's son [Col. 4:10] – Barnabas' nephew. Since Barnabas was a Levite [Acts 4:36] – John Mark was also a Levite.
15:38i – Acts 13:13
15:39j – Later Paul would realize how Mark had matured and requested his presence II Tim. 4:11
16:1a – Timothy – Acts 17:14-15; 18:5; 19:22; 20:4; Rom. 15:21; I Cor. 4:17; 16:10; II Cor. 1:1,19; Phil. 1:1; 2:19; Col. 1:1; I Thes. 1:1; 3:2,6; II Thes. 1:1; I Tim. 1:1,18; I Tim. 6:20; II Tim. 1:2; Heb. 13:23
16:6b – Asia Minor – modern Turkey
16:10c - "we" - Luke joins Paul

(11) Therefore leaving from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next *day* to Neapolis;
(12) And from there to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, *and* a colony: and we were in that city staying certain days.
(13) And on the sabbath {Saturday}, we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was often made; and we sat down, and spoke to the women who came *there*.
(14) And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God, heard *us:* whose heart the Lord opened, that she paid attention to the things which were spoken of by Paul.
(15) And when she was baptized, and her household, she asked *us,* saying, If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and stay *there*. And she constrained us.
(16) And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain young lady possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much gain by fortunetelling:
(17) The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, who show to us the way of salvation.
(18) And she did this many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command you in the Name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.[d]
(19) And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drug *them* into the marketplace to the rulers,
(20) And brought them to the rulers, saying, These men, who are Jews, exceedingly trouble our city,
(21) And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, since we are Romans.
(22) And the multitude rose up together against them: and the rulers tore off their clothes, and commanded to beat *them*.
(23) And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailer to keep them securely:
(24) Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and put their feet fast in the stocks.
(25) And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises to God: and the prisoners heard them.
(26) And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
(27) And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had fled.
(28) But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do yourself no harm: we are all here.
(29) Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,
(30) And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
(31) And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved, and your household.

16:18d – spirit of divination cast out – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible

(32) And they spoke to him the word of the Lord, and to all who were in his household.
(33) And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and immediately he and all his household was baptized.
(34) And when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his household.
(35) And when it was day, the rulers sent the sergeants, saying, Let those men go.
(36) And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The rulers have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.
(37) But Paul said to them, They have beaten us openly who are Romans and un-condemned, and have cast *us* into prison; and now do they thrust us out secretly? Surely not; but let them come themselves and fetch us out.
(38) And the sergeants told these words to the rulers: and they were afraid, when they heard that they were Romans.
(39) And they came and asked them, and brought *them* out, and desired *them* to depart out of the city.
(40) And they went out of the prison, and entered into *the house of* Lydia: and when they had seen the brothers, they comforted them, and departed.

Chapter 17
(1) Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews:
(2) And Paul, as his manner was, went in to them, and for three sabbath days {Saturdays}, reasoned with them out of the scriptures,
(3) Opening and explaining, that Christ had to have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, Whom I preach to you, is Christ.
(4) And some of them believed, and joined with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and not a few of the chief women.
(5) But the Jews who did not believe, moved with envy, took to themselves certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.
(6) And when they did not find them, they drew Jason and certain brothers to the rulers of the city, crying, These who have turned the world upside down have come here also;
(7) Whom Jason has received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, *one* Jesus.
(8) And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things.
(9) And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go.
(10) And the brothers immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night to Berea: who coming *there* went into the synagogue of the Jews.

(11) These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.
(12) Therefore many of them believed; also of honorable women who were Greeks, and not a few of men.
(13) But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also, and stirred up the people.
(14) And then immediately the brothers sent Paul away to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timothy remained there.
(15) And those who went with Paul brought him to Athens: but receiving a commandment to Silas and Timothy for him to come with all speed, they departed.
(16) Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.
(17) Therefore he disputed in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with those who met with him.
(18) Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans,[a] and of the Stoicks,[b] encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? Some others said, He seems to be one who sets forth strange gods: because he preached to them Jesus, and the resurrection.
(19) And they took him, and brought him to Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new teaching, of which you speak, *is?*
(20) Because you bring certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.
(21) (Because all the Athenians and strangers who were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)
(22) Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, *You* men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are too superstitious.
(23) Because as I passed by, and saw your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore He Whom you ignorantly worship, I declare to you.
(24) God Who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made with hands;

17:18a - Epicureans - philosophy sect named for Epicurus, who lived about 300 B.C. They denied that the world was created by God, that the gods exercised any care or providence over human affairs, and that the soul was immortal.

17:18b - Stoicks - philosophy sect named for the Greek word "stoa" for porch {στοὰ} founded by Zeno who taught in a porch in Athens - taught that the world was created by God, but that all things were controlled by Fate.

(25) Neither is worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, and breath, and all things;
(26) And has made of one blood all nations of men to live on all the face of the earth, and has determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of where they live;
(27) That they should seek the Lord, if perhaps they might feel after Him, and find Him, though He is not far from every one of us:
(28) Because in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, Because we are also His offspring.[c]
(29) Since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like gold, or silver, or stone, engraved with art and man's devices.
(30) And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commands all men everywhere to repent:
(31) Because He has appointed a day, in which He will judge the world in righteousness by *that* Man Whom He has ordained; *of Whom* He has given assurance to all *men,* in that He has raised Him from the dead.
(32) And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear you again concerning this *matter*.
(33) So Paul departed from among them.
(34) However certain men clung to him, and believed: among the them *was* Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Chapter 18
(1) After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;
(2) And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who recently came from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because Claudius[a] had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came to them.
(3) And because he was of the same craft, he stayed with them, and worked: because by their occupation they were tent makers.[b]
(4) And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath {Saturday}, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.
(5) And when Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews *that* Jesus *was* Christ.
(6) And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook *his* clothing, and said to them, Your blood *is* upon your own heads; I *am* clean: from now on I will go to the Gentiles {non-Jews}.
(7) And he departed from there, and entered into a certain *man's* house, named Justus, *one* who worshiped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue.

17:28c – Poet Aratus of Tarsus – see The Witness of the Stars, by E.W. Bullinger, p. 13
18:2a – Claudius – Acts 11:28
18:3b – Aquila and Paul were both tent makers

(8) And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.
(9) Then the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not hold your peace:
(10) Because I am with you, and no man shall set on you to hurt you: because I have many people in this city.
(11) And he continued *there* a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.[c]
(12) And when Gallio was the deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection with one accord against Paul, and brought him to the judgment seat,
(13) Saying, This *fellow* persuades men to worship God contrary to the law.
(14) And when Paul was about to open *his* mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness, O *you* Jews, reasonably I would bear with you:
(15) But if it is a question of words and names, and *of* your law, you take care of *it;* because I will be no judge of such *matters*.
(16) And he drove them from the judgment seat.
(17) Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat *him* before the judgment seat. And Gallio did not intervene or concern himself with the matter.
(18) And Paul *after this* stayed *there* yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brothers, and sailed from there into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila; having cut *his* hair in Cenchrea: because he had made a vow.
(19) And he came to Ephesus, and left them there: but he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews.
(20) When they desired *him* to stay longer time with them, he did not consent to do so;
(21) But bade them farewell, saying, I must by all means keep this feast that comes in Jerusalem: but I will return again to you, if God wills. And he sailed from Ephesus.
(22) And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and greeted the church, he went down to Antioch.
(23) And after he had spent some time *there,* he departed, and went over *all* the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.
(24) And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, *and* mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.
(25) This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spoke and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.
(26) And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him to *themselves,* and expounded to him the way of God more perfectly.

18:11c – Paul stays at Corinth a year and 6 months

(27) And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brothers wrote, encouraging the disciples to receive him: who, when he had come, helped those greatly who had believed through grace:
(28) Because he mightily convinced the Jews, *and* publicly, showing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

Chapter 19
(1) And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,
(2) He said to them, Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? And they said to him, We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.
(3) And he said to them, Into what then were you baptized? And they said, Into John's baptism.
(4) Then Paul said, John truly baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people, that they should believe on Him Who was to come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.
(5) When they heard *this,* they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.
(6) And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues {in other languages}, and prophesied.[a]
(7) And all the men were about twelve.
(8) And he went into the synagogue, and spoke boldly for three months, debating and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.
(9) But when various ones were hardened, and did not believe, but spoke evil of that Way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus.
(10) And this continued for a time of two years; so that all those who lived in Asia Minor heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.[b]
(11) And God worked special miracles by the hands of Paul:
(12) So that from his body were brought to the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.
(13) Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists,[c] took upon themselves to call over those who had evil spirits the Name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We command you by Jesus Whom Paul preaches.
(14) And there were seven sons of *one* Sceva, a Jew, *and* chief of the priests, who did so.
(15) And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?
(16) And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

19:6a - Acts 10:44-46; Acts 2:2f
19:10b – Paul spent two years in Asia Minor {modern Turkey}
19:13c – exorcists – men who cast out demons

(17) And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also living at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the Name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.
(18) And many who believed came, and confessed, and showed their deeds.
(19) Many of those also who had used curious arts[d] brought their books together, and burned them before all *men:* and they counted the price of them, and found *it* fifty thousand *pieces* of silver.
(20) So the word of God grew mightily and prevailed.
(21) After these things were ended, Paul decided in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.
(22) So he sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia Minor for a season.
(23) And the same time there arose no small stir about that Way.
(24) Because a certain *man* named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen;
(25) Whom he called together with the workmen of similar occupation, and said, Sirs, you know that by this craft we have our wealth.
(26) Moreover you see and hear, that not just at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia Minor, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods, which are made with hands:
(27) So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nothing; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia Minor and the world worships.
(28) And when they heard *these sayings,* they were full of anger, and cried out, saying, Great *is* Diana of the Ephesians.
(29) And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theater.
(30) And when Paul would have entered in to the people, the disciples would not allow him.
(31) And certain of the chief of Asia, who were his friends, sent to him, asking *him* that he not go into the theater.
(32) Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: because the assembly was confused; and the larger part did not know why they had come together.

