

I. Introduction to the Book of Acts

If you have your Bible today, I told you Thursday night, this is going to be an action day. We are going to get into the book of Acts. For those of you that may be visiting today or have been away for a while, what we are doing on Sunday morning is we started a while back coming through every book of the Bible in order and then talking about how Christ is portrayed in each book and then gleaning out of that the great truths that not only teach us about what Christ is, how He wants to be viewed through this book, but all of the other ramifications that go along with it.

In the book of Acts, Christ is typified as our ascended Lord. It is the book where Christ goes back to heaven. If you know your Bible, you know He was resurrected and He is on this earth 40 days, and then in Acts chapter 1 and 2, He is down here for a while and then He goes back. The book of Acts is the events that follow. The reason why it is called the book of Acts, really, if you put the whole title to it, it is called the Acts of the Apostles. What this book does, and this is what we are going to focus on today, it shows you what the apostles are doing, and more importantly, what God is doing through the apostles.

If you want a quick breakdown of your New Testament, basically you have the four Gospels. The four Gospels will give you the historical perspective of things. Then you have the book of Acts, and the book of Acts will set down really the foundation of the New Testament. Most people do not know this, but because you have Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in the New Testament, most people just automatically assume that those are New Testament books. Technically speaking, if you really want to get technical about it, when you go to the book of Hebrews, the book of Hebrews tells you that the New Testament really does not go into effect until the death of the testator. That would be Jesus Christ. So, in a technical format, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are still in the Old Testament.

What they do, and this is the beauty of how the New Testament is laid out, and I have got to tell you this so you can see how important Acts is. He lays out Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which basically sets the historical perspective so you know what is going on. Then the book of Acts forms for us the first book then really that is in the New Testament from a Bible standpoint. The book of Acts, like no other book, lays down the fundamentals and the foundation of what the church is all about and the concept of the church is. Then we have the book of Romans, which immediately follows that, and where Acts sets down the foundation of the church, then the book of Romans teaches you the doctrine of the church. What follows then is the rest of the books in the Bible. Most of them are written by Paul. Some are written by John and Peter and James and some of the other office men during that time, but predominantly it is written by Paul. All of Paul's books are written during the book of Acts.

Where you have the Gospels present the historical application, Acts is the foundation of the New Testament and the church. Romans would be the doctrine of it, then Paul's books and the rest of the Bible will simply be instructions to the church as it moves down through. Understanding the

book of Acts, I probably, I was thinking about this this week, I probably have spent more time teaching you the book of Acts than any other book in the Bible. We have come at it in a number of different ways. I do not know how many times we have talked about it on Thursday night when things have come up and I have basically laid down the aspect of it there. I know I have laid it out at least two or three times on Sunday morning. We went through it in great length in Bible Institute. We have a four-year Bible Institute program, and then we did it in church history when we came through that.

Without a doubt, there are so many dimensions to the book of Acts, so many things that we need to see and understand. Without a doubt, this book is the most important book personally, I think, in the New Testament because understanding it and getting it and getting it down is key to putting all the other New Testament books into some kind of context. It all depends on your ability to grasp the book of Acts.

II. Definitive Books and God's Word

I have told you this before, in your Bible, there are two, what I call, defining books. I am big on definitive verses. I believe that for everything that there is, God has a definitive verse in the Bible that really defines it. I do not know how you approach the Bible. I believe the Bible is the only final authority for everything in my life in faith and practice. I believe that going anywhere else, no matter what it may be, is a dead-end street. I believe that when God wrote the Bible and gave it to us, He gave me a Bible that I do not need to understand the Greek and the Hebrew. I do not need to go to the, I believe it was a common Bible written to a common man.

The proof of that is in history. History is a very valuable tool in understanding where you are at. The greatest period of time in church history, we know that to be the Philadelphia church age, that time period from 1600 up to the beginning of the 20th century. We know from that that the greatest period of time of evangelism and soul winning and things when God just really turned this world upside down. In fact, I have read books on it before and talks about it and looked at it. Many, many people say that almost three-quarters of the world had come to a saving knowledge during that great period of time. This old world was bathed in the light of the Word of God, and in every part of this planet, there were people being saved. The great missionary endeavors are quite incredible to study. Yet that was all done by common men, just like me and you.

We have studied the difference in the New Testament up to this point, have we not? How the scribes and the Pharisees, the high religious scholars of the day, they missed everything that Jesus said. Who got Him? It was a woman at the well. Why, even old poor Nicodemus who wanted to come to Jesus, that sucker came by night. He did not want to show up with all of his buddies around during the day. When he does show up, he cannot even grasp the simple things that He was talking about. Jesus said, "You must be born again." "Oh, how do I go back into my mother's womb?" Finally Jesus said, "You tell me you are a master in Israel and you do not understand these things?" God has always used the common man.

Do you know why the devil hates that Bible? Do you know why the devil will do everything in his power to get that Bible out of your hand? Because the most dangerous thing on this planet is

not atomic bombs, it is not tsunamis. The greatest, most powerful, destructive force on this planet is a common Bible in the hands of a common man. Boy, you put that combination together and Katie bar the door. I do not know what that means, but I have heard that all my life. I do not know who Katie was. I do not know what door she was barring. Maybe it was Katie at the door of the bar. I am not sure how it went down, but we will leave that one for later.

In your Bible, there are two major definitive books that really set the course. One for the Old Testament, one for the New Testament. The Old Testament is the book of Genesis. The book named Genesis means "book of the beginnings." Genesis defines everything that is going to happen throughout the rest of the Old Testament. Genesis shows you where God is at and what He is doing, who He is doing it with, what He is going to try to establish. It shows you the development and the beginning of the nation of Israel. It shows you the establishment of the kingdom of heaven. The rest of the Old Testament is just built on that concept, on that foundation that He has defined in Genesis.

In the New Testament, it is the book of Acts. Acts will, by God's design, define everything in the New Testament that you and I need to know. The rest of the New Testament will be built on that foundation that Acts lays down. Acts is the foundation of Christianity. It is the foundation of what we call church history proper. It is the foundation of the establishment of the kingdom of God.

