

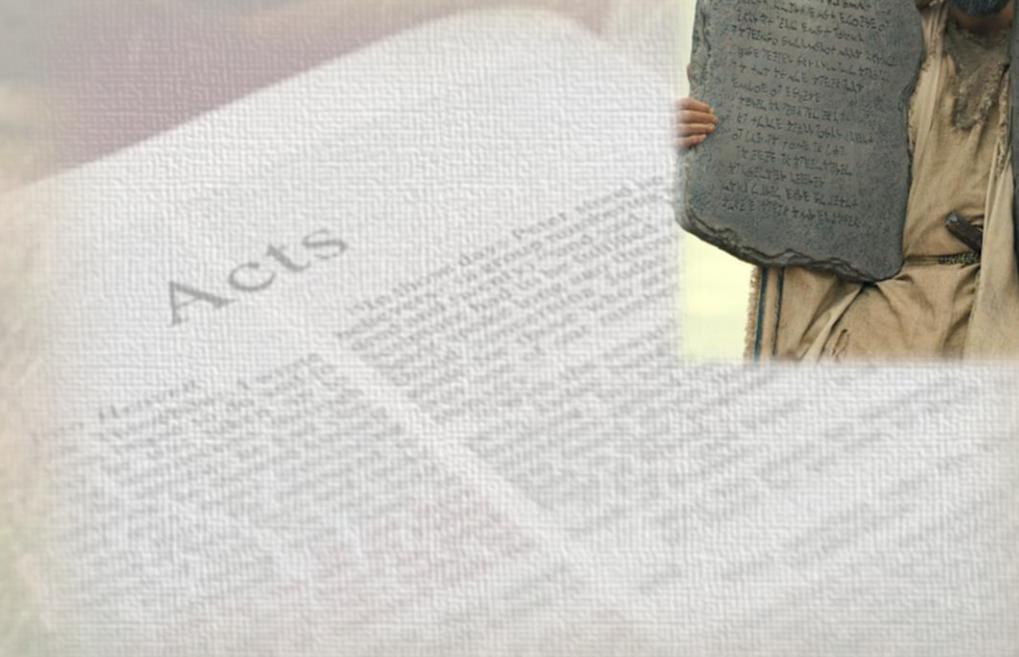
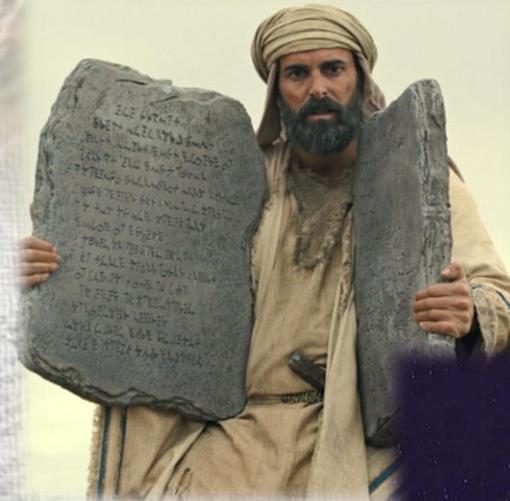
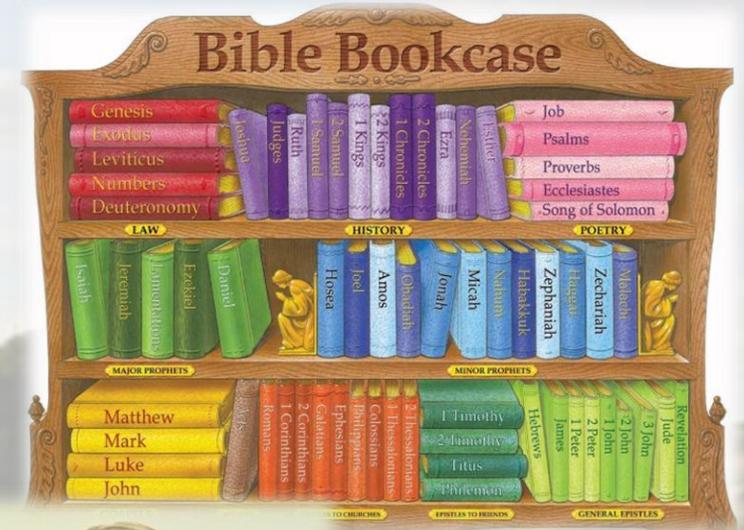
The Book of Acts

THE BOOK OF ACTS

Acts
Saul the Persecutor
June 30, 2025

Facts about Acts

- Who wrote the most books in the Bible?
 - The Apostle Paul
- Who wrote the most words in the Bible?
 - Moses
- What was Paul's name before it was changed?
 - Saul of Tarsus

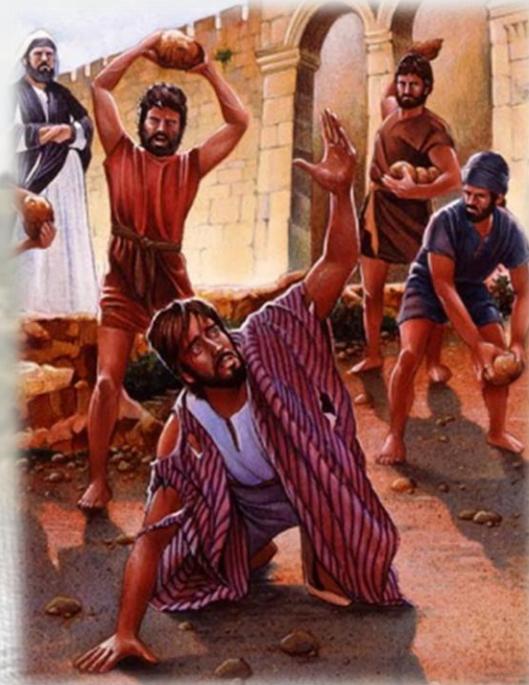


The Church Persecuted and Scattered

8 And Saul approved of their killing him.

The Church Persecuted and Scattered

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ² Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.



The Good News Still Spread

Philip in Samaria

⁴ Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵ Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. ⁶ When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. ⁷ For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸ So there was great joy in that city.



Saul's Conversion

Saul's Conversion

9 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.



The Conversion of Saul - Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74tfl_RzEy4



The Disciples Feared Paul

- Initial Fear of Paul: The disciples were initially afraid of Paul when he first arrived in Jerusalem after his conversion. They didn't believe he was a genuine follower of Jesus because of his past persecution of Christians
- Barnabas Vouched for Paul: It was Barnabas who vouched for Paul, explaining to the apostles how Paul had encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus and had boldly preached in Jesus' name.
- Demonstrated sincerity: Through his actions and fervent preaching, Paul demonstrated the sincerity of his conversion and dedication to his newfound faith



Wrap Up!

- Have you ever thought someone was joking or not being serious, but they were? How do we show people we are really followers of Jesus?
- Have you ever been scared of someone and then found out they are really nice, or good? Does God judge us by our past, or how we look?
- Does knowing that God can use someone like Paul, to write the most books of the Bible after he persecuted Christians make you feel relieved that God can use us even though we make bad decisions?