19:19d – curious arts – witchcraft, sorcery, astrologers, etc.

(33) And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with the hand, and would have made his defense to the people.
(34) But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice for about two hours cried out, Great *is* Diana of the Ephesians.
(35) And when the town clerk had appeased the people, he said, *You* men of Ephesus, what man is there that does not know how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshiper of the great goddess Diana, and of the *image* which fell down from Jupiter?
(36) Since then these things cannot be spoken against, you ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly.
(37) Because you have brought here these men, who are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.
(38) Therefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen who are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them accuse one another before them.
(39) But if you inquire anything concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.
(40) Because we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar, since there is no reason by which we may give an account of this assembly.
(41) And when he had so spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

Chapter 20

(1) And after the uproar had ceased, Paul called to *himself* the disciples, and embraced *them,* and departed in order to go into Macedonia.
(2) And when he had gone through those parts, and had given them much encouragement, he came into Greece,
(3) And stayed *there* three months. And when the Jews laid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia.
(4) And there accompanied him into Asia {Minor} Sopater of Berea;[a] and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe,[b] and Timothy;[c] and of Asia {Minor}, Tychicus[d] and Trophimus.
(5) These going ahead waited for us[e] at Troas.
(6) And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread,[f] and came to them to Troas in five days; where we stayed seven days.
(7) And upon the first *day* of the week {Sunday},[g] when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached to them, ready to depart in the morning; and continued his speech until midnight.
(8) And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together.

20:4a – Barea – Acts 17:10
20:4b – Gaius – Acts 19:29; 20:4; Rom. 16:23; I Cor. 1:14; III Jn. 1:1
20:4c – Timothy – Acts 16:1
20:4d – Tychicus – Col. 4:7; Eph. 6:21; II Tim. 4:12; Titus 3:12
20:5e – Luke rejoins Paul
20:6f – Feast of Unleavened Bread – Lev. 23:14f; Ex. 34:22f –see note on Lk. 2:41
20:7g - gathered together and breaking bread on Sunday - the early Christians Often worshiped on Sunday

(9) And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, who having fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was preaching long, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.
(10) And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing *him* said, Do not trouble yourselves; because his life is in him.
(11) When he therefore had come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even until break of day, he departed.
(12) And they brought the young man alive, and were greatly comforted.[h]
(13) And we went on ahead to the ship, and sailed to Assos, intending to take in Paul there: because he had so appointed, deciding himself to go on foot.
(14) And when he met with us at Assos, we took him in, and came to Mitylene.
(15) And we sailed from there, and came the next *day* opposite Chios; and the next *day* we arrived at Samos, and stayed at Trogyllium; and the next *day* we came to Miletus.
(16) Because Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, since he would not spend the time in Asia {Minor}: because he hurried, so if it were possible for him, he might be at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost.[i]
(17) And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.
(18) And when they had come to him, he said to them, You know, from the first day that I came into Asia {Minor}, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,
(19) Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which came upon me because of the Jews lying in wait:
(20) *And* how I kept back nothing that was profitable *for you,* but have shown you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,
(21) Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
(22) And now, look, I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall await me there:
(23) Except that the Holy Spirit witnesses in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.
(24) But none of these things move me, neither do I count my life dear to myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.
(25) And now, I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.
(26) Therefore I take you to witness this day, that I *am* pure from the blood of all *men*.

20:12h – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
20:16i – Pentecost – Lev. 23:16 - see note on Lk. 2:41

(27) Because I have not hesitated to declare to you all the counsel of God.
(28) Take heed therefore to yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He has purchased with His own blood.
(29) Because I know this, that after my departing grievous wolves shall enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
(30) Also of your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after themselves.
(31) Therefore watch, and remember, that for a time of three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.
(32) And now, brothers, I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.
(33) I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or clothing.
(34) Yes, you yourselves know, that these hands {of mine} have ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me.
(35) I have shown you all things, how that so laboring you ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.
(36) And when he had spoken these things, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all.
(37) And they all wept greatly, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him,
(38) Sorrowing most of all because of the words which he spoke, that they would see his face no more. And they accompanied him to the ship.

Chapter 21

(1) And it came to pass, that after we had left from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course to Coos, and the *day* following to Rhodes, and from there to Patara:
(2) And finding a ship sailing over to Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth.
(3) Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: because there the ship was to unload her cargo.
(4) And finding disciples, we stayed there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.
(5) And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, until *we were* out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.
(6) And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.
(7) And when we had finished *our* course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and greeted the brothers, and stayed with them one day.