A while back we went through a course, another course that I am always looking for ways to help you grasp the Bible and get a good handle on the Bible. A while back we took a course we did called Bible Basics. I think we did it throughout the summer. I told you that if you gave me one Saturday a month throughout the summer, we stuck with it. It worked for many of you who have really got a handle on the Bible. I told you that Genesis then was a definitive book. I remember I showed you the difference. I think this is vital that you see this. Genesis is a definitive book. It defines everything in the Old Testament. After that you have Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy that form the four historical books. It is an incredible thing.

When it comes to the book of Acts, which is our definitive book in the New Testament, He just reversed the process. There is a reason why He did that. Where in the Old Testament He gave you a definitive book first, Genesis, and then gave you four historical books. In the New Testament He gave you the four historical books first, then gave you the definitive book. There is a reason for that. I think that reason there is really the key to what we want to talk about today.

In Genesis you have a definitive book that starts the history that God records throughout the rest of the next 5,000 years. That history can be traced book by book by book, right up from Exodus to Nehemiah. In the book of Acts you have no continuing history. Your Bible is completed by 90 A.D. Where in Genesis you had the definitive book and then the historical books that carried you on, in the New Testament you do not have any historical books that carry you on. In the Old Testament you can go back to Genesis and then you can see something and then go 8 or 9, 10 books down. You can go into 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, all the way up to Ezra, Nehemiah, and get all of those books and find out what is going on. You cannot do that in the New Testament. Basically

your Bible ends at the book of Acts. The book of Acts closes what, 68, 69 A.D.? So you have got a problem, you see. You do not have any ongoing history.

What God did in the New Testament to give us the ongoing history, He takes the book of Acts, He gives you four historical books first, and then He defines in the book of Acts everything that you and I need to know that we need to look for for the next 2,000 years of church history. You have heard me say this many, many times, and you know I never get tired of saying things over and over again about the Bible because the price of learning is what? Repetition. The more you repeat something, the better you learn it. I know that from my sixth, seventh grade because I had to write things on the board hundreds of times.

Old Testament survey and New Testament survey. An Old Testament survey is you and I overviewing all of the history of the Old Testament. A New Testament survey is us overviewing all of the events in the New Testament. Do you know how daunting that problem is? Have you realized, I mean, it is hard enough just to understand American history, let alone getting world history, and you know how almost impossible that seems to be from a Bible standpoint, separating the good guys from the bad guys, so to speak, light from darkness. Yet the Bible has made that very easy, and I have told you many, many times that the Bible tells you that throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament there are two landmarks that you follow.

You will find those landmarks in Proverbs 22:28 for the Old Testament, and in Proverbs 23:10 you will find the landmark for the New Testament. You get these two landmarks down, you understand what they are, and then you view history from this point. I have used this example before, and I hate to belabor the examples, but I like to give you things that stick. If you want to put a fence in your backyard, you want to make sure you do not get your fence on the other guy's property line. Way back when in the 1800s, I do not know when they surveyed Missouri, somewhere in your yard or somewhere in somebody's yard there is going to be a little marker put there by the geological survey that somebody put down there probably in the 1800s or maybe in the 1930s whenever they did it. So you call the guy and you have got to get a survey of your property because you want to put a fence down. You do not want to get it on the neighbor's fence or his property, and so what you do, you get a guy comes out and the first thing that guy does is he has to define the boundaries of your property so he can tell you and put stakes down so you know where to go. So the first thing he has got to do, he just does not come out and say, "Well, I think that is it right there," or he did not say, "Well, you see that old fence line that is from when the old farm was here." No, he cannot do that. If he is going to put exactly where he has got to get a landmark so you know what he does, he finds that little geological survey and then he shoots his azimuth and he shoots his what he is doing to find that property off of that, and he takes it and he can come down with incredible accuracy to finding exactly where your property begins and it ends. But he has got to have a marker, he has got to have something that he can go off of, he has got to have a landmark.

That is not hard for us to grasp, but let me just tell you, if you want to separate history out from the good days and the bad days, the good guys and the bad guys, then you have got to have a marker, you have got to have a landmark. In the Old Testament, that landmark will be the nation of Israel. You want to find God in the Old Testament, find where Israel is at. He made it very

clear over and over that that is His people. Why would you look for God over here when you already know that He will be with a landmark? You want to find God in the Old Testament, wherever the nation of Israel is, that is where God will be.

Come to the New Testament, it is the church. You want to find where God is in the New Testament, find God's church. Obviously it is easier to say that in the Old Testament because we are not living back there. We say that in the New Testament, we all ask ourselves, "Well, there are a thousand churches out there." Why, driving to this church this morning, you probably passed 600 of them to get to this one, and 600 of them are not any good. No, I am just kidding. I am just kidding. But the bottom line is simply this, you have got to find what the book of Acts does, you see, He shows you where that true church is.

Without God in history, nothing makes any sense. Much like our lives, without God in our life, what makes any sense in our lives? You are born, you live, you are successful, you get all your money, you get your retirement, you get all things going, you think about what I am going to do when I retire, we are going to move down to the lake, we are going to get a boat, we are going to travel, and then you die. Wow, what an exciting life. Without God in your life, that absolutely has no purpose, and without God in history, there is no purpose. The way you find God in the Old Testament, find God's people, the nation of Israel. The way you find God in the New Testament, find the church, find that landmark.

Most people do not understand it, every major historical event in history will be in direct relationship to one, Israel, or the church. You look what is going on in the Middle East right now, you think it is all about oil, it is not about oil, it is about Israel. What you are seeing over there has been prophesied in the Bible for how many hundreds of years. I do not care if it is Christopher Columbus finding America. I do not care if it is the Napoleonic Wars. I do not care if it is the French Revolution. I do not care if it is the Bolshevik Revolution. I do not care if it is World War I or World War II or Korea or Vietnam, whatever the event is, it will fold itself around either Israel in the Old Testament or the church in the New Testament. It is just that simple.

