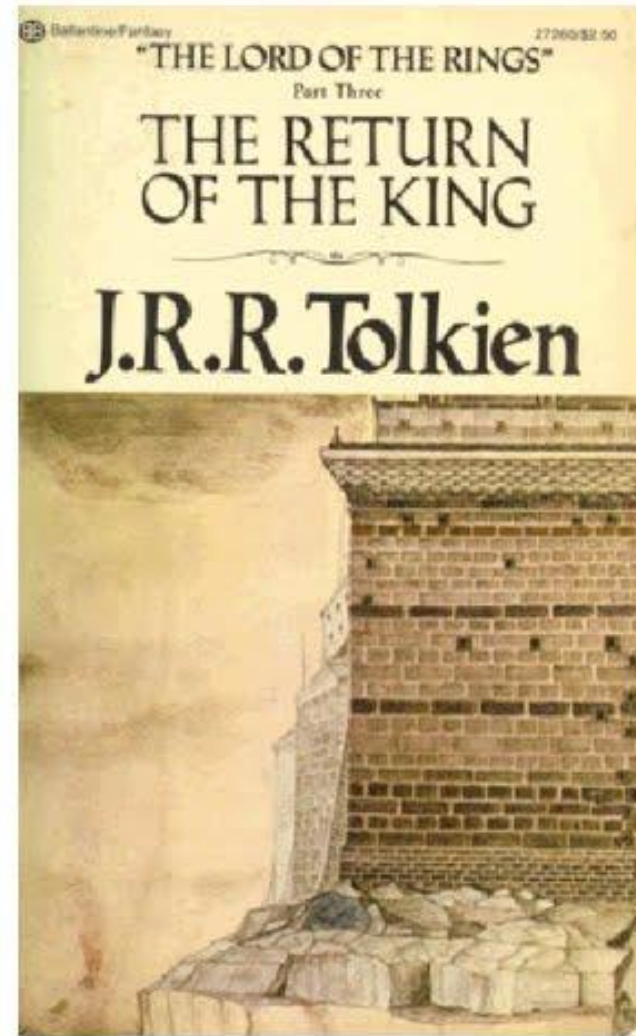
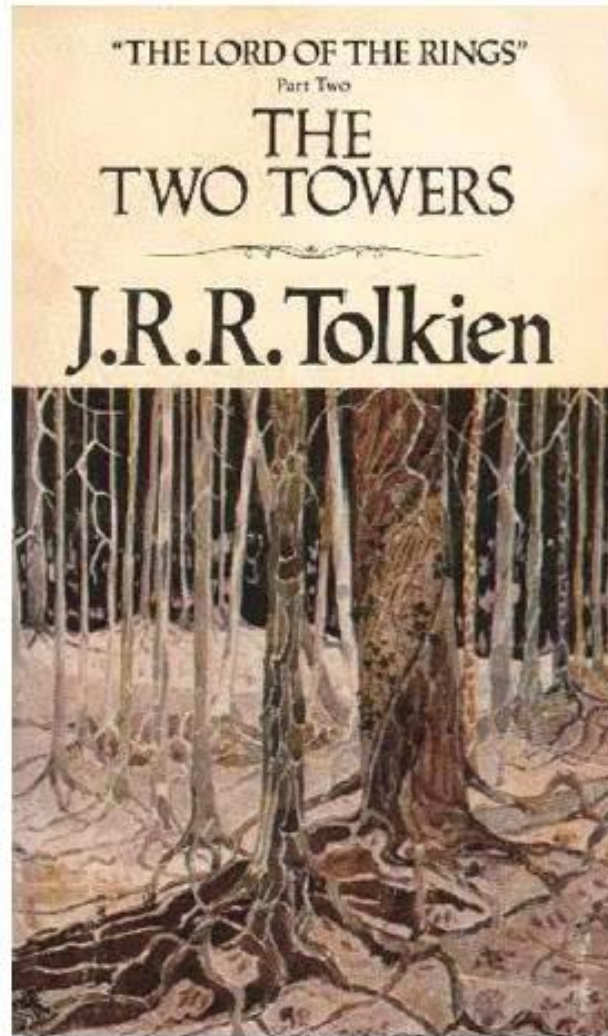
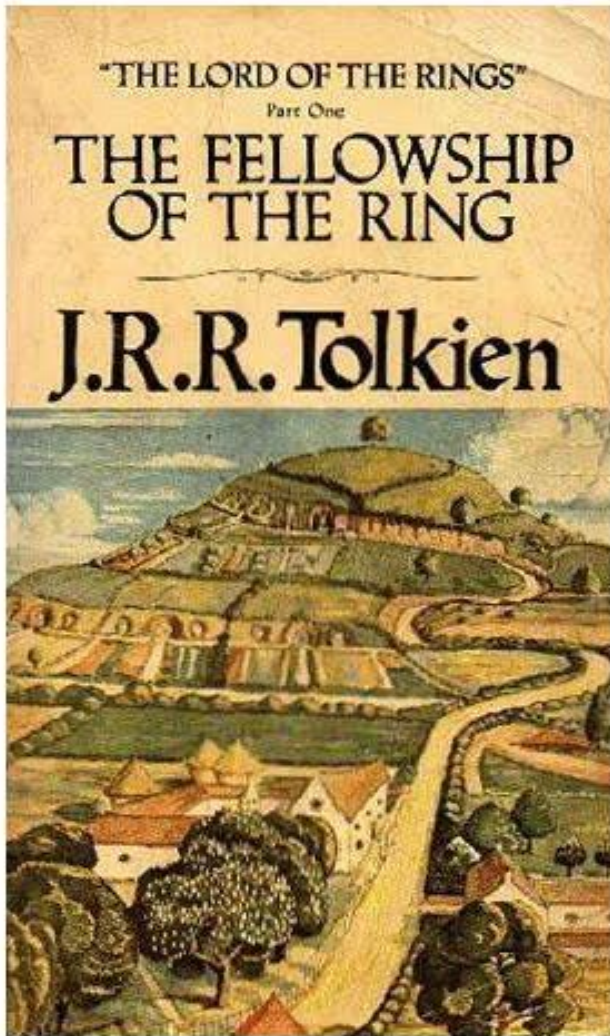