21:8a – Philip – one of the seven – see Acts 6:5
21:10b – Agabus – see Acts 11:28

(8) And the next *day* we who were of Paul's company departed, and came to Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, who was *one* of the seven;[a] and stayed with him.
(9) And the same man had four daughters, virgins, who prophesied.
(10) And as we stayed *there* many days, there came down from Judea a certain prophet, named Agabus.[b]
(11) And when he had come to us, he took Paul's belt, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, This is what the Holy Spirit says, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and shall deliver *him* into the hands of the Gentiles {non-Jews}.
(12) And when we heard these things, both we, and those of that place, urged him not to go up to Jerusalem.
(13) Then Paul answered, Why do you weep and break my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the Name of the Lord Jesus.
(14) And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.
(15) And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem.
(16) There went with us also *certain* of the disciples of Caesarea, and brought with them one Mnason of Cyprus, an old disciple, with whom we should lodge.
(17) And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly.
(18) And the *day* following Paul went in with us to James; and all the elders were present.
(19) And when he had saluted them, he declared in detail the things God had done among the Gentiles {non-Jews} through his ministry.
(20) And when they heard *it,* they glorified the Lord, and said to him, You see, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are who believe; and they are all zealous of the law:
(21) And they are informed of you, that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise *their* children, neither to walk after the customs.
(22) What is it therefore? the multitude surely will come together: because they will hear that you have come.
(23) Therefore we say to you to do this: We have four men who have a vow on them;
(24) Take them, and purify yourself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave *their* heads: and all may know that those things, of which they were informed concerning you, are false; but *that* you yourself also walk orderly, and keep the law.
(25) As concerning the Gentiles {non-Jews} who believe, we have written *and* concluded that they observe no such thing, except only that they keep themselves from *things* offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.[c]

21:25c – Acts 15:20

(26) Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that offering should be offered for every one of them.
(27) And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews who were of Asia {Minor}, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him,
(28) Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, who teaches all *men* everywhere against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and has polluted this holy place.
(29) (Because they had seen Trophimus an Ephesian[d] with him earlier in the city, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.)[e]
(30) And all the city was moved, and the people ran together: and they took Paul, and drew him out of the temple: and immediately the doors were shut.
(31) And as they went about to kill him, news came to the chief captain of the band, that all Jerusalem was in an uproar.
(32) Who immediately took soldiers and centurions, and ran down to them: and when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, they quit beating Paul.
(33) Then the chief captain came near, and took him, and commanded *him* to be bound with two chains; and demanded who he was, and what he had done.
(34) And some cried one thing, some another, among the multitude: and when he could not know the certainty because the tumult, he commanded him to be carried into the castle.
(35) And when he came upon the stairs, so it was, that he was carried by the soldiers because the violence of the people.
(36) Because the multitude of the people followed after, crying, Away with him.
(37) And as Paul was to be led into the castle, he said to the chief captain, May I speak to you? Who said, Can you speak Greek?
(38) Are you not that Egyptian, who before these days made an uproar, and led out into the wilderness four thousand men who were murderers?
(39) But Paul said, I am a man *who is* a Jew of Tarsus, *a city* in Cilicia, a citizen of no small city: and, I urge you, to allow me to speak to the people.

21:29d – Acts 20:4
21:29e – note that Luke has been with Paul the whole time [see Acts 21:1-18] but Luke points out that the Jews thought Paul had brought Trophimus an Ephesian into the temple [although Luke tells us that was not the case] If Luke was a Gentile as many speculate, since Luke was with Paul the whole time, it would seem that the Jews would have been concerned that Luke may have been brought to the temple. But since Luke was in fact a Jew, the possibility that Luke had entered the temple was not an issue! See note on Luke 1. See Was Luke a Gentile? at www.TheWordNotes.com

(40) And when he had given him license, Paul stood on the stairs, and motioned with the hand to the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spoke to *them* in the Hebrew tongue, saying,

Chapter 22

(1) Men, brothers, and fathers, listen to my defense *which I make* now to you.
(2) (And when they heard that he spoke in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence: and he said,)
(3) I am truly a man *who is* a Jew, born in Tarsus, *a city* in Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel,[a] *and* taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous towards God, as you all are this day.
(4) And I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.
(5) As also the high priest bears me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters to the brothers, and went to Damascus, to bring those who were there bound to Jerusalem, to be punished.
(6) And it came about, that, as I made my journey, and had come near to Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light around me.
(7) And I fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to me, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?[b]
(8) And I answered, Who are You, Lord? And He said to me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, Whom you persecute.
(9) And those who were with me indeed saw the light, and were afraid; but they did not hear the voice of Him who spoke to me.
(10) And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said to me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told to you of all things which are appointed for you to do.
(11) And when I could not see because the glory of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me, I came into Damascus.
(12) And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews who lived *there,*
(13) Came to me, and stood, and said to me, Brother Saul, receive your sight. And the same hour I looked up to see him.
(14) And he said, The God of our fathers has chosen you, that you should know His will, and see that Just One, and should hear the voice of His mouth.
(15) Because you shall be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.
(16) And now why do you delay? arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the Name of the Lord.
(17) And it came to pass, that, when I had come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance;
(18) And saw Him saying to me, Hurry, and quickly get yourself out of Jerusalem: because they will not receive your testimony concerning Me.
(19) And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue those who believed on You:

22:3a - Acts 5:34
22:7b – Acts 9:4

(20) And when the blood of Your martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting to his death, and kept the coats of those who killed him.[c]
(21) And He said to me, Depart: because I will send you far from here to the Gentiles {non-Jews}.
(22) And they listened to this word, and *then* lifted up their voices, and said, Away with such a *fellow* from the earth: because it is not fit that he should live.
(23) And as they cried out, and cast off *their* clothes, and threw dust into the air,
(24) The chief captain commanded him to be brought into the castle, and ordered that he should be examined by scourging; that he might know why they cried so against him.
(25) And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and un-condemned?
(26) When the centurion heard *that,* he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what you do: because this man is a Roman.
(27) Then the chief captain came, and said to him, Tell me, are you a Roman? He said, Yes.
(28) And the chief captain answered, With a great *sum of money* I obtained this freedom. And Paul said, But I was born *free*.
(29) Then immediately they left him who should have examined him: and the chief captain also was afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him.
(30) In the morning, because he would have known the certainty of why he was accused by the Jews, he loosed him from *his* bands, and commanded the chief priests and all their council to appear, and brought Paul down, and set him before them.

Chapter 23

(1) And Paul, looking earnestly at the council, said, Men *and* brothers, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.
(2) And the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth.
(3) Then Paul said to him, God shall strike you, *you* whitewashed wall: because you sit to judge me after the law, and commanded me to be struck contrary to the law?
(4) And those who stood by said, Do you speak against God's high priest?
(5) Then said Paul, I did not know, brothers, that he was the high priest: because it is written, You shall not speak evil of the ruler of your people.
(6) But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men *and* brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: because of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.

22:20c – Acts 7:58

(7) And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.
(8) Because the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both.[a]
(9) And there arose a great cry: and the scribes *who were* of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, We find no evil in this man: but if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him, let us not fight against God.
(10) And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain,[b] fearing that Paul would have been pulled in pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring *him* into the castle.
(11) And the following night the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: because as you have testified of Me in Jerusalem, so must you bear witness also at Rome.
(12) And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink until they had killed Paul.
(13) And there were more than forty who had made this conspiracy.
(14) And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have killed Paul.
(15) Now therefore you with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down to you tomorrow, as though you would inquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we, when he comes near, are ready to kill him.
(16) And when Paul's sister's son[c] heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.
(17) Then Paul called one of the centurions to *himself,* and said, Bring this young man to the chief captain: because he has a certain thing to tell him.
(18) So he took him, and brought *him* to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me to *himself,* and asked me to bring this young man to you, who has something to say to you.
(19) Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went *with him* aside privately, and asked *him,* What is it that you have to tell me?
(20) And he said, The Jews have agreed to ask you that you would bring down Paul tomorrow into the council, as though they would inquire something of him more perfectly.
(21) But do not yield yourself to them: because there are more than forty men who are lying in wait for him, who have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink until they have killed him: and now they are ready, looking for a promise from you.

23:8a – Mat. 3:7
23:10b - chief captain - Lysias - Acts 24:7
23:16c – Paul's nephew

(22) So the chief captain *then* let the young man depart, and charged *him, See to it that you* tell no man that you have made these things known to me.
(23) And he called to *himslf* two centurions,[d] saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen, at the third hour of the night {9 p.m.};[e]
(24) And provide *them* mounts, that they may set Paul on, and bring *him* safely to Felix the governor.
(25) And he wrote a letter after this manner:
(26) Claudius Lysias to the most excellent governor Felix *sends* greeting.
(27) This man was taken from the Jews, and they would have killed him: when I came with an army, and rescued him, having understood that he was a Roman.
(28) And when I would have known the cause of why they accused him, I brought him forth into their council:
(29) Whom I perceived to be accused of questions about their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds.
(30) And when it was told to me that the Jews laid in wait for the man, I sent immediately to you, and gave commandment to his accusers also to explain before you what *they had* against him. Farewell.
(31) Then the soldiers took Paul, as it was commanded them, and brought *him* by night to Antipatris.
(32) In the morning they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the castle:
(33) Who, when they came to Caesarea, and delivered the letter to the governor, presented Paul also before him.
(34) And when the governor had read *the letter,* he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that *he was* of Cilicia;
(35) He said, I will hear you, when your accusers have also come. And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

Chapter 24

(1) And after five days Ananias the high priest came down[a] with the elders, and *with* a certain orator *named* Tertullus, who informed the governor against Paul.
(2) And when he was called forth, Tertullus began to accuse *him,* saying, Since by you we enjoy great peace, and that very worthy deeds are done to this nation by your providence,
(3) We accept *it* always, and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness.
(4) Nevertheless, I will not waste your time any further, I ask you that you would bear with us and hear a few words.
(5) Because we have found this man *a* troublemaker, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:

23:23d – two centurions – a centurion was over approximately 100 soldiers
23:23e - third hour of the night - 9:00 p.m
24:1a - down - from Jerusalem everything is down. When going to Jerusalem they are going up to Jerusalem. See Acts 25:1 and Luke 18:31

(6) Who also has gone about to profane the temple: whom we took, and would have judged him according to our law.
(7) But the chief captain Lysias came *upon us,* and with great violence took *him* away out of our hands,[b]
(8) Commanding his accusers to come to you: by examining of whom you yourself may take knowledge of all these things, of which we accuse him.
(9) And the Jews also assented, saying that these things were so.
(10) Then Paul, after the governor had motioned to him to speak, answered, Since I know that you have been for many years a judge to this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself:
(11) In order that you may understand, that there have only been twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem to worship.
(12) And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:
(13) Neither can they prove the things of which they now accuse me.
(14) But this I confess to you, that after the Way which they call heresy, I so worship the God of my forefathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:
(15) And have hope toward God, which they themselves also admit, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.
(16) And in this I do exercise myself, to have always a conscience clear of any offense toward God, or *toward* men.
(17) Now after many years I came to bring gifts to my nation, and offerings.
(18) Upon which certain Jews from Asia {Minor} found me purified in the temple, neither with multitude, nor with tumult.
(19) Who ought to have been here before you, and object, if they had anything against me.
(20) Or else let these same *here* say, if they have found me doing any evil, while I stood before the council,
(21) Only this one thing I said, and I cried standing among them, I am called in question by you this day concerning the resurrection of the dead.
(22) And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge of *that* Way, he deferred them, and said, When Lysias the chief captain[c] shall come down, I will know the completeness of your matter.
(23) And he commanded a centurion to keep Paul, and to let *him* have liberty, and that he should not forbid any of his acquaintances to minister or come to him.
(24) And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

24:7b - Acts 23:10
24:22c - Acts 24:7

(25) And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go your way for now; when I have a convenient season, I will call for you.
(26) He hoped also that money should have been given him by Paul, that he might loose him: therefore he sent for him often, and communed with him.
(27) But after two years Porcius Festus came and took Felix' place: and Felix, willing to show the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

Chapter 25
(1) Now when Festus had come into the province, after three days he came up from Caesarea to Jerusalem.[a]
(2) Then the high priest and the chief of the Jews informed him against Paul, and asked him,
(3) And desired a favor from him, that he would send for him to come to Jerusalem, laying in wait along the road to kill him.
(4) But Festus answered, that Paul should be kept at Caesarea, and that he himself would depart shortly *for there*.
(5) He said, Let them therefore, who among you are able, go down with *me,* and accuse this man, if there is any wickedness in him.
(6) And when he had stayed among them more than ten days, he went down[b] to Caesarea; and the next day sitting on the judgment seat commanded Paul to be brought.
(7) And when he had come, the Jews who came down from Jerusalem stood around, and laid many and grievous complaints against Paul, which they could not prove.
(8) While he answered for himself, Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended anything at all.
(9) But Festus, willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said, Will you go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged about these things before me?
(10) Then Paul said, I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews I have done no wrong, as you very well know.
(11) Because if I am an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I do not refuse to die: but if there are none of these things of which these accuse me, no man may deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.
(12) Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, Have you appealed to Caesar? to Caesar you shall go.
(13) And after certain days king Agrippa[c] and Bernice came to Caesarea to salute Festus.

25:1a - up to Jerusalem - see note on Acts 24:1
25:6b – down to Caesarea – see note on Acts 24:1
25:13c – Herod Agrippa II – son of Agrippa I [Acts 12:1] – great grandson of Herod I – see notes on Mat. 2:1; Mat. 14:1; Lk. 3:1; Lk. 13:31-32; Lk. 23:7; Acts 12:1
See: Appendix O: The Herods of Scripture

(14) And when they had been there many days, Festus declared Paul's cause to the king, saying, There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix:
(15) About whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed *me,* desiring *to have* judgment against him.
(16) To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before he who is accused has the accusers face to face, and has the right to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him.
(17) Therefore, when they had come here, without any delay in the morning I sat on the judgment seat, and commanded the man to be brought forth.
(18) Against whom when the accusers stood up, they brought no accusation of such things as I supposed:
(19) But had certain questions against him of their own superstition, and of one Jesus, Who was dead, Whom Paul affirmed to be alive.
(20) And because I doubted of such manner of questions, I asked *him* whether he would go to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these matters.
(21) But when Paul had appealed to be reserved to the hearing of Augustus, I commanded him to be kept until I might send him to Caesar.
(22) Then Agrippa said to Festus, I would also hear the man myself. Tomorrow, he said, you shall hear him.
(23) And in the morning, when Agrippa had come, and Bernice, with great pomp, and had entered into the place of hearing, with the chief captains, and principal men of the city, at Festus' commandment Paul was brought forth.
(24) And Festus said, King Agrippa, and all men who are here present with us, you see this man, about whom all the multitude of the Jews have dealt with me, both at Jerusalem, and *also* here, crying that he ought not to live any longer.
(25) But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and that he himself has appealed to Augustus, I have determined to send him.
(26) Of whom I have no certain thing to write to my lord. Therefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before you, O king Agrippa, that, after examination, I might have somewhat to write.
(27) Because it seems to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not with him describe the crimes *laid* against him
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Chapter 26

