

## Acts: The Great Divider

Three explanations for what happened

### Purpose:

To introduce the three popular explanations of what happened in Acts with respect to the church, Israel, and the kingdom.

### Outline:

1. Context to Acts
  - a. Jerusalem – Isaiah 2:1-4
  - b. Jews in skirts – Zech 8:20-23
  - c. The Judge – Isaiah 11:1-12
  - d. Messiah – Daniel 9:24-26
  - e. 'Kingdom at hand' – Mark 1:15
  - f. Kingdom with Israel – Luke 22:28-30
2. Acts -
  - a. Beginning – Acts 1:6-8 – God's plan with Israel in full effect
  - b. Ending – Acts 28:28 – God's plan with Israel taken away
  - c. Questions:
    - i. What happened to Israel?
    - ii. What happened to the kingdom?
3. Millennialism – mille – thousand
  - a. The End of the world – Revelation 20:2-7
  - b. Three views of history after Acts; the 'end times'
  - c. A millennialism – 'no millennium'
    - i. Israel is spiritual (won't exist in the literal sense)
    - ii. Kingdom is spiritual (won't exist on earth)
    - iii. Their view of Acts: 'Israel had a rude awakening; the prophecies were spiritual not physical'
  - d. Postmillennialism – 'after the millennium'
    - i. Israel is spiritual – (will exist but as Gentiles)
    - ii. Kingdom is earthly – (will exist but not necessarily in physical Israel)
    - iii. Their view of Acts: 'Gentiles assumed role of Israel of God'
  - e. Premillennialism – 'before the millennium'
    - i. Israel is physical and national (their salvation is postponed)
    - ii. Kingdom is earthly (will occur in Israel but is postponed)
    - iii. Their view of Acts: 'Israel fell and lost their standing before God,
4. The book of Acts was prophesied – it is the change to Grace that causes confusion

***“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years...”***  
- Revelation 20:6

Things Prophesied		Things not prophesied	
Pentecost	Acts 2:16-17	A Jew afraid of Holy Days	Gal 4:9-11
Lame man healed	Acts 3:7-8-Isa 35:6	Blind man sees – Acts 9	1 Tim1:16
Christ suffering	Acts 3:18	Christ according to the mystery	Rom 16:25
Israel as Blessing	Acts 3:25	Israel Blinded	Rom 11:25
Cornelius	Rom 11:11/Hos 1:9	No Difference: Jew or Gentile	Rom 3:23
Going before Councils	Luke 12:11-13	Paul's conference	Gal 2:1-9
Going before Gentiles	Matt 10:17-20	Christ <i>in</i> the Gentiles	Col 1:27

5. The book of Acts is a potential minefield of doctrinal error if you are not equipped
  - a. 2 Tim 2:15 – Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman...