

Doctor Luke's 2nd Contemporary History of the beginning Acts in Jesus' Kingdom

In the beginning of this next Master's level English study, we return to the renown historian, Doctor Luke. This is his final contemporary work completed in A.D. 63. It was much circulated in the two volumes over the next 40 years as one set and as part of another package the followers of Jesus referred to as "the New Covenant", which defined "the Faith", expected by Jesus through the revealing of His Will through the Holy Spirit to 9, special "Revelators" in the first roughly 65 years after Jesus ascended to His coronation in Heaven as the King of Kings over all realms (Heaven and Earth). This Treatise is provided to the same recipient of his first Book and, as you will discern, follows the development and spread of this Kingdom and Its interaction with friend and foe. This particular Book is unique of all histories, in that, the accuracy of it has been challenged 1000s of times over the centuries concerning many of Dr. Luke's details. The results being that every challenge has been completely debunked by the finds of other historians and archeologist. It had become so embarrassing to the challengers that they completely stopped. Also, again his talent and integrity have no bias from his beliefs. His tracking includes only details that can once again be studied, used to seek out those involved for verification, and check on the Truth of what the Message provides those at the events and for the reader, hearer or

investigator. A rare talent for anyone, but most rare in a historian and very enjoyable for one reviewing his contemporary data about the continuation and initial beginning (33 years of this intriguing idea has gone by at his writing) of a better kind of Kingdom, which requires all in the Kingdom to strive to be as the King, Jesus. Enjoy your study and work hard and your English usage will continue to expand. Y.E.S tm staff.

Doctor Luke's last contemporary history was compiled and began distribution to the same friend, Theophilus, three years after his first. He initially followed Jesus' work and teachings from A. D. 27-30, in his A.D.60 Treatise. This one follows Jesus' continuing early work through those special disciples He specifically put in place for His leadership of the design, development and teachings in and about His Kingdom. It covers that theme from A.D.30 until early A.D.63, which is when it was delivered to Theophilus and began distribution across the Mediterranean world.

The Text of his Treatise and the audio are provided, as in the previous Lessons, for your best method of study. The questions are, also, to assist you in following his thoughts from the beginning to the end of this contemporary historical account. This is an account of some things that were accomplished over about 30 years from the beginning of the establishment of this new kind of Kingdom. We at Y.E.S.tm wish you well.

A last item: Notice that each "Thought" is again marked as you travel through time from A.D. 30 until Doctor Paul is released from Roman incarceration. He, and others before Doctor Paul, began in Jerusalem and evangelized

for about 33 years, planting community groups (called-out people by Jesus' New Covenant Way) in every city or metroplex they could develop such a group (Jesus' Kingdom). They (the team grows by adding new Evangelist, Prophets and Elders) continue to saturate their local areas and surrounding area and send some to join Dr. Paul's frontline force for evangelizing new areas to be confronted. Dr. Luke joins that 'team' and returns to it, as he stays in one metro area to mature the leaders. An interesting point is that, though, each new planted community of Jesus' Kingdom is responsible only to Him as their Head, they all live, teach and worship Him identically through their existence in the early years and later they begin to erode these Teachings and developed their own standards which disagree with the initial Teaching of the establishing Leaders. As you follow the early history, utilizing this Book as the source of Jesus' Kingdom as defined by Dr. Luke and others he reports upon, you can contrast each new planted Kingdom group and notice the identical likeness folks reform to be.

1st thought

1. In our Introduction, who is the contemporary historian we are using for your Master Level English Lessons? _____ Dr. Paul, _____ Professor John, _____ Dr. Luke

2. T/F _____ Dr, Luke's 2nd contemporary history covers the "Acts" of the first 30+ years of the establishing of Jesus' Kingdom upon Earth?

3. Y/N ___ Were the Apostles (12 Of them) the 1st sent out into Jerusalem to evangelize Jesus' new Way (Jesus' New Covenant Faith)?

4. Y/N ___ Was this Dr. Luke's 4th contemporary History?

5. Y/N ___ In his review of the 1st Treatise does Dr. Luke confirm that it was all about Jesus' activities, until Jesus ascended?

6. Y/N ___ They were a revealing of what Jesus: did and said for 3+ years?

7. Y/N ___ He had given orders concerning the Holy Spirit's coming work with them (the 11) after He leaves. Jesus presented Himself alive after His resurrection and presented many convincing proofs and instruction over a 40-day period after His resurrection?

8. T/F ___ Jesus spoke to these 11 about His Kingdom?

9. Y/N ___ Jesus' final assembly with them was when He ascended in full view of them near Jerusalem?

10. T/F ___ He commanded them to stay in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit (their new Helper) in which they (only them) would be immersed, came to them?

11. Y/N ___ It is clear that these 11 men continued to believe that Israel was God's goal until the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Then, they will understand the Truth about Jesus' Kingdom?

12. Y/N ___ This is Jesus' last remark to them as a group on Earth, then they watch Him ascend until He disappears into the clouds?

13. Y/N ___ Their watching was interrupted by two men in very white clothing, who asked them (11 men) why they continued to gawk at an empty sky?

14. Y/N ___ They assured them that Jesus would return one day the same way He left?

15. Y/N ___ The eleven went back to Jerusalem and united with others that now believed that Jesus was God's Son, which now included Jesus' mother and siblings?

16. Y/N ___ We know that these men devoted themselves to prayer and worship of Jesus, while they awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit?

17. Y/N ___ Sometime after Jesus ascended and before the Holy Spirit comes upon the Apostles (11), they recognized a twelfth Apostle has to be appointed to replace poor Judas. Jesus obviously explained the necessity and supplied the Scripture to back it up. They decide upon two and appoint by lots, Matthias?

18. Y/N ___ They asked by prayer for the Lord Jesus' help in the selection between these two men who had been involved since the beginning. This means that they had been among Jesus' disciples while He did signs, taught and was in difficult situations with the Jewish Rulers, including Jesus' murder, burial, resurrected sightings and likely His ascension?

19. Y/N ___ This first thought is Dr. Luke's opening review and set-up for the rest of the Book about the

beginning “Acts” that explain Jesus’ Kingdom, which Jesus explained in Prof. John’s history in the private time with the Apostles (to be) prior to His crucifixion. The tie between the various other Historians as well as his 1st report seem to be for those beyond Theophilus’ time, because of the dates of their writing?

SUBMIT your answers

2nd thought

1. Y/N ___ Ten days after Jesus’ ascension was Pentecost (God’s commanded Festival), which is when the Jews come to Jerusalem to worship as their Law required at the Temple. Thousands were gathered in the Temple area, as usual. The Twelve were among them in the Temple in the section of the Temple for just Jewish men. In this massive crowd there began a terrifying noise like a tornado but without the wind, which filled this part of the Temple. Then, in view of the crowd, fire came and divided over the heads of the Twelve and stayed upon them. The Holy Spirit filled the Twelve and they began to speak in many of the foreign languages of the countries the Jewish men came from?

2. Y/N ___ The Jewish crowd in the men’s section of the Temple were devout worshipers from many parts of the Earth. They all had native languages they knew as well as Hebrew, which was used in the Temple areas. These men were astonished and amazed at this event. They heard the Twelve speaking in their native tongues! The Twelve were all Galileans and known to not be very good at any language except Greek and Aramaic.

They recognized them by the clothes they wore, as all areas had recognizable clothing. This further amazed them. Also, the Twelve were walking among the crowd speaking recognized mighty acts or quotes of God's Scriptures. This was an incredible and unusual event, to which the crowd wondered what it could mean?

3. Y/N ___ They talked about it among the crowd until someone suggested that these Twelve must have gotten drunk early?

4. Y/N ___ The crowd began, likely, to laugh at that possibility. Peter with the eleven others went to a raised area to speak. The Temple had great acoustics built into its structure, so a raised voice can be heard a great distance. Peter teaches the 1st (key) Message about the new King (Jesus) and the Kingdom being established 'TODAY', May 28,AD30?

5. Y/N ___ Peter ask for their attention, so he might explain this event?

6. Y/N ___ He says that they 'must' hear what he is to say. These Twelve men are not drunk! This is what the Prophet Joel said would begin the establishment of God's new Way, the new Kingdom?

7. Y/N ___ Peter then quotes from Joel's prophetic Letter from centuries before. It was a well-known passage among them. Yahweh (the Jew's God's Name) had said at the beginning of His new Kingdom, would arrive His Holy Spirit, who would be given unto all people in His Kingdom. Joel then explains how many will be affected by the Spirit's work among them?

8. Y/N ___ The Holy Spirit adds a short confirmation. “And they shall prophecy!” in the middle of the quote from Joel?

9. Y/N ___ Then, in Joel’ prophecy, a spectacular group of ‘signs’ are given, that seems to match the last days of Jesus, surrounding His crucifixion and resurrection. They were to happen, likely as metaphors, “before” the specific ‘Day’ is to happen. Peter is saying this event is the beginning of that Day. And more exciting is that from ‘this’ Day every person that “calls on the Lord’s Name shall be saved”! Would you say, since Jews had been waiting for centuries for the Messiah and His Kingdom, that these folks were excited?

10. Y/N ___ So, there it is. The Holy Spirit has taught through Peter the first lesson the world will hear, share or read, using a Jewish Old Law Prophet to teach it. This took about a minute and now these devout Jews understand what this event means and that the New Covenant of God is now to replace the Old, not to mention that they only need to call upon the Lord’s name to be saved. Wow! So, does “calling upon the Lord’s Name” mean call upon Jesus and His authority?

11. Y/N ___ They think they know, but Peter is not finished. Now he begins to explain Who the “Lord” is. Peter exhorts that they must continue to listen, closely?

12. Y/N ___ Jesus came from God and performed countless miracles for 3+ years, which God obviously approved! Peter speaks, “All of you men are aware of this.” His murder was always “known by God” and His Plan included it! You set the plan to have the

Romans “crucify Him!” Then, due to Jesus perfectness, God, as Planned, “resurrected Him because ‘death’ cannot hold a Spirit that has no SIN!” God had to resurrect this sinless Son? (So, Jesus was resurrected, OK, so what?)

13. Y/N ___ Peter goes on and quotes a Psalm that describes Jesus’ ordeal, His resurrection by God, He being seated at God’s right hand (part of the Ruler position), and face to face with God for eternity? (So, Jesus is ruling from heaven with God, so what?)

14. Y/N ___ Now Peter (actually the Holy Spirit is presenting the lesson) says he must bring something up they probably had not thought out carefully. David wrote some of the Psalms (73), so you might have missed that his tomb (in which he was physically buried) can be seen just outside the Temple walls! Right now! So, David was revealing that the Christ was to be resurrected from death! He then had to be living upon Earth! David was not resurrected. Only the Christ was resurrected by David’s Psalm and David revealed it would happen. He knew what would happen, but we, Today “are witnesses (the Twelve) having seen Jesus resurrected!” He has since left and is ruling with the Father. Too, He has given this event as evidence of His Kingdom?

15. Y/N ___ Peter confirms that Jesus was the ‘Lord’ of David’s Psalm as he quotes another, which defines David’s Lord as ruling beside God in heaven?

16. Y/N ___ Peter says that, thus, you must conclude by Scripture, Jesus’ activities and His Resurrection/ascension witnesses, that Jesus was and is

the expected “Lord” and “Christ”, and you all murdered Him. Which says to them that they are in a seriously difficult position by that sin, with their God?

17. Y/N ___ You have to ask yourself as you read this historical report by Dr. Luke as to whether these Jewish men believed what Peter concluded. Jesus does seem to have fulfilled these prophecies and had been all that was expected of their Christ and Lord, but they murdered Him! The only way they or anyone would plead “Guilty” to that offense against God’s Son would be that they had to have been deeply convinced by these events, the three minute sermonette by the Spirit (not Peter except as the mouthpiece), Who knows all men’s hearts because He is God, and was aware of what was needed to be said to these Jewish men, such that, it would move some to be in tremendous remorse and sorrow, thus, they were stabbed in their consciences for their part in the murder. If you had been guilty of this horrendous crime against the living God and His Son, Jesus, would you be as affected as these men?

18. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke both reports their remorse (or repentance) and their response to Peter’s words. They were “stabbed in their hearts”. Then a large number of them turned to these Twelve and asked if there was any way to correct their obvious serious status with God, “... what should we do?”. No way all these Jews responded that way, but in such a large crowd several thousand felt compelled to seek these disciples out, instead of priest or other Jews for any “Word from God”, hopeful they might ease their grief for offending God so deeply?

19. Y/N ___ Once again the Holy Spirit picked Peter to be His mouthpiece for the opening Kingdom statement that will be repeated thousands of times by every correct evangelist, prophet, elder, and member of Jesus' new Way/Kingdom/called-out group, over the next roughly 60 years. To be one that "calls upon the Lord's Name" is about to be concisely explained by Jesus from His Throne in heaven through Peter (he, remember, is Jesus' key) for these desperate men to consider. You see they had no competing denominations or cults. Only one competent inspired Message that they agree to do or not do, depending on, if they being reconciled to God was important to them. These are hungry and begging for His answer, not Peter's?

20. Y/N ___ Peter reveals to them two things as being absolutely necessary, that the Holy Spirit reveals through this Galilean fisherman, that is now Jesus' new Way to be reconciled with God: 1) All of you MUST willingly reform your mind and life!, 2) Each of you MUST allow yourself to be immersed in the Name of Jesus Christ. If you do these two things will God forgive all their past sins and allow them to be reconciled to Him?

21. Y/N ___ Then, Peter announces another wonderful thing God will give these Kingdom people. It appears that this 'gift' is at the same moment these folks are immersed. God sees your repented mind, and your willingness to reform completely to do to His Will. He sees these things in each person coming into someone's hands, and allowing themselves to be immersed in water, where God seeing these right-minded beings, co-immersed (with Jesus) or co-buried souls, He transferred

them into His Son's Kingdom. He and only He, at that nanosecond, forgives all past sins, adds them to His Son's Kingdom and has an additional 'gift' for them. He gives to each of them the Holy Spirit, Who is His heavenly 'seal', assuring each one of the inheritance of eternal life with God. This guarantee cannot be broken by anyone except the receiver of the gift, falling from God's Grace by their later rejection of Jesus and His new Way. This is part of the Joel expectation, but not all?

22. Y/N ___ Their great hope was that there was some means of reconciliation with God and the Holy Spirit gave them the only, unique, new Way God will accept anyone, anywhere, in any generation as being "born again"; and He is the only One that can 'add' or transfer anyone into His Son's Kingdom?

23. Y/N ___ Did they immediately seek to be immersed?

24. T/F ___ Dr. Luke reveals that those determined to seek God's new Way, met with the Apostles, where Peter continued to testify and exhort them with needed information about willingness to reform to God's Will in this new Way, what is accomplished in the water grave, and information concerning this special 'gift' of the Holy Spirit, because their present way (under Moses Law) was not acceptable anymore, if they were to be in Jesus' Kingdom?

25. Y/N ___ Of however many thousands that assembled with the Apostles and stayed through these instructions, were there any of this crowd of men that gladly responded to this new Way?

26. Y/N ___ Is the pronoun “They”, describing the three thousand that were immersed and added that first day?

27. Y/N ___ These ‘held fast’ in joining the Apostles for hearing and discerning continuing information that they needed for reforming to the new Kingdom life?

28. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke gives a breakdown of four areas they received teachings in: 1) All the Teachings of the Apostles, 2) of the new ‘fellowship’, 3) of the breaking of ‘the bread’, 4) of the new ‘prayers’?

29. Y/N ___ The ‘Apostles teachings’ would recognize their authority, their words and their likeness to Jesus that all must reform their ways to be like?

30. Y/N ___ The new ‘fellowship’ was to be stronger than family, community or Jewish bonds and needed, thus, many details?

31. Y/N ___ The ‘breaking of “the” bread’ was concerning the Lord’s Supper. The importance of Jesus’ ‘body’ and ‘blood’. The old Law was dead, but the new Way had one weekly event Jesus expected all to participate in, together until His return. (He was in spirit among them and they weekly were to remember His actions until He returned for the Kingdom for the beginning of the eternal Kingdom.)?

32. Y/N ___ ‘the Prayers’ were now only to be in Jesus’ Name. And prayer was much different in this new Way, as God (their Father) loved to hear from all and each. Who to pray for was new. And much more?

33. Y/N ___ The genuineness of each and all of this new Kingdom was seen by their togetherness over their old ways. Needs came up due to Jewish rejection of them and they all contributed to each other with shelter and goods?

34. Y/N ___ Their time together and with the Apostles daily, utilizing the Temple, was done by all. Many 'confirming' miracles were done by the Apostles. They then shared meals together and shared their faith together?

35. Y/N ___ There was a general shared attitude and expression of praise to God for what He and Jesus had done for man and the city took notice of them?

36. Y/N ___ More were added to them by the Lord that accepted His new Way. Daily this Kingdom grew as more folks were being saved and added by God?

Submit your answers

3rd thought

1. Y/N ___ Because the Apostles have a mandate from their King (Jesus) to "make disciples" in every nation, they are using the Temple as a tool to achieve it. The Temple in Jerusalem was used, too, by Jesus for 3+ years, so they are continuing to teach the Truth to the tribe on Earth (Jews) that has been honored by God for many generations. Many people (mostly Jews) come to the Temple daily and in massive crowds from many countries, multiple times annually. They, as presented in

the first two thoughts of Dr. Luke's 2nd volume, now have the information that could not be presented until the Kingdom was established. Jesus' death had an incredible, eternal effect on the eternal destiny of any and all souls of mankind. The authority of Jesus is now in effect, too (all is done in Jesus' Name.). The new Way allows the individual to confess any sin directly to the Father, which will be forgiven as long as the person reforms their actions to the New Covenant teaching of Jesus' Kingdom. This is much different than the old Jewish system of sacrifices and worship. The Holy Spirit was in control of the 12 Apostles, to insure that the correct Teachings from God's Throne are being taught. Eternal destiny is now clearly defined as available for all. Jesus' Resurrection is the key for all that will be brought into His Kingdom, as they are confident now of their resurrection, having become part of the eternal Kingdom. There are a few more things these Apostles can share with any listener, but the Spirit will know when and what those are because He, too, is eternal, and He knows the minds of men and their needs. Lastly, the Apostles have been given miraculous powers equal to what Jesus displayed, so they can confirm what they are teaching is from God's Throne. With all this in mind, though we are not told when Peter and John went to the Temple, it is certainly not their first time and will not be the last? (It appears to be within the 1st year of the establishment of the Kingdom on Pentecost A.D. 30, but not sure.)

2. Y/N ___ The Jews have a morning prayer time in the Temple and many locals attend it daily. Peter and John, now living and working as Jesus' Apostles in

Jerusalem, go to it to develop new contacts (not to pray the Jewish dead way) with many other Jews?

3. Y/N ___ The gate into the Temple area is named 'Beautiful', where a man that was lame from birth sat regularly, so he could beg for help from those going in or out of the Temple?

4. Y/N ___ The man noticed Peter and John as they entered the Temple and begged for a gift?

5. Y/N ___ The Apostles got his attention and Peter said truthfully that he had no money but something else. "... in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, you must get up and walk! Instantly, he did so. He ran into the Temple, jumping and walking, he praised God for His kindness."?

6. Y/N ___ Many heard him and recognized him as the beggar and they gathered in amazement and wonder as he held on to Peter and John as his hero's. They gathered the crowd at Solomon's Porch, which was the most distant point in the Temple. As the word spread, the crowd grew. Peter said to these men that gathered that he and John did not have this kind of power (healing the man), but God has given such to Jesus, His Servant, Whom He has glorified!?

7. Y/N ___ Peter continues, "... Whom you all delivered up and denied before Pilate, when he wanted to release Him!"?

8. T/F ___ "You all denied the Holy and Righteous One, and you asked that a murderer be granted to you!"?

9. T/F ___ "... You killed the Prince of Life, Whom God raised from the dead, of Whom we are witnesses!"?

10. Y/N ___ Did Peter and John declare the Truth about Jesus and the part that the Jews in Jerusalem played in Jesus' murder?

11. T/F ___ Peter says that 'the Faith' in His Name not 'faith', which means that he and John had 'faith' but they also knew, believed and taught 'the Faith' of Jesus' Kingdom?

12. T/F ___ He continues, the fact that these two are Apostles of 'the Faith' of Jesus' Kingdom, and doing this miracle in the "Name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene", was confirmed by Jesus as He healed this lame man?

13. Y/N ___ "YES!" "The Faith ..." comes only through a correct understanding of the new Way of Jesus' Kingdom, thus, that understanding has allowed this man to be strong, which the crowd could not deny? (He had no 'faith'.)

14. Y/N ___ With this now established correctly, because the crowd was wanting to know, and the Holy Spirit knowing their minds, had Peter clearly explain what they needed to understand?

15. T/F ___ Then, Peter with that explained, begins to help this crowd to make a choice. This is the summary of what he taught them: God knows you all did to Jesus what you did, because you did not have a clue about His death's purpose. God used what He knew you Jews would do and had it in His master Plan for man's hope for salvation. He also had the entire Plan, including what you

would do, revealed in the Prophets in your Scriptures for hundreds of years! The Christ of the Father had to be murdered to be man's perfect sacrifice to appease His wrath for your sins. Which now provides man a new and eternal Way to reconciliation with God?

16. T/F ___ Then Peter follows what they had done and God's use of it for their good, with what they must do for reconciliation. They all must with deep remorse, willingly reform in mind and life to 'the Faith' or new Way and turn to the Source of it confidently, so He can remove all your past sins. This will in your 'new birth', create peace and refreshing confidence in Him. All this comes from God?

17. T/F ___ Jesus, then, is given to you as your Head, High Priest, Friend, Brother, King, and Example for your reformed mind and life. He will be available until the restoration of all things comes. (This specific event is when Jesus turns back all authority to God and the eternal Kingdom which includes all of Jesus' Kingdom, good angels and all people of faith that lived before Jesus' Kingdom began.) That 'Time' is already set by God?

18. T/F ___ God had talked through His Prophets of these things, which the Jews were given, over a period of about a thousand years?

19. T/F ___ The clearest and most revealing, though, (Peter declares) was from Moses, that no sane person of faith could miss. Peter quotes it out of the Text of Moses, it was not given to the rebellious older generation, but to the 2nd generation that went into the

promised land. God had promised it to Abraham, about his bloodline-the Jews?