# **The Book of Acts**

# **Your Kingdom Come**

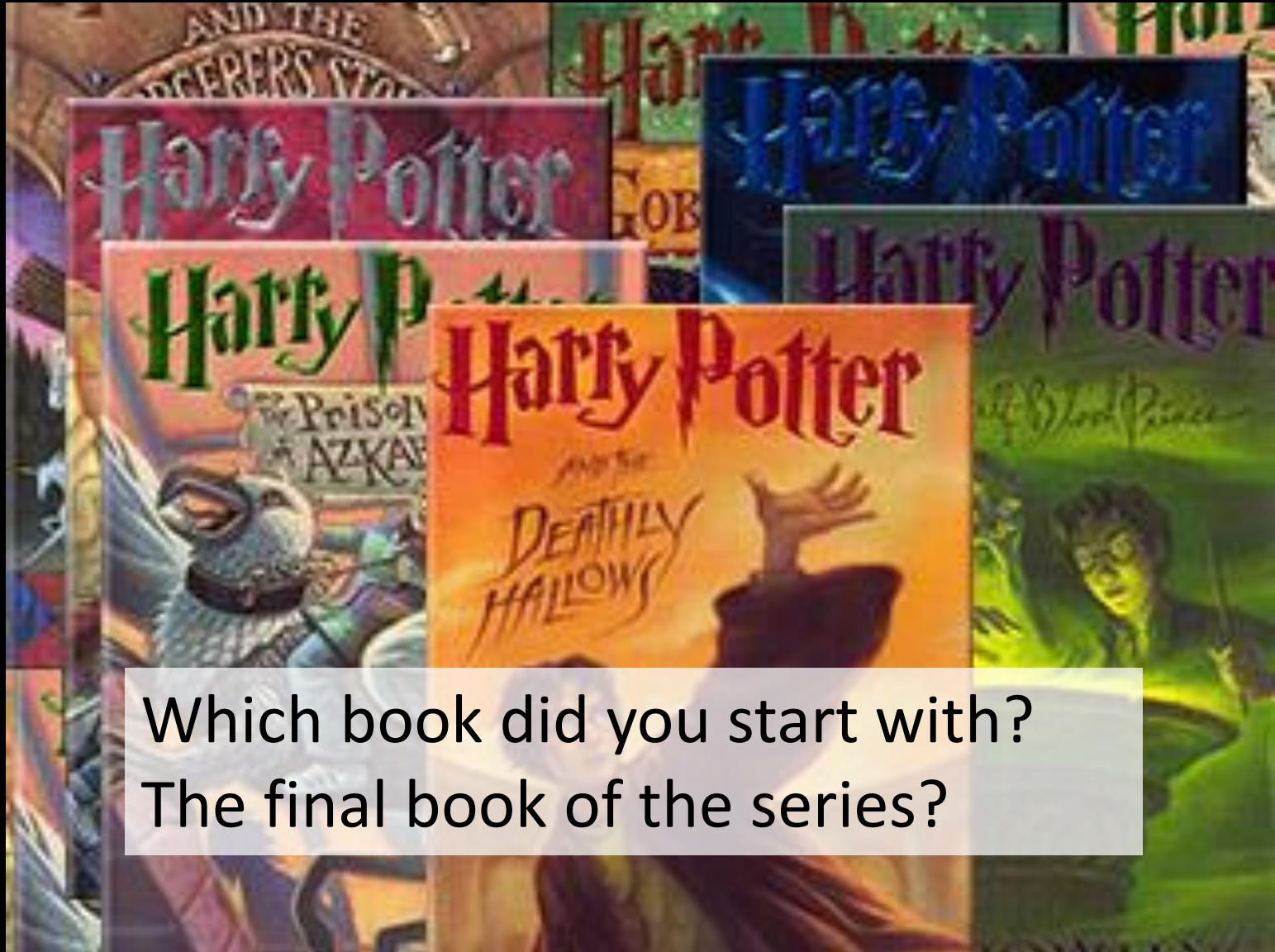
Class 1