The book of Acts, you see, is our defining book. The book of Acts, like no other book in the New Testament, defines more areas that we need to know and understand than the book that is found in Acts. Christianity, and back there in Proverbs it says, "Remove not the ancient landmarks, or you enter into the fields of the fatherless." Do you know what the fields of the fatherless is? That is going to public school today or going to a college and taking a history course. Without God in history, it means nothing. You wander through history watching one Gentile nation whack the other Gentile nation and one demonic king take over and ruler or president or dictator and then he gets knocked off a while later and it goes over. It does not make any sense, but you put God into it, you put God into it, and suddenly everything comes into focus. A perspective of history without God is the fields of the fatherless. You are an orphan, you do not know who your father is, you walk around in life saying, "Where did I come from? Who am I? Where are we?" That is America's problem today. That is just not a problem in Christianity, that is a problem in America. We have forgotten our roots, where we came from, who we are really. Boy, we can sure make that statement also in Bible Christianity today. We have forgotten who we are, Christianity, we have never learned the lessons in history, and I tell you all the time, the only thing men never

learn from history, they never learn anything from history. Therefore, they are doomed to repeat the mistakes of history. We got sucker punched to 9/11, did we not? We got sucker punched to December 7, 1941, we did not learn anything from that. We do not learn the lessons of history, just like we do not learn from our mistakes, that when you learn from your mistakes in your own life or in a world or Christianity, we learn from the mistakes and what we went through, then you grow. But Christianity, much as the world today, has entered into the field of the fatherless, so we have lost our way. We do not know who we are anymore.

We have churches in this city that are taking a stand against the nation of Israel. You talk about a bullet in your head, man, and suicide. I mean, God's people taking a stand against God's people in the Old Testament. I will tell you what. A guy called me on the phone, he says, "But you allow Muslims to use your church." Yeah, we got a place right here. Help yourself, you can go in there. Now if the Jews want to come in here, I am all for it. I am with it, man. I do not know if you have noticed or not, but there is a group of big pastors, big-time guys in Kansas City, and they sit down with the, they kind of get together with all the rabbis. Man, we need to clean that thing out in there. I wonder what happened to him. They meet together a couple of times a year at a big church and they get all the Jewish rabbis together and they sit down and try to find some kind of common ground. But how do you find a common ground? We are not bringing up Jesus. Now I have never been invited to those meetings. I probably will not be. But if I did have one of those meetings, I would be as respectful and I would be as kind, and I would tell them, I would say, "You know what? I believe that your nation is the greatest nation on the face of the planet, and when it all hits the fan and all goes down, I am on your side, and I will give you everything I need, everything you, not if it comes down to to give you the last dime I got, because I believe you are God's chosen people, and I believe that you need to support it by us, and I want you to know I understand Romans chapter 9, Romans chapter 10, Romans chapter 11, I got the whole thing down, and you were God's elect, there is no question about it, but the one you crucified is your Messiah." I wonder how long that meeting would go.

III. The Book of Acts: Foundation of New Testament Christianity

I want to teach you the book of Acts again this morning, but from another aspect that we have never looked at it before, and again, I want to give you an added perception of this, of how this incredible book, because simply put, you do not get this book down and you will never get the Bible in the right context. You just will not. I mean, you just will not. If you do not get Acts down and you do not understand Acts, it is not really hard, but if you do not get it down, you are never going to figure out the Bible. I want to break this down this morning by the things that are defined in this book, and we have never done that before. We have talked about it here, talked about it there, we have talked about other aspects, but not today. Today I want to walk you through and show you the things in your life, in my life, that we need to have defined so we do not lose the landmark and we find what God is really trying to do. I think that is important. Next week we will come back and I will put the other side to it and put the whole thing together. But

again, the book of Acts is the foundation of everything that we believe today as a New Testament church because it is defined in this book.

Our church has some strange beliefs today. It really does, so much to the place that some of your friends have called us a cult. People are so shallow with history today that they make stupid statements like that. The truth of the matter is, if you would have been alive 150 years ago, what our church believes is exactly what all Christianity believed. We have not changed. My wife and I were driving about four or five months ago, and we were going somewhere. We pulled up to a light. There was a car in front of us. It was nighttime. You could just see the shadows. I am sitting there and a guy in front of us there, and you can see the silhouette of the guy. He is a big guy. I thought to myself, "Man, he must be a pro wrestler." All of a sudden, right before my wife must have been watching it too, and as soon as the light turned and he started to go, it separated. Oh, come on. We grew up looking at me for, it was a guy and a gal, and they were snuggled up. Then when the light changed, he said, "Honey, move over, I have got to drive." My wife looks over at me, she said, "Don't you remember when we used to do that?" I looked at her and said, "I have not moved." My point is this, we still believe the same thing that was taught down through church history. We have not changed. You moved. I have not. When I was trained back in the 70s by the old boys back there that were the last of the Philadelphia church, they believed the same thing that was taught at the first, at the beginning of this century. You can go back there, and there are people in this church, Jan has got them back there, he has got tapes of me all the way back to the late 70s. You listen to those things, God help if you do, but if you listen to those things, one glaring thing will come across to you, I have not changed my position on one thing I believe. I have not moved. You moved. The reason why I have not moved is because I understand the book of Acts. I know what the book of Acts defines, and I build this church to the best of my ability on that book.

We have some strange beliefs. If you are living in the world today of this gray mess of Christianity, we still believe the King James Bible is the Word of God. I do not make any apologies for it. It is just the way it is. We still believe in the pre-millennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We still believe in it. We still believe in the rapture of the church. We have not taken Baptist off our church title name yet, and we are not going to. You are so dumb, you think Baptist is a denomination. You do not even know where that, you do not even know where the name came from. You have been so hopped up in all this junk around here today in Christianity that you just think Baptist church is another denomination like all the rest of them. Man, you lost your landmark. It is not my fault. I do not even want you sitting next to me. Get out of here.

Our style of church government, in the world today there are five forms of church government that you will find in churches. Only one of them is biblical, that is taught in the book of Acts. Our view of missions, our view of evangelism, our view of building leadership within a church, our view of the nation of Israel, it is all defined for us in the book of Acts. I am big on models and patterns. Acts was written to us in the format that it is written in, with the four historical books first and then everything defined, so that when we would get 1,000 or 1,500 years down into church history with no continued revelation like in the Old Testament, we would not lose our way. But the book of Acts has gone by the wayside, and now we have lost our way, and today we

are in the fields of the fatherless. One hundred percent of what we do and what we believe can be traced back to the book of Acts. The book of Acts is a bedrock foundation that always is the compass that we are on the right track of what God wants us to be. I am not telling you this is the perfect church, but I will tell you this, doctrinally it is as perfect as it can get, and Acts is the foundation of church history.