20. T/F ___ Peter continues to declare that there was not a Prophet since Samuel (roughly 1105 b.c.) that had not written about the new King and His Kingdom and you are suppose to be, thus, the sons of the Prophets and the Covenant, which Yahweh (God's Name) made with Abraham (their tribal forefather), whom God made an oath and promise to, due to his faith in God, "... And in your (Abraham's) Seed all the families of the Earth shall be blessed."?

21. T/F ___ Peter has covered much that these Jewish men can recall of their pass under God's control and choice. In his close, Peter relates it all to the correct Person as the fulfillment of every Word God had left them as Scripture. He describes what God has now provided them: 1) He had a part of His very Self developed into a man, 2) He sent Jesus to you, Who you witnessed, 3) He blesses the life of each of you that turns to His Son, and reforms of your evil?

22. Y/N ___ The report of the miracle had worked its way through the Temple and word of the Apostles teaching at Solomon's Porch at the edge of the Gentile Court. The Sadducees were irate because they were told the Apostles were declaring a general resurrection for all based upon Jesus' resurrection and their eye-witness of it. They sent guards to stop them and arrest them for tomorrow's morning Council, which they did?

23. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke, though, reports that the excellent lesson taught had a dramatic effect upon those

men listening to Peter. A large number were persuaded, and the Lord added them to Jesus' Kingdom by the same process described in the 2nd thought, or Peter's first inspired declaration of how to be reconciled to God and what He will do and expect of those that 'call upon Jesus' Name'. So, now he reports there were five thousand (5,000) men in the Kingdom of Jesus' new Way? (They have added about 2000 men.)

24. Y/N ___ The next morning a large number of Rulers and the Council met for this trial of Peter and John. Often the trials allowed for an audience to attend the proceedings. This case had a large crowd there. It began with placement of defendants to intimidate them by the Council. The one appointed to lead the questioning ask them, "By whose power or by whose name have you done this?"

25. Y/N ___ What! The crowd must have said. Are you accepting the miracle as being done by these two men, and if so, why are they on trial?

26. Y/N ___ God (Holy Spirit) knows why and uses this opportunity to use Peter again as His mouth piece to give correct information for both the crowd and the Council?

27. T/F ___ Peter uses their mistake of questioning, by politely and correctly saying that if the miracle of kindness is being questioned, as to Who made him a whole man, the only honest answer to you and to the crowd is, "that by the NAME of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead! By HIM, this man stands before you (the

beggar was there as a confirmation to Peter's truthful statement), healthy!"?

28. T/F ___ Peter after confirming it "is" Jesus' authority, doubles down, by using Scripture to note confirmation again, that prophesy to them who claim 'Scripture wisdom', clearly point to both that Jesus "is" the Stone the Rulers rejected and the Keystone for the new Way?

29. T/F ___ Further, Peter declares that, thus, in this new era, "... and Salvation is in no other [only Jesus], for neither is there [in this era of the new Way] any other NAME under heaven given among men by which we 'must' be saved!"?

30. Y/N ___ They were in shock, as was the crowd, at the boldness and the presentation of what they thought were men of the streets. They realized these men had been educated by Jesus (Who was [in Spirit] in the room working through these two Galilean fishermen)?

31. Y/N ___ Besides the presentation, was the fact that the completely healed man was in the room. The Council was speechless?

32. Y/N ___ They ordered them all out of the chamber and tried to find a solution to this situation, which now everyone in Jerusalem would know about. How do we keep this from spreading?

33. Y/N ___ They decided to give them a stern warning, "Under no condition are you to teach or to speak in Jesus' Name again!" To which they both replied, "You must decide if it is right before God to listen to you rather

than God, for we can only speak what we have seen and heard.”?

34. Y/N ___ They did not want to let them go but did with a second warning, because the miracle was standing in front of everybody and the people knew it was truly a miracle?

35. Y/N ___ Peter and John went to the congregation and told of the event (likely also found out about the new converts). Everyone was overcome with God’s Grace working with them and had a prayer. The mindset was of praise and humility toward their God and King?

36. Y/N ___ They prayed to the Father, Who designed and created everything and knew and predicted mankind’s Leaders nonsensical stand against Him in the Psalms. They were, like Jesus, now experiencing it. They begged for courage to continue to evangelize the Message of His salvation and for Him to confirm them by providing them wonders and signs for those they will continue to confront, all through the NAME of His Holy Servant Jesus?

37. Y/N ___ To show God’s pleasure with these serving His Son, the place shook violently, and they continued to speak powerfully and correctly, concerning Jesus and His new Way?

SUBMIT your answers

4th thought

1. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke has reported in this early confrontation between the same Rulers and now, Jesus' Apostles, that they have a new non-Jewish theme. Jesus, too, constantly confirmed that He was sent by God, that He was God's Son and the reason for hope for reconciliation with God, and that His new Way or Kingdom was God's only new Way to receive eternal blessings from Him?

2. Y/N ___ Since the event on Pentecost A.D. 30, these Apostles of Jesus had created in Jerusalem a serious effort by: proclaiming the Kingdom has now begun, Jesus was the only and unique King of that Kingdom and was ruling from the 'right hand of God' as the Scriptures predicted the Son of man and the Christ would. They, as His Apostles, taught His new Way, which simply required for all that were persuaded that Jesus is that prophesied Prophet, and have committed to be willing to "reform their minds and lives to His Will", too, to be immersed and continue to learn what Jesus demands they must reform their minds and lives to be, if they desired to be pleasing to Him, by which they are guaranteed an eternal home with He and the Father. God at each of their water grave's (co-immersed with Jesus) would by His power: 1) forgive all past sins and provide a simple method to have future one's forgiven, 2) add (or transfer) each one into His Son's Kingdom, where all His eternal blessing will be given, 3) give each new citizen of that unique Kingdom another 'gift', which was the 'seal', proving His authority and guarantee of eternal life, if they continue to 'reform their minds and lives' to His Son's likeness, until their time on Earth ends. That seal was the Holy Spirit (Who is

eternal), and is deeply involved in each person's life, as well as, insuring what the Apostles taught and He constantly confirmed their Teachings. These Apostles confirmed all they taught by miracles only God can do, just as Jesus did. Included in every lesson they taught is an absolute rejection of Jesus still being dead, rather He had "resurrected from the dead on the third (3rd) day", just as He said He would and these Apostles (and hundreds of others) had spent time with Him after His 'resurrection' and witnessed Jesus' ascension off Earth to the Throne to be shared with the Father. Can you see why these Jewish leaders, who obsessed on the Old Covenant from Moses as the only God given plan of salvation, became very upset?

3. Y/N ___ Peter and John had proven in the court of the Council that they were obviously the new Way leaders, they also were courageous for their Cause. That Cause was the war for the souls of all men before they die and are judged by their life on Earth by Jesus' New Covenant words (as Jesus explained in Prof. John's contemporary history, ["...the Word I speak will judge you all on the last Day."]). Their zeal and confidence was not wild or physically abusive, but rather, persuading men with confirmed facts of Jesus' Way and reality?

4. Y/N ___ They were released, which when studied, makes the Rulers look quite pitiful to those that saw the trial, including many of their own ranks?

5. Y/N ___ They returned to their brethren and had a wonderful moment with their God, which unified them and boosted their confidence?

6. Y/N ___ They had many needs for the congregation due to the continuing growth and the Jews ostracizing them from any work in their controlled area?

7. Y/N ___ They shared equally with each other as needs arose, considering that all they had possessed was now equally the 'Body's' (the congregation of Christ Jesus)?

8. Y/N ___ The Apostles continued to evangelize about Jesus and the 'resurrection' with confirming miracles (proving God's Grace was with them)?

9. Y/N ___ Even with all this daily and constant growth, the congregation, as one body, insured no need was not met. They even sold their property to do so and gave it all to the Apostles for distribution?

10. Y/N ___ One of the brothers in Christ's Kingdom/ called out group/body/congregation, called Barnabas, is brought up (he will become important later in Dr. Luke's Report) as a deeply confident disciple of Jesus?

11. Y/N ___ In contrast to Barnabas were the disciples (husband and wife) that did exactly the same thing Barnabas did, yet they erred gravely?

12. Y/N ___ Was there any difference between what Barnabas did and they did?

13. Y/N ___ Does selling your property for the Cause of Christ in Jerusalem's situation seem to be a bad thing to do?

14. Y/N ___ If you decide to only give 'a part' of the sales money to the needs of the congregation, is that not still acceptable to Jesus?

15. Y/N ___ If you hold back 'a part' of the sales money and claim that you gave the complete sales money to the needs of the congregation, is that a lie?

16. Y/N ___ Is this what the husband and wife did?

17. Y/N ___ We are not told by Dr. Luke what their motive was for telling the congregation it was the full sales amount, but could their reason for lying have been a good one?

18. Y/N ___ Since the congregation in the mind of God is Jesus' body, they must have been aware that they were lying to God?

19. Y/N ___ Since they thought they could hid the truth about the money, they told Peter that they only received the lesser amount. Did God accept their sacrifice for Jesus Cause?

20. Y/N ___ Were their motives the cause for God's action against them?

21. Y/N ___ Because of the severe judgement against them, was God certain they would not confess and reform to His Will?

22. Y/N ___ Peter tells the wife that she had decided to test the Lord's Spirit. So, she knew she was not doing what the Spirit had taught the congregation to do and seems to have known He would know their motives. Since they could have said they only gave 'a part' of the sale money, they premeditated their lie, testing God's new Way of thinking?

23. Y/N ___ The cost and judgement by God for this sin brought great fear among the called-out group and

people throughout the city as the word of the event spread. God was acting just as He had on several occasions to evil, rebel Jews?

24. Y/N ___ This scared everyone, so the Apostles performed many miracles confirming God was still active and kind, but was not to be taken lightly, rather very seriously?

25. Y/N ___ The Apostles, because of the congregation's size, met on the large Solomon's porch for teaching the Kingdom's citizens. Though everyone respected the Apostles, many were scared to associate with them in fear of this event?

26. Y/N ___ Soon, the numbers, again, of those in Jerusalem began to grow, those who were being persuaded by them, both men and women. They were being 'added' or transferred by God into Jesus' Kingdom?

27. Y/N ___ Not only folks from Jerusalem but the area, were being placed on the street, such that if Peter's shadow covered them, they would receive healing and evil demon possession, also, removed. Can you imagine the crowds and the communities talk about this amazing thing? (Dr. Luke is reporting medical events he knew were accurate as a doctor and for all his contemporary readers or hearers to investigate for accuracy.)

28. Y/N ___ Since this new Way was being sought by everyone and confirmed by God, the Sadducees of the Jewish Rulers were losing all control of their headquarters (Jerusalem). Anywhere the Apostles showed-up the Rulers were left behind and this new Way (Jesus' Kingdom) was the rage. They had very little influence

left. They were insanely jealous of the Apostle's influence and decided to stop it?

29. Y/N ___ They arrested them all and put them in the large public prison in town, not their small prison. During the night, the Lord sent an angel to them. He opened the cell doors and led them out and commanded them to go early and once again teach in the Temple (not the streets) all the things folks need to understand about this new Life?

30. Y/N ___ So, mid-morning when they always had their Council court, they went to get the prisoners and the cells were empty, yet all the cells were locked, and all the guards were in place and no one had heard any noise all night. The captain of the guard came and informed the Council. There was a suspicion that something unusual had happened?

31. Y/N ___ They obviously were looking for them, and they found them. They were all in the Temple grounds, teaching the people and had been there since first light! Would you have gone to arrest them again?

32. Y/N ___ The captain and a few officers went and asked if they would join them in the council-room and they all did. The soldiers were fearful that the crowds in their Temple would stone them if they became abusive. The Twelve were placed in the spot in front of the glaring eyes of the Council and the High Priest began the questioning?

33. Y/N ___ "Did we not give you all strict orders not to teach in this Name? But look around! You have 'filled'

Jerusalem with your doctrine, and you wish to bring this man's blood upon us!"?

34. Y/N ___ There are several things about this answer to the Council. Did more than one Apostle speak the answer?

35. Y/N ___ As irritating as that would be: the first two comments answer their charge: yes, and yes! But they do not stop. Another Apostle adds, "God exalted Him" (meaning Jesus)! One defined Him, "the Prince and Savior!" Another confirms Jesus' present power and position, "to His (God's) right hand!" They heard the reason, "to exhibit 'reform' to Israel" and Jesus' offer to them, "and forgiveness of sins." One followed that, "And we (these Twelve) are their (Israel) and Jesus' witness of these sayings!" Another, "and so is the Holy Spirit!" And still another, "Whom God (Yahweh) has given (already happened a lot of times)!" Lastly, "to those who obey Him!" Would the 'doctrine' they stated (which was confirmed accusation), the concise breakdown of their 'doctrine' and authority, along with the 12 taking turns in their joint answer, have provoked you to want these men dead?

36. Y/N ___ Rage is a horrible thing, particularly where a group all have it at the same time. Things happen that generally would not have. Fortunately, among them is Gamaliel (we still possess some of his writings in the Jewish Talmud), who is not out of control and ask that the prisoners be removed for some time to discuss their fate and they were?

37. Y/N ___ He gives examples of other groups that were false and their fate (they did not rule). Then, he says that they 'must' stay away from these and dismiss them! If these men's doctrine is of human origin, it will also go away. "BUT! If it is from God, you cannot stop them, lest you be found fighting God."?

38. Y/N ___ The fact is that he did calm them down by this strange remark. Had the year or so of the incredible events these Twelve did daily throughout Jerusalem and the Temple without demanding the lives of the murderers of their King and their 'doctrine' for the new Way, which all Jews knew God was going to provide through His Messiah (Christ in Greek), mixed with the chorus of disciples who claimed they had seen and talked with Jesus after His resurrection on the third day and witnessed His ascension to His Throne to rule in heaven; and they actually did cause Jesus' murder by the Romans in a slick plan to get rid of His challenge to set-up His Kingdom, with the continuous miraculous actions they did, likely, all play a part in Gamaliel's declaration, "You must stay away from these men and let them go!"?

39. Y/N ___ The Council calmed down, had them flogged and let them go, after saying again they must stop teaching in Jesus' Name?

40. Y/N ___ The Apostles quickly ran away and never spoke out again, fearful of what the Council would do to them and their families, next time?

41. Y/N ___ Actually, Dr. Luke reports that they were rejoicing due to the fact that they had been allowed

to suffer physically, because of their efforts for Jesus' Cause and acts in His Name?

42. Y/N ___ He then reports that the Twelve continued to evangelize every day in the Temple and house to house throughout Jerusalem that Jesus was the unique, only Christ, with obviously zero concern of the Council's threat?

43. Y/N ___ As we are allowed to view the forming of Jesus' first Kingdom called-out congregation in Jerusalem, it is clear it is not a furious, war machine overthrowing the present governments. It had a new kind of method of displacement, which is offered to all. They continued for years, relentlessly saturating their area, even zealously in difficult and dangerous moments. They practiced a new kind of 'family life' among them-equality and involvement with any needed care. Their lives were being transformed into Jesus' likeness in their: words, actions, minds and motives, which affected everyone they came in contact with. Their daily prayer, study for reforms (lead by the Apostles only, who were the only ones that taught what was commanded from the Throne of God), inclusion of all, unlikeness to any culture man had known, and their genuine care for the eternal destiny of any and all mankind was proven by their never ceasing saturation of their area with Jesus' hope. And they had reasonable answers from God for their new Way, they were His answers?

SUBMIT your answers

5th thought

1. Y/N ___ We have witnessed that not everyone was genuine. We, here, will see that mistakes, too, can be made. This is a big one! Whenever folks that are incapable of sustaining themselves are deserted or forgotten, someone will take advantage of it to form a 'better plan' or 'new' way by making a big deal of the problem. Notice how this one was handled. The normal differences between "Grecian" Jews and "Hebrew" Jews had for centuries been a major Jewish problem. These are now both in Jesus' Kingdom. There is a potential major split: the Grecian widows are not having their needs met and the Hebrews were responsible for the daily distribution. Should the past differences be honored and split the congregation?

2. Y/N ___ The problem was presented to those that handle the distribution. Word came to the Apostles, the Jesus appointed Leaders most like Him (with help from the Holy Spirit). They handled the problem by demanding they split up?

3. Y/N ___ All governing leaders make the decisions for the rest of their disciples or citizens, except Jesus'. The Apostles called the entire congregation together (no cell phones). It was a massive group (likely used Solomon's porch to meet). They presented the problem at hand and said they must not stop what they are supposed to be doing. You all must handle this Jesus' way. You find 7 men to handle this ever-growing group, who are known to be men of Jesus' likeness and action. Present them to us and we will put them over these needs. Our job is to evangelize the lost, teach you in

your reforms and pray. Did the entire group find their directions acceptable?

4. Y/N ___ Do we know of any that disagreed or tried to cause some better way or split?

5. Y/N ___ Did the congregation then choose 7 men (all Grecian) to attend to the distribution with the Hebrews?

6. Y/N ___ Did the Apostles accept their choices?

7. What two things did the Apostles do as they confirmed their appointments: ___ they prayed for them, ___ they laid hands upon them, ___ they gave them a special authority to rule

8. Y/N ___ Did the Apostles then continue to add more disciples to Jesus' Kingdom?

9. Y/N ___ After all that the Rulers had witnessed, seen and heard about the new Way of the resurrected King, Jesus, these most difficult of people in Jerusalem (the Rulers and their followers), began to reason that Jesus' new Way was the answer and the fulfillment from God (Yahweh). Many of the Rulers became 'obedient to 'the Faith' (They had become persuaded that Jesus was the Prophet of Moses, God's Son, repented, convinced God that they were willing to reform to His new Way, allowed themselves to be immersed and began to learn the Way of Jesus' likeness and evangelized others. Does it seem that when Truth is seen and heard and presented accurately, over several years, as It has been, that even the most difficult can become convinced?

10. Y/N ___ The report by Dr. Luke now goes back to one of the seven great workers for Jesus and a very special event he was actively doing in Jerusalem. This is probably in the third year of evangelizing, lead by the Apostles. They had the miraculous gifts to confirm everything they said was from Jesus concerning Jesus' new Way (or Kingdom), as well as explaining Who Jesus is (not was). The congregation had become so large, it was in need of new special evangelistic workers, who were called Prophets, and Stephen was one of them. There will be others as the Kingdom continues to grow and spread to other geographical areas. Remember the Apostles had prayed over the seven men and laid hands upon each of them. This is the only difference between others sharing with others the Good News of Jesus and those seven men. These seven, though, can now confirm what they are teaching by equal miracles as the Twelve have been doing?

11. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke uses Stephen as an example of the added prophet's activity and ability, which now they have by the laying on of the Apostles hands. Later, Dr. Luke will present something the Apostles could do, which these seven could not do. Stephen is very active in going to the many synagogues in Jerusalem (they were reported to be hundreds like this Freeman group)?

12. Y/N ___ This particular synagogue was made up of families from the Roman class known as Freeman, meaning they were Jewish families that were Roman citizens. These were from specific parts of the Roman Empire that had colonies or approval by Rome as free cities or provinces. They had Stephen come into their

synagogue (Most synagogues had a period at the end of their service, which allowed visitors to speak words of encouragement, which Dr. Luke will reveal was used often by Dr. Paul in his work.), where Stephen was explaining the new Way of Jesus?

13. Y/N ___ He, like the Apostles and the new Prophets, because the Holy Spirit was speaking through him, was able to clarify the errors they were making in their use of the Scriptures of the old Law and showed them how the new Way (the New Covenant that God had said was coming in Jeremiah 31:31f and Isaiah) was the predicted fulfillment in God's Scriptures. Were they convinced?

14. Y/N ___ Those in the synagogue thanked him but did not agree?

15. Y/N ___ These families became so outraged that they decided to pay men to lie about Stephen, defining him as a "blasphemer", which they could then use to take Stephen before the Jewish Council for trial?

16. Y/N ___ They accused Stephen of two things: 1) Blaspheme against Moses, and 2) Blaspheme against God?

17. Y/N ___ The leaders of the synagogue, then, agree to bind Stephen and take him before the Sanhedrin (the Roman name for the Jewish Council) for trial?

18. Y/N ___ They had the lying witnesses testify that Stephen has continuously: 1) spoke against this 'holy' place (since the new Way replaced all the Temple structured process and workers, its sacrifices, the way to

have God forgive all and any sin, replacement of the three annual Festivals with a weekly congregating, locally, to have a memorial of Jesus' physical sacrifice and His blood sacrifice done once for all times, remembered the cross' purpose until Jesus returns, a new prayer structure by individuals not priest and all worship done, was through Jesus' Name, that the Kingdom of Jesus replaced the 'chosen' nation [Israel] with a new fellowship, which is closer than blood; and he used their Scriptures to confirm Jesus), 2) and the Law (God said It-Moses Law-) was replaced by the New Covenant of the someday returning Christ or Son of Man, with a much better, eternal Covenant?

19. Y/N ___ More specifically, they gave two instances of Stephen's blasphemes: 1) That Jesus, the Nazarene, will destroy the Temple (as part of the destruction of the Jewish government and Jerusalem), and 2) that Jesus, the Nazarene, will change the customs which Moses delivered to them?

20. Y/N ___ These teachings, if accurate, for sure would be deeply disturbing to these corrupt leaders (They had done much worst to Moses Law by their traditions of changes to God's old Covenant given to them through Moses.). Were any of these inaccurate as far as the new Way of Jesus was concerned?

21. Y/N ___ Were all of them completely blasphemous, if you held to the old way of Moses (which now is annulled by Jesus' new Way)?

22. Y/N ___ So, Stephen, standing and bound, looks to the Council as if he is in some kind of deep peace with

himself. Almost angelic, as men would evaluate Stephen's demeanor?

23. Y/N ___ The trial's leader of the investigation begins the questioning by asking him if there is any truth to these accusations. So, they as a Judge are now wanting the accused to present his side, his defense, which ought to be structured to convince the Judges that he is not being presented to them accurately or where they lied, if they did. Stephen (being borne along by the Holy Spirit) is about to present an incredible defense, which hopefully you will clearly see is not a denial of their accusations. Is it fair to say at this proper trial that the Council has indicated no bias toward Stephen? (Remember many rulers and Pharisees have become Christian.)

24. Y/N ___ He opens his presentation with an appropriate remark, saluting everyone in the courtroom?

26. Y/N ___ He then appeals for them to listen by saying that they 'must' listen. It could be a plea for their being open-minded or it could be a declaration for they as the Judges are required to be unbiased and lawfully evaluate the evidence?

