

THE BOOK OF

ACTS

WEEK 9: UNDERSTANDING

THE MINISTRY OF **THE APOSTLES**

WHAT
HAVE WE
COVERED
SO FAR?

THE **6 STAGES** OF THE **BOOK OF ACTS**

- 1.** In Jerusalem: The Spirit-filled Ministry of the Apostles
- 2.** Judea and Samaria: Led by Hellenistic Believers
- 3.** The Gentiles: The church continues to grow, expand
- 4.** In Asia Minor: Paul's 1st Missionary Journey
- 5.** In Europe: Paul's 2nd & 3rd Missionary Journeys
- 6.** In Rome: Paul's is arrested and sent to Rome

THE **6 STAGES** OF THE **BOOK OF ACTS**

- 1. In Jerusalem: 1:1-6:7**
- 2. Judea and Samaria: 6:8-9:31**
- 3. The Gentiles: 9:32-12:24**
- 4. In Asia Minor: 12:25-16:5**
- 5. In Europe: 16:6-19:20**
- 6. In Rome: 19:21-28:30**

THE **6 STAGES** OF THE **BOOK OF ACTS**

1. In Jerusalem: The Spirit-filled Ministry of the Apostles

- The Holy Spirit has empowered the apostles (led by Peter) to preach as witnesses for Christ
- The church continues to explode with growth and miracles confirm the apostles' ministry
- The Jewish leaders continually oppose the apostles

ACTS 5:12-16

"Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico."

(Acts 5:12)

"And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles."
(Acts 2:43)

"And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all." (Acts 4:33)

"Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico."

(Acts 5:12)

LUKE WANTS

US TO SEE THE

MIRACLES

OF THE APOSTLES

LUKE WANTS

US TO HEAR THE

PREACHING

OF THE APOSTLES

WHY?

THE APOSTLES'

MINISTRY IS THE

EXTENSION

OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY

"In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen." (Acts 1:1–2)

"He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God." (Acts 1:3)

ACTS 5:12-16

"Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them."

(Luke 4:40)

"And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well."

(Mark 6:56)

THE APOSTLES'

MINISTRY IS THE

EXTENSION

OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY

ACTS 5:17-42

WHAT WE WILL SEE IN ACTS 5:17-42

- 1.** The apostles are arrested by the high priest and put in prison, then freed by an angel to go preach more (17-26)
- 2.** They are arrested again for preaching in the temple and questioned before the high priest (27-32)
- 3.** The high priest is furious at them, but Gamaliel, a Pharisee, steps in and protects them (33-42)

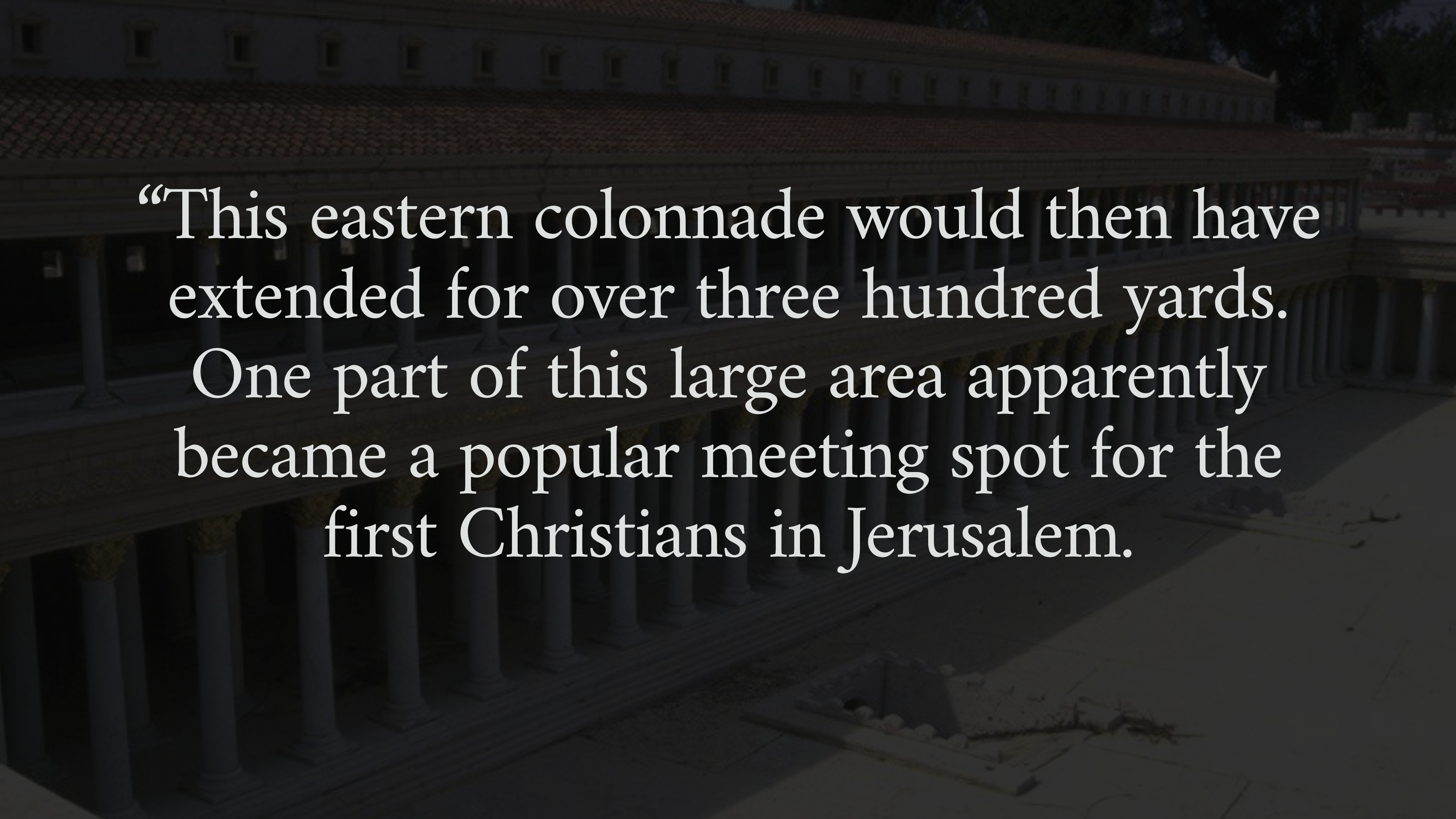
"Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico."

