

**SIMPLE, STIMULATING STUDIES**

**IN THE...**

*Great  
Book of Acts*

**...BY**

**DONALD G. HUNT**





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Box 431  
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
U.S.A.

FIRST PRINTING - 1984

SECOND PRINTING - 1994

--ACKNOWLEDGMENTS--

TYPE-SETTERS: Patricia Rodman, Roberta Meyer  
LAYOUT: Rebekah Weller, Linda Devine

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# INTRODUCTION

Those who are interested in the New Testament church have always held the book of Acts to be one of the most important books of the Bible. Its early chapters tell of its establishment and of life and activities in the early days of the church. In the midst of some of the darkest days the church had during the book of Acts events comes the totally unexpected conversion of Saul of Tarsus, and neither he nor the apostolic church was ever the same thereafter. His conversion was well timed for his monumental work of invading the Roman Empire with the gospel.

The book of Acts is sometimes referred to as the "book of conversion", and so it is, for it records the conversions on Pentecost (Acts 2), the Samaritans and the Ethiopian (Acts 8), Saul (Acts 9,22,26), Cornelius (Acts 10), Lydia and the jailer (Acts 16), and others. Our conclusions reached from a study of the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16; Luke 24:46, 47; John 20:21-23) on the subject of conversion (becoming Christians) are abundantly confirmed by these examples under the preaching of the apostles and their contemporaries.

The author (Luke), the recipient (Theophilus), the time of writing (when Paul had been a prisoner for two full years in Rome), and the place of writing (Rome) usually treated in the Introductions of books will be found in this book where such enter into the text-material. More people will read such there than if locked up in this Introduction.

The principal uses for this study-book are for making a study of the book of Acts either individually or as a class and as a reference work for those needing help on a particular verse from time to time.

Since more people still use the King James Version than any other, it is the basis of comment and quotation throughout this work. However, other ver-

sions are referred to in those places where they have a special contribution to make. And some references are made to the original Greek itself where such is helpful to our understanding.

Your author believes more people will make use of this book in its present study-form than if it were in a commentary-form. Those wishing to consult it as they would a commentary will find the references at the top of the pages convenient for locating information.

In compiling such a work your author has at times consulted the following men's commentaries: *J. W. McGarvey, Gareth Reece, H. Leo Boles, Don DeWalt, Orrin Root-John Wade, Albert Barnes, and Adam Clarke*; also Zondervan's *"Pictorial Bible Dictionary"*; also these Greek works: *"Thayer's Lexicon," "Englishman's Greek Concordance," "Expositor's Greek New Testament," "Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words"* by Vine, and *"Word Pictures in the New Testament"* by A. T. Robertson.

God's help and blessing have been repeatedly sought throughout this book's year of compilation, and now as it goes forth to the reading public we especially ask that it might be used and blessed far beyond the author's ability to foresee.