27. Y/N ___ He begins his "lesson describing his Faith" by calling God, 'glorious'?

28. Y/N ___ Then he begins by presenting, what most of them knew theologically but not publicly, stating Yahweh (the Name of the living God) came to 'father' Abraham (the father of their tribe-Hebrew, made up of twelve sub-tribes through Abraham's grandson-Jacob) in the land controlled by the Chaldeans. A statement

verifying Stephen's knowledge he should no way possess as a commoner Jew?

29. Y/N ___ Stephen accurately explains Abraham's movement with his wife and God commanding him to sojourn on his own to a place He has chosen for him?

30. Y/N ___ If you know the correct chronology of these events beginning in Genesis 12, concerning Abrahams movement, your only concern is when did God tell him to move on. Could it be, though, He mentioned what He wanted and gave, then, more details to him at a second time?

31. Y/N ___ Steven moves from this move of Abraham into the land the Jews now possess twenty-one hundred years later. How is that possible so many years later, is Stephen's next point?

32. Y/N ___ Abraham had not settled any place in his sojourn, had no children nor any land, yet he obeyed God in complete trust of His promise and oath?

33. Y/N ___ Too, God told Abraham that his offspring would be enslaved and abused for four hundred years (uses a rough estimate not actual number of years). God also says He will quickly judge that evil nation (and He did, Egypt has never been a world power again). And the Hebrews (around three million of them) will leave Egypt and "serve" Him?

34. Y/N ___ God made a Covenant with Abraham (circumcision was His requirement and was supposed to be continued), which several times God had to remind them to do as generations stopped it?

35. Y/N ___ Stephen digresses and discusses Joseph, Israel's (Jacob's deserved new name given him by God) favorite son, who was sold by his brothers. They were sent to Egypt several years later and Joseph was one of Egypt's leaders?

36. Y/N ___ Stephen correctly details the reunion of Joseph with his brothers and father (Israel) and the move of the tribe to Egypt as a small tribe and how they fell out of favor. God had blessed them with an enormous number of folks (roughly 3,000,000), which scared the Egyptians into enslaving them?

37. Y/N ___ Stephen details the way Moses is born and ultimately (at around 80) is sent by God to be the Hebrews ruler and redeemer; Moses by Yahweh's command was about to fulfill a part of His promise and oath to Abraham?

38. Y/N ___ Moses led this (about) three million members of Abraham's tribe for 40 years from Egypt, through the Red Sea, and into the desert?

39. Y/N ___ Stephen up to this point related the correct revealed Text from Moses' writing concerning God's Word to Moses and what was revealed by God through Moses' Word from God?

40. Y/N ___ Stephen had left out any negative things the Jews decided to do in disobedience to God and God's Law through all those years and the fact that, up to this moment of full rebellion, the Jews except for four men were commanded by God to die and not be allowed to enter His promises land, due to their nonsensical denial of

Him and determination to have this new world controlled by their choices and plan?

41. Y/N ___ Stephan is proving he believes every Word Moses wrote. He also knew three things every soul considering being in subjection to God in any era has to know: 1) do not test God with manmade wisdom or your own way, because He will crush you when you least expect it (they tested God after all these people had been blessed to witness and receive great assistance from Him. So, He made them wander in the desert for 38+ years until everyone over 19 was dead. Only their children were allowed by God to go into the promised land [promise and oath of Yahweh to Abraham roughly 600 years earlier]). Did you notice Stephen quotes the first moment God was confronting Moses: God said, "I AM", "...", and Moses trembled and could not look up. He was commanded to take off his sandals because he was on holy ground! Moses had to learn the hard way that you do not test God., 2) God has big plans for every man and woman that turns to Him. Moses became the ruler and redeemer of these three million and set the stage for the third thing Stephen was going to say., 3) God never told the 1st generation of another Prophet coming in the future because they rejected His Will and Grace already. But, after they all died off and only the children were left alive, God had Moses, right before they went into the promised land, give four lessons [Deuteronomy] to these Hebrew children (oldest was 59 after 40 years), reminding them of all God had done forty years earlier for their parents, uncles and aunts and grandparents and how they rejected His kindness, love and power. The last

forty years of wandering were due to them not subjecting themselves confidently to Him. They refused to obey God, they rejected Him, and turned their minds back to their lives in Egypt and their gods. This 2nd generation was told by God through Moses that Yahweh was preparing another Prophet in the future to lead them similarly to him, Who was Jesus. Stephen has more than proved his relying upon Moses' Law and other Scriptures, so were their claims accurate about Stephen?

42. Y/N ___ Stephen begins to bring out that the Hebrews had hardly ever loved God and always rejected Him and His Way, and they are still doing so. He contrasts the Jews of old and those in his day. The corruption is identical. Hate of God and murder of His prophets to them and by their rejection of the Holy Spirit's work, because after Moses, God's prophets continued to prophecy about the coming of the "Righteous One" and they persecuted and murdered them. Then, Stephen says that this Ruling Council did worse, they actually murdered and betrayed that Prophet! "You never, though you have the Law from heaven, kept any part of the Word from God, you stubborn and insensitive in mind (heart) and ears! Did Stephen accuse them (and prove it) of abuses and rejections to Moses Word, Abrahams promises, and rejecting God's prophesied Truth about the 'Righteous One' of God?

43. Y/N ___ It took them a moment, but they were furious, as he proclaimed them as the guilty ones in God's mind?

44. Y/N ___ They were so mad, they were cursing him under their breath, but murder was not in their hearts, yet?

45. Now, an amazing thing happened. Stephen was allowed to have a miraculous vision into the Throne room of God! Instead of Jesus 'sitting on the Father right-side, He was standing! Stephen then shouted out, "Wow, is this amazing or what! I see heaven opened! And the 'Son of man' is standing at God's right hand!", which means to these Jewish Rulers that the "Messiah" (same as the Son of man) is NOW on His Throne, which they did not believe had occurred. Did this declaration by Stephen show their real character, as they drug him outside and stoned him to death instead of acting as proper judges of the Law and examine him?

46. Y/N ___ Jews had to have permission for any death sentence they took part in. They were so enraged, they lost all sense of ruling and law?

47. Y/N ___ One from the Freedmen synagogue held the coats of the Ruler's stoners, meaning he agreed completely and had been given this special privilege. His name was Saul [of Tarsus]?

48. Y/N ___ Stephen was heard to keep repeating in a conversation with Jesus, "You must receive my spirit." And lastly cried out loudly as he fell to his knees, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And he died, illegally murdered by the Rulers that should have judged him. Is this kind of hate, justifiable?

49. Y/N ___ Some of the congregation buried and lamented his death?

50. Y/N ___ Saul approved of this 'murder', thus the man Saul saw his moment, because of the Jews disintegrated leadership, to destroy this evil sect- Jesus' called-out group or His Kingdom- in Jerusalem?

SUBMIT your answers

6th thought

1. Y/N ___ When you find any leadership completely out of control, such that anyone disagreeing with your position of how to govern, and they willingly resort to murder, you will have some that become even more violent. Saul was such a man. He had already demonstrated his nature for violence, as he participated in the forged witnesses from his synagogue and held the coats of the stoning Rulers of Steven. Now he finds he can take advantage of the shared hatred of the "sect" that was proclaiming successfully in Jerusalem, by beginning the terror of their thousands, that are professing: they are in Jesus; a part of His new Kingdom, living in Jerusalem. He headed up this savage murderous team and began to drag whole families from their homes to jail to await their murders and beatings for their faith unto Jesus and His new Way?

2. Y/N ___ Many, fortunately, escaped out of Jerusalem, but not to hide, but rather, to evangelize in every place they went?

3. Y/N ___ Remember Jesus told His disciples that they would be His witnesses "beginning" in Jerusalem.

Where would they go to next to witness for Him? ___
uttermost parts of the Earth, ___ Samaria, ___ Judea

4. Y/N ___ Had the Apostles been driven out of Jerusalem?

5. Y/N ___ Did those that scattered move to cities in Judea and Samaria, due to the savageness of this persecution?

6. Y/N ___ We noticed, as did Dr. Luke, what happened to Stephen, who was given the like miraculous gifts of the Apostles, by having their hands in prayer laid upon the seven men, and now we find Dr. Luke mentioning another, Philip?

7. As Philip traveled, he, like Stephen, was proclaiming Christ in every city he went through. He like Stephen was confirming what he was teaching. How was he establishing to the audiences that what he was teaching was accurate and had 'heavens' approval? ___ called on God to give them rain, ___ caused an eclipse of the sun, ___ commanded evil demons (bad angels) to come out of folks in everyone's sight

8. Y/N ___ Did Philip also heal many paralyzed folk and cripples, too?

9. How would you say the people of the Samaritan city responded: ___ forced him out of town, ___ rejoiced at the great miracles he did, ___ had no response at all

10. Y/N ___ They already had a man who was a magician named Simon, who they were in amazement of constantly by his 'magic'. Philip's abilities were far superior to Simon's and they were persuaded by Philip

concerning Jesus' Kingdom and Jesus' Name as eternal authority. Many were immersed into Christ and so was Simon, having been persuaded that Philip's actions were not magic but from God?

11. Y/N ___ Did the group there continue to be with Philip as those in Jerusalem had with the Apostles?

12. Y/N ___ Up to this point Dr. Luke has been reporting the various things about the first two or three years of the new Way, or Jesus' Kingdom, as it began and was established in Jerusalem by the Apostles. Much can be learned in the beginning in Jerusalem concerning what it was like to be in Jesus' Kingdom by discerning who was in charge, what they taught the new converts, and what they did in their city. Philip began the exact same way in this Samaritan city. He had all the same abilities the Holy Spirit had given to the Apostles and that Stephen had, as Philip was one of the seven men that had been picked, and by the laying on of the Apostles hands?

13. Y/N ___ Philip, as did the Apostles in Jerusalem, continued to heal folks to confirm his teachings. They needed the same reforms to God's new Way that Jerusalem did. Simon, the magician, was amazed at the miraculous actions of Philip. Like most new converts to a new Way of life, Simon did not have a good understanding of what the Holy Spirit was doing through Philip but strongly desired to have Philip's power?

14. Y/N ___ Word had gotten to Jerusalem of Philip's success among the Samaritans, so Peter and John, both Apostles, were sent to them?

15. Y/N ___ The first thing to notice in Dr. Luke's report, is that the two that came were Apostles. It was some time after the conversion of many into Jesus' Kingdom, still Philip continued to evangelize, heal and mature the converts, as he had done in Jerusalem. When the numbers of folks converted in Jerusalem had become more than 12 Apostles could serve, the miraculous help of the Holy Spirit supplied seven men, who were able to assist in teaching correctly the Good News and confirm them as Jesus' Prophets by being able to do miracles. As Simon observed, Philip could not lay hands upon folks and create a new Prophet. Who could? ___ Only the Apostles, ___ Philip had lost his ability to do so, ___ neither Stephen, Philip or anyone else was given the 'authority' to establish Prophets except for Simon the magician

16. Y/N ___ Simon saw right away that these two men, Peter and John, had more power than Philip did. He desired to have it and made what any new convert that had experienced power over people would do, he tried to buy this incredible power. Obviously, he was rejected, and was reproved by Peter for being in sin. He still needed to grow in his 'reformed mind and life' because he was in a serious area of sin (coveting). Peter also reminded him that he, after recognizing his sin, must pray [confessing] to God for forgiveness of this serious error. So, Simon now understood he was in error and needed to confess that sin in prayer to God. If it was a genuine prayer, then God would forgive him. He plead for the Apostle to pray for him, too. Does this seem to indicate that Simon understood his error and its

seriousness and that he would reform his desires now that he understood better?

17. Y/N ___ One thing to note is that Prophets were given the same abilities as the Apostles, but they could not pass on those powers to others, only perform them. This was God's way of insuring the authority remained with the Apostles. Prophets would stray from the Truth, but the Apostles did not. Also, after the writings of the contemporary historians of the complete, total and accurate New Way or Covenant, those Apostles would still be the only correct new Way leaders on Earth. Have, over the last, roughly, two thousand years, leaders of various groups of 'followers' of Jesus developed around many false prophets?

18. Y/N ___ John and Peter stayed, assisted and as was done in the Jerusalem congregation, equally, was done here and then they left, evangelizing in many Samaritan cities on their way back to Jerusalem?

19. Y/N ___ Philip also soon left as the Lord sent an angel to him. This would indicate that these Samaritans were now capable of evangelizing, confirming and teaching reforms accurately, as was being done in Jerusalem?

20. Y/N ___ As you continue to read Dr. Luke's Treatise about the 'Acts' of Jesus in His early years, you will find prophets, elders and evangelist being established with the same miraculous confirmation abilities. The Holy Spirit, Whom Jesus said would be the next "Helper" has the eternal power to distribute as He Wills to do and knows if the local new congregation of Jesus' called-out

are able to continue to reform the new citizens of Jesus' Kingdom. So, Philip could now move on to other contacts?

21. Y/N ___ Philip was instructed to travel on the old road to the deserted Gaza. There he is told to join a chariot wagon going back to Ethiopia from worship in Jerusalem. The officer was reading the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah about the prophesied 'suffering Servant' all Jews were confused about. They thought the 'Messiah' (or Christ in Greek) was to be Ruler over Israel forever and conquer the world. He had left Jerusalem, so likely he had heard that and he had, thus, good reason to wonder who Isaiah was referring too. Philip heard him reading and asked if he understood what he read, and he admitted he did not?

22. Y/N ___ The officer invited Philip into his chariot wagon. He was reading and confused about, "He was led like a sheep to slaughter...Because His life was taken from the Earth.". The officer asked Philip who this is talking about and Philip began from that Scripture to teach and explain about Jesus?

23. As they traveled toward Gaza (where there still are several water pools from the Wadis (flash flood pools after hard quick rain storms). The officer sees one as they traveled and says, "Water!" "Any reason I cannot be immersed?" What did Philip say to him? ___ No, No! Let us continue on our journey, it can wait, ___ No! Wait till you get back to Ethiopia, your already sin free in God's eyes, ___ "If you believe with all your heart, you should."

24. What did the officer decide he should do? ___ He answered that he believed Jesus “is” God’s Son, ___ He had the chariot wagon to stop, ___ they both went down “into” the water, ___ Philip immersed the officer, ___ then they both came up out of the water, ___ the Holy Spirit carried Philip to a city named Azotus (old Ashdod) which is twenty miles north of old Gaza, ___ all the above in order of events

25. Why did the officer think it was an appropriate request to stop at the water? ___ his water tanks were empty, and he had far to travel, ___ he was thirsty and needed a drink. ___ Philip, as he explained the passage and that Jesus was that One being talked about, including the purpose for Jesus’ death; and as Isaiah does teach Jesus’ resurrection and coronation, so, the Apostles and others were witnessing to them, along with the confirming miracles in Jerusalem, where he had just left, and had just learned that Jesus only accepts into His Kingdom those folks that are willing to reform their minds and lives as His new Way commands, and must allow themselves to be immersed. He pointed out that they are co-buried and co-immersed with Jesus in their water grave and will come out of the water a new creation, as their old life died and is buried in the water grave. He would not have forgotten to mention that God in the water grave could see if they genuinely meant to reform to His Will and, if so, He forgave their past sins against Him, added them to Jesus’ Kingdom, and sealed them with His Holy Spirit as a guarantee for His eternal inheritance with God and all Jesus’ Kingdom.

26. Y/N ___ Does it make sense that the officer did not want to wait?

27. Y/N ___ Would you want to wait for those blessing from God?

28. Y/N ___ Many around the world have received them from God over many hundreds of years. They must commit to reform their lives and mind to God's Will, which is found only, completely and accurately in Jesus' new Way (God's promised New Covenant) and have someone immerse them, where God observes and performs His side of the Covenant. After that event, they have His Eternal Covenant everywhere available for them to reform too and to share with other until Jesus returns for His Kingdom, which then, will remain with Him in the new world, as God has designed it for eternity. Did you ever hear of such a wonderful, undeserved, free gift for all mankind to be given and guaranteed?

29. Y/N ___ The officer realized that the disappearance of Philip 'confirmed' what he had been taught and that his immersion was obviously from God and he rejoiced on his way knowing he was in Jesus' Kingdom?

30. Y/N ___ Philip continued to evangelize all the way to Caesarea from Azotus, and Philip settled there?

SUBMIT your answers

7th thought

1. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke's history now begins to report about an earlier Pharisee zealot named Saul. Remember he is responsible for the scattering of the Kingdom of Jesus, as Jesus desired, but by persecution of families in the called-out body of Christ in Jerusalem and around it. Philip, and then two Apostles to assist the work in Samaria, began the saturation of Samaria, as had and was being done in Jerusalem and Judea with Prophets, evangelist and elders, who had hands laid upon them, allowed the Holy Spirit to provide: correct Teachings, confirming miracles and how to instruct the reform to Jesus' new Way and train to spread the Good News, which was being accomplished. Saul was in a war with them in the Jerusalem area, jailing and punishing severely entire families that were in that called-out congregation of Christ. He apparently felt he had done a good job of scattering them in the Jerusalem area and received the Council's written permission to travel outside of the area to continue his work of destruction?

2. Y/N ___ Damascus had many synagogues, as did Jerusalem, and had a large group of this ugly 'sect' working there. He completely neglected Samaria or Galilee due to the lack of cooperation and authority of the Sanhedrin in those areas and would have had difficulty in successfully removing the 'sect' and maybe even conflict. But, anyone in this new WAY in Damascus could be imprisoned and returned to Jerusalem for persecution and prosecution by the Council?

3. Y/N ___ Saul was about to reach the city walls when an incredibly bright light surrounded his group,

causing them to lose control of their horses and falling to the ground?

4. Y/N ___ Saul was the one a voice directed the words too, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?". Is there any way Saul knew who was speaking to him, since he was blinded by the light?

5. Y/N ___ Saul, completely defenseless, ask who he was, thinking someone was there, and referring to this person as Lord (or Master), probably thinking he was about to die in this attack?

6. Y/N ___ The person answering would answer the question of all Jews. Jesus was alive in Damascus, no wonder they never found the body! "I AM", would have really confused Saul because he was a serious student of the Scriptures. He had studied under Gamaliel, to become the most ardent kind of Pharisee and was an active zealot for the Jews. This phrase to him meant God was there, as the phrase is always in reference to Him and always said only by Him. The light, his blindness, and this phrase, meant that Yahweh was speaking to him?

7. Y/N ___ Imagine Saul's next moment when the 'voice' says, "JESUS, Who you are persecuting!" In another account in Dr. Luke's history of this event, the words in brackets are used. Here, you have Jesus saying the most important thing he can do is to get up! Go into Damascus! And wait till you are told what you 'must' do (from now on)!" Saul is in shock, but he is quick to recognize his mistake. Jesus is alive! Which means he was completely wrong. Imagine his thoughts about

Stephen and all those families around Jerusalem he had butchered. He deserves death, yet Jesus has offered a choice?

8. Y/N ___ We do not know when Saul realized Jesus was not there physically, but the men with Saul heard Jesus but did not see anyone. They likely mentioned that to him as they escorted him (Saul was blind) to Judah's home on Straight Street?

9. Y/N ___ Saul fasted, prayed and meditated upon what all this meant and what he would have to do, for three days?

10. Y/N ___ As God is observing Saul's mind, God has decided Saul is in tremendous remorse (repenting) and gives Saul a vision, which has a man named Ananias coming to him and laying hands upon him, so he can see again?

11. Y/N ___ Jesus then comes to Ananias and explains what He wants him to do concerning Saul. Ananias is commanded he must go?

12. Y/N ___ Jesus explains to Ananias that Saul is now going to be of great service to Jesus and His new Way?

13. Y/N ___ Ananias decides he will not go to Saul?

14. Y/N ___ Ananias goes to Saul and does as Saul's vision said he would. He tells Saul that he is to see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Since Ananias was a Prophet and not an Apostle, is he able to give Saul sight?

15. Y/N ___ Can any Prophet give the Holy Spirit to anyone?

16. Ananias did heal Saul's vision and Saul did receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, as did all those "added" by the Lord to His Kingdom. When did Saul receive the gift of the Holy Spirit: ___ when his sight was restored, ___ when God saw Saul had genuinely repented, ___ when like all others who want to be in Jesus Kingdom, he was immersed?

17. Y/N ___ Saul began to eat again and obviously, as we have seen in every new Way convert, he began to reform his mind and life to the new Way of Jesus' Kingdom. Among the doctrines he would be taught would be the correct Scriptures concerning Jesus and His Kingdom, just as Jesus did to His 1st disciples in Jerusalem. Saul began quickly to proclaim in the Damascus synagogues that Jesus "is" God's Son. Though Jesus had been murdered in Jerusalem and buried there about four years earlier, Saul is saying Jesus "is", thus he is proclaiming He is still alive?

18. Y/N ___ The Jews in Damascus are shocked at the incredible change in Saul's life and message?

19. Y/N ___ At this point in Dr. Luke's contemporary history, he leaves out about three years of Saul's preparation for the work Jesus had for Saul to accomplish (found in Dr. Paul's history to the Galatians), here, Saul goes to work. Saul will later receive his new name (as did Peter by Jesus), which will be Paul of Tarsus. He reports in one of his contemporary history Letters (written to the congregations of the Galatian province) that he left Damascus and spent about three years in the desert area and then returned to Damascus, before he journeyed to Jerusalem. Jesus, too, has made 'Paul' His special Apostle

to the nations [or Gentiles]. You will have an opportunity to read Dr. Paul's contemporary history that explains those three years, later. Here, Saul is now able to 'prove' that Jesus is the Christ, thus, this is likely when he has returned to Damascus after his three years of isolation with the Lord, so he could reform from all the Jewish traditions, errors and learn a correct understanding of Jesus' new Way (His New Covenant). Saul (Paul) would write the most of that New Covenant, when the Holy Spirit began to reveal the New Covenant in print. This will be just as accurate, complete and understandable as the years (about 20 years) it had been revealed just orally, except for the old Law Scriptures for prophecies. So, Saul has just returned from the desert and by the Holy Spirit he is now Jesus' Apostle to the gentiles and is equal to the other twelve Apostles, including laying on of his hands to establish: prophets, evangelist and elders in community congregations of Jesus' Kingdom?

20. Y/N ___ Saul's power now was much like Stephen, whom Saul had shamefully seen murdered. Saul was to be killed by zealot Jews in Damascus, as he used to be, because of his new teaching, but escaped in a basket down the wall of the city and traveled many days to Jerusalem?

21. Y/N ___ Everyone in Jerusalem had heard of Saul's conversion and were very glad to receive him into their congregation?

22. Y/N ___ A brother we heard of earlier named Barnabas made contact with Saul and introduced Saul to the Apostles (they were still all in Jerusalem)?

