

A stylized graphic of a flame in shades of orange and red, positioned to the left of the word 'ACTS'.

*The*  
**ACTS**  
OF THE APOSTLES



## *Today's Scripture Reading*

Acts 15:1-21



But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” <sup>2</sup> And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. <sup>3</sup> So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. <sup>4</sup> When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders,



and they declared all that God had done with them.  
<sup>5</sup> But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.” <sup>6</sup> The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup> And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. <sup>8</sup> And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us <sup>9</sup> and he made no distinction between us and them,



having cleansed their hearts by faith. <sup>10</sup> Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup> But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” <sup>12</sup> And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. <sup>13</sup> After they finished speaking, James replied, “Brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup> Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. <sup>15</sup> And with this the words of the prophets agree,



just it is written, <sup>16</sup> “After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, <sup>17</sup> that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things <sup>18</sup> known from of old.’ <sup>19</sup> Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, <sup>20</sup> but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. <sup>21</sup> For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

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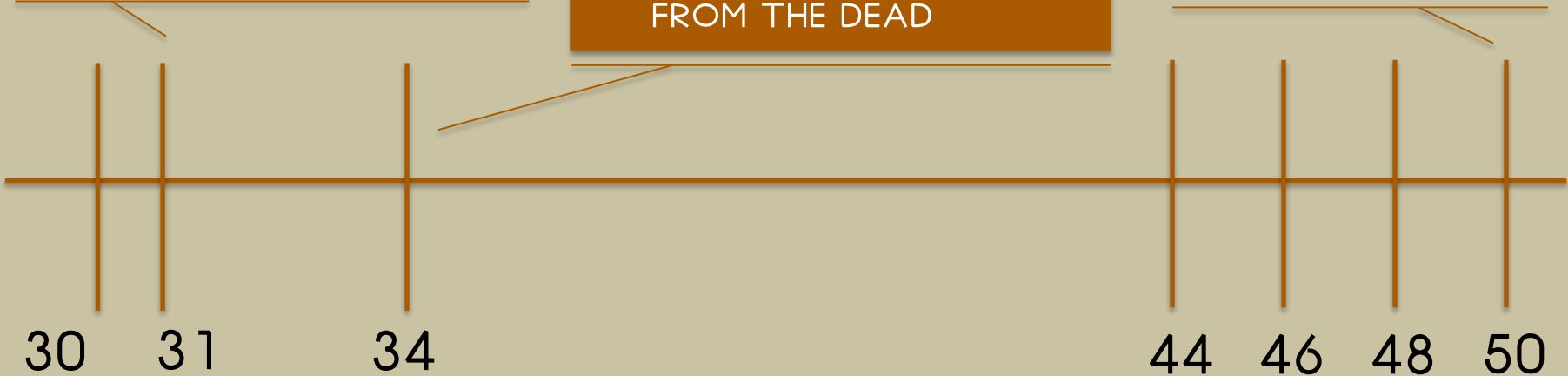
# ACTS of the APOSTLES | 15:1-21



- STEPHEN IS STONED TO DEATH
- SAUL PERSECUTES CHRISTIANS

- SAUL ENCOUNTERS CHRIST ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS
- PETER RAISES DORCAS FROM THE DEAD

JERUSALEM COUNSEL



- CHRIST RISES FROM THE DEAD
- CHRIST ASCENDS INTO HEAVEN
- HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON THE APOSTLES
- PETER HEALS A LAME MAN

- KING HEROD HAS JAMES EXECUTED
- AN ANGEL RESCUES PETER FROM PRISON

PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY



# ACTS of the APOSTLES | 15:1-21





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## Amos 9:8-12

Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from the surface of the ground, except that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob,” declares the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> “For behold, I will command, and shake the house of Israel among all the nations as one shakes with a sieve, but no pebble shall fall to the earth.

<sup>10</sup> All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, who say, ‘Disaster shall not overtake or meet us.’

<sup>11</sup> “In that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old,



## *Amos 9:8-12*

<sup>12</sup> that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name,” declares the Lord who does this.



SO WHAT IS JAMES TEACHING WITH THIS QUOTE?

*God has kept his promise*

1. Jesus is the fulfillment of this prophecy
2. He begins the fulfillment to restore and rebuild

*What is the Jews' purpose?*

*What is our purpose?*



## *Ephesians 2:19-20*

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,



<sup>20</sup> but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. <sup>21</sup> For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”



## APPLICATION

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