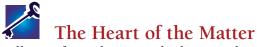
#### GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME FIVE GOD WITH US—A SURVEY OF MATTHEW-ACTS Acts: Like a Mighty Army

A SURVEY OF ACTS



 $\cap$ 

All too often Christians look upon their religious roots with much-too-low esteem. Intimidated by the giant boot-stomping of secular events that occupy the attention of most history books, we entertain the false idea that the church of Jesus Christ is little more than a piece of lint on the page . . . a tiny, fragile thread woven through the centuries. Not so! The church is rather like a mighty army marching through time deliberately, confidently, victoriously . . . spurred on by the promise of its Founder that the gates of Hades will not overpower it. No other book in the Bible underscores the richness and courage of our history better than the book of Acts. And no other book affirms more clearly our God-given power to persevere. We may be small in number, but no remnant was ever surer of its destiny.

# Discovering the Way

#### 1. Some Helpful Facts about Acts

In approaching the book of Acts, it is best if we understand some key contrasts between this book and the books of the Gospels. In addition, we should answer four key questions: Who wrote the book? Why do we have the book? What do we find in the book? And where did the events of the book take place?

#### 2. An Easy Outline to Remember

We can divide the book into three sections based on its geography. The church was established in Jerusalem (1-7), the church was enlarged in Judea and Samaria (8-12), and the church expanded to the remotest part of the earth (13-28).



### Starting Your Journey

God works in our lives in three stages, the same way He did with the church in Acts: He establishes His place in our lives, He enlarges us through problems and trials,

and He expands us so we can take in our own spiritual food.





God's Masterwork, Volume Five: God With Us—A Survey of Matthew–Acts by Charles R. Swindoll Classic CD series of 6 CDs



God's Masterwork, Volumes One – Four (A Survey of the Old Testament) by Charles R. Swindoll Classic CD series of 40 CDs



The Darkness and the Dawn: Empowered by the Tragedy and Triumph of the Cross by Charles R. Swindoll hardback book

To order any of these related resources, call 0800-787-9364 or visit www.insightforliving.org.uk



Original outline copyright © 1982 and Message Mate copyright © 2012 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide. Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited. *Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application* 

#### GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME FIVE GOD WITH US—A SURVEY OF MATTHEW-ACTS Acts: Like a Mighty Army

A Survey of Acts

## Acts

	The Church Established at "Jerusalem"	The Church Enlarged to "Judea and Samaria"	The Church Expanded to "the Ends of the Earth"	
	The church is	The gospel is	The witness is	
	born	spreading	extended	09
	tested	multiplying	received and rejected	AD (
	purified	changing lives	changing lives	
	strengthened	breaking traditions	unifying Jews and Gentiles	
	CHAPTERS 1–7	CHAPTERS 8–12	CHAPTERS 13–28	
Leaders	The apostle Peter		The apostle Paul	
Emphasis	Jewish evangelism	Transition	Gentile evangelism	
Time	AD 33 (1:1–2:47) AE	D 36 (8:1) AD 40 (9:32)	AD 46 (13:1) AD 57 (21:18)	
Scope	City evangelism	National evangelism	Cross-cultural evangelism	
Theme	In the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus's followers carry the good news of Christ to the world.			
Key Verse	1:8			
Christ in Acts	Jesus is the glorified, enthroned Savior, who continues His ministry in the world by means of the Holy Spirit working through His disciples until He returns (1:7–9).			

Copyright © 1982, 1997, 2010 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights reserved worldwide.



S

Message Mate copyright © 2012 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide. Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited. *Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application*