23. Y/N ___ Saul spoke, while there, boldly in the Lord Jesus' Name. He attempted to talk and reason with some Greek Jews, who decided Saul must die. The brethren in Jerusalem discovered their plot and escorted Saul to Caesarea (many miles north) and sent him back home to Tarsus?

24. Y/N ___ There is a kind of peace between the Jews and the congregations of Jesus' Kingdom for a while. It could be that this is why they 'sent' Paul to Tarsus. All the called-out brethren in Christ were still growing, meaning they were reforming more and more to the likeness of Jesus. Too, their motives were correct: walked continuously in the 'fear' of the Lord. Also, the Holy Spirit was providing all needed for reform and evangelizing this vast area of mostly Jews?

SUBMIT your answers

8th thought

1. You will notice that thought seven ends after thought eight begins. The reason is we are not sure where this thought (8) begins. You will have similar problems as you begin your "Compose Section" later in your classes. It seems the Jewish brethren felt Saul might be creating trouble again, now, as one of the called-out instead of the zealot Jews he used to be among when the persecutions in Jerusalem and the area were at such a furious level. That seems to have died down and Saul's return (three years later) began to stir up the zealots

again, since they wanted him dead. So, the brethren escorted Saul to Caesarea, put him on a ship and sent him home to Tarsus. It looks that way, but it could be they were just concerned about his safety and he decided to go to Tarsus. What do you think the Text is suggesting? ___ sent him home, ___ concerned for his safety, ___ not sure

2. Around year ten of the Kingdom of Jesus' existence in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, Peter goes to Lydda for follow-up. He healed a man named Aeneas and had a great response to Jesus' Good News. There already was a congregation there. What does Dr. Luke call those in Lydda that were in Jesus' Kingdom? ___ saints, ___ Jesus Christ's people, ___ those turned to the Lord

3. Y/N ___ Lydda is in an area known as 'the plains of Sharon' and many heard about Peter's miracle and they were persuaded, becoming new citizens of Jesus' Kingdom?

4. Y/N ___ About twenty miles north of Lydda was Joppa. One of the ladies there in Jesus' Kingdom (congregation) was very active in Joppa in all kinds of works that she did in Jesus' Name for folks in the congregation and the community. She died during the time Peter was in Lydda and some went to him asking him to come to Joppa. Peter left immediately to go to Joppa. He was made aware of the kind of woman Tabitha (Dorcas) was and her influence in the town. He prayer for her resurrection and the Lord gave her life back to her?

5. Y/N ___ Once again the town, after being made aware of her resurrection, came to hear the Good News of

Jesus and were persuaded that Jesus was ruling His Kingdom from heaven and they could be reconciled to God because of Jesus death on the cross, which was the only acceptable sacrifice God would accept for the sins man committed against Him. They agree to reform to God's new Way and be immersed and the Lord 'added' (transferred) them into Jesus' Kingdom, forgave all their past sins and gave them the seal of the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of eternal life with Him?

6. Y/N ___ Peter stayed there a few days to teach them the reforms they must do to be an acceptable member of Jesus' Kingdom (reform and change to be like Jesus)?

7. Y/N ___ Much like the Ethiopian man Philip taught the Good News because the Holy Spirit is everywhere, Dr. Luke reports about a Roman captain living in Caesarea (about 40 miles north of Joppa) named Cornelius. This man was much like devout Jews but was Roman. He not only loved God, he had developed his entire family to become believers in God. He practiced obedience to God's old way and served many poor folks around him. Also, Cornelius was a man that had a regular time daily when he prayed to God?

8. Y/N ___ Three o'clock was the Jews regular prayer time and Cornelius had an angel sent to him because of his devoutness, in a vision. The angel told him that God was aware of his faith in God by his prayers and kindnesses to the poor. You, the angel told him, must send for Peter, who is in Joppa. The angel departed, and Cornelius sent servants to Joppa for Peter?

9. Y/N ___ Peter, the next day about noon, took time while the meal was being prepared to go up upon the roof to pray. He had a vision of a large sheet full of all kinds of animal coming out of the sky and insisting that Peter eat of these. He, as a good Jew, refused to do so, claiming he never had or would. All three times this came to him, commanding him to eat, he was also told that he must not call things that were cleansed by God as common. The vision stopped then and disappeared. Peter was unclear as to the meaning of the vision. Immediately the three men Cornelius sent to get Peter come to the door. They called out to speak to Peter?

10. Y/N ___ The Holy Spirit then spoke to Peter, telling him that he must go with these three men looking for him. They left the next morning?

11. Y/N ___ They told Peter why they came to him, their Roman Leader, Cornelius, had an angel tell him that he needed to hear what you have to say?

12. Peter and others arrive at Cornelius' home in Caesarea. He had gathered family and friends to hear Peter's words. Cornelius bowed as if Peter were a god, so Peter cleared up that error. They went into Cornelius' home where folks were packed in. Peter without thinking said he had not done anything like this before, because the Jewish Law does not permit it, which means what? ___ the Jews were better than any other tribe, ___ all other tribes make Jews sin if they go into their homes, ___ Jews had misunderstood God's blessing Jews among all tribes and they, too, should now be taught the Good News concerning Jesus

13. Y/N ___ Cornelius was less prejudice than this Jewish Apostle?
14. Y/N ___ This Apostle had been a little slow on understanding that God wanted ever 'nation' taught, as well as, every Jew in every nation, even though Jesus said so before He ascended?
15. Y/N ___ This is roughly ten years after Jesus told the twelve Jews that were to be His Apostles: "...Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth.", and when the Holy Spirit spoke through Peter in the first lesson about Jesus and His Kingdom in the Temple, where He said that this Good News was not for just them (the Jewish men gathered in the Temple in the section that was only for Jewish men) and their children, but for those that are "...far away, as many as the Lord our God may call." Dr. Paul (who was Saul) is at this time beginning to be trained for work among the Gentiles or nations. Peter and the other Apostles are all still in Jerusalem and working among the Jews only. So, this is a really, really big moment for Peter. He means it, he as a good Jew, when saying he had nothing to do with Gentiles (or other tribes) for any reason and to come into one's home means Peter is more interested in doing what the Lord's Spirit commands than the Old Law says. So, he is expressing that this is a big moment in his life?
16. Y/N ___ Peter acknowledges that he understood the Spirit's Message to Him and so he was ready to share the Lord's Good News to them?
17. Y/N ___ Peter asked what they wanted to know?
18. Y/N ___ They did not know?

19. Y/N ___ Cornelius said Peter needs to proclaim "... all the things commanded you by the Lord." Peter expresses first that God is not partial (as the Jews, Samaritans, and Romans were). If someone in any tribe, nation or government, or at any job, reveres Yahweh, the living God, and performs works that God had said are good and pleasing to Him, pray only to Him, and cares for needs of folk, God welcomes them. Those individuals need to be taught that now peace with God is only through Jesus Christ because Jesus is the LORD of all mankind. Jesus was sent to dwell on Earth among the Jewish tribe for three + years and did many great miracles to confirm that God sent Him to all mankind, but to the Jews first. Peter said that the Jews had Him murdered by crucifixion. But Jesus on the 3rd day was RESURRECTED by GOD! Jesus was seen by Peter and others for forty days after His resurrection and they saw His ascension through the heavens, bodily (also witnessed by them) to His Throne, from where Jesus now is ruling both heaven and Earth. Jesus had (and still does) expect the Apostles, prophets, evangelist and elder to evangelize the Good News. Jesus will be the One to judge all men, living and dead one day. He tells them that the Prophets of the Jews confirm that anyone who becomes a believer of Jesus' Way (not just a believer "in His existence"- the evil angels or demons do that and tremble) based upon Jesus being God's Son, will from God receive forgiveness of their past sins and confessed/reformed new sins, through Jesus' Name (as the only authority on Earth or in heaven that God accepts as authority and are acceptable by His sacrifice of His life by God for the ransom price for each and all of us.) We

all sin against God and only Jesus's sacrifice of His life and blood appeased God's wrath because of our sin?

20. Y/N ___ Go back over Peter's words revealed here and elsewhere to put all this together. Be sure to not think that just believing or that no obedience to your faith or agreement to reform to God's new Way, are found in His New Covenant, and will be ok with God for your salvation. It all has to be thought through and learned or He will not be pleased, nor will the Lord add you to His Son's Kingdom. This was Peter's Message from God to this group of 'believers', that were not yet in Jesus' Kingdom?

21. Y/N ___ The keys to Peter's lesson to this gentile (Roman) family and friends are that: 1) Jesus came by God's purpose, 2) Jesus confirmed He was from God with all the wonderful good things He did for folks, 3) Jesus confirmed that the 'Father' (new idea to Jews) sent Him to establish the last Kingdom (in which Jesus would be its only, unique, eternal King), which God had prophesied for years and He now has established the New Covenant, detailing the new Way to please Him, 4) The Jews not wanting God's new Way, had Jesus murdered by the Romans, but because of His perfect character, equality to God, and fulfilling every prophecy in the Old Scriptures about the King and His Kingdom, God had to RESURRECT Him, 5) We witnessed it all for 3+ years, including His murder on a cross, resurrection, visiting and eating with Him for 40 days after His resurrection and His ascension to His Throne in heaven, 6) This is all fulfillment of the 'Plan for our Salvation' that God (Father, Word [He was Jesus in flesh for about 33 years.], and Holy Spirit [Just as

eternal as the Word and Father]) designed to have “many sons and daughters”, that Jesus’ sacrifice and Kingdom would provide until the end of Time (God-the Father preset the exact nanosecond that will happen and then the Judgement, separating the genuine disciples from those that are not, using the New Covenant for the legal standard by which the Lord will determine who goes where-eternally with God in His new world or eternal condemnation is an isolated hell.), 7) Peter is among the chosen Apostles, prophets, evangelist and congregational elders that are to evangelize Jesus’ Good News, perfect the Kingdom citizens with the necessary ‘reforms’ they covenanted to become (Jesus like and honoring their new King), confident God will forgive, seal and add them to Jesus’ Kingdom; who are a repentant, willing to reform, genuine humble souls that recognize Jesus is the unique Son of God. These are the seven ideas Peter (actually, the Holy Spirit, as Jesus said would see to the New Covenant staying True to God’s new Way) taught these unsaved but hungry Romans?

22. At this point in Peter’s lesson, an amazing thing that had only occurred on Pentecost, A.D. 30 to the twelve Apostles, happened. The Holy Spirit came upon this room full of Gentiles! They were receiving the same ability of language speaking and praising God that Peter and the 11 other Apostles received! Peter says to the Jewish brethren with him, “can any of us now not allow these to be immersed in ‘the’ water!” Why would they have needed water (it really says ‘the’ water): ___ speaking in foreign languages praising God made everyone thirsty, ___ as the gentiles (Romans) ran around praising God

using many foreign languages, they now needed a bath, ___ a water grave is where the Lord removes sin, seals folks that are in Jesus' Kingdom for their eternal inheritance and 'transfers' or 'adds' folk to Jesus' Kingdom. This is the only reason the Spirit through Peter would say "the" water?

23. Y/N ___ It is obvious that Peter now understood the 'sheet' and the command, "You must not call 'common' anything God has said is clean!", as he realizes God has now allowed gentiles into Jesus' Kingdom?

24. Y/N ___ Peter commanded them that they must be sprinkled in the Name of Jesus Christ?

25. Y/N ___ Peter commanded them that they must be poured upon in the Name of Jesus Christ?

26. Y/N ___ Peter knew that they now believed, or the Holy Spirit would not have fallen upon these gentiles, and that immersing them would complete the Lord's Plan. It was clear to Peter, that these had received his lesson and they were more than willing to reform to anything the new Way of God would teach them, but an important part of God's Will still needed to be completed, thus he commanded them to be immersed as he had always taught folk?

27. Y/N ___ Peter stayed a few days as always is necessary. They, as in Jerusalem, need to learn what reforms are pleasing to God. As gentiles, they have an entirely new set of things to know, that Jews do not. Too, since Philip has already been in Caesarea for a while, they need to meet and work on the unity to become one congregation. (You will see it was this way in Jerusalem-

one congregation and eldership's unity-and the same unity in every establishment of the Kingdom across the world.) Remember that Philip was a prophet not an Apostle. He had all the equal gifts from the Holy Spirit as an Apostle but could not pass on the gifts to others. Only the Apostles could lay hands on folk in the body of Christ and make new prophets, evangelist or elders. So, it could be that Cornelius became an equal worker as Philip to grow a unified single Kingdom congregation in Caesarea, but we can only suggest these things by the things revealed as common in the establishing of each new congregation?

28. Y/N ___ Peter returned to Jerusalem, where the word of Cornelius' group being taught by Peter, had a shocking reaction by the entire congregation. The other Apostles (except Saul of Tarsus) and the congregation in Jerusalem all seem to have a prejudice, still, against anyone not Jewish. For sure there is a group of them that did not have any use for anyone uncircumcised. Because all Jews are circumcised, this statement, "...those of the circumcised ...", seems to mean a certain group in the congregation. This group will be reprov'd later in Dr. Luke's report. Here they could not believe he actually went to them and ate a meal with them?

29. Y/N ___ This is roughly ten years into the development of Jesus' Kingdom in Jerusalem, which also was now in Judea, and Samaria. The Jews hated, and the Samaritans hated, each other, yet Peter and John went there and laid hands upon them. It could be that only Jews were taught in Samaria, as Dr. Luke's report does not say. Here it does. It seems clear that this was a

major problem and why many in the congregation in Jerusalem were still there. God has patiently let them grow stronger to overcome this issue Jews had. They were holding to the Old Law of Moses, instead, as we mentioned earlier, of the “New Covenant”, which so far was only revealed orally as the Holy Spirit through Apostles, prophets, evangelist and elders, had revealed?

30. Y/N ___ Peter gave them all an orderly explanation of what took place. He had six brothers from the Joppa work, who were with him in Cornelius’ home. He increases our knowledge, as he reveals that Cornelius had been told by the angel that Peter will speak words to you all, “by which you and all your house will be saved.” Were Cornelius and his family, even with all the good things he and they did, saved yet, before Peter taught them?

31. Y/N ___ Peter then continues to explain the miraculous event among the gentile folk. He said he realized the event was being revealed by God, so he knew he should not fight God and commanded them all to allow themselves to be immersed in Jesus’ Name. God used Peter as the ‘key’ again (he spoke the 1st lesson among the Jews in the Temple in the men’s section on Pentecost, A.D. 30), and this time, it seems, to the 1st gentiles to enter the Kingdom of Jesus?

32. Y/N ___ Peter’s explanation was not accepted by the congregation and they ran him out of Jerusalem?

33. Y/N ___ They not only accepted it, they praised God that He offered reform and life to the gentile world, too?

34. Y/N ___ The reason Peter ordered these gentiles to be immersed was because he remembered that these folks knew about Jesus and His wonderful work but were not in Jesus' Kingdom. The miracle of the Holy Spirit, upon them, proved to Peter that, as he stated here, Peter was to "speak" how they are to become saved, not the Spirit's miraculous gift to them. That was so he after the "sheet" vision, would discern that God says gentiles are not unclean and He wants them, too, taught the Good News of Jesus. But, he realized they had not received from him the complete new Way to be saved by God. Since it was obvious the gentiles were more than willing to reform their minds and lives to God's new Way, they must complete God's Plan for their being 'transferred' (and receiving His salvation) into Jesus' Kingdom and receiving God's promises for every new saint?

SUBMIT your answers

9th thought

1. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke has provided much information concerning the establishment of Jesus' Kingdom in Jerusalem and into Samaria following the Plan that Jesus stated would begin in Jerusalem in the opening thought of this Treatise. Now most of the important characters of the extension of that Kingdom are defined and how Jesus was going to affect that expansion. This 9th thought begins to move to the gentiles, though Jews in many cities worldwide would also be evangelized?

2. Y/N ___ Beginning with Saul's murderous campaign in Jerusalem, 'saints' of Jesus' Kingdom moved to places

out of Jerusalem's control and Saul's reach among Jewish communities in various cities. They were not aware that Jesus would step in and confront Saul, convert him and prepare him over several years for what he must do for Jesus' cause?

3. Y/N ___ Some of those that left Jerusalem, being well prepared by time with the Apostles, training and the laying on of their hands to establish new prophets and evangelist, traveled into Antioch, a major city of the Roman Empire. These disciples of Jesus were mostly Greek Jews not Judea Jews. They were very well received, and a large congregation was established by their efforts?

4. Y/N ___ This exciting news reached the Jerusalem congregation and Barnabas was sent to them. We do not know why an Apostle was not sent, as Prof. John and Prof. Peter were to Philip in Samaria, but we will soon. Barnabas was from Cyprus thus he was a Greek Jew and had obviously been a prophet for a while and was very capable. He met and worked in Antioch and could see God's Grace was working well among these gentile and Jewish disciples of Jesus?

5. Y/N ___ The evangelizing was very productive as many folks were 'added' to the Lord. Since Dr. Luke has already defined in his 2nd thought what being 'added' to the Lord means, we do not have to guess or design a different idea of 'entry' into Jesus' Kingdom. There you find that upon anyone being persuaded that Jesus is the only Lord and Christ of eternal importance, and then, seriously come to regret your sins opposing God, and strongly desire and commit to reform to God's new Will (or Way); God will 'add' or 'transfer' you into His Son's

Kingdom (Jesus is its only, eternal King), doing so when you allow yourself to be immersed. In this final action, He gives (only He has the power to do so) any that are now saved by His Standard: 1) forgiveness of any past sins he has against you, 2) a new Way of living to please Him, which He requires you to reform to do and be (He, by the Holy Spirit will provide all new citizens a permanent Plan for reform of your mind and life, through His New Covenant. This is to be your only and complete guide to be righteous in His mind. No additions, subtractions, neglects, rejections or nuances to please you or others, that are not found in His New Covenant are to be given any authority. He put the New Covenant in print through several special writers in the 1st century AD and this new Way, delivered in print by them, will be all that will be revealed with His divine direction and approval for any and all until Jesus returns for His Kingdom's change and removal to the new world God has designed for eternal bliss for that Kingdom. All others made their choice to not serve Jesus and will be given their reward for their rejection of Him.), 3) His provision for all new sins, if confessed and reformed, in His new Way, 4) each one, His 'Seal' with the Holy Spirit, guaranteeing an eternal inheritance with the Godhead in the new heaven and earth that They have designed and then have discussed in the New Covenant, 4) sonship (male and female), which is also proclaimed by God to those that genuinely are subjecting themselves to God, which ultimately, as Jesus explained, will be as the angels are and not as flesh is upon the Earth we know. So, God instantly does these blessings for each soul that has a right mind when they

are immersed. This is His definition of being 'ADDED' by Him to His Son's Kingdom?

6. Y/N ___ Instead of having some of the Apostles come from Jerusalem, Barnabas goes to find Saul in the Tarsus area, where Saul has been working in Syria and Cilicia for about six years. Do not forget that Saul is designated by Jesus as an additional Apostle to the gentiles (the nations), thus having all their given miraculous gifts to confirm what they teach. Also, Saul spent roughly three years after his conversion in the Arabian desert being prepared for his service to Jesus. So, because this is a gentile congregation with some Jews in it, Paul is the best suited to be Jesus' authority. He and Barnabas worked with those in Antioch for a year, teaching the Way correctly to these new saints?

7. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke also reveals that it is here in Antioch that the Lord proclaimed that these disciples of Jesus were "christians"! This proclamation does not mean the earlier Jewish disciples were not acceptable to God, but rather, that the commission Jesus left for the Good News to be taken to every nation, was now being accomplished. The Jews had been blessed with that wonderful Message of salvation for around ten years and now the gentiles were being sought out and responding also? (NOTICE THAT THE DECLARATION WAS "DEVINE")

8. Y/N ___ Prophets from Jerusalem came to Antioch, making them aware of a coming great famine that would affect Judea. Dr. Luke says it did come in the reign of Claudius (Roman Caesar-A.D. 41-54). Remember that Dr. Luke completed this history in A.D. 63, so his reference is in the past. History says it came about in A.D.46). The

Antioch area in Syria was a very prosperous area during this era and the teachings of the Holy Spirit about the christian family and meeting needs, created a large response to Agabus' proclamation?

9. Y/N ___ The congregation chose Barnabas and Saul (after gathering a large amount over time) to be the ones responsible for the delivery of the assistance. They took it to the 'elders'. It appears that these elders were in Jerusalem, who would see to the distribution to those congregations in Judea in preparation for the famine to come?

10. Y/N ___ At the time of Barnabas and Saul departing, the Romans had given Judea to the oversight of King Herod (as Claudius took over as Caesar). Herod as the new leader in the Fall of A.D.40 at the Jewish Feast named Tabernacles, was asked to read the 'law of the kingdom' [a Jewish tradition from Moses' Duet.17: 14-20]. He wept as he read it, because his father was not a Jew, which the Text required, but his mother was. The crowd said he was a brother in loud chants which comforted him). The Apostles had not been silenced nor run out of Jerusalem which was a major problem to the Jewish Rulers. They needed help and Herod provided it by Passover the following year. He arrested James the Apostle (Prof. John's brother) with other disciples of Jesus and killed him by a sword death. The Jewish Ruler praised him for it and he then arrested Peter during the Passover Feast week. He was intending to display Peter's death before the Jews after the holiday was done. He had extra soldiers guarding him?

11. Y/N ___ Those in the congregation prayed constantly, asking God for help with Peter's arrest. So, the night prior to Peter being killed, while Peter was asleep and shackled to two soldiers, the Lord sent an angel into Peter's cell, with guards everywhere. He shook Peter awake and told him he must make ready and must leave quickly. Peter's chains fell off and he left with the angel, thinking it was a vision! They went through the prison and came to the giant gate leading into the city. (This gate was not usually guarded as it took 20+ soldiers to open or close, because it was so heavy.) It opened by itself and he was in the city streets. Peter finally realized he had been released by the angel of God from Herod and the Jewish Rulers?

12. Y/N ___ He considered what to do and quickly went to meet with some of the saints in Jerusalem. They were still praying and were completely amazed at Peter showing up. He signaled for quietness and told them to inform James (had to be Jesus' brother as James the Apostle had been killed by Herod) and the other brethren. He then left the area that Herod ruled (Peter had to travel past Galilee and ended up in Antioch). The next morning, when his escape was discovered a massive search began and Herod had the guards killed?

13. Y/N ___ Herod also left town and went to Caesarea. Then he met with some of his subjects from Tyre and Sidon. He was royally clothed in special clothing and spoke to them. They responded that he was a god not a man. Because he had every design to accept such a blaspheme and had murdered James, God had an angel

strike him with an illness that painfully killed him very quickly (Herod died in A.D. 44)?

14. Y/N ___ Barnabas and Saul finished their assignment and returned to Antioch with John Mark. It is a little difficult to tie all these events together, but it seems Barnabas and Saul left about the time of James' murder- A.D.42ish. Peter jailed in early 44. Barnabas and Saul had returned to Antioch by then with Mark. Peter out of Herod's reach in Antioch before Herod's death in 44. Tying these together other ways and dates is possible but this appears to be the most consistent. They are, though, important because of the significance of tying the two ethnic groups into one family, as Jesus mentions, 'one fold, out of two', in Prof. John's history?

15. Y/N ___ Remember in a great history it is important to provide: facts of events, people involved in the history's theme, comments that are significant to the theme, known speeches that relate to the theme, conversations that do likewise, and history that relate to that same theme. One ought to attempt to keep everything, then, as much as is possible, in chronology for the best confirmation of Truth and investigating its accuracy?

16. Y/N ___ So, the die is cast. The next big development of Jesus' Kingdom was, as Jesus had forecast before He ascended, to move out to new areas. The Lord's saving Message never stopped from adding new disciples to Jesus. Barnabas and Saul were no longer required in Antioch, as prophets were now very involved and leading correctly the massive congregation. It would

have to be equal to the Jerusalem congregation and better since it was multi ethnic?

17. Y/N ___ Thus, the Holy Spirit again sets apart those that are to go to the gentiles. He set apart Paul, Barnabas and Mark to go?

18. Y/N ___ The congregation had a special time and meeting set aside for the two picked by the Spirit to go (Barnabas and Saul) and prayed great things for the Lord by their efforts?

19. Y/N ___ The two missionaries for Jesus' Kingdom travel from Seleucia, the port of Antioch, to the island of Cyprus, which is Barnabas' home country. They took John Mark with them as an assistant. They landed at Salamis. Here they found a synagogue and evangelized God's Message to the Jews. They worked across the island westward to the capitol, Paphos. They ran into a Jewish false prophet named Bar-jesus who used sorcery to oppose them. The Roman proconsul, Sergius Paulus, had Barnabas and Saul come and proclaim God's Message to him. Elymas, Bar-jesus' Roman name, opposed every part of the story of the Faith they proclaimed to Paulus. Saul, who is now known as Paul, by his Apostle status, took over and rebuked this evil demon possessed man with a curse of blindness! Elymas became instantly blind. This confirmed to Paulus that the missionaries of Jesus' were speaking Truth and he became convinced of the Teaching of the Lord Jesus?

20. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke has revealed two things new in this report about Jesus' missionaries on Cyprus: 1) A new phrase which describes the Message of the Good News.

“The Faith” means not some of the Truth, but that Paul and Barnabas were presenting the complete Message. This man was very interested, and they were taking him through all the basics of the Good News, as well as the points of deeper understanding. “The Faith” is the New Covenant. Faith is what it takes in a person to agree to reform to God’s Will or new Way, which can and will on occasion be called “the Faith”, 2) Saul is said, now, to be named Paul. He will from now on be the leader of this missionary team. This will be clear over Dr. Luke’s following report of the fulfilling of the early spread to the “... end of the Earth”?

SUBMIT your answers

10th thought

1. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke does not indicate how long they stayed in Paphos, but Paul is an Apostle and equal in all authority and miraculous ability of the other 11 (James was murdered in Jerusalem) who except for Peter are still in Jerusalem (we think). Paul likely left an inspired prophet there to continue to evangelize and direct the disciples to reform to Jesus’ Way. This would signal that he and his companions could go on to new areas?

2. Y/N ___ So, he left by ship for the coast of Pamphylia and landed in Perga. John Mark for an unknown reason decided to go back to Jerusalem. We read that the team

left Perga and traveled north to Antioch of Pisidia (not the same Antioch they started the mission from in Syria)?

3. Y/N ___ Once again the team sought the local synagogue. Most Jews in the Roman Empire would have not heard of the 'sect' that plagued the Jews in Judea. Nearly all synagogues had a short period of time at their meetings for outside news when visitors came through their areas on the Sabbath. Dr. Paul used this opportunity in every area of his mission work to deliver an educational lesson that would evangelize Jesus as: the fulfillment of the Jew's Law system and provider of the new Way God would provide for their sins being forgiven. Too, he would gain an audience from those that were not Jews, but those that "revered God" in attendance. These were usually uncircumcised gentile men and various women of the community. They believed in a single living God and the Jews were the only religious group that held such a belief, but they were not allowed to have much relation with the Jews or vis versa, due to Moses Law about non-Jews. You will notice Dr. Paul addresses these twice in his lesson?

4. Y/N ___ The Jews across the world had divided the old Scriptures into two parts-Law and Prophets. They read the two parts through, over 154 Sabbaths (about three years). So, after this was completed in the Antioch synagogue, they asked Paul's team if they had a message of encouragement. Paul rose and delivered an educational and historical account, that they deserved to now know, and which had been fulfilled, which they yearned for God to bring to pass: the arrival of the Messiah?

5. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul addresses them for just over four minutes. He addresses not only the Jewish men of the synagogue, but the rest of the Jews (meaning women and children) and the non-Jew believers now found in most synagogues. He declares that all of them must listen to his lesson?

6. Y/N ___ Paul begins with a quick review of all that God did with the tribe-Israel. God did the impossible because of the promises and oath to Abraham, but it required God to allow the tribes to act in very ugly ways through those years. God lead them with a powerful arm to establish them. He already knew what they would be like, so only His kindness and mercy were given them as a tribe. He chose them and brought about His Plan. God had designed a wonderful plan in eternity for “many sons and daughters”. The Jews many times looked as if they were not going to be a good choice for God’s success, yet, as Dr. Paul shows, He did. He made David His king, who He said would, “... will do My wishes.”, serve Him?

7. Y/N ___ God’s wishes were for the Savior from Israel to come among mankind. A remnant of the tribe had remained faithful to Him through the two thousand (2,000) + years prior to the coming of Jesus (or the ‘sending by God of His Son to become flesh as man is), Jesus was the fulfillment of all the prophesies to them about the coming King?

8. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul then says that John the immerser was sent, as expected, to prepare the Jews for the transition into the promise of God for a New Covenant. Most Jews were aware of John but did not perceive his work as a part of the New Covenant. They saw him as

the announcer of the glorious new king of the Jews for world domination of their system. John preached that all needed to be immersed with a desire to reform their minds and lives so that they might receive forgiveness of all past sins. This was not in accord with the Law of Moses' way of receiving forgiveness of past sins but was widely accepted because the people saw John as a prophet (as Malachi prophesied over four hundred years earlier). The New Covenant as explained in Jeremiah 31:31f, was a one on one with God and was not anything like the Moses system. John proclaimed that he was not the Messiah, but His forerunner?

9. Y/N ___ With this short review of the history of the Jews and Jesus as the fulfillment of their hope for God's King, Dr. Paul personalizes the history to the whole crowd, even the ones that were not Jewish. Everyone ought to revere God and realize that His promise for that King and His new Way are the Message of salvation God has sent to them all?

10. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul says that the Jews in Jerusalem and their Rulers had many opportunities to hear and see Who Jesus was and to compare Jesus to the One the Prophets, by God's Scriptures, said He would be, which are read in every synagogue, everywhere, every Sabbath, but they rejected the Truth of God. So, they fulfilled the prophecies that announced that they would murder God's Servant. They had no reason or transgression of Jesus to have Him crucified by the Roman governor, but they did. They, then, had fulfilled everything prophesied about Jesus?

11. Y/N ___ He was removed from the tree, placed in a [new] rich man's tomb, guarded by Romans for three days, yet God resurrected Him out of death! (Death cannot hold the sinless, and Jesus was!) And He then was seen by many across Israel for forty days! Those that were with Him became the historical witnesses of His resurrection?

12. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul says that he and his team are evangelizing the promise given to their forefathers. Yahweh has fulfilled the long awaited and expected promise of His Christ. Dr. Paul says that 'we' are their children (waiting upon God to fulfill His promise to Abraham). When God raised Jesus from death all is fulfilled, just as God wrote in His 2nd Psalm, "You are My Son. I have begotten You today." So, the day God had begotten Jesus was when He "raised Jesus"?

13. Y/N ___ Too, Dr. Paul said that God raised Jesus and Jesus was not dead even long enough to be subject to decay. God, as He planned, had Jesus crowned King of Kings in heaven and would not allow His Holy One (Jesus was that fulfillment of these prophecies many years earlier.) to be decayed in death. David did decay after serving God's purpose and Jesus did not. So, if not, Jesus has to be the prophesied Savior of God for mankind?

14. Y/N ___ Thus, Dr. Paul concludes, this sent Savior, Jesus, must be understood to be their only God given source of forgiveness of sins. He is the source of being justified before God which no other system can provide (not even Moses' Law). If any or all of you are persuaded that Jesus is the Christ and that His new Way must be

reformed to by God's Will, you then can be justified by God and transferred into Jesus' Kingdom by God?

15. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul warns them in closing his lesson, that in their day, this had been fulfilled by God, but if you are not persuaded He has done this, they are accused by God of being "Despisers!" These are those that deny God's plain historical Plan and Jesus as the fulfillment of it for the salvation of many "sons and daughters"?

16. Y/N ___ After this short lesson, many requested he return on the next Sabbath to better define this Message?

17. Y/N ___ Many of the Jews and devout proselytes (believers in the living God of the Jews but not circumcised for inclusion) continued to learn from Dr. Paul and Barnabas. There were some that were persuaded that Jesus was the Christ of God. Over the week these proclaimed the Good News of Jesus and the community turned out for the proclamation of the Lord's Message as Dr. Paul spoke?

18. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul was strongly opposed by the leaders of the synagogue. Paul and Barnabas told them that it was God's Plan to attempt to teach you first, but because of their rejection of His New Covenant and God's chosen King-Jesus, you all judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life and we will now evangelize among the gentiles God's Plan of salvation?

19. Y/N ___ The crowd of gentiles that heard Dr. Paul's statement were rejoicing for God and His new Covenant, and many that had concern for eternal life, responded to the Lord's Message and were 'added' by God to Jesus'

Kingdom. This went beyond Antioch into the neighboring towns?

20. Y/N ___ This became the talk of the area and the Jews formed a coalition to persecute Dr. Paul and Barnabas and forced them to leave the area?

21. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul and Barnabas were not abused and left behind a number of disciples of Jesus, and Dr. Paul had laid hands on some to assist in their growing reform to Jesus' new Way and to confirm by miraculous signs, the Truth of what they taught?

22. Y/N ___ Though the success of establishing the Kingdom of Jesus is evident by the number of converts and the chaos or anger of the city, the idea of "dusting their feet" is saying that the community's rejection is historically nonsense and with the confirming actions allowed by God for all to see or experience. They, seeming wise, have no excuse and will not be forgotten by God for the rejection of those He has sent out to evangelize His new Way for mankind to be reconciled through Jesus to Himself?

23. Y/N ___ The team left as forced to do, but as we will see, not in shame. They proceeded to Iconium deeper into Galatia. They, again, sought out the local synagogue and used the same method of appeal to historically, educated people, the Jews. No one else in any philosophy had the kind of documented history to back their views of reality. Without doubt, they again had great success. It seems Dr. Paul's method, which is displayed in the lesson at Antioch, reached both Jews and Greeks in the congregation. There was a large number, again,

persuaded that his reasonings best defined reality and they accepted Jesus and His Kingdom as the reason for life to exist. We have no idea how long they remained there, but the evangelism and teaching of the reforms Jesus expects, generated the same response across the community as earlier in Antioch. They wanted to kill their intrusion into their quiet little world. Being made aware of this, they vacated the area, as before. The Kingdom of Jesus was well established and the area aware, as they had covered the area with miraculous events, which should have caused men of normal common sense to respond correctly, but it did not happen, so they left for a time and traveled to the next city?

24. Y/N ___ Lycaonia is an old province, but now was part of Rome's Galatia. They had their own language and quiet lifestyle. They first came to Lystra. They (the team) began to evangelize the area. In the city of Lystra Dr. Paul healed a man who had been listening to His Good News. Dr. Paul was aware that this man had gleaned enough insight to recognize the difference between Dr. Paul's reasoning for life and the overwhelming local culture's god view. He asked the Lord to heal this man, who had been cripple since birth and the gracious Lord did. This ought to have been enough to confirm what they were teaching, but this city had a legend of 'gods' visiting them in the past by their present gods, which was very strongly thought to be true. So, the city went into chaos, thinking the 'gods' had returned. Barnabas was thought to be Zeus and Dr. Paul, Hermes, because he was the speaker. The priest took advantage of the situation and decided sacrifices to these gods was necessary, so

they began the ceremony. Dr. Paul and Barnabas jumped in and stopped this craziness. They told them that they were men, just like them not gods. And that they were among them to evangelize about the living God, to Whom they ought to turn, away from these legends and stone. The living God made everything that exist. He is willing to forget the transgressions against Him and His kindness through the centuries is seeable to you by rain and fruitful seasons for your welfare. The confusion among the priest and the city was halted but not fully understood. After continuing to work in Lystra for a while, the word had gotten to as far as Antioch (70 + miles) that these men were still creating trouble in the area. They gathered others from Iconium and went to Lystra and developed a mob to oppose Dr. Paul and Barnabas. Dr. Paul seeing the supposed opportunity must have been brutally beat and stoned to death. If you have ever seen a person stoned, (to those receiving it) you saw that by the brutality of the stones damage to the person's body, it goes far beyond knocking someone out, before they are finished. Dr. Paul was dead. Then dragging the body by the hair and a leg through the streets and throwing the body into a ditch by the side of the road is just as brutal. After the mob from across Galatia goes back into the city for celebration and drunkenness, the disciples that were developed gathered around Dr. Paul in shock and a "Now what do we do!", feeling. He stands up! And walks back into the city! Has God intervened and completely, immediately made Dr. Paul whole?

25. Y/N ___ Anyone that is brutalized by a stoning is not getting up and walking anywhere! Very few have ever survived or not pronounced dead before they stop. It would take months of healing to get well enough to do anything without assistance! He walked back into the city. There is no way the mob did not know of this, nor that his resurrection did not scare these folks to death! It probably drove those from Iconium and Antioch out of town and they must have told many of the event going back home. And the disciples of Jesus that Dr. Paul and Barnabas had created in and around Lystra could not have received a more important exhortation than the evangelist of the new Way of Jesus being resurrected right in front of them and returning into the city instead of hiding! He had to be completely healed by the Lord to immediately go into the city and to leave the next day for the next city, Derbe?

26. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke closes this first evangelistic mission in Derbe. It has been a most successful outreach for the Cause of Christ Jesus. If you notice, in Derbe they had the same success they had in every area and city they traveled into. Here, Dr. Luke reports they created many disciples, which indicates the same methods, courage, determination and Truth being confirmed as the other areas that have been reported, back to the island of Cyprus. After staying in Derbe for the strengthening of the 'souls' of each disciple about the reforms expected of Jesus' Kingdom, Dr. Paul and Barnabas 'appointed' elders in each city. They also exhorted them to be steadfast in "the Faith", which many (as far back as Elymas in Cyprus) would continue to violently fight against "the Faith".

Because they (all these in “the Faith” or Jesus’ Kingdom or in a New Covenant relation with God), as they all reform to His new Way and teach others, “... must undergo many troubles because they have entered God’s Kingdom.”?

27. Y/N ___ This entire part of southern Galatia in less than a year, now had good congregations of Jesus’ ‘called-out people’. Paul and Barnabas could have gone north to work in that part of Galatia but did not. They went back over the area into each community and area without any fear or without any molesting by the communities, likely because of Dr. Paul being resurrected in Lystra and having no effects of the stoning. As Dr. Luke reports the historical events of the progress of Jesus’ Kingdom, he here, now, reveals a new activity among the saints in each congregation in each city. Paul and Barnabas have developed the same kind of called-out group as was in Jerusalem and Antioch. Also, they now had special miraculous abilities as prophets, and evangelist from the Holy Spirit through Dr. Paul laying hands upon some of them. They could receive accurate direct teaching about the new Way of Jesus for the reforming of the Body in each community of christians. These were just like the congregations through Judea, Syria, Cilicia, Samaria and Cyprus. There was one new feature that was needed for the stability of each group. From among each congregation were certain men of “the Faith” that already met certain qualifications given through the Teaching of the Holy Spirit. These were only men not women. Their authority came through the Holy Spirit and by the choice of the congregation, after they

understood the qualifications of Jesus for this work. Notice that these 'elders' came from among the congregation. They only had responsibility, if accepted, to their community. So, as they accepted the responsibility of oversight, known and witnessed by the local congregation, Dr. Paul and Barnabas prayed and fasted for them and appointed these men as 'elders'?

28. Y/N ___ The missionaries appointed 'elders' in each city as they back-tracked to Perga. Now in each congregation, each city was a single congregation with city-wide elders, and inspired brethren for unity and evangelism, since there was no reason for splitting over personality or false teaching, and since 'elders' were the Holy Spirit's authority, each community of the 'called-out of Christ' had growth, fellowship and outreach which was simple to maintain, identical to Antioch?

29. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul and Barnabas travel to Perga and evangelized there for a while, and sailed out of Attalia to Antioch in Syria, which is where they began. Dr. Luke says that "God's Grace" had entrusted this effort to these two men and they accomplished great things. These great things were the development of congregations, properly organized, for the salvation of "sons and daughters" in new global areas that had little chance any other way of hearing and receiving Jesus' wonderful Way of being and staying reconciled to God. It had been a tough trip but as these missionaries reported what God had done with them to their home congregation in Antioch, you can sense the humility and awe they had for the Lord's sacrifice for man and His Way of reform?

30. Y/N ___ Jesus is reported by Dr. Luke's contemporary history of the Acts of some Apostles and leaders, to have said, "... to the ends of the Earth.", which has begun. There are other areas that others went to (like Rome) that did as was done in Antioch. They evangelized many gentile parts of the world. Dr. Luke's contemporary history might or might not have an inspired or reported similar story as he has already given his reader, but in about 15 years they have reached from throughout Jerusalem and Judea to and through southern Galatia. And saturated by zealous missions each area. They do not seem to have missed a hamlet with the Good News of Jesus. They took time to detail the history and the majesty of Jesus and explain to those obedient to Jesus' Truth, exactly what was expected of those that have covenanted with God to reform to this new Way. They give the praise, honor and glory to "God's Grace" as He used them. Their spirit's must have been high upon their return to Antioch. They had peace and comfort with that still vibrant congregation for a while?

SUBMIT your answers

11th thought

1. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul and Barnabas were gone for roughly a year and presently enjoying the peace of the Antioch congregation. They had not designed any new effort of outreach. The reason will become evident. A grave

problem is about to arise that could split the congregation. Remember a few thoughts back, when Prof. Peter was introduced to Cornelius and family in Caesarea, who were gentiles (not Jews). Peter had to be implored by visions and the Spirit to avail himself to gentiles. He did so and realized the visions and the speaking in languages by the gentile crowd was a sign to him that God wanted the evangelizing of the gentiles begun by the Apostles. Recall the Jerusalem congregation was initially very upset that he, a Jew, had 'eaten' with a gentile, but when Prof. Peter explained the event, they calmed and rejoiced that the gentiles were now able to be in Jesus' Kingdom. Well, that was before the Antioch congregation was begun, where Jews and gentiles were in the same congregation. Antioch, too, had sent them a large contribution for the coming famine (thought to happen in A.D.46). Dr. Paul and Barnabas the prophet had created many new communities of Jews and gentiles and helped them to all understand that the new Way of Jesus fulfilled the old Covenant and had begun Jesus' New Covenant. The entire Temple organization of Feast, priest, sacrifices and atonement was annulled by Jesus' sacrifice, once for all times and prayer was now in His Name. He completely fulfilled every prophecy of the expected Messiah, Prophet, King and Son, etc. To continue to 'follow' the old Law as obedience to Yahweh or to follow it for God's way of salvation, which was by doing the works of the old Law, was completely denied by the teachings of the new Way! But, some folks are harder to convince, particularly if their religious effort was devoted to the Law of Moses. So, with all this handled well in the congregations with gentiles and Jews, along

come some Jewish brethren from Jerusalem to teach these 'erring' brothers.?

2. Y/N ___ "You all have to get circumcised!", they taught. If not as Moses taught in the old Law, "..., you cannot be saved!" Dr. Paul and Barnabas (he was a prophet in great honor among the congregation in Jerusalem) took the brethren aside and had lengthy discussions with them, as to how going back to the Law, which was dead in God's mind, could have any use for Jesus' Kingdom, since He nailed all of It to His cross in A.D.30! These were not convinced, and claimed Jerusalem's Apostles and Jesus' brother, James, taught the same as they did. This was of serious danger and might cause a major problem, so the leaders sent Dr. Paul and Barnabas with others, to Jerusalem to clear up an obvious error. Do most people today agree to reason through a major problem the way these men agreed to do?

3. Y/N ___ They traveled together for a few days and arrived at Jerusalem and set a meeting with the Apostles and the congregation's elders. (We do not know exactly when the Jerusalem elders were appointed by the Apostles, but Dr. Paul did the same in his work, using the exact same qualifications. It is part of Jesus' organization of all local communities of saints in every city.) On the way down the coast, they (Dr. Paul, Barnabas and others from Antioch) declared the inclusion of gentiles into Jesus' Kingdom, which caused great rejoicing in each place. They were received by everyone in Jerusalem with gladness?

4. Y/N ___ They obviously expressed the great progress God's Grace had done by them and the gentiles with Jews new christian congregations up through Galatia. At some point these Jewish converts that had been Pharisees in the corrupt present system of Judaism, announced that all gentiles must be circumcised and must follow Moses' Law! The leaders, Apostles and elders, had a private meeting to discuss this problem with them. Then they had an open meeting to announce for all to hear God's answer to such an idea?