I like models in the Bible, as I say, patterns. I think there are many, many patterns in the Bible, and they are important because that is how God shows us by example. It is a lot like road signs on a long trip, and church history is certainly a long trip. Those road signs let you know what is up ahead. You see a road sign, you are going down the road, it says slow down, you better slow down. You see a road sign up there, it says railroad tracks, you better watch out for it. You are driving down the road going on a vacation someplace, and it says a big sign there, "Lane Narrows," then you better slow down a little bit. You are out driving at night and you are driving through a curvy thing, and you see your signs say "Deer Crossing," you better slow down. You are coming through Colorado enjoying the view, and all of a sudden you see signs, "Danger, Falling Rocks," watch up and down. You are driving down there on a trip and you see a thing, "Next Bathroom 60 Miles." I do not need to tell you what you need to do with that one. You are driving down there, you do not know the roads, and you are going through, and somebody has put up a blinking sign with temporary lights on it, said "High Water." This was really popular in Genesis 6. You better pay attention.

In church history, there are road signs. Those road signs are found in the book of Acts. When you learn those road signs, then as you go down through church history, you do not have a running account like you do in the Old Testament. So the book of Acts defines for you and for me that if we are paying attention to the book, when we get down in history 500, 1000, 1500, 2000 years, we do not get lost.

IV. The Model Church

First of all, I want to talk to you about the book of Acts defines the model church. Turn over to Acts 11:26. Let me read you a verse here. I do not know if you know this or not, but in studying your Bible, you will find that there is a law, and the first law that you find is the law of first mention. The law of first mention is something that shows you that when God put His Bible together, the first time He put it in the Bible, it is usually quite important. If you come down through here in Acts 11:26, here is what it says:

Acts 11:26

And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

I do not know if you know it or not, but the model church in your Bible is Antioch. You are going to find that in every Bible college today and in 99.9999999 percent of the churches, they will teach you that the model church is the church of Jerusalem in Acts chapter two, and that is just about as wrong as you could ever get. But that is why they do not understand the Acts about the

Bible because they get the book of Acts down wrong. The model church in the New Testament is not the church in Jerusalem. The model church in the New Testament is the one in Antioch where they are first called Christians. You are going to find as you come down through this, you are going to find that there are seven characteristics of this church.

You are looking for a church, somebody says, "Well, go to the church of your choice." Do not ever do that. No, you go to the church of God's choice. Somebody says, "Well, I am looking for a church." Are you looking for God's church or are you looking for one that will fit what you want it to be? Because in the Bible there is a model church, and that ought to be the church you ought to be looking for, and there are seven characteristics that you find, and they are all in the book of Acts.

- A Preaching Church (Acts 11:20)
- A Witnessing Church (Acts 11:21)
- A Teaching Church (Acts 11:26)
- A Persecuted Church (Acts 11:26)
- A Giving Church (Acts 11:29)
- A Praying Church (Acts 13:2-3)

V. The Model Ministry

The second thing it lays out in Acts 13:1-2, it defines the model ministry. He says in chapter 13:

Acts 13:1-2

Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

When they had fasted and prayed, they laid their hands on them and sent them away. Now this thing here is a great defining thing. This shows you that the key of the church is they are all focused. Have you ever noticed the cosmopolitan in this church? You have got Barnabas, he is a Jew. You have got Simeon and Niger. Niger is Latin for black. He is a black man. You have got Lucius from Cyrene. Cyrene is modern-day Benghazi. That is Gaddafi country today, or more Gaddafi, that is Benghazi, Tripoli, all over there in North Africa. Then you have Manaen, he is a Gentile, and yet he is more than just a Gentile, he is a, he is a foster son, or excuse me, foster brother of Herod who killed John the Baptist. What you have here by this church that shows you the model ministry is the fact that there is no race involved in it. There are no culture differences in it. They all recognize that once you get saved, you are not black, yellow, red, and white. They

are all precious in His sight. Jesus loved the little children of the world, all one through the blood of Christ. We do not look at people and say, "Well, he is black, he is yellow, she is this or she is that." We only see you one term, if you are saved and you are washed in the blood, your blood red, you are God's child. In Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile, and that is what this church did.

In any church, the number one issue is going to be not losing your focus. Older Christians have a tough time because they have a tough time keeping their focus, and the older you get, if you know the older you get, bottom line, Christians make this mistake, they think the older you get, the less time they have got to spend in the Bible, and that is just simply not true. It is just the reverse. The older you get in the Lord, the more time you have got to spend in the Bible because the more danger you have of losing your focus. That is what happens with a lot of old Christians. They have been around for a while, they know the ropes. Just like anything else, when you first started your job, you know what you did? You did not want to lose that job, did you? You paid attention to every detail, and you did over and above what you needed to do. You crossed every T, you dotted every I, and you made sure that you did that job just as good as you could do it. But you have been, and you made sure that you just did it exactly the way they wanted you to do it. But what happened? You are on the job, what, 10, 15 years? You have been doing the same thing. Now you have to get the idea that you can do it better, so you start putting in little shortcuts. You start doing it this way, save yourself some time, and you deviate from what the original plan was, and pretty soon you are, you are not thinking about the company you are working for anymore, you are thinking about yourself. It is not about how you can make the company successful, it is how you can get out of doing more work and do it by doing less work by taking shortcuts, and that always usually winds up bad. Well, you know what you did? You lost your focus. You lost somewhere along the line that your whole purpose of being in that company was to make your employer successful because if he is successful, he is going to be happy, you are going to probably be key successful. But no, no, no, we lose our focus and we, we try to start doing things then for our own benefit, and old Christians do the same thing. I am susceptible to it. We start taking the shortcuts. We start thinking that we served our time, that it means something that we have been in churches for, means nothing. Every day is a brand new day of hitting the trenches. In fact, in the army, it is the older people who lead the combat patrols. It is the veterans that have been around that are leading the way. But in Christianity, we want to be in the rear with a gear. You need to be in the, have your in the grass is where you need to be. I know, I know, I told you. Now I am all messed up. I am starting over again. We are going to go through this whole thing one more time.

The Bible says one Lord, one Spirit, one faith, one baptism, one mind, one mission, one heart. You see, older Christians have a tough time keeping the focus. New Christians have a tough time getting the focus. But this church got the focus. That is a set for us the model ministry. They are not fighting among each other. They have got one focus, effectively do the mission that God has called us to do. Do not get sidetracked with stupid things that mean nothing. Stay focused. Stay focused.

