

The Book of Acts

This Week:

Lesson: Church Council at Jerusalem

Scripture: Acts 15:1-35

Next Week:

Homework Scripture Read: Book of Galatians

Lesson Text:

Acts 15:1-3, 4-6	The divisive issue and the immediate address
Acts 15:7-12	The testimonies of Peter, Paul and Barnabas
Acts 15:13-21	Council conclusion, presented by James
Acts 15:22-29	Formal declaration letter is sent out
Acts 15:30-35	Conclusion at Antioch

Discussion:

- Note that it was probably not the majority of the Jews were making this case
- Notice the initial reaction by Paul, Barnabas and the church at Antioch
- Note the reception, and orderly resolution at Jerusalem
- Discuss the importance of the testimonies given (No NT, no Book of Acts)
- Consider the books of Hebrews and Romans as key sources for further study

Immediate Events:

- Completion of Paul's 1st missionary journey (last week)
- The Council at Jerusalem (This week)
- Survey of The Book of Galatians – written between the Council at Jerusalem and Paul's 2nd journey (next week)
- Start of Paul's 2nd missionary journey (following)