5. Y/N ___ In the public congregational meeting, a specific format was set, determining who would speak and in what order. Prof. Peter was the first speaker. (He was back in Jerusalem.) He as Jesus' Apostle was chosen by the Holy Spirit to speak to Cornelius' family. He reminded them that God made the choice, "...among you all", (the Jewish disciples and leaders) to deliver the 1st Message to the gentiles! And they responded and became believers, acceptable to God for: forgiveness of past sins, being added to Jesus' kingdom, receivers of God's Spirit as a guarantee for eternal inheritance with Him. Prof. Peter is presenting that God saw no difference in their entry into Jesus' Kingdom than Jews. Faith in God and in Jesus began when both group's response to reform to God's Will, which was and is the new Way as instructed by the Holy Spirit. The Law's way of works, God had established for about 1,500 years, were no longer acceptable and never saved anyone, even since It began. The sins were never forgiven, just rolled along to the next year, or every year they would have not had to make sacrifices for the entire year. As the gentiles are being

saved by the Grace of the Lord Jesus, we know we Jews are also! Do you think Prof. Peter suggesting that Gentiles are now just as 'chosen' as the Jews were for centuries was clear?

6. Y/N ___ After Prof. Peter gave this Apostle's view of the problem, Dr. Paul and the loved prophet Barnabas proceeded with more proof the gentiles are fine without any need for following the Law of Moses. They have a completely silent crowd around them, which speaks to the intensity of this problem as Jewish disciples were measuring the situation. If the gentiles, whom they thought God always hated, were now as acceptable as Jews into Jesus' Kingdom, do we Jews still need to see ourselves as 'chosen' in God's mind or is their equality! It is a problem that apparently, they had not had to deal with in their congregation. (Remember the Hellenistic widows had been neglected by the Judean disciples until the Apostles stepped in.) Jews had respect for the Apostles as Jesus' leadership, but it would take much to overcome 1,500 years of Moses Law being the standard. Too, leadership of the Jews by the Sanhedrin was perceived to be corrupt. That could also affect what they felt about the Apostles in such a religious and cultural powder keg as remaining obedience to the Law of Moses. They had to separate worship and obedience from cultural history, which if not taught correctly will create a nightmare of problems. So, Dr. Paul and Barnabas are a good idea, after the Apostle has set the stage. If God did equal miracles through Barnabas and Dr. Paul (notice the order: Paul is not here honored as an Apostle and Barnabas leads. Saul had killed and put in prison many of

their family and friends just over ten years earlier), it would help to convince the congregation. Barnabas would be a more convincing proven source of integrity about God's work among the gentiles than Dr. Paul). Do you think that since the gentiles were receivers of God's miracles by the hands of Barnabas and Dr. Paul, the convincing of the Jewish congregation to not follow Moses Law for religious reasons, was now acceptable?

7. Y/N ___ Jesus' brother is mentioned in Jewish history outside the contemporary historians that reveal Jesus in several themed histories. He was called James the Just because he was in prayer in the Temple nearly every day, until the Jewish leaders had him thrown off the Temple roof and stoned in A.D.61ish. He was one of those that witnessed Jesus after His resurrection and his service becomes highly respected by and in the Jerusalem congregation. There is no evidence that he ever went out of Jerusalem, but he did write one contemporary history about Jesus and the Jewish disciples' necessary, correct response to Jesus and His inspired new Way. Because he is last to speak to the congregation, he is likely the one with most influence. If the conversation was left with Barnabas' and Dr. Paul session, do you think their might still be some confusion about whether gentiles were responsible for following Moses Law or not? (Too, he was accused of being the erring Jewish teacher's source.)

8. Y/N ___ The final speaker is James (Jesus' brother, a prophet, and a man well-known for his faith in Jesus in Jerusalem.) He goes directly to Scripture. These brethren that are teaching this error are all Jewish Pharisees, so Scripture ought to make a difference in their

understanding of God's Plan in these times of the New Covenant of Jesus. James quotes the Prophet Amos, who quotes God as saying: I will redo the Jewish system, such that all families (or tribes) of the Earth can seek Him. They will be allowed to call upon My Name. James concludes that because God has included them into the Kingdom, we must submit to His Will. Also, Jews should not trouble them to comply to Moses Law who have complied to His new Way. In fact, he suggested they send them a Letter explaining their position on this matter. He, also, includes some commands from God found in the old Law, that gentiles have done, dishonoring God for millenniums. James ends with there is no need to teach more because that is being done in synagogues through Moses Law for many generations in many areas?

9. Y/N ___ After these three spoke, The Apostles and elders in a congregational conversation decided that James' suggestion for a Letter was good, but It was to be carried by a few brethren from the Jerusalem congregation going to Antioch representing the congregation and verifying the Letter's genuineness. Did the problem of the Pharisee brethren in Jerusalem demanding gentiles to be circumcised and submitting to Moses' Law receive any direct rebuke in the 1st meeting of the Apostles and elders?

10. Y/N ___ How about these three short speeches with the congregation?

11. Y/N ___ As you read the Letter, does it include the Apostles, elders, James and congregation's input?

12. Y/N ___ Does the Letter claim that anyone else was involved with Its content?
13. Y/N ___ Did the congregation in Jerusalem decide that the error may have a need to be corrected beyond just Antioch?
14. Y/N ___ Did they address the entire congregation in Antioch?
15. Y/N ___ Did they open the Letter by addressing the Antioch congregation as their 'brothers' in Christ?
16. Y/N ___ Did they include all the other congregations in Syria and Cilicia?
17. Y/N ___ So, they wanted to insure that this error was to be opposed and corrected with copies of this Letter by distributing It to anyone in the body of Christ, so there would be no doubt about the unity of the Kingdom of Jesus, particularly if anyone came saying that they taught the error and claimed that they had the authority of the Jerusalem leaders (the Apostles except Dr. Paul were still in Jerusalem)?
18. Y/N ___ Did they point out that the error had caused much discussion among the congregation in Jerusalem?
19. Y/N ___ Did those that came to Antioch and taught this error have any authority or backing from anyone in the Jerusalem congregation?
20. Y/N ___ Since the Pharisee trained brothers that 'commanded' the Antioch congregation to begin to correct their error or they cannot be saved, now seemed to have been reformed by them in Jerusalem?

21. Y/N ___ Did the Letter explain that the congregation in Jerusalem now knew that these Pharisees were going out and teaching this error and that the congregation had addressed and corrected these brethren?

22. Y/N ___ Did the Letter indicate, too, that to be certain that this letter way drafted by the congregation at Jerusalem, they would send two men among their leadership to collaborate the Letter and that Its content was from the Jerusalem congregation?

23. Y/N ___ The Jerusalem congregation also gives tribute to the work that Barnabas and Dr. Paul had been doing in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, as another sign of the Jerusalem congregation's unity with them and those that will receive the Letter. (As you will see later, Silas goes out as a part of Dr. Paul next mission team, instead of Barnabas and they continue to distribute the Letter in the areas of Cilicia, Syria, and Galatia. Silas, being from Jerusalem, could continue to validate It.)?

24. Y/N ___ The Jerusalem leaders recognize that they have another and greater authority than themselves involved in the writing of this Letter. They want those in Antioch and others to recognize that they are aware that the 'Holy Spirit's approval has been given for its content and the emphasis. Since Jesus had said that the Holy Spirit would come to them and did, and in Prof. John's contemporary History had explained Who, what, why and when He would come to guide them in Jesus' New Covenant, their inclusion of His involvement gave to those reading the Letter, a new understanding of the importance of the Letter. It, then, was not just some mail

or correspondence between men, but was completely guided and carried Jesus' and God's authority?

25. Did the inclusion of James' four old Law commandments allow any other old Law commandments to be added for those that read the Letter, or does it indicate that if any old Law was necessary to be taught, those specific Laws would be given by the Holy Spirit as needed? ___ all should be added, ___ only ones added by Holy Spirit as He sees need

26. Y/N ___ When the group from Jerusalem arrived with the Letter, the entire congregation was gathered, and the Letter was read and the congregation (made up of gentiles and Jews) then split into a Jewish congregation and a gentile congregation?

27. Y/N ___ The congregation was elated that Jerusalem had not sent the Pharisees and called their 'Law salvation' teaching "error"?

28. Y/N ___ After the initial rejoicing settled, Judas and Silas taught and encouraged the congregation. They, like Barnabas, were Prophets of Jesus and served for a while among the workers in Antioch?

29. Y/N ___ Judas returned to Jerusalem and Silas remained?

30. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul and Barnabas also stayed and worked to insure all was well and evangelized in the area?

31. Y/N ___ There seems to be a large number of christians in Antioch that were involved with maturing

Jesus' Kingdom to His reforms and evangelizing new contacts?

12th thought

1. Y/N ___ So, since there obviously was a great need to do more than pray for all the new congregations of Christians Dr. Paul and Barnabas has begun, they decided to return and assist them to mature and evangelize. (We are not sure how, but Dr. Paul has received word that the Pharisee's error has reached into the Galatian congregations. He then writes a Letter to the congregations about this error and has it delivered before he leaves Antioch. Because it, then, is obvious that these Pharisees had traveled as far as they had, they needed to travel through Syria and Cilicia and into Galatia to backtrack to all the congregations with the same information Antioch had received from the Jerusalem brethren). So, Dr. Paul and Barnabas decided to leave again?

2. Y/N ___ In their preparation they had a disagreement. John Mark had come back to Antioch from Jerusalem, and Barnabas wanted him to travel and work with them again. Dr. Paul refused because he had left them in the first mission. These two men of God decided that it could be that the Pharisees could have gone into Cyprus as well, so they could split into two teams. One to Cyprus and the other to Galatia. If the problem was in Cyprus, Barnabas could handle it and Dr. Paul would take Silas (who was also a Roman citizen from the Jerusalem

congregation and a Prophet of Jesus) to collaborate the Letter about the Pharisee's error. This rectified the rift over Mark and they both left? (They will meet again in Corinth.)

3. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke's history, from here follows Dr. Paul till the end of his report about 15 years later. The Prophet Barnabas does seem to join Dr. Paul later in Corinth about A.D.51, but not in Dr. Luke's Treatise of the Acts of some of Jesus' first sent out missionaries. He is mentioned in Dr. Paul's contemporary history named '1 Corinthians', as if the congregation there knew him. Does this seem to be a mature and reasonable decision by Dr. Paul and Barnabas to ensure all the congregations were contacted, particularly since Dr. Paul had written to Galatia about the error of the Pharisees already?

4. Y/N ___ The brethren in Antioch again have a sendoff time of asking for God's Grace to be with Dr. Paul's work for Jesus' Cause?

5. Y/N ___ He travel throughout Syria and Cilicia to insure their correct, unified Teaching, structure and continued evangelism in their reforms to Jesus' likeness and Cause? (A copy of the Jerusalem Letter was left everywhere.)

6. Y/N ___ There is a pass through the Taurus Mountains named the Cilician Gates, which was used by most to travel into Galatia. Dr. Paul arrived with the Prophet Silas at Derbe, where Dr. Paul had established a congregation a couple of years earlier and had sent a copy of the historical Letter called 'Galatians'. It is one of the preserved contemporary histories that is still in

existence. He had been made aware of the Pharisees having polluted the Good News of Jesus that he had taught. (You have a copy of this Letter in your extended Master's level study materials for your additional work, with audio.) He is very candid in it as his authority is denied by the Pharisees and demanded that they be circumcised as they did in Antioch. He says he taught them the Truth from Jesus and gives proof of his authority as Jesus' Apostle. And says any other 'Good News' is not 'Good News', but more so, apostasy! He says no one, even himself, that teaches anything other than what they had been taught by him was a disgrace and not from Jesus! He proves that the Law of Moses and its salvation by the works in It, is annulled and that salvation is now only available from God by obedience to Jesus' new Way. He uses Abraham to establish that obedient faith was established as righteous in God's mind before the Law was established to be followed by Jews only. And not even they could be saved by It. He asked them to use common sense: Had they received miraculous gifts from the Law or from the Spirit that they received through Dr. Paul laying on his hands! So, since they had this confirmation that they were free of anything but Jesus' Way, how did they become so foolish! Dr. Paul says that he is still waiting for Jesus to be formed in them (as He was in him)! Going back to work in accord with Jesus' reforming Teachings from the Holy Spirit are clear and they need to remove these brethren and go back to Jesus' reforms. Thus, Dr. Paul now being there in person, as follow-up to it would be great confirmation of the Truth? (Jesus said in Prof. John's history that "He" was: 'the' Way, 'the' Truth and 'the' Life and that no one

comes to the Father except through Him! So much for Moses Law, right?)

7. Y/N ___ As you can read here in Dr Luke's history, Dr. Paul also delivered the Letter from the congregation at Jerusalem (as he had throughout Syria and Cilicia), which proved the evil men were not teaching Truth. Also, he had Silas with him to confirm the Letter was from Jerusalem, since Silas was known in Jerusalem as a great Prophet of Jesus' Kingdom! He was capable of doing miracles as a Prophet, too. Do you think with all this proof that the congregations had any doubt that Dr. Paul was Jesus' authority of His Way and the old Law was annulled?

8. Y/N ___ For the next about fifteen years Dr. Paul is about to add to his team a young zealous, committed disciple named Timothy. A young teachable, trainable serious man or women (Dr. Paul will have both and several over the next 15 or so years) cannot be denied. Dr. Paul knows there is much ahead and how vital it is to be preparing the next generation of Jesus' kind of leadership. Derbe's congregation had a convert since Dr. Paul and Barnabas had left on their first mission that had taught her son well (her name we find out later in another history section by Dr. Paul to Timothy, is Eunice). He was a very serious, zealous disciple of Jesus. He in the past couple of years was well used in the area congregations and well thought of by them all?

9. Y/N ___ Because Timothy had a Greek dad and a Jewish mom, he was not circumcised. But to be acceptable in the many places Dr. Paul was to be going and working (in synagogues of Jews), it would be best if

Timothy was. The old Law made such a provision for those with Jewish heritage. So, Timothy was circumcised?

10. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul, Silas and Timothy worked in the three major congregation and the area for a while. Remember Dr. Paul had sent a Letter from Antioch to them all about the error of being circumcised and following the old Law of Moses. The Letter was very direct but visiting, studying, working, praying, and worshiping among the gentile and Jews that had come into Jesus' Kingdom in the area congregations, will mature and reform many from minds that slip and lives that revert back to their past ways. So, the congregations (one in each community, but all in unity of Jesus as King, using His new Way to be unified) are provided from Dr. Paul and Silas: strength and training by their Jesus-like: manner of talking, their actions like Jesus, their minds maintained (self-control) to think about things as Jesus thought, and showing that they had the same motives Jesus had about what He said, did and thought. (As well as, the daily praying together and learning how to pray to our Father in heaven.) They recognized His power, love, concern and promises for His sons and daughters. Also, they enforced how to have a worship every first day of the week that the entire community has to attend in honor, praise, and glory of our Father and Jesus our King, Savior and Mediator. As well as, what worship means to God and understanding our worship to Him. Worship is from our hearts and minds. It is internal but by only external things God approves. People of the pagan way of life would sacrifice animals or virgins or children. The living God stops such nonsense and

provides exactly what He accepts as approved to worship Him: 1) Prayer only to Him and through Jesus' Name, 2) Studying by self, family, friends, other members of the Kingdom and with those invited or curious. Study, though, is letting God (Father, Son-Jesus, and Holy Spirit) talk with you. Study is you willing and hungry for His perfect, complete, acceptable Teaching, so all can understand what reforms He is expecting His children to make. Study must be daily, as He expects His children to desire greatly to prove their dedication to Him, more than anything else, and His children's need to "Hear" from Him. Reforming to His new Way is what all disciples who made a Covenant with Him, are to be willing to do, as they committed to, when they allowed someone to immerse them in water into Christ. Only God can forgive sin, no man or women, ghost, holy man, priest or demon has the power! God alone has the power to do so, and He will, if you genuinely agreed to reform to His Will or new Way and are co-immersed in water with Jesus. God will 'add' or transfer you into His Son-Jesus'- Kingdom, where you are, by His Power: forgiven of all past sins, given a life-long seal of His Holy Spirit upon your soul, which, if you are faithful (not perfect) and blameless in your life and mind to Him (never not be willing to reform to His Way, Honor He and Jesus, confess your error to only Him, honor man and christians, as He explains in His New Covenant and will worship only He and Jesus). He has a reward He has prepared for all eternity which awaits each of His children after this life ends and that promise has His guarantee! All others will be placed in an all alone eternity without light, no talking, no movement, no one available for anything, suspended and painful and

no assistance forever from the living God called: Hell, or the Abyss. Another taught action by Dr. Paul and Barnabas was singing to God. It was, by God's desire to be from their hearts not just their mouths. He accepts only that kind of singing. He will not accept any other outsider lyrics or rhythm of men to produce glory to the singing other than the heart of worshipers. Songs must be: to Him, about Him, or/and because of Him. They are heard by Him and must be from the hearts with humility, thankfulness and love or He will not accept them. They also taught giving back to God from what you are blessed to receive in life. It may or may not be finances only. It might be food, shelter, clothing which meet the need of others. The teaching of doing such are clear in the examples of Jesus and His Kingdom. The goals or Cause is to be sustained, also by Jesus' Kingdom. The organizing of the congregation for needs, is very clear and how God's Grace blesses all that give without bias, disappointment, feelings of regret, false giving for power and position are also clearly shown. God also sees this as an act approved by Him for times of congregating to store-up for the future needs, but with total congregation knowledge. He knows the hearts of His Son's Kingdom and will not accept any giving as worship that comes from a person that does not love, honor, or in praise is doing any of these acceptable actions. He has approved all these as ways to give worship to Him. The special actions of acceptable worship, that all the Apostles and Prophets, Evangelist and Elder/teacher that the Holy Spirit worked with, was to be done daily. Only at the gathering of all the christians of the community each first (1st) day of the week, was the Lord's Supper to be done.

The fact was that their assembly on the 1st day of the week was centered upon and because of Jesus' sacrifice for His Kingdom. It is not that all Jesus' Kingdom did not praise thankfully His sacrifice every day, they did. It was because of the unity of all the saints in the community needed to display their confidence in both He actually sacrificing Himself for them all, but that He was also now resurrected, coronated and returning for His Kingdom, when time would cease, and the universe removed. Then, after the judgement, the new eternal bodies He has designed for each soul will either join He, the Father, the Holy Spirit, all the righteous angels and any righteous soul that has already died, in the 'eternal' perfect Kingdom, or not. Those that chose to not live by God's standard in every generation since the first two people He created, will by the judgement from His Word, which He has provided for the world to learn to please Him, receive what they have proved by their time on Earth they desire, a place away from He and His. He has warned for millenniums as to its design by Him to warn, exhort and encourage all mankind to avoid it. It is going to happen but not by man's standard but His. There will be no light, no talk, no company, no activity, no motion, being suspended alone, no assistance, pain, and no help from God. He by His nature is a just, as well as a loving God, and this is His reward for rejection of His love. He has to judge all sin that is not covered by the blood sacrifice of His Son, Jesus. And He already has the exact moment in place, it will occur! Too, He has provided the warnings of it, and even the reward of those rejecting His guaranteed eternal bliss with Him. This is, then, their choice not His. Our God takes no comfort in the death of

an unrighteous person. Also, He has covered the sinless and the ones that sin but have not yet reached an age of responsibility for their sins against Him. He discussed both in parts of His Covenants (1st and 2nd). In Deut. 1:39 to the 2nd generation of Jews, that He allowed to live while their mothers, dads, grandparents, and any sibling over 19 died in the Wandering, by Moses explaining why they lived and did not die with them. God says that 19 and under were, “not responsible for their sins”. So, is what Dr. Paul and Barnabas taught any different than what was taught the first citizens of Jesus’ Kingdom in Jerusalem by the twelve original Apostles after the beginning of Jesus’ Kingdom there?

11. Y/N ___ All in the previous question (#10) are vital things that those in the Kingdom of Jesus will want and have to understand. Every congregation would be taught the exact same things, because the Holy Spirit could be every place to see to the Truth being given and understood. God has always given specific things that are doable by His followers to please Him. These in Jesus’ Kingdom had been made aware from the beginning of It, that before they were immersed and co-buried with Jesus in their water grave: 1) they were to willingly die (that’s what Jesus meant by the disciples of Him must carry their own cross). Yes, possibly a physical death by those that will hate them, but more so, to their old life and ways, 2) they must be willing to “reform” their minds (thinking) and lives to any and all the new Way of Jesus would have them to be, say, think, or act. All people, by Jesus’ design of ‘God’s Plan of Salvation’ of the New Covenant know before they enter their water grave of this imperative,

“You cannot receive My forgiveness of your past sins against Me until you agree to accept My Covenant requirement of you committing to reform to any and all of Jesus’ Kingdom requirements! I am watching your response! Do you agree to reform to what He requires of you or not?”. Their answer has to be a genuine, “Yes!”, or God will not ‘add’ or ‘transfer’ them into Jesus’ Kingdom. It will not matter how much water they have to immerse in, or how many times they are immersed, without that commitment to reform to Jesus’ Way, they are not ‘added’ or ‘transferred’ by God into the Kingdom of God! Since all these in Derbe, Lystra, and Iconium were being reminded of their Covenant agreement to reform to their new King and His Way, Dr. Paul would know when to have reviewed enough for them to be on their own (but remember the Holy Spirit was given on the first mission by Dr. Paul and he likely gave the miraculous abilities here again, because even while they were working with the congregations daily, they also were growing in number daily), such that they could now move on?

12. Y/N ___ Did you notice the phrase, “in the Faith” in this review of this follow-up effort by Dr. Paul and his team?

13. Y/N ___ This is the fifth time Dr. Luke has used the phrase. He is not meaning ‘faith’, which every disciple of Jesus’ Kingdom must have at a proper level or total trust and absolute confidence. Each must be certain that Jesus is Who He claims to be and have such ‘faith’ that they will do His every desire of ‘reform’ Jesus wants in His new Way or New Covenant. “The Faith” is another way of

expressing “the complete system” found in the New Covenant. Or the ‘Way’ (always Jesus’ ‘new’ Way, the old is annulled). Or Good News. Or Mystery. Or His Name (authority and subjection to all He wants). Or Message (This is the most used Word written in describing Jesus’ new Way or ‘the Faith’.) Or the Grace (used to mean God’s part of involvement which will always be in accord with ‘the Faith’ or Jesus New Covenant). Notice in the sentence written by Dr. Luke that the congregations were strengthened in “the Faith” not “their” faith.

Understanding the vast difference in the two phrases will mean you understand Dr. Luke’s intent for continuing to establish the standard of Jesus’ Kingdom and the Unity of His citizens to His system of expressing their individual and congregation’s reforms to “the Faith” by their faith. Do you understand the difference?