VI. The Model Pastor

The third thing the book of Acts defines is the model pastor, and we find that in the young life of young Timothy. You will find that young Timothy is an incredible study, and we are going to talk about him. We have talked about him in our prayer groups on Saturday mornings, and we are going through the 12 charges that he was given, and we were dealing with that. We will not spend a lot of time on it today, but Timothy is a great, a great model. It shows you not only how he was trained, but it shows you the accountability you have to have, and it is an incredible, incredible concept.

I want to go back and say one thing I forgot on number two here about the finding of the model of ministry. Last week when Baba was up here singing, I was sitting down in the back. I said to myself, when he could not finish that song because of the emotion of losing his own mother the week before, and I stood back there and I watched as he had to stop singing that, without any kind of prompting, without anybody leading the way, with 100% unison, this church joined in and finished the song. When I saw that, I said to myself, "Now look, there is a church that understands ministry. There is a church that understands when somebody falters and cannot get it done." Nobody had to go, "Finish singing, Zach. Bob, finish singing. Finish singing, Kyle." No, the church instinctively knew what to do. What I am talking about, and I might as well throw this out while I am at it, Kyle and Casey, Donnie, Baba is down in Wichita today, Linda, I have never seen in all my years, kids minister to their families in the hour of their need. You guys were there. You guys did everything by the book. I have never seen two families minister to their own families with the Word of God. Now that is a credit to you. That is a credit to you and Baba and your family and Linda, but you know what? It is also a credit to this church because that is what this church is all about. I cannot be everywhere at once. I cannot solve everybody's problem. Lord knows you did not want me breaking in and finish the song by myself last week. But it is where this church's spirit is in ministry. It is where this church's spirit is in ministry to your own families first, and then to the scores of people in this church that are being ministered to by other people that most people do not even know what is going on.

VII. The Model Missionary

Let us move on here to the fourth one. The fourth one is the model missionary. It defines the model missionary. If there are any churches rife with bad definitions today, they do not understand the Bible's definition of a pastor, deacon, elder, evangelist, but boy, we certainly do not understand the Bible's definition of missionaries. I say it all the time, everybody in this room this morning, if you are saved, male or female, you ought to be a preacher. You may not be a pastor, but you ought to be a preacher. I have got ladies in this church that I have put up against any pastor in this city that can preach the Word of God and knows the Bible better. I mean, if you do not want to be embarrassed by a woman, what you know about the Bible, stay out of this church. I have got some ladies that can, can put it out to you, and they can flat lay it out. We have got guys that do incredibly well, but I am just telling you, everybody in this church, if you are saved, you ought to be a preacher. You may not understand all of the Bible. You do not have to understand all the Bible. If you are just willing to be used of God and say, "God, here I am, help me get to that point, but use me now," He will use you with people with what you know right

now, wherever you are at. Probably we do not make ourselves available, and that goes back to we lost our focus.

Likewise, every saved person in this room ought to be a missionary. We have the idea that missionaries go to foreign nations, and they do. So therefore, we have got the bad definition that you are not a missionary unless you go to Africa, China, Japan, or wherever you go. No, no, no. If you are saved here this morning, you are a missionary. Your mission field first is your family. Your mission field second is where you work. If you understand that concept and you realize that you are doing the same work that any missionary that went down there, you realize that just as a missionary to go to a foreign country, he has to have support. God gave you a job where you are at for one reason and one reason only: it is to support yourself as His missionary where God has put you to be. That is as simple as it is. I mean, it is an incredible thing. I am not even going to get into the whole messed up concept of churches sending out missionaries. We do not have time for it. But you and I are missionaries. You and I are missionaries wherever you work, wherever your neighborhood is, wherever your family is, it starts there, and then you are a missionary carrying out God's mission. But that never happens because we lose our focus. We lose our focus.

VIII. The Model Evangelist

The fifth thing the book of Acts will define is the model evangelist for us, and that will be Philip in Acts chapter 8. Philip is called Philip the evangelist over there in Acts 21:8. You know him, he is one of the first deacons that is picked in Acts chapter 6. When you study the life of the model evangelist and you study the, you study the life of what evangelism really is, and again, we get a bad connotation. We think an evangelist is somebody that goes from place to place to place preaching. You know, we call it evangelism, we have an evangelist here, and I understand all of that, but that does the same thing as missionaries. We lose the aspect that you ought to be not only a, you not only be a preacher, not only should you be a missionary, you need to be an evangelist. I think the evangelistic effort of this church is unsurpassed. I think that you people out there that nobody ever sees, nobody ever sees what goes on. You have got to be inside of this. I mean, you miss one week here and you missed a lot. This thing will be 600 miles down the road, you will be saying, "Where did it go?" because this thing is moving in the right direction, and it is only moving in the right direction because of you in that book, and you understand evangelism. You realize that the job of this church is to penetrate our culture with the gospel. So we do that. We do that by a number of different means. We do that first of all by you just being a witness where you go in this world. How many people have come to this church and gotten saved because you were somebody at work that knew them and you brought them? How many times has somebody been hurting in life, had nowhere to go, needed the support of God's people who would love that person and care for that person, and you were the conduit that got that person to where God wanted him to be? That is evangelism.

Evangelism is key, and when you find the story here, you find the story how that Philip, he is having a great revival down in Samaria. Thousands of people are coming to Christ, and God pulls him up out of Samaria, takes him down on the backside of the desert, and there, lo and