(1) Then Agrippa said to Paul, You are permitted to speak for yourself. Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself:
(2) I consider myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before you concerning all the things of which I am accused of the Jews:

(3) Especially *because I know* you to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: Therefore I ask you to hear me patiently.
(4) My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among my own nation at Jerusalem, all the Jews know;
(5) Who knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most strict sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.
(6) And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made by God to our forefathers:
(7) To this *promise* our twelve tribes, instantly serving *God* day and night, hope to come. Because of this hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused by the Jews.
(8) Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?
(9) I truly thought in myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the Name of Jesus of Nazareth.
(10) Which I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against *them*.[a]
(11) And I punished them often in every synagogue, and compelled *them* to blaspheme; and being exceedingly angry against them, I persecuted *them* even to strange cities.
(12) Because of which as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,
(13) At midday, O king, I saw in the road a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining around me and those who journeyed with me.
(14) And when we had all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking to me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me? *it is* hard for you to kick against the thorns.[b]
(15) And I said, Who are You, Lord? And He said, I am Jesus Whom you persecute.
(16) But rise, and stand upon your feet: because I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of these things which you have seen, and of those things in the which I will appear to you;
(17) Delivering you from the people, and *from* the Gentiles {non-Jews}, to whom I now send you,
(18) To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith that is in Me.
(19) Therefore, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision:
(20) But showed first to those of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles {non-Jews}, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works that show repentance.
(21) For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill *me*.
(22) Having therefore obtained help from God, I continue to this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

26:10a - Acts 7:58
26:14b – Acts 9:4; 22:7

(23) That Christ should suffer, *and* that He should be the first Who should rise from the dead, and should show light to the people, and to the Gentiles {non-Jews}.
(24) And as he spoke for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, you are beside yourself; much learning has made you mad.
(25) But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.
(26) Because the king knows of these things, before whom also I speak freely: because I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; because these things were not done in a corner.
(27) King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.
(28) Then Agrippa said to Paul, You almost persuade me to be a Christian.
(29) And Paul said, I would to God, that not only you, but also all who hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.
(30) And when he had so spoken, the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and those who sat with them:
(31) And when they had gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man had done nothing worthy of death or of bonds.
(32) Then Agrippa said to Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed to Caesar.

Chapter 27
(1) And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners to *one* named Julius, a centurion of Augustus' band.
(2) And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia {Minor}; *one* Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.
(3) And the next *day* we landed at Sidon. And Julius courteously treated Paul, and gave *him* liberty to go to his friends to refresh himself.
(4) And when we had launched from there, we sailed under Cyprus, because the winds were contrary.
(5) And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, *a city* of Lycia.
(6) And there the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us on it.
(7) And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarcely had come opposite Cnidus, the wind not allowing us, we sailed under Crete, opposite Salmone;
(8) And, hardly passing it, came to a place which is called The Fair Havens; near to the city *of* Lasea.
(9) Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast had now already past, Paul admonished *them,*
(10) And said to them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the cargo and ship, but also of our lives.

(11) Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.
(12) And because the haven was not accommodating to winter in, the more advised to depart from there also, if by any means they might attain to Phenice, *and there* to winter; *which is* a haven of Crete, and lies toward the south west and north west.
(13) And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained *their* purpose, leaving *from there,* they sailed close by Crete.
(14) But not long after there arose against it a stormy wind, called Euroclydon {tropical cyclone; hurricane}.[a]
(15) And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let *her* drive.[b]
(16) And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat:
(17) Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, struck sail, and so were driven.
(18) And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next *day* they lightened the ship;[c]
(19) And the third *day* we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship.
(20) And when neither sun nor stars appeared in many days, and no small tempest lay on *us,* all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.
(21) But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, you should have listened to me, and not have left from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.
(22) And now I encourage you to be of good cheer: because there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship.
(23) Because there stood by me this night the angel of God, Whose I am, and Whom I serve,
(24) Saying, Do not fear, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar: and, indeed, God has given you all those who sail with you.
(25) Therefore, sirs, be of good cheer: because I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.
(26) However we must be cast upon a certain island.
(27) But when the fourteenth night had come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the sailors determined that they were drawing near to some country;

27:14a – Euroclydon {ευροκλυδων} – [tropical cyclone] strong wind similar to a hurricane or typhoon
27:15b – let her drive – i.e. they let the ship travel with the wind
27:18c – lightened the ship – tossed some of the cargo overboard – by making the ship lighter it would not sink as deeply into the turbulent water.