12. Y/N ___ Antioch was on the boarder of Phrygia, so, Dr. Paul and his team has grown by at least one, Timothy. By seeing Dr. Paul’s constant, equal activity, it is very certain that they did the exact same things (including the distribution and discussion of the Letter from Jerusalem) in the area groups around Antioch. It might mean that Dr. Paul went to some congregations in Perga, as he and Barnabas did speak to folks in Perga on the way back to Antioch of Syria, where they began. Since Dr. Luke mentions Galatia again, it seems they ended their ‘strengthening (as in Derbe, Lystra and Iconium) of the areas congregations in ‘the Faith’ of Jesus’ new Way at Antioch?

13. Y/N ___ They had in mind to travel into Mysia and Bithynia to evangelize but God had something else in

mind. Yes, they had done a splendid work through Antioch of Pisidia, but their work to be done was in the other direction, so they complied with the Spirit's direction?

14. Y/N ___ The team moved to the coast to Troas. Dr. Luke does not report if there was a congregation there at this time, but later does. In the evening Dr. Paul has a vision that calls for him to go to Macedonia, which is in Europe. He immediately made the preparations to travel. He has something else happen in Troas. A pronoun helps the reader see what happened. "We" means that a new member became part of this team. Dr. Luke has now become part of Dr. Paul's team. Also, he reports 'they' were going to evangelize Macedonia, meaning Dr. Luke was added as an inspired Evangelist or as a Prophet?

15. Y/N ___ The mission team sailed to the Macedonian coast in two days which was very quick. Usually such a trip by ship was four to five days. They landed at Neapolis, which is the seaport of Philippi, after bypassing Samothrace. Philippi was a Roman colony, which meant all was as if you were in Rome itself. The team found no synagogue but stayed for a while. They went to the river where Jews would likely meet if they were too few for a synagogue. Usually Jews would find a place to pray, which they found. Those there were women and Dr. Paul began speaking to them. One of the ladies was named, Lydia. She worshiped God. She was a merchant from Thyatira, selling purple cloth (royal colored cloth that was much desired by Romans, made with purple dye from shellfish). She listened to Dr. Paul intently and his proofs of Jesus moved her to a decision to accept Jesus as King.

She and her entire household were immersed into Christ. She, also, invited this team to stay in her home, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and you ought to stay at my home." They must have agreed from her urging. The team used the place they used for prayer regularly as they worked in Philippi. On one trip to it, they were again spoken about as, "... men who proclaim to you a way of salvation and are slaves of the Most High God!", which upset Dr. Paul. Dr. Luke called the woman a "pythoness" in his report, which means she was inspired by Apollo, who gave power to woman to give 'oracles'. Their temple was in Delphi in Greece. These men that used her made a fortune as she gave prophesies. She finally had caused enough interference to Dr. Paul's work that he ordered the evil spirit (demonic angel) to come out of her in the Name of Jesus Christ and it did?

16. Y/N ___ Her masters were very happy that Dr. Paul had helped her, so they rejoiced?

17. Y/N ___ Or, they were furious because their riches were now gone! They grabbed Dr. Paul and Silas and dragged them to the magistrates, which had the official Seat of government in the marketplace. They told them what these Jews had done and were doing in Philippi with their new Way which opposes we Romans! The crowd that were at the 'trial' agreed with these men. The magistrates tore their clothes and demanded they be flogged with rods (a very ugly beating of the back muscles). They gave them many blows and put them both in their prison. They ordered the jailer of the city to keep them secure, so he placed them in the deepest,

dirtyest part of the jail. He put them in 'stocks' (very painful device for spreading legs painfully)?

18. Y/N ___ During the night, about midnight, Dr. Paul and Silas, after praying, began singing praises to God, which all the prisoners could hear and understand. Suddenly there was a violent earthquake which caused the foundation of the jail to buckle and opened all the jails doors. All the chains on the prisons, also, fell off them?

19. Y/N ___ The jailer woke with the quake, went to the jail and saw all the doors opened and knew all had escaped. He would be disgraced and severely punished by his loss of the prisoners. He decided to fall on his sword as a good Roman would do, and then he heard Dr. Paul shouted to him to stop! "... we are all here!" He took a torch and came into the cells and fell upon his knees before Dr. Paul and Silas. Then he led them outside and asked them, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" He was not talking about being saved from punishment because all the prisoners were there, so Dr. Paul and Silas must have explained why all this occurred. The jailer saw the confirmation of their words in the earthquake?

20. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul and Silas explained that he must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you and your household (family) will be saved?

21. Y/N ___ Since Dr. Paul and Silas had said, "... believe on" not believe in, they went to the jailer's home and explained the Lord's Message to him and his family?

22. Y/N ___ The jailer knew where to find water, so they all went to immediately be immersed into Christ Jesus and wash Dr. Paul's and Silas' wounds. Afterwards, the jailer took Dr. Paul and Silas into his home and served a meal. There was great rejoicing because they had believed. Did they just 'believe' who Jesus was, or did they understand who Jesus was and what Jesus' new Way expected them to reform to be that one can be 'added' (or transferred by God) into Jesus' Kingdom, who are all those who are saved?

23. Why did they seek out enough water to be immersed? ___ there was no water in the house, ___ everyone was thirsty after the earthquake, ___ Dr. Paul had explained, as Philip did to the Ethiopian officer, Jesus. And they both knew that being immersed in water was where God in your water grave forgives your sins, adds you to Jesus' Kingdom, gives the Holy Spirit as His guarantee of an eternal home with Him and where your old life dies, co-buried with Jesus, to be born again to His new Way

24. Y/N ___ The next morning some police from the magistrates came to the jail and ordered that Dr. Paul and Silas be released. When Dr. Paul was told, he refused because they had beaten him and Silas publicly and they both were Roman citizens and jailed them illegally! He demanded that the magistrates come and escort them out of the jail. The magistrates were informed and were very afraid. They came and apologized, led them out and asked them to leave the city. Dr. Paul did not leave the city immediately but went to Lydia's home for a while. We image it was to

develop a plan for the city's congregation, as always, and then went on about his work. Did you notice that 'they' left. It was without Dr. Luke, who stayed behind and worked there for a good while?

NOTE: You likely noticed we brought several things together that were not just following the report Dr. Luke was giving. We felt you might miss the important point of his Treatise, which is spreading this new Way into gentile areas. It is important to recognize that they all taught the exact same Kingdom in the report. It does not cover all the Apostles and Prophets as they spread this Kingdom's incredible new idea of living God's Way to allow reconciliation for all men unto Himself. We wanted you to consider that everywhere each of them went to evangelize, they produced equal congregations of identical practices. Not by culture, their own designs, or the congregations will, but by the Spirit of Jesus, as He had taught the Apostles in the upper room privately at the last Passover meal He had with them, which Prof. John explained. You that are in our ESL classes (Y.E.S Master's program), must be able to apply such reasons and deductions, as we introduced in this past thought, as you will analyze all kinds of materials, much like you have been assisted to do here. This added input comes only from various other parts of Dr. Luke's Treatises and other like Letters from other contemporary historians, who are discussing the same subject-Jesus. Every time you find Dr. Paul establishing new congregations of Jesus' Kingdom in Dr. Luke's report (and later in your own studies of Dr. Paul's histories), you can be sure Dr. Paul,

though seeming to move from place to place swiftly in Dr. Luke's reporting, carefully ensured, by the same method in each place, that the congregation was sound and revisited by him or his team members and by the distribution of all his and other historian's imperative correspondence throughout his mission work. It is a most interesting method of guaranteeing that from Jerusalem to Rome, every congregation remained unified in Jesus' new Way (or New Covenant) which He at His death established as the only Way to please and be pleasing to the Living God, which was rewarded with eternal bliss. Dr. Paul confirms this method and unity by saying several times in his contemporary history to the Corinthian Kingdom group that he taught the same things in every place he worked. (Likely meaning since Tarsus)

13th thought

1. Y/N ___ So, Dr. Luke reports that Dr. Paul and his team (minus Dr. Luke) traveled on through two major cities in Macedonia and arrived at Thessalonica. It seems, by Dr. Paul's pattern, that either there were no existing synagogues in these cities he was being instructed to travel through, or maybe more punishment from the men who controlled the possessed girl could have been following him. Nothing is known for sure. What is for sure is that the Province will now find out they are both Roman citizens and no mob threat will work in the area?

2. Y/N ___ About a day's journey is Thessalonica. Thessalonica was the Roman capitol of the Province and much different than the Roman Colony-Philippi. Romans

lived and controlled Philippi with equality with Rome itself. Thessalonica was a large seaport of multicultural communities, including Jews. As you will read about these Jews, they held closer to the Roman idea of Caesar as King than to the Temple rule in Jerusalem. Claudius was the present Roman King or Caesar. He was very ready to depose any uprising look, as his own family had been accused of doing so to him. He had an uprising in A.D.49, which about the time Dr. Paul was in Thessalonica, that made all Jews leave Rome. He had sent out a very blunt condemnation on any uprising in the Empire, which said all would receive swift Roman military crushing, if suspected to have any uprising. Needless to say, city governments and Roman military outpost were very attentive to making the Emperor happy. But Dr. Paul seems to not be bothered. He has been severely beaten at his last stop, yet the bad judgement of the local magistrates had given the congregation a good chance of no serious conflict at least for a while. He does not worry about such things and presses on?

3. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul looks for the local synagogues and for three weeks he attends their services on the Sabbath, using the time offered to teach of the new Way of Jesus. As we have been given his synagogue lesson in Antioch, we find he teaches that the Scriptures prophecy of the Messiah (Christ in Greek) arriving, John the immerser as the prophesied forerunner (most Jews accepted this) and Jesus as the resurrected Christ and King. So, it seems most likely that he continued to do the same, as it always produced some good response, and some bad. Here in Thessalonica's synagogue the results were the same.

This is the first time Dr. Luke reports that it was Dr. Paul's practice to go for three Sabbaths. This will show that he really gave the Jews in each community an opportunity to hear the Good News about God's fulfilled promises to Moses (the coming Prophet), Abraham (the promise and oath to him from God of his Seed-Jesus-blessing every nation or tribe, David (promised by God to have the coming Messiah come through his bloodline. Which Jesus did, as revealed by Dr. Luke's genealogy of Jesus in his first contemporary history, which presented Jesus as the "Son of Man"), Jesus death, burial, resurrection and ascension to his Throne with God, which was witnessed and confirmed by God by the miraculous things He could do, and how the "New Covenant" promised by God is fulfilled out of Jeremiah's old Law and Prophets Book (which all were awaiting to happen), and how the Prophets spoke of it all, including how and that the gentiles can be brought under God's cover as citizens of Jesus' Kingdom, the new Way. These thoughts alone would encourage Jews and gentile believers to obey, reform and thank God for His Plan of Salvation for all mankind?

4. Y/N ___ Of course, some of the Jews, seeing many in their synagogue being persuaded that what Dr. Paul and Silas were revealing as ambassadors of Jesus and His new Kingdom's Way, were upset. They were so disturbed that they generated a mob to disturb the city. They attacked the home of Jason, hoping to find Dr. Paul and his team. Since they were not there, the mob dragged Jason to the city's officials and declared, "These men, who have unsettled the world, have come here, whom Jason has

received!” (He is accused of being a conspirator with them.) They were accused of proclaiming Jesus is another king, which was against the decrees Caesar Claudius has recently declared. This is a serious charge and the city officials ruled that a peace bond must be ruled against Jason (to insist immediate stoppage of their activity as it was possible it might be viewed as being against Caesar), to which he declares the charges are not accurate. Everyone, then, went away?

5. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul had not been in Thessalonica long. Maybe a couple of months, at best. The new saints were a remarkable group with great courage and conviction (As you can study in Dr. Paul’s two historical Letters that are still preserved. They are in your advanced Master reading materials), but in a meeting that night, it was thought best for Dr. Paul to leave town for now, which he did?

6. Y/N ___ The team travel to Berea, which was about 60 miles away and not on the Egnatian Way (a Roman road for quick access to move troops and materials), which also had a synagogue. The caliber of the Jews here was much different than the corrupt leaders of the Thessalonica synagogue. Using his same approach, Dr. Paul began to teach the new Way. These Jews were much different and desired to discuss these things ‘daily’, using the Scriptures. Many of them were persuaded that Jesus is the Messiah and that reforming to His new Way was God’s “New Covenant” for all mankind?

7. Y/N ___ As the team worked to train, teach, lead and develop a sound congregation as they had everywhere they traveled and as revealed by Dr. Luke, it was part of

every new called-out group, since the beginning of the first congregation in Jerusalem about twenty years earlier. The word of the presence of Dr. Paul's team and its effect upon the Berea Jews was passed to the Thessalonica synagogue leaders, so they came to Berea to help remove the team?

8. Y/N ___ We again do not know how long they worked in Berea. It was longer than in Thessalonica, but both still needed some teaching. Dr. Paul was advised to leave before a confrontation happened. He, with a few workers, sailed to Athens (over 300 miles south and in another province-Achaia). After landing Dr. Paul sent the worker back and wanted Silas and Timothy to join him in Athens. There is no timeline for Dr. Paul in Athens, as there was not since Philippi. But the Thessalonian Jews were aware of the Decrees of Claudius about any active subversive groups in the Empire, and how to use it effectively. This would mean that Dr. Paul and his team were in Thessalonica, Berea and Athens in A.D. 49ish. His was, thus, likely to have only been in Thessalonica for 2-3 months, Berea for a few more and in Athens likely about 4-5 months. There is no way to know how to split the year between the three cities. He had the pattern to speak in the city's synagogue for three weeks and follow up teaching daily by he and his team with outreach and training of the leaders. He also, as an Apostle had authority from Jesus to pray, fast and lay hands on locals to provide prophets, evangelist and elder/teacher for the congregation's needs after his team left. He had to leave Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea sooner than he thought they were ready to be on their own, so he left behind

strong member to continue to lead their reforms, development and interactions. Dr, Luke stayed in Philippi, no one in Thessalonica due to the quick exit and Silas and Timothy in Berea. But from Athens, Dr. Paul sent Timothy to Thessalonica and Silas (it seems) to Philippi for a report and some funding-twice. Dr. Paul is going to leave Athens and go to Corinth. They both meet him there, also, and a second letter is taken to Thessalonica (thought to be again by Timothy, but not certain). You have to read the historical Letter of Dr. Paul-1st & 2nd Thessalonica, Philippians, and Colossians to develop an idea of how this time worked. Also, in Corinth, Dr. Paul will be taken before the Provincial governor, Gallo because of the stir he created and the misunderstood Message. Gallo, who is from Rome and appointed governor in A.D.51 knew what Claudia actually meant and about the Jewish inter-religious war over Christus (thought to be Jesus' disciples there in Rome). He drove the Jews out of his court and set a precedent for Romans that gave peace to Dr. Paul's work everywhere for several years. Gallo's arrival at Corinth, which was the capitol of Achaia, sets the date for Dr. Paul in Corinth allowing the student of history to backdate the work since Philippi. Dr. Paul is going to stay in Corinth about 18 months. Now, let us go back to the arrival at Athens. Was Dr. Paul alone when he arrived at Athens after he sent those traveling with him back to Berea?

9. Y/N ___ It is said to be about a ten-day trip to Berea, so Paul is looking around Athens. Even today, Athens is full of statues and altars to hundreds of gods in the pagan concepts of religion. Other histories of Athens reveal that

there were literally altars on every corner. Too, he located the marketplace in the city, which always had men and women discussing nearly everything under the sun. Also, he located the synagogue, where he begins his discussion as normal. Paul was not one to waste time, so he also began to engage the local philosophers at the market. By the time Timothy and Silas return from their trips, he has already caused quite a stir. He sends them both out again, because he is deep at work with Epicureans and Stoics. He will send a 2nd letter to Thessalonica, too, from Corinth. The two major groups in Athens marketplace were confused and debating with him frequently and did not grasp the need for Jesus or His resurrection. They controlled with Roman authority, a court for social, philosophical and religious ideas (the same court that centuries earlier forced Socrates to commit suicide by poison), and they had had enough and forced him to appear before that Court. These two groups were in direct conflict with each other, as they had for years attempted to define what and how life should be lived. Dr. Paul listened and opposed both with the new Way of Jesus, the resurrected King and God of all. This, obviously sounded ridiculous to them and it hurt their power in the city, so they acted. The Court of the Areopagus could also judge homicides, so this is a serious court?

10. Y/M ___ One of the amazing things about Dr. Luke's reported history is the brevity and conciseness of various lessons by the leaders of this movement. Here Dr. Paul will speak for just two minutes! Usually it is enough to develop some number of curious folk to start the

beginning of the Kingdom of Jesus in that city. He has help, he insists in several of his Writings, from the “Holy Spirit”, Who knows exactly what needs to be said for waiting ears, minds and hearts. Here in Athens is no different. This lesson, among all the lessons ever taught from scholars like Plato or Socrates and countless others Greek philosophers and scientist, is the only one still posted on the wall of the Areopagus for all to read, 2,000 years after Dr, Paul delivered it. Does this reflect upon Dr. Luke’s 2nd contemporary history as to Its legitimacy and accuracy?

11. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul begins with a polite but not flattering opening. It was not allowed to flatter in any way those of the judges of the Areopagus Council. “Men, Athenians (A salute to the ones on the Council and others there, some of which had sway upon the Council’s conclusion.)?”

12. Y/M ___ Dr. Paul immediately challenges their concepts of “religion”. As he had walked the streets, it is impossible to not notice the radical standard above any other place on Earth for ‘religion’ this city had. Its hundreds of huge and detailed temples and huge monuments, statues with precise details and elegance, and street corner chapels and altars by the thousands to every kind of god that could be thought of. Dedications to all the great thinkers of the Greek history are scattered everywhere with still students gathering to discern, discuss and attempt to challenge their conclusions. Writings of these men and mythology being restated and served in temple slaves and teachers all day long throughout the metroplex. It was enough to make

anyone dizzy and confused with all the input. Too, these on this Council sit at the head table of it all. So, Dr. Paul immediately declaring the obvious necessary superstition they must have without verifications is a jarring, sobering declaration. "I walked around and took notice to all places you folks can have a time of worship as it turns you on to do, which is most religious! But Alas! I found among all your superstition, something that was amazing, an altar with the inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD! Dr. Paul, then, says he is now going to introduce "this" God to all of you. The emphasis By Dr. Paul is as important as his words. There is still hope for your seeable nonsensical superstitions, when among your gods is the possibility of an unknown one, which means you are aware your menagerie has a serious flaw: You know you have the wrong God, if there is One! They had not expected such a pragmatic, direct, clearly accurate, concise opening! What they though was going to be another of the countless philosophies that come through Athens, has in two sentences put their scholarship on notice and judgement that "you" judge for a completely nonsensical concept. Would Dr. Paul have perked up your ears and started the mental juices to flow?

13. Y/N ___ As the one now in control and demander of your attention, this Dr. Paul declares, "I introduce to all of you "this" ONE Whom you 'worship' without (any) clear understanding, which is clearly suggesting that their ignorance for centuries is NOT bliss on this subject, folks! It was a club to their heads in words! "I", claimed he had superior and accurate Truth! This man has just declared this Council as inept, always inept and he now would be

delivering the Truth, they all missed, which is provable by their display of deities and such, by they having included a stupid altar to an unknown god! Dr. Paul then postulates that they really worship this ONE, which is obviously the correct ONE, but in total ignorance?

14. Y/N ___ He begins to open their understanding of this ONE that they are ignorant of (but if they had had common senses would have not missed). Dr. Paul opens his explanation with one name. "GOD!"?

15. Y/N ___ He has dismissed their past ignorance with a declaration that there is GOD. Whom he will now give correct, concise understanding to them of HIM?

16. Y/N ___ The 'cosmos' is completely 'orderly' as the Greek word has implied since the Ionian's started the word in Greece's beginning. And HE did it in an instant (the tense of the verb determines what the Greeks are hearing in their language, but not clear in English.) "THEOS (GOD in English), also, created 'everything' in it (cosmos)! He "IS" (thus alive) the Lord (Master) of heaven (all in sky, and beyond, on His throne of administration of all things). These short, concise, pragmatic declarations just destroyed all the basic theories of the entire superstitions upon which these superstitious, inconsistent, so-called scholarship held to as Laws of the universe-mythology today. He proclaims what anyone that uses common sense can discern: There can only be One eternal designer, One, that began all movement, genetics in-kind discerns His power beyond any will ever achieve, as the more you learn of all things the more you find the increase of more things to understand (not less and simpler). Also, GOD is active

(He used the word “is”-present, continuous verb) in His cosmos at every, any, and same time need with Providence, wisdom and genuine concern, but with His purpose, as all goals require reality. This is the actual ‘reality’ Dr. Paul says all folks ought to be living their lives in and not the philosophies of man, which in Athens, they all fall with one tiny little altar inscription, which they would not have, if their millions of genius’ were accurate about life and GOD?

17. Y/N ___ As this settled in, Dr. Paul next declares: Is there anything but nonsense that says that GOD lives in temples, is there anyone that thinks they are capable of designing or building a ‘house’ for God! Who thinks they have ‘hands’ (or brains) for such a facility! What in the kind of a brain of brilliant, wise, genius men that would think that the living, eternal GOD needs any help or things from men’s ability?

18. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul here uses emphatic phrasing of pronouns to emphasize God’s personal involvement, care, and hope for His creation: “HE HIMSELF” means Theos (God) is personally involved not passing it on, nor is He deranged, as are all the deities they have produced through the centuries. He displays genuine love for His creation, as He gave to man the only first living beings and breath (all the systems that must work internal and external for breath and live to be), and all that is necessary to sustain life?

19. Y/N ___ The beginning tribe (one man and one woman) began every existing tribe. He allowed them choice of direction and self- government, creating nations over the entire world (does not sound like a ‘flat’ world

idea, huh?) He worked to keep them in boundaries and lengths of their governing method for His best results. His purpose has always been for them to become wise and “seek God”, because their ways are never good for man’s final reward. Their individual gift of ‘choice’ ought to have always had God in their decisions?

20. Y/N ___ To come to know Him, discern the intimacy with Him He desires and that they are capable of achieving, are God’s goals and man’s capability by His design?

21. Y/N ___ Everyone lives, moves and exist in Him. There is no place or moment or event in anyone’s life that God is not in attendance. Dr. Paul reminds them that some of the scholars they admire have mentioned that all mankind is God’s offspring (He quotes Epimenides , a poet of Crete about 600 b.c. and Aratus of Tarsus.) They reasoned the idea of having been God’s purpose, designer and with some similarity to Him. This ought to lead us, Dr. Paul points out, to the conclusion that this “Divine Nature” is not to be skillfully or of man’s thoughts, capable of being expressed accurately in gold, silver, or stone imaging?