behold, sitting on the tail end gate of a chariot is the old Ethiopian eunuch. That old Ethiopian eunuch is reading Isaiah 53. It is an incredible story, but the thing that always amazed me is that God pulled this guy out of the great revival. You know, there are a couple of big-time pastors in this city that I will not mention their names. They have been in the paper here last couple of weeks, and this guy was an evangelist for many, many years before he became a pastor. I do not know what he did before he was an evangelist, but he should have stuck with that. He was probably one of the most successful evangelists that the country has ever seen. Where he would go, there were great crowds, and he would always boast of thousands of people being saved at every meeting, and of course, you have to do that so it kind of helps your repertoire. But I talked with him one time, and I asked him particularly about this particular situation because I heard it, I wanted to get it from the horse's mouth or whatever, and you get the truth, and I asked him, I said, "Let me, let me ask what I have heard that is true, that you will not take an evangelistic service anywhere in any church if they cannot guarantee you at least 5,000 people." And he said, "That is correct." And I said, "May I ask what, where, where, where that comes from?" I said, "I mean, could, why do you, what is your reasoning on that?" And he said, "Well, brother," he said, "I will tell you," he says, "I am out to reach the world." Hmm, well, that was God's job, but that is okay. "I am out to reach the world, and I am going to, I, I just realized that I, I think that personally that what I have to say, basically, I try to get as many people as I can because I just do not want to waste all my energy and what I have got on on on people that it is not going to be the biggest group of people I can get." And he talked about it. I never said anything about it because I could see right out of the chute that he, you know, that is where he was. But I went away from that company, but I went away from that conversation thinking to myself, "Boy, I sure glad to be the old Ethiopian eunuch did not get an evangelist like that." Who are you? Who am I to have such an arrogance of our importance that we think that what we have to say cannot be bestowed on anybody less than 5,000 people? Wait, God give you leprosy. My goodness, may all your children grow up and want holy blue jeans. My goodness, I do not know what to tell you. Who in the world do you think you are that you are so important that you have what you have to say cannot be bestowed on a church of 200? Hey, some of the greatest revivals I have had, there have been 20 people. Him and I were, I had just come back from a revival, and I had up in New York, and he was preaching at a church, and get up there and he always, and I was making the announcements that night, and he got up and he always gave his little primo, you know, and he, he preached the, he talked about the fact that he had just come from a church in Ohio, and he says, "And God was so good to us, we had over 1,200 decisions." And everybody went, "Oh," you know, like that, and he is basking in the light of it. Then he sits down, and the pastor gets up, and he says, "Now Bob is going to come, and Bob had a revival this week. Bob, why do not you give us a report on that?" And I said, "Yes, sir, brother, praise the Lord." I said, "I had a great revival this week." I said, "I preached, and I had 400 decisions when I was done." 400 people decided to go home. Who are we, man? Come on, who are we? I am so important. Now logistically, I understand. You look while I am down here in Samaria, man. Hey, you know what? It is never how you and I view it. It is how God views it. What you think is a great revival may not be such a great revival with God.

God's book, one of the things I love about it, defines everything for you so you do not have to wonder about these kind of things. The big question today, "When does life begin?" You know

how much millions and millions and hours of labor is put into answering that question? Or when somebody is on a life support system, "When is somebody really dead?" You know, the Bible answers those two questions just like that. The key is not getting the medical definition, not getting your mom's definition or your definition. Find out in that book God's definitions about when life starts and when life ends, and that is it. It is just that simple. When you get God's definition of what a revival is, it does not matter how many there are. You know what? God pulled him out of over there, took Philip down through there, and put him down there, and God, God gave him one man, and that one man took the gospel back to the whole continent of Africa. You never see the thing the way God sees it. We just get stuck on ourselves. We think that we are so valuable, we are so important. God could replace me in a heartbeat, and anybody else on this planet. He does not need me. He does not need you. We need Him. Philip's idea was when God told him to leave down there, he did not say, "Well, Lord, are you sure about this? I mean, did you see the results last night? Well, we have got four more meetings planned here, Lord, and we made top 16,000 people with the whole city is coming here. Are you sure you are right about this? Have you prayed about this?" The Bible says Philip ran. He ran. He ran. It is not how you and I define it. It is how God defines it. You learn that lesson in life, I will tell you right now, it will save you a lot of heartache down the line.

IX. The Model Christian

Then we find the sixth thing, the book of Acts defines the model Christian. That would be Timothy, and we find that true Christianity is always a building process, is it not? We find about young Timothy's home life in 2 Timothy 1:5, his mother and his grandmother. We find in Acts chapter 16 how he worked in his local New Testament church. It is very obvious from chapter 16 that as he grew, he took, as he became accountable, he got more responsibility. Accountability and responsibility are two key ingredients. Acts 16:2 says he was approved by the brethren. He, his, he, he proved himself. Prove all things. He showed himself who he really was, and finally Paul, under the direction of the Holy Spirit of God, takes him and teaches him, and in the final phase of his progression, Acts 16:3, and he winds up becoming Paul's replacement. The great model pastor in your Bible is Timothy. He is also the great model of the Christian.

X. Peter and Paul: Defining the New Testament

Then the seventh thing we have here is the, is the two men that a book is built around. The book is called the Acts of the Apostles, and in that book we find that there are two men, and we are going to get into this next week, but there are two men that this book is built around. The first one is Peter. The second one is Paul. You do not get this breakdown, we are going to really deal this out next week. You do not get this thing worked out, you are dead in the water. First of all, you have got to realize who Peter's ministry is to. Then the second thing you are going to do is recognize who Paul's ministry is to. That will start the separation for you. Then you will figure out that Peter takes it up to the first 12 chapters, chapter 1 to chapter 12, and he is gone. You do not see him anymore. Then Paul picks it up in chapter 13 and takes it to the end of the book. There is a reason for that. So the Bible defines these two men because for you to understand the book of Acts and really the New Testament in itself, you need to define for yourself what Peter

represents and who he is, what Paul represents, who he is, and that is what this book does. We will get into that really next week. Peter represents the nation of Israel. Paul represents the church. Peter represents the kingdom of heaven. Paul represents the kingdom of God, and we will talk about that next week when we get into it.

XI. The Concept of Biblical Tongues

I want to move through these here. The next thing is the book of Acts defines the concept of biblical tongues. Most charismatics, they always want to jump into 1 Corinthians 12, 13, or 14 to talk about tongues, and of course, anybody who knows the Bible, Bible Basics, we have got kids in the elementary classes that know that is not where you go first. 1 Corinthians is not a defining passage on tongues. It is a, it is a rebuke on tongues. Acts chapter 1 and 2 tells you that the context here, the day of Pentecost, Acts 2:6-11 tells you that tongues show up, and it tells you very clearly that they are known languages, and they are known languages given to the Jews of the dispersion of 606 BC. 1 Corinthians 14:22 says tongues were for a sign, and 1 Corinthians 1:22 says that the Jews are looking for that sign.