(28) And sounded,[d] and found *it* twenty fathoms deep: {about 120 ft.; 36.6 m.}[e] and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found *it* fifteen fathoms deep. {about 90 ft.; 27.4 m.}[f]
(29) Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day.
(30) And as the sailors were about to flee they acted as though they were going to let down anchors at the front of the ship, but let down the life boat to escape.
(31) Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Unless these stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.
(32) Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the life boat, and let her fall off.
(33) And while the day was coming on, Paul encouraged *them* all to take food, saying, Today is the fourteenth day that you have stayed and continued fasting, having taken nothing.
(34) Therefore I urge {encourage} you to take *some* food: because this is for your health: because there shall not a hair fall from the head of any of you.
(35) And when he had so spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all: and when he had broken *it,* he began to eat.
(36) Then they were all of good cheer, and they also took *some* food.
(37) And there were two hundred seventy-six of us in all in the ship.
(38) And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea.
(39) And when it was day, they did not ground the ship on the land: but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into which they were determined, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship.
(40) And when they had taken up the anchors, they committed *themselves* to the sea, and loosed the rudder bands, and hoisted up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore.
(41) And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the front stuck fast, and remained unmovable, but the back part was broken with the violence of the waves.
(42) And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape.
(43) But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, kept them from *their* purpose; and commanded that those who could swim should cast *themselves* first *into the sea,* and get to land:
(44) And the rest, some on boards, and some on *broken pieces* of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they all escaped safe to land.

27:28d – sounded – striking metal against metal in the water and listening for the echo they were able to estimate the depth of the water [this is the principle that sonar is based on] and since the water was becoming more shallow they knew they were approaching land.
27:28e - 20 fathoms - a fathom is about 6 feet or 1.8 meters - 20 fathoms would be about 120 feet or 36.6 meters - see Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures
27:28f - 15 fathoms - about 90 feet or 27.4 meters -- They knew they were approaching land

Chapter 28

(1) And when they had escaped, then they found out that the island was called Melita.

(2) And the uncivilized people showed us great kindness: because they kindled a fire, and received every one of us, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.

(3) And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid *them* on the fire, there came a snake out of the heat, and fastened onto his hand.

(4) And when the uncivilized people saw the *venomous* beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet vengeance does not allow him to live.

(5) And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.[a]

(6) However they watched when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had watched a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

(7) In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and courteously lodged us three days.

(8) And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flow: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.[b]

(9) So when this was done, others also, who had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

(10) Who also honored us with many honors; and when we departed, they provided *us* with such things as were necessary.

(11) And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the island, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.[c]

(12) And landing at Syracuse, we stayed *there* three days.

(13) And from there we set a course, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli:

(14) Where we found brothers, and were asked to stay with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.

(15) And from there, when the brothers heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii forum, and The Three Taverns: whom when Paul saw it, he thanked God, and took courage.

(16) And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was allowed to live by himself with a soldier who kept him.

28:5a – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
28:8b – see Appendix A: Recorded Miracles in the Bible
28:11c – the constellation Gemini – the Twins - Caster and Pollux – constellations – according to fables the sons of Jupiter – which is a corruption of their true meaning – see: Witness of The Stars by E.W.Bullinger and "The Heavens Declare The Glory of God – God's Plan of Redemption in the Stars" at www.TheWordNotes.com

(17) And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they had come together, he said to them, Men *and* brothers, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our forefathers, yet I was delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.
(18) Who, when they had examined me, would have let *me* go, because there was no cause of death in me.
(19) But when the Jews spoke against *it,* I was constrained to appeal to Caesar; not that I had anything to accuse my nation of.
(20) For this reason therefore I have called for you, to see *you,* and to speak with *you:* because it is for the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain.
(21) And they said to him, We neither received letters out of Judea concerning you, neither any of the brothers who came showed or spoke any harm about you.
(22) But we desire to hear from you what you think: because as concerning this sect, we know that everywhere it is spoken against.
(23) And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into *his* lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and *out of* the prophets, from morning until evening.
(24) And some believed the things which were spoken, and some did not believe.
(25) And when they did not agree among themselves, they departed, after Paul had spoken one word, the Holy Spirit well spoke by Isaiah the prophet to our forefathers,
(26) Saying,

Go to this people, and say, Hearing you shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing you shall see, and not perceive:

(27) **Because the heart of this people has grown hard, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.**[d]

(28) Therefore let it be known to you, that the salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles {non-Jews}, and *that* they will hear it.
(29) And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great arguing among themselves.
(30) And Paul lived two whole years in his own hired house, and received all who came in to him,
(31) Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, and no man forbade him *to speak*.

28:26-27d - Is. 6:9-10