# Famous Book Series:



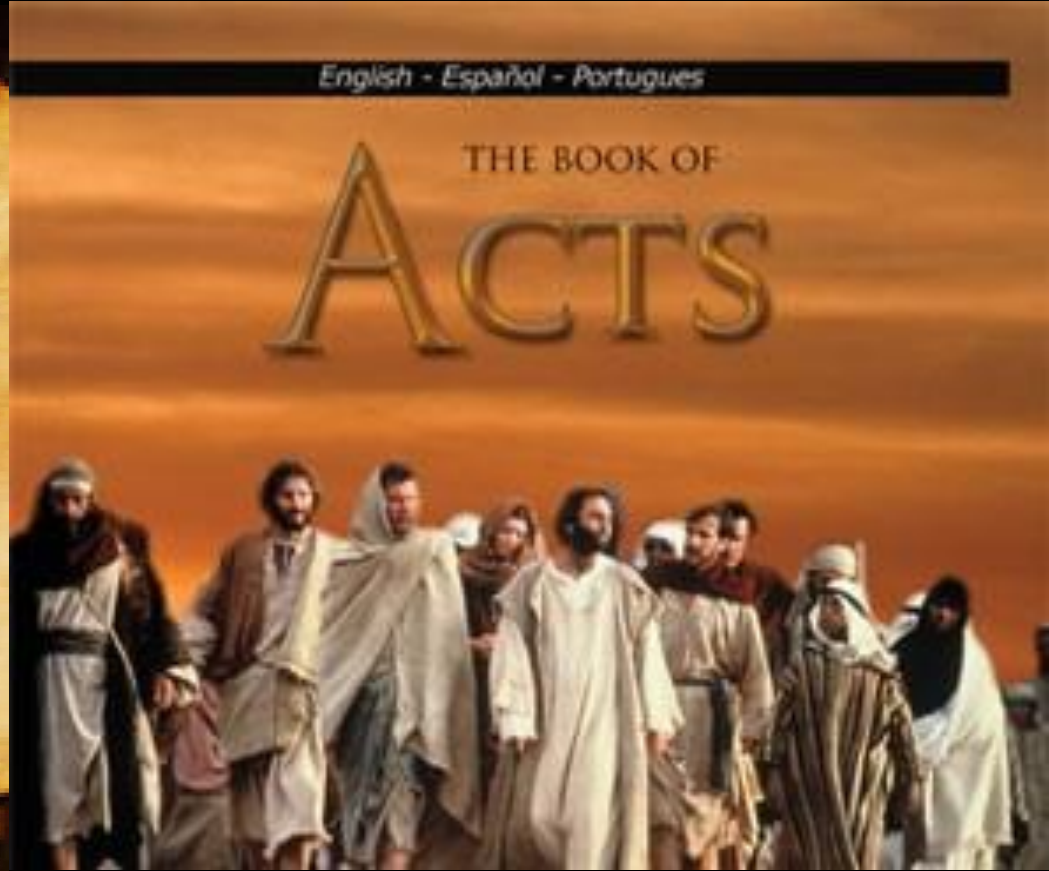
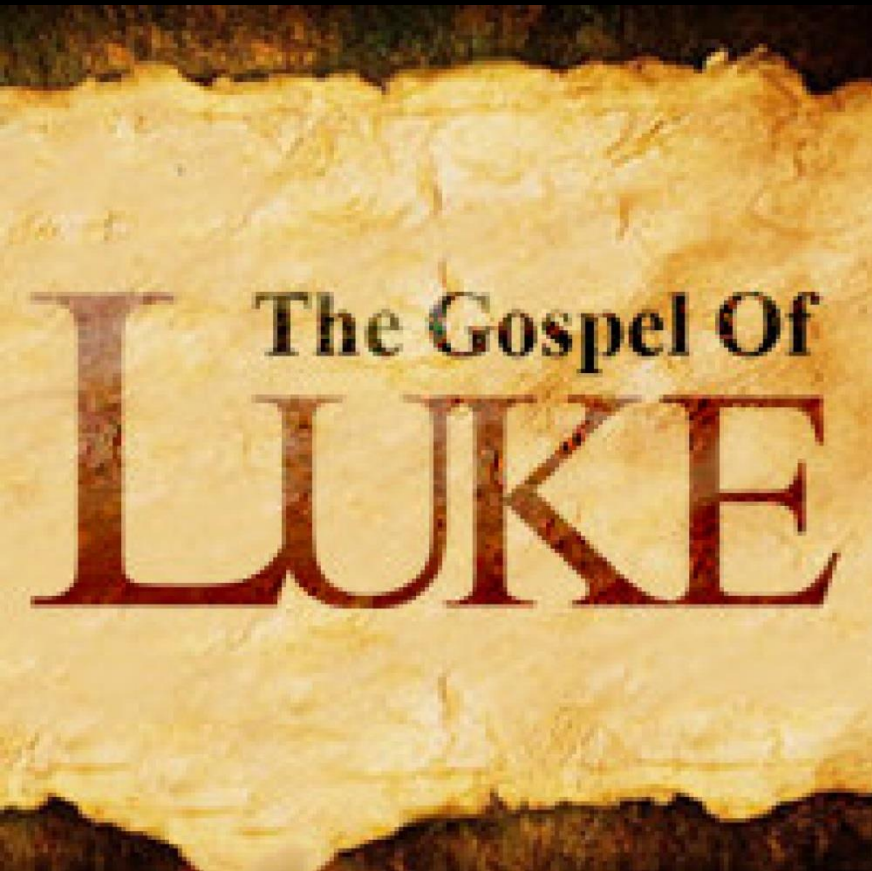