(Acts 5:12)

Solomon's Colonnade







“This eastern colonnade would then have extended for over three hundred yards. One part of this large area apparently became a popular meeting spot for the first Christians in Jerusalem.

The entire colonnade was destroyed during the Jewish war (A.D. 66-70); only the temple platform remains.”

- *Zondervan International Bible Backgrounds
Commentary*















1.

ACTS 5:17-26

ARREST, RELEASE AND **PREACHING**

WHAT WE SEE IN ACTS 5:17-26:

- The high priest arrests and imprisons the apostles overnight
- The next morning, as they attempt to gather a council, they discover the apostles not there
- They find them in the temple (again!) and go to arrest them again (more gently this time)



Sadducees

Pharisees

The High Priest

The Apostles



"Then the captain with the officers went
and brought them, but not by force, for
they were afraid of being stoned
by the people."
(Acts 5:26)

WHAT WE WILL SEE IN ACTS 5:17-42

1. The apostles are arrested by the high priest and put in prison, then freed by an angel to go preach more (17-26)
2. They are arrested again for preaching in the temple and questioned before the high priest (27-32)

2.

ACTS 5:27-32

QUESTIONED BY THE **HIGH PRIEST**

“We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.”

(Acts 5:28)

This is indeed the same council who a short time earlier sentenced Jesus of Nazareth to death. The chief priest and members of the Sanhedrin regarded Jesus' death as just punishment due to him for blaspheming God (Mark 14:63-64)

- *Zondervan International Bible Backgrounds
Commentary*

"But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.""

"And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death."

(Mark 14:61–64)

“We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.”

(Acts 5:28)

"But Peter and the apostles answered,
"We must obey God rather than men."
(Acts 5:29)

WHAT WE SEE IN ACTS 5:27-32:

- The council interrogates the apostles and accuses them of “bringing blood on their hands”
- The apostles hold fast to their convictions about being witnesses for Jesus (just as Jesus did)
- They offer the hope of the gospel (repentance and forgiveness) to the Jewish council

"And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." (Acts 5:32)

3.

ACTS 5:33-42

GAMALIEL AND THE **COUNCIL**

“Gamaliel was famous in Judaism, recognized as the greatest teacher of his day (roughly A.D. 25-50). He was the grandson of Hillel, for whom an entire school of thought was named within Pharisaism.

Among Christians, he is best known for his role as the spiritual father and teacher to the young Saul of Tarsus (Acts 22:3).”

- *Zondervan International Bible Backgrounds
Commentary*

"“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day.”

(Acts 22:3)

WHAT WE SEE IN ACTS 5:27-32:

- Gamaliel steps in to prevent the Pharisees and Sadducees from doing something rash
- They forbid the apostles from preaching about Jesus, beat them, and let them go
- The apostles continue all the more to preach and teach about Jesus in the temple and in homes

SO WHAT

CAN WE

LEARN FROM

THE APOSTLES?

CONVICTION

OVER

COMFORT

WHAT IS A
CONVICTION?

WHAT IS A

A belief that you hold so strongly
that you would rather suffer for it
than surrender it.

CONVICTION?

THE BOOK OF

ACTS

WEEK 10: **ENTER THE HELLENISTS**