When you get down there in Acts 2:28-32, I gave you this Thursday night when somebody asked the question, I gave you the prophecy back there in Joel 2:28-32, and you will find right there in Acts 2:14-20 the same quotation. Here in Joel chapter 2, it is a prophecy about people speaking in tongues. That prophecy is not to the church. That prophecy is to the nation of Israel. You go to Isaiah 28:11, you will find the prophecy all the way back in Isaiah, and Isaiah writes back there and he says,

Isaiah 28:11

For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

That people is Israel. You see, tongues had nothing to do with the church, never has. It is because you cannot rightly divide the word of truth, and you do not follow the model and the pattern in the Bible. You get caught up in those things. It is because if I gave you a book, a Bible, and opened the book of Acts and put a gun to your head and tell you you had 20 minutes to teach me the book, you would be dead in 20 minutes. You do not know it. You know your experience. You know what you saw. You do not know anything about the Bible. I mean, you open a Bible, you cannot even hold it upside down or inside out. You do not know what you are talking about when it comes to the Bible. You just got this concept that you want to believe. You cannot base it in the Word of God, and when you go to the Word of God, you cannot even give you the context of the book that it is in. Why that tongues thing was prophesied back in the Old Testament to Israel. There is a charismatic on this planet that knows that, but if he did not know that, it would not change anything. But see, those things change things for me because I am a Bible believer. I do not go by my experiences. I certainly do not go by my feelings. I go by a book, and I go by the same book that they went with all down through history, and they did not speak in tongues either. You have got a problem there.

XII. The Definition of Salvation and Soul Winning

The eighth thing, the book of Acts defines salvation for you. Acts chapter 8, again, this will be Philip the evangelist of the Ethiopian eunuch. I know you are going to go through ladies, a soul-winning class with Barb, and that will be good, and she has done that before. But let me give you a little key about winning people to Christ. Now this is something you want to put down and put in the back of your mind and remember this because there are three aspects to soul winning. I know when you first get saved, you want to win the world to Christ. I understand that. I can appreciate that. But it will not take you long to find out that you are outgunned, and a lot of young Christians make a lot of foolish mistakes and a lot of stupid mistakes because they do not understand how the Bible works. God does not intend you to win everybody to Christ as you witness to. Now I know that is a shock to your system, but just let it, let it settle in for a minute.

There are three parts to soul winning. You not knowing that as a Christian makes you kind of an immature Christian because the key to a mature Christian is knowing through the Holy Spirit of God when to do this one, this one, or this one. If you do not have the Holy Spirit of God showing you and you do not have the discretion and discernment, you just wind up doing the soul winning all the time. That is why you have all been to churches where at the end of the invitation they will sing 6,000 stanzas of "Just As I Am," and after a while, you know, God's people, you know, have you ever noticed in most of those churches you say people just keep coming forward every week? You think that is getting rededicated? No, they just want the service to be over so they can go eat. I think they roster that like to do the cleaning crews. "All right, now this week you guys go forward, and we will go next week." You notice we do not give an invitation every Sunday here. Do you know why I do not give one? Because sometimes God tells me not to. You see, there are times I am standing up here and boy, God just makes it so clear, this is what you have got to do. There have been times up there I said, "I am not going to do it," and God came down and did it for me. I appreciate that. But it is a thing where there are two aspects to soul winning. Paul says over there in 1 Corinthians 3:6:

1 Corinthians 3:6

I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

You see, there are three aspects of soul winning. There is a sowing aspect, and that is where you just put the word out. That is where you witness to people. But you see, if you are immature and you are a young Christian, you, you go at it like everybody you witness to is like they have got to get saved right now, and that, that really sets you up for failure because in time nobody is going to get saved. You are going to act like an idiot, so nobody is going to want to be around you, so you are going to take that personal and think there is something wrong with you. Whether there is something wrong with you, you need to grow up and realize there are three parts of soul winning. There are times that God just wants me to sow the word of God, and in the second aspect, there is watering. That is prayer. Sometimes God will put people in your life, He has no intentions for you winning them to Christ. He has an intention of you giving them the word and praying for them, and somebody else is going to win them to Christ. That is His plan. That is the third part, reaping. There are people in my life that I reaped and won to Christ that somebody else way down the line, somebody else way down the line, sowed the seed and been praying for them. At that point, I just got the privilege of reaping, and I go around thinking to myself, "What

a great person I am." No, you are just part of the process. There are people sitting here this morning, and every time I preach, every message ever preached in my life, that did not get saved, but you got the seed. You got it sowed, and you will think about it, and people will pray for you, and maybe a year, two years, five years down the line, you will get saved. There are people saved in this church. It was not the fact that you came to church and you heard this razor-stimulating mind with this message that just was greater than anything you ever heard. It was the fact that God had sowed somewhere else in your life, somebody else was praying for you, and God just brought you here that day and popped you like a pimple. Oh, it is a bad example. Pops you. Our job as mature Christians is to be in touch with the Holy Spirit of God that any given situation you get into, know when you sow, when to water, or when to reap. The biggest mistake you can make is to try to be reaping when you want to be just sowing. The biggest mistake you can make is to be sowing when you want to be reaping. See, how do you know the difference? The Holy Spirit of God. You see it in the example of Philip and the Spirit guiding him through everything that he did. It is what young Christians do not have but need to grow into: discernment, discretion, knowing the Bible is not just good enough. You have to know when to use the Bible. Knowing what to say is not just good enough. You need to know when to say it and when not to say it. See the three parts of soul winning, and that is something that is defined in the book of Acts: Philip's relationship with the Holy Spirit of God.

XIII. Defining the True Line of Bibles

The single greatest thing this book does in my mind for me is to define a true line of Bibles in the maze of manuscript evidence. Let me make a statement to you, and it is a true statement: if you do not have the Bible in your life, you are done before you get started. I am telling you right now, I, I do not understand it. It is the importance of the Bible, and if you do not have it, you do not have anything. We come in our life where, and I, we think we talk about the devil being a great counterfeiter. He counterfeits everything in the Bible. I mean, I gave you a list of what, 40 things that he counterfeits with Christ over and over and over again, and we all come to the point when it comes to the Bible, we think the devil just forgot that.

The study of manuscript evidence, admittedly, how where you got your Bible can be one of the most complex things you will ever undertake to study in your Christian life. We have a number of books back there in the bookstore. Every one of those books back there are gleaned out of probably 30,000 books in my lifetime that I read that was worth having that would save you a lot of hassle going through the boring stuff that I had to go through to find the stuff that is good. But it even at that, it is a, it is a something that is going to, it is going to take you quite a while, but it is an endeavor that you are going to have to get into. The study of manuscript evidence, how and where we got our Bible can be, as I said, one of the most complex things you will ever undertake, and the books are endless on it, thousands of hundreds of thousands of them. The opinions are endless. The arguments are endless. You know, the scribes and the Pharisees of the world today, the Bible scholars and all the great minds that want to take that common Bible from you and make you look at them as their your final authority instead of a book that God gave you, they have one goal in mind, brother, and they make it as hard as they can to keep you and keep you in the dark so you cannot get that book. The terminology itself was overwhelming. A clictic,

was that something a Latin singer does when she is clicking those things? It will click thick. A spurious passage. Oh, but the Septuagint. Oh, we are going to study apologetics. John Wayne said, "Never apologize to anybody, it is a sign of weakness." Oh, over 100 plus Greek testaments. Oh, the terminology. Well, it is papyrus. Oh, but it is vellum. But, oh my dear brother, it is written in classical Greek. Oh, but it is written, my friend, in Koine Greek. Oh, then we have the introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls. Oh, that changed the world of Christianity. I mean, for 2,000 years the Bible has stood. Now the foundation, I remember one pastor getting up and saying when they found the Dead Sea Scrolls, and he finally came to Kansas City and they were talking about the importance of it, he said, "The Dead Sea Scrolls will change the foundation of what we believe." You are out of your mind. Now you are so stupid, you better get help crossing the street, you are going to run over by a bus. That book stood for 2,000 years, and now something is going to come up, it is going to shake my foundation. Well, you have got some foundation there, pal. Again, the Bible takes the position within the context of the simplicity of Christ and makes it real easy, and it is all in the book of Acts. You get this first, get this material down that I am about to give you. It is very simple, very basic, but let me show you where you start. Let me show you where you get the foundation. It is real easy.

We have talked about the book of Acts being a defining book. It defines everything. It sets down the roadmap for me because God knew that I was going to be born in 1950. I was going to live in the last part of the last minutes of the last seconds in my ministry and the Laodicean church period, and God knew it was going to be very confusing. Everything was going to not be in focus anymore. So God wrote a book, and in that book He put two definitive books: Genesis in the Old Testament that keeps me on course, the book of Acts in the New Testament that keeps me on course. You see, it does not matter that I do not have the books to go to because I have got a book that defines everything that I need to look for in church history for the next 2,000 years. If I believe the book, God's job is to get the book to us. The devil's job is to get the book away from us. Real simple.

In the book of Acts, the book of Acts defines three cities for you, and these three cities are absolutely key in keeping you in the right line with God and His Word, the landmarks. I am going to keep this real simple today, and those of us that went through Bible or church history, we got into it in great depth, but I am going to keep it real simple today. No need to get deep. You can get everything you need to know very light today, and get what you need to get started with, at least you get a handle. But those three cities are defined in the book of Acts, and they are defined throughout the rest of the Bible. The first one is Rome. The second one is Alexandria, Egypt. The third one is an old friend of ours by now, Antioch of Syria. The definitions of these three cities are totally connected throughout the whole Bible.

These three cities found in the book of Acts will represent for us the three families of manuscripts from which all Bibles come from. That is the first thing I want you to know, and this is called in the manuscript evidence in the theological world. Two of these cities are totally corrupt, and one represents the pure line from which we take our Bible today when I am talking about the King James 1611 Authorized Version. Now I know what Bible scholars will tell you. These Bible scholars will tell you that there are many, many families of manuscripts, and they

will try to make it as confusing as they can. Again, I go back to not defining it as man does. I could care less. Dr. So-and-so says what is really 40 manuscripts of evidence. You know what my book that is authoritative that God wrote me that defines church history says? There are three families. Now let me pray about which one I am going to believe. You or the book? I will take the book. You said you did not pray. You are getting quicker here today.

Those three cities will lay it out for you. Why do we use the King James Bible? Well, now you know the King James Bible is built on pure manuscripts that have never been tainted, and we are going to talk about it today in a way that you are going to be able to see it and better understand it and put the thing together. Over the last couple of weeks, I showed you, I showed you in John how there were verses that all the new Bibles tell you they should not be there. You should have made a list of 1 John chapter 5. In 1 John there, it talked about, it talked about the greatest verse on the Trinity taken out, taken out. I showed you in John chapter 5 where they said that passage should not be in there. Last week I showed you one in John chapter 6, verse 7. Why do you think that is? Why do you think that your Bible, come on, let us just stop and think for a moment here. Why do you think that your Bible has it in and all the other Bibles either take it out or at least put a footnote in that it should not be in there? Why is that? Who decides that? Are they right? Did God make that mistake? Does God make mistakes? Does God write a book and have mistakes in it? Please do not tell me that God wrote a book and is dependent on sinful man to keep the book straight. A guy said one time, "I have got a book that has written, it has got 48 mistakes in the Bible." Well, I had 50 because you will be the 50th one. There are no mistakes in the Bible. The audacity. "Well, I believe God made a mistake." Well, maybe He made a mistake when He saved you. The only security, the only eternal security you have is that God meant what He said when He said it. If He did not mean John 5 to be in there, 1 John 3 to be in there, John chapter 6 to be in there, maybe He really did not mean you to be in there. Where do you end at?

The bottom line is this, you know why they are not in there? I will tell you why. Because whatever Bible you have on the market today, it is out there, and the new one that everybody is excited about, that NIV, you know, the NIT, which idiotic version, it has got 60,000 changes in it between that Bible right there and any other Bible on the market today. Now maybe you did not know that. Okay, that is fine. You are going to know it when you leave today. Okay. Now how did God make 60,000 different changes? Did God have a bad day? How did God come up with a Bible where I have got one over here, it does not even read "dice" over here? How do I have over here when I read this verse over here and I say, "Boy, that is a great promise," and Dr. So-and-so says, "Well, I hate to tell you that, but that should not be really in your Bible." Boy, see how confusing it gets? Now let me clear up the confusion for you.

- > Alexandria, Egypt
- > Rome
- > Antioch of Syria