# Famous Book Series:



Which book did you start with?  
The final book of the series?

# Famous Book Series:





# Basic Approach:

Connect the Book of Acts to the Gospel of Luke



The Gospel Of

LUKE



THE BOOK OF  
ACTS

Follow the structure Luke lays out for understanding what is important

With 7 weeks we will focus on major themes

# Author

**Joins up with  
Paul in Troas**

**Born: Syrian Antioch**

**Gentile**

**Conversion date?**

**Luke: Doctor**

**Well Educated**

**Trained Observer**

**Analyzer**

# Luke

# Acts

3

33

60

62

64

67-8

70

BC

AD

Gabriel announces  
John the Baptist

Crucifixion,  
Resurrection,  
Ascension

Paul in Rome

James killed

Nero's persecution  
begins

Paul executed by  
Nero (Peter also)

Temple destroyed  
in Jerusalem

**Luke**

**Acts**



**Date**

**3**

**33**

**60**

**62**

**64**

**67-8**

**70**

**BC**

**AD**

**Gabriel announces  
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**Crucifixion,  
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Ascension**

**Paul in Rome**

**James killed**

**Nero's persecution  
begins**

**Paul executed by  
Nero (Peter also)**

**Temple destroyed  
in Jerusalem**



# Purpose

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been

fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. **I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.**

orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. LK 1:1-4



# Purpose

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. LK 24:44-48



# Purpose

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**Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”**

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they **could understand the Scriptures.**

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# Purpose

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about  
**I wrote about all that Jesus began to do  
and to teach<sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken  
up to heaven**

the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his  
suffering, he presented himself to them and  
gave many convincing proofs that he was  
alive. He appeared to them over a period of  
forty days and spoke about the kingdom of  
God. Acts 1:1-3



# Purpose

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach<sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to

**He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.**

He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.



# Title of Acts could be:

Everything Jesus *continued* to do  
and teach after ascending the  
throne in heaven

The Kingdom of God



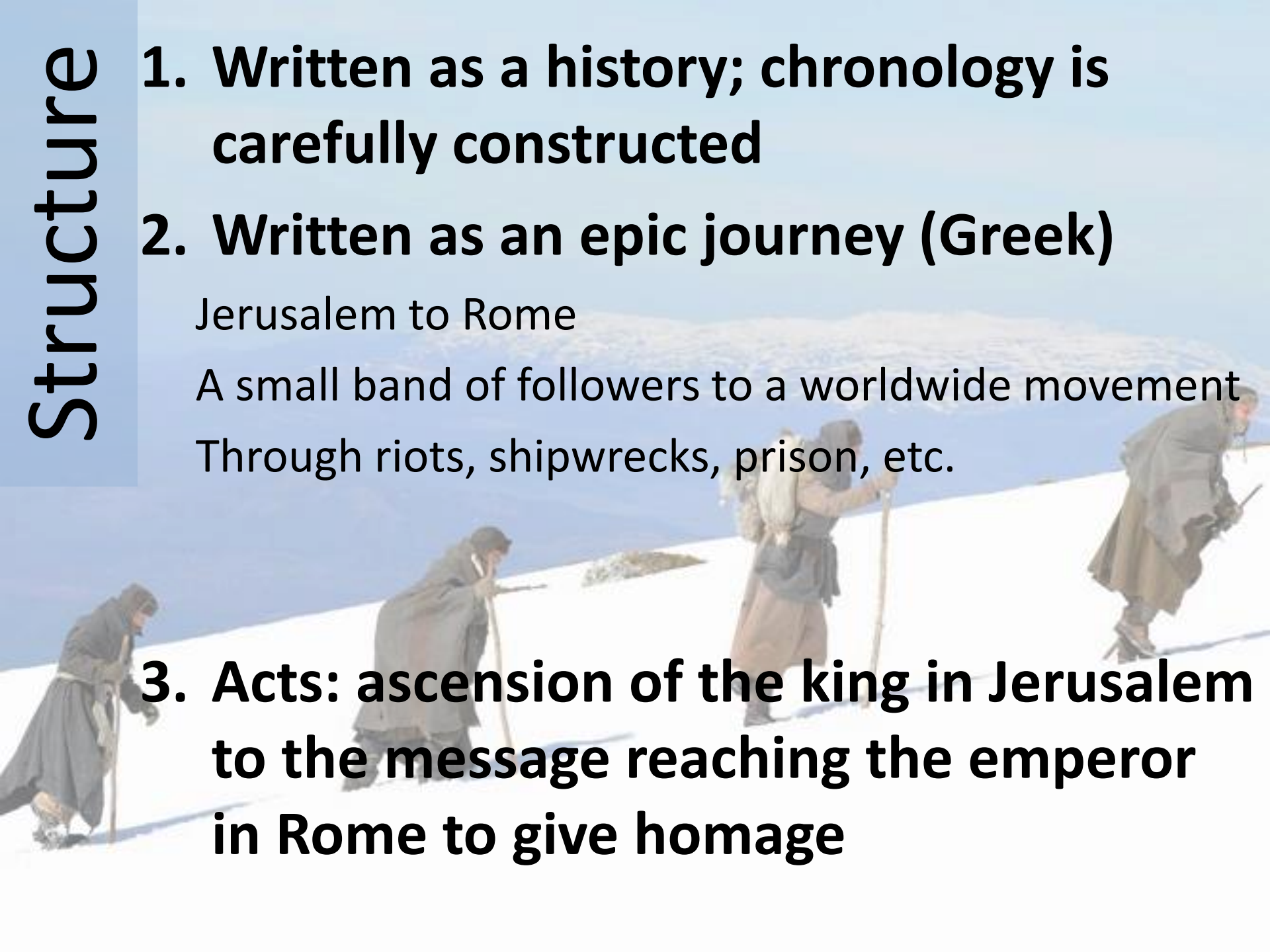
# Structure

- 1. Written as a history; chronology is carefully constructed**
- 2. Written as an epic journey (Greek)**

Jerusalem to Rome

A small band of followers to a worldwide movement  
Through riots, shipwrecks, prison, etc.

- 3. Acts: ascension of the king in Jerusalem to the message reaching the emperor in Rome to give homage**



# Major Events/Topics

1. Announcement of the New King, the New Kingdom and the New Covenant
2. Demonstration of power at each new stage
3. Identification of resistance at each new stage
4. Carefully repeated & demonstrated responses to the message
5. Clear demonstration of Jesus' authority to direct the church
6. Honest & unvarnished representation of life in the church

# Other Subjects Luke Traces through both books

1. John the Baptist and his followers
2. Herod(s)
3. Interaction with rulers
4. Jesus' teaching lived out
5. The influence and roles of women
6. Godly Jews
7. Godly Gentiles
8. Godly Soldiers





# Themes

1. The Kingdom of God has come
2. Jesus is the promised king & messiah
3. Jesus is working powerfully by his Spirit
4. Salvation in Jesus is for everyone
5. Resurrection and New Life
6. The message must be delivered
7. Grace, Justice and Judgment for the world

# Prophecies of the King & the Kingdom

Does anyone know what event took place almost 500 years before Jesus came?

- Jerusalem captured and Jews taken to Babylon

Daniel 2:44-45

Daniel 7:13-14

Daniel 9:24

- The Jews were really into prophecy in Jesus day. Like Simeon Lk 2:25, & Anna Lk 3:38

# Acts 1:6-8

## Why didn't they see what was coming?

“Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them: “It is not

for you

— Ps 72

has set

— Ps 89

receive

— Is 40-55

you; and

and in

the earth.”

**In their mindset, they expected a physical kingdom, that affected how they heard the scriptures.**



# Acts 1:9-11

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and **What is the Ascension all about?**

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky?"

**Mt 26:64**

**Mk 14:62**

**Mk 16: 19**

**Acts 7:55**

**Rom 8:34**

**Heb 12:2**

**Eph 1:20**

**Eph 2:6**

**Col 3:1**

**Rev 5:6**

**Rev 7:17**

**Rev 14:14**

**Rev 22:1, 3**

This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven. **A new king, a son of man, has ascended to the throne. Acts begins with the prophecy of Jesus' return and the declaration of Jesus' resurrection being the beginning of the resurrection.**



# Acts 1:15-26

“For,” said Peter, “it is written in the Book of Psalms: *“May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,”* and, *“May another take his place of leadership.”* **Ps 69:25; Ps 109:8** necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us

They are following Jesus’ instructions: **Lk 24:44** *Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.* For one of us of his resurrection.”



# Acts 2:1-13



- When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **Fire and Wind**  
**What is significant about the day?** fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

# The Coming of the Kingdom

## Jesus dies at Passover

### What is the meaning of Passover?

Miraculous Signs are performed by Moses

Spotless lamb sacrificed

Death Angel passes over Israel's first born

Israelites are freed from bondage

They depart for the promised land

They pass through the waters to leave Egypt

Where do they go?



# What happened at the first Pentecost?

50 days after the Passover, the Israelites were assembled at Horeb...

Ex 3:1	God first speaks to Moses at Horeb
Ex 17:6	Water came out of the rock for the people to drink at Horeb
Dt 1:1	Moses spoke the commandments of God to them at Horeb
Dt 4:10	All the people assembled to hear Gods words to learn to revere him
Dt 4:15	God spoke to them out of the fire
Dt 5:2	God made a covenant with them at Horeb
Dt 18:16	The people were fearful of God's voice and his great fire
Ps 106:19	they committed idolatry at Horeb
Mal 4:4	The decrees and laws were given for all Israel

# Why doesn't God just talk to us directly?

- The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me (Moses) from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the Lord our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.” Dt 18:15-19

# The coming of the Kingdom at Pentecost

- Standing in the presence of God the new temple
- He speaks to them from the fire
- He pours out living water
- Here now is the new law
- Here now is the new life
- Here now is the message of the servant God promised in Dt 18:15-19
- Festival of the First Fruits
- Begins the harvest season

# Acts 2:14-21

Then Peter **Luke records: Peter now begins to**  
voice and **explain the prophecies to the Jews –**  
all of you **this is what the book is about.**

this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These  
**First proclamation of fulfillment of**  
**the universal part of God's promise** that was spoken  
**to Abraham** by the prophet Joel: "In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people...



# Prophecy and the Present

- It is easy to have 20/20 hindsight
- What are you looking for?
- Do you search the scriptures?
- What attitude should we have as we look for fulfillment of God's promises today?
- Example subjects: Resurrection, Heaven, etc.

# Credits & Sources

- **Image Credits:**

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- Acts for Everyone (part one and part two) N.T. Wright. 2008. Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY
- Acts. I. Howard Marshal. Tyndale New Testament Commentaries. (1980) 2008. Intervarsity Press.