22. Y/N ___ GOD, Dr. Paul concludes, has overlooked the times of ignorance. Dr. Paul has surveyed the tragedy of their having not thought through their errors, mis-wisdom, nonsensical present positions and has provided the reasons for reforms they ought to accept and that now is their opportunity to reform. GOD has now demanded they reform their minds and lives and has appointed a specific Day in which He will correctly judge, as to whether they in fact did reform to His correct and

new Way. He has provided the Perfect man to provide each that is willing to accept Him and His new Way of reform, as the only Judge. Further, God has proved that He has accepted Him (Jesus) as that judge for all men, by resurrecting Him out of death?

23. Y/N ___ The presentation of Dr. Paul was quick, concise, and unbelievably clear: they had made grave errors in reason and logic concerning reality. The living, active only God and His Way will determine all mankind's eternal fate not some philosophy of men. The resurrected Judge (Jesus) had to be perfect and like God to be allowed to judge. No man like Him as ever lived in their mind or knowledge, so resurrection was impossible by their gods, only by the God?

24. Y/N ___ Several realized exactly what Dr. Paul was saying and that it had merit and suggested he come back to develop some of the areas he brought up. Dr. Paul graciously left, which means they did not feel a decision was of a consensus among them?

25. Y/N ___ It is certain that the reasoning, frankness, clearness and the reality of one living God and His perfect Judge, Jesus, struck a cord because some of the men, including Dionysius, and a strong woman named Damaris, continued to meet with Dr. Paul and were added to Jesus' Kingdom. Some others in Athens were also persuaded?

SUBMIT your answers

14th thought

1. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul begins in Corinth with a more expansive effort. He will work in and out of Corinth for about 1 ½-2 years. But he will, while working in Ephesus, come back for a short time. Then, he will return a third time for 3 months before he travels to Jerusalem (A.D. 57ish). He arrives in A.D. 50ish on this first mission. Of the last four metro areas he has gone, he has received few friendly folk, rather, folks that have always been upset enough to drag him off to a judgement or beat him half to death because of the introduction of Jesus' new Way. There are even a couple of list in some of his contemporary histories that reveal that by the time he gets to Ephesus in A.D. 54ish he had much more abuse than Dr. Luke reveals he went through. There is no question about his commitment to the work Jesus gave him to accomplish and so far, he has evangelized, disciplined and immersed folks into Jesus' Kingdom, setup organized: reform teaching, evangelism, training all the converts in outreach and their family life, interaction with saints, developed leaders, gave some the Prophet or Evangelist gifts of the Holy Spirit and a few elder/teacher the same. He has both revisited or had trained leaders, using men like Silas, to go back to help the brethren in the Kingdom, and/or began to deliver Letters to develop the local works he began. He also, from the major cities worked the area around them to reach everyone possible, finding new converts. The method is quite seeable, if you look, at his work. He, also, has developed a team to do the work as well as he does. From Corinth he has to learn a new critical point. Over the next five years (just under

two in Corinth and then constant interaction with them from Ephesus), ending with three months there for finishing the work needed. Has he been able to create congregations that are doing well, so far?

2. Y/N ___ Corinth is a rough, commercial, fast moving capitol of the Achaia Province. Every kind of culture is living and thriving in Corinth. They had games of strength and speed, a theater, a temple with a thousand sacred prostitutes of Aphrodite, underground springs, ships and cargo constantly using their ship track and commerce of every kind. Even a large synagogue. The name Corinth was known as a drunk, even in the theater. This was a wide-open society. Dr. Paul would have no problem developing a congregation here?

3. Y/N ___ He found a job working on the trade he had always had, but he also found a christian family to work with?

4. Y/N ___ They had recently come from Rome where Claudius the Emperor had dispersed all Jews because of the disruption over "Chrestos", who could mean Christ, no one is certain?

5. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul had the same trade they did, which had something to do with leather and sails or goat hair items. He stayed with them and began evangelizing?

6. Y/N ___ Before Silas and Timothy found him in Corinth, they had already gone to Thessalonica and Philippi to do follow-up work, while Dr. Paul began to meet and teach in the local synagogue (to develop a called-out group). He went there every Sabbath, testifying that Jesus was the expected Messiah. It is clear

that he had some success, as the Rulers became enraged. He had to move those new christians to the house next door after he said he was done with their rejection and from now on he would work with the gentiles. The house was owned by Titias, whom had become a disciple of Jesus. Also, the synagogue's ruler, Crispus and his family was persuaded. Too, a number of the synagogue's members were also immersed into Christ. After Timothy arrived, it appears that Dr. Paul sent him back with the second Letter to Thessalonica. This would have been Dr. Paul's third preserved history: The Letter to the Galatians, the Letter to Thessalonica of encouragement, and the second Letter to them defining the expectation of Jesus' 2nd coming for His saints in His Kingdom. It seems Silas stayed in Corinth, but it is hard to tell. The work in Corinth was progressing about as usual?

7. Y/N ___ One night, Jesus spoke to Dr. Paul, saying, "You must not be afraid, you must speak, and do not be silent, for I Am with you!" Would that have strengthened you?

8. Y/N ___ Jesus continued, knowing that Dr. Paul had had a rough year physically, "No one will attack you to harm you, for many people in this city are mine." The word 'people' is one used to define the Jews in the past. This meant that the people of Corinth would respond to Jesus' Good News?

9. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul worked from Corinth all the way to Illyricum and throughout Achaia and eastern Macedonia. His effort is massive, and he ran into cities that the Thessalonians had already reached. Dr. Luke's history of

the spread of Jesus' Good News does not mention these areas, but Dr. Paul's histories do. You can find the information in Dr. Paul's histories in your advanced Master's study, later. He was allowing his team and the Holy Spirit to attend to the Corinth work, and he went about with saturation of the area, which brought about another confrontation with the Jewish leaders?

10. Y/N ___ They forced him to be judged by the Providence's governor Gallio for his crime. They claimed he was teaching an illegal religion, since they rejected that Jesus was resurrected and that His new Way was against Moses way. Thus, his was not part of the legal Law of Moses?

11. Y/N ___ The Governor was a Roman named Gallio. He had only been in Corinth for a short time and had come from Rome. He was a very good man and knew of the Jew's way. He knew of the reason Claudius had driven the Jews from Rome. They made their case against Dr. Paul and he stopped the proceeding before Dr. Paul said anything in his defense. He said that he would gladly rule if there was an accusation of Roman Law breaking, but "O you Jews", you will not bring my Province into your religious problems. Then he had the Jews removed abruptly from his presence?

12. Y/N ___ The Jews were so enraged at the results of their leader's presentation, they viciously beat their Ruler, Sosthenes, right there and Gallio just walked away, unconcerned?

13. Y/N ___ This ruling, since it was from the governor of Achaia, set a precedent and held Jews in check as far as

persecutions of the Way was concerned across the Roman Provinces and Dr. Paul stayed on in Corinth working with and out of the congregation?

14. Y/N ___ Instead of traveling farther westward, Dr. Paul made plans to go to Antioch in Syria. He made a stop in Ephesus on the way. They wanted him to stay but he went on, saying he would return if God wanted him to do so?

15. Y/N ___ He sailed to Caesarea but left Aquila and his wife Priscilla in Ephesus. He went to Jerusalem and then to Antioch, where he stayed for a while?

16. Y/N ___ He traveled, then, through Syria and Cilicia and again through the Cilician Gates. He was strengthening each congregation as he traveled. There is little to determine who is with him. He arrived in Ephesus?

17. Y/N ___ It is important to remember that Dr. Luke is reporting in his history, the spread of Jesus' Kingdom and related information about that history. There are obviously many details that in each expansion and travel, he could have brought up. We know he did not mention several. Dr. Paul in his histories discusses (also having been preserved, as have Dr. Luke's two contemporary histories concerning Jesus and His Kingdom), and complements a very detailed Plan for: spreading of the Kingdom, details about the Law of His Kingdom, leaders, uniqueness of It, unity of it with Jew and gentile mixed congregations, and a method by preservation of these contemporary histories for perpetuating the same Kingdom and Jesus' rule, far beyond the lives of these

first leaders and historians, beginning in Jerusalem in A.D.30. By laying out the chronology by Dr. Luke, Dr. Paul and the other 1st century A.D. Writings, a complete revealing of Jesus' Kingdom structure is set. It does, though, require the study of all of these preserved Letters to comprehend the complete structure and demands of Jesus to maintain a successful repeat of His new Way for every new generation. From an ESL perspective, it is a tremendous help to discern at a Master level the progression and the reasonings that make up this comprehensive Plan. Your ability to think through this verified history, discern its ideas, and reason through its proposals for human unity with a verified reward beyond any others having been able to sustain in their systems, is of incredible use to presenting your English prowess and expression. To this point in the history of this new Way only about 25 years have passed. And the history of Dr. Luke is just following a couple of the original leaders. Contemporary history in the 1st century A.D. provides little of the others than what these writers mention of their efforts and their affect?

18. Y/N ___ While Dr. Paul was reporting, traveling and making his way back to Ephesus, a new character appears in Dr. Luke's history named Apollos, who was an Alexandria, Egypt Jew. Alexandria was well known for its library and scholars. Too, it is said to have a very large community of Jews. Egypt was the most important source of commerce in the Roman Empire. It provided most of the grain for most of the year for all of Rome and other parts of the Empire. The ships were huge and left Alexandria by the hundreds. The ships were only allowed

to sail for about 8 months a year, due to the lack of being able to control them in bad weather. They sailed up the coast to Myra in modern day Turkey and headed West to Sicilia and North to the city of Puteoli (there was another major port north of Puteoli, too). There is legend that Apollos was involved in this business. He was, though, very skilled in the use of the Scriptures (old Law of Moses and the Jewish Prophets). Somewhere, he had become aware of the Prophet, John the immerser, as the fulfillment of the Jewish Prophet Malachi. He taught that all Jews must reform their lives and minds and be immersed, at which time God would forgive their past sins. John said this was in preparation for the coming of the Messiah (Christ in Greek), Whom was living among them. Apollos, after Jesus was explained to him, proclaimed that Jesus was that Messiah (the Lamb of God, Who was provided by God to take away the sins of the world. He also said He was God's unique Son and eternal (existed for eternity, obviously not in flesh as when He was among man on Earth). Apollos went to synagogues as he traveled, and declared that John was correct, using the old Law and Prophets to prove it was accurate. He was very effective. He had still expected, though, that the Messiah would begin His Kingdom, before being retaught?

19. Y/N ___ He, while in Ephesus, taught at the synagogue these things. Remember Dr. Paul had left one of his team in Ephesus, who he worked with in Corinth, having come from the congregation in Rome. Dr. Paul had, which was his practice, laid hands upon them in Corinth, and they were doing what Dr. Paul did: went

each Sabbath to the synagogue for contact to teach Jesus' new Way. They were there when Apollos taught his understanding of the coming Kingdom of Jesus. They took him aside, studying with him until he recognized the Truth: Jesus' Kingdom began in A.D.30, when Jesus died on the cross, was buried, resurrected and ascended to take His Throne with the Father to rule His Kingdom. They also explained how one enters Jesus' Kingdom and the Way's structure, as they had learned. He was likely immersed as John the immerser had instructed, but that was after Jesus' death and resurrection. Thus, he would not have known of the benefits and blessing at allowing yourself to be immersed, nor the Holy Spirit's involvement, so he would have done as other new believer did, and was immersed into Christ Jesus' and was added to His Kingdom?

20. Y/N ___ Apollos was going on to Corinth on business and after meeting the congregation in Ephesus that Priscilla and Aquila had in their home, they wrote a note to the Corinthian congregation about him, since they had been there since Dr. Paul began it about three years earlier?

21. Y/N ___ Apollos was a great help to this new congregation that had grown to be very large. If you study Dr. Paul's 2nd letter to Corinth, written while he was working in Ephesus (It is known as '1st Corinthians', but the 1st letter was not preserved, but mentioned in his second Letter which is preserved). You will notice that we call it Dr. Paul's 2nd Letter to Corinth. His last Letter to Corinth we call-4th Corinthians (known also as 2 Corinthians), as he mentions his third in the 4th, but it,

too, was not preserved. He will use Apollos' name and effort there as a way to keep the congregation unified as Jesus commands in each city (Dr. Paul mentions several times in his 2nd Letter, that he teaches the exact same things in every city, in which he works.) Had Apollos ever met Dr. Paul?

22. Y/N ___ Apollos also taught in the synagogue in Corinth in vigorous debate with the Jewish leaders, using the Scriptures (all Jews steadfastly hold that They are God's revealed chosen people) to prove to them that Jesus was the fulfillment of God's promise for His coming Messiah (Christ)?

23. Y/N ___ While Apollos was in Corinth, Dr. Paul arrives in Ephesus. He comes upon some group calling themselves 'disciples'. Wanting to know if they had become disciples through an Apostle's teaching, he asked if they had received the Holy Spirit after believing. They said that they had never even heard of the Holy Spirit! So, this group claimed to be disciples. Of who or what! Dr. Paul now has to decide if these are in Jesus' Kingdom or some other religion. It must have shocked him as they claimed to be disciples. So, since they had not heard of the Holy Spirit, he asked them into what, were they immersed. This means he is trying to find out if they are claiming to be disciples that were the kind he was teaching. They said that they were immersed into John's immersion. So, they had John's immersion which was stopped over 25 years earlier but back then had been accepted by God. No wonder they had not heard of the Holy Spirit and the part He plays in the folks that have become christians. They either were not taught correctly

while John's immersion was accepted by God or taught incorrectly after it was not accepted by God anymore, which was after Jesus established His Kingdom on Earth in Jerusalem in A.D.30. Dr. Paul explains to them that John's was at one time correct but now Jesus' expected Kingdom was begun. Now, for those that were willing to reform their minds and lives to Jesus' new Way, they still must allow themselves to be immersed but 'in Jesus' Name', which is when they will receive the gift (or seal) of the Holy Spirit of God, guaranteeing them an eternal inheritance with God and the forgiveness of all their past sins. If, at that moment, God saw that they genuinely were willing to reform to His Will. He, there, also, will 'add' or 'transfer' them into Jesus' Kingdom, which would explain why, after Dr. Paul's explanation, they were then immersed in 'Jesus' Name'. Jesus is the King and the only authority over His Kingdom of citizens?

24. Y/N ___ They obviously now realized that they had not correctly obeyed what Jesus expected His disciples to do, so they all were re-immersed into His Name?

25. Y/N ___ There are a couple of ways to explain what happened next to these men. They all now were re-immersed correctly to please God's new Way's entrance into His Son, Jesus' Kingdom. So, they had been given by God the 'seal', the Holy Spirit upon their spirit's as His guarantee of entrance into His eternal new Kingdom, when they die or if Jesus comes back before they die. Now, after their immersion, Paul places his hands upon them, and they all began to speak in foreign languages and prophecy. This was a confirmation that they had received from Dr. Paul, Truth. So, actually, when

someone is immersed into Christ and everything is taught accurately, that person can be certain God sees their mind and 'adds' them into Jesus' Kingdom. We can see, these men, by the confirmation of God giving them the ability to speak in languages that they did not know and to prophecy, is a confirmation that He agreed that Dr. Paul is accurate, and they were genuine?

26. Some might say that, too, all that are immersed as these were, will also be able to speak in languages and prophecy like they did! What allowed them to do those things? ___ their minds and hearts were approved by God, ___ the teachings that Dr. Paul taught them, corrected their errors and allowed them to be pleasing to Jesus, ___ Jesus only authorized Apostles to lay on hands to give some miraculous gifts as Prophets, Evangelist or Elder/teachers had. When they died, that stopped, as the New Covenant was circulating and thousands of christians, by then, had received inspiration by this method. After it stopped (by death of all the Apostles) the New Covenant was done and circulating, explaining the same things the directly inspired had received, which now was the Holy Spirit's only complete source and standard of Jesus' new Way.

27. Y/N ___ So, could the Apostle's special authority to inspire such leaders, be passed on to men and women after the Apostles all died (Professor John lived until A.D. 98ish and the rest died before A.D. 70), or if an Apostle was not available?

28. Y/N ___ From this event with Dr. Paul, these men seemed to be involved in the development of the Kingdom in and from Ephesus. Dr. Paul began, then, for

about three months to explain the Kingdom of God in the synagogue?

29. Y/N ___ The more Dr. Paul explained and cleared their misunderstanding of the new Way, the more it became clear that no more Jews would convert to the Truth, so Dr. Paul separated the new disciples. He had worked among these Jews longer than anywhere else we have information?

30. Y/N ___ He moved to a lecture hall named Tyrannus or was owned by a man of this name. Dr. Paul reasoned or developed the Faith, or New Covenant, or the new Way, as he will remind the Ephesian elders later. They were taught the complete Plan of salvation, trained by Dr. Paul in the streets of Ephesus and cities of Asia to evangelize (they saturated the city, area and beyond from Ephesus with great results), live their lives under God' new Way, not their culture, learn to be ever reforming to His perfect Will by His New Covenant, and training others to be just as he and they must be like, in Jesus' likeness?

31. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul for two years taught daily with on the job training by him and those he felt confident (with the Spirit's help and approval) would continue after he was gone. By this Jesus like and given system, there was not a corner in all of Asia that was not affected by Dr. Paul and the Grace of God?

32. Y/N/ ___ He continued to teach Jews and gentiles completely disrupting every part of life in this populous area. He could pass out handkerchiefs or aprons among the people for placing upon the ill of the Province. If they

were sick, they healed instantly! If they had evil spirits possessing them, in Jesus Name they immediately left them! Because of his popularity, many attempted to copy him, proclaiming, "In the Name of Jesus Whom Dr. Paul proclaims, come out!", but after one such group tried this and were bloodied and chased away naked by an evil spirit, folks marveled at Dr. Paul's Message of salvation through Jesus only?

33. Y/N ___ The numbers of people that were persuaded about the Truth of Dr. Paul's Good News concerning Jesus, were truly disciples and confident by the amazing confirming miraculous things which proved he was a genuine man of God?

34. Y/N ___ Their commitment to Jesus and His Kingdom was evident, because they in their desire to reform to His new Way, brought their 'magic' books out and put them in a giant bonfire and burned them up. There were thousands of dollars of books burned and they confessed their sins of using them on folks to God, and reformed to never practice such things again. Did they receive their understanding from Dr. Paul's teaching of Jesus' Kingdom that this was a practice they must reform from practicing?

35. Y/N ___ It was obvious that Jesus' new Way had deeply developed in this area and that it was growing well. So, Dr. Paul after about three years, began to make plans to move on to new places. In his historical Letters, with Dr. Luke's, Dr. Paul had over 50 disciples of Jesus working in his team by about this time. They worked tirelessly and correctly. They had a great method to which they held for several years to show what kind of

growth could come from it, but without abuse, war, force, hate, putting down folks or ideas to divide folks. They allow folks to make a choice, keep the door open, help sacrificially as Jesus did those in need in Jesus' Name, follow-up time and again and many did respond to Jesus' call of coming to Him. It is important to see that Dr. Paul still had nothing. No family, no money, no home, no nothing but he never flinched, as he had developed Jesus' mind of the concern for the eternal fate of mankind. He was committed to offer an opportunity to all to hear the correct, complete 'Plan of God' for mankind's salvation?

36. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul developed a complete plan for his work over the next couple of years, which he thought was ending in Rome?

37. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul sent two of his team into Macedonia, while he continued to mature, train and find new disciples throughout Asia (this is a Province in modern day Turkey, not today's 'Asia'). This means he and his team in about 2 ½ years had saturated and had a plan for continuing to saturate over half of Rome's provinces (including Macedonia, Achaia and up into Illyricum with unrelenting evangelism, confirmation help to convince folks, maturing and training for the next generation. All these were directed by the Holy Spirit and Jesus. The other Provinces, going East, remember, were not to be done by Dr. Paul as the Holy Spirit rerouted him westward. Professor Peter was to have those Provinces all the way to Babylon. By this, Dr. Luke provided a method of Jesus' Plan, it has to be clear that every Apostle, no matter where they went, developed this method. It required no force, war, oppression or coercion; only word of mouth

and practicing Jesus' new Way. It is a common-sense reasoning of reality over any other man-made government method and has much greater rewards. God's Grace approved, led and guarantees eternal reward, provided by Him for all folks that accept and practice this wonderful new Way.) He had those he sent to begin one more necessary thing for the future of the unity of the Lord Jesus' Kingdom, which will be discussed later. It is clear he is about to move on?

38. Y/N ___ The one major item Dr. Luke did not develop as he is showing this massive, relentless effort by Dr. Paul and his team, is a major problem in Corinth that has developed since he left. He, while working in Ephesus, had made a mistake there (in Corinth) in his effort. He had not spent the time actually unifying that congregation but used the Holy Spirit to provide many in Corinth with miraculous capabilities. He was using a limited team in expanding to Illyricum and letting unity fall short. We know this is accurate as they began to desire to split the congregation into multiple congregations as soon as Dr. Paul leaves. He is contacted in Ephesus about the mess, which is revealed in his four Letters to them after he left for Ephesus (remember, we only have two of them preserved, but the two not preserved are mentioned in Letter two and four). Whatever the cause for the split in Corinth, he was very sure he had to make a good effort to correct it. So, he sent several Letters to them about questions and direct commands about things that are not acceptable to Jesus (The first mentioned is that they cannot split into multiple congregation over unity problems, they must stay unified

and work through them.). He made a special quick trip back, which did not go well (this is when he wrote a very tough 3rd letter to them and sent Titus to work with them. Dr. Paul anguished over that Letter's effect.). He seems to have sent Timothy and they rejected his authority, which prompted his quick trip. Totally, Dr. Paul invested about five years in Corinth before his third trip. Over that period of involvement there, and even after leaving Troas for Philippi and Titus finding him there with a report as to their response (which was excellent) after his third Letter and the efforts by Titus, he was uncertain they would respond to a commitment they had made to a plan to assist the christians in Judea because of their ideas to split. Except for a few, over that period, there was a full reformation in their decision and attitude toward Jesus' Way. All of this, though not recorded by Dr. Luke, is in Dr. Paul's contemporary histories covering the work he did in Corinth and the 3 years from Ephesus. You have in your advanced Master level studies those histories for later study. The reason Dr. Luke did not mention these major problems was because of the purpose for this contemporary history. He is following the spread of the Kingdom of Jesus by Dr. Paul and his team, as is exemplified by what Jesus did when He traveled during His work countless times and miles, saturating, training (including giving miraculous gifts to some), teaching, confirming that He was God's unique Son, that He was sent by God, and that He was the only new Way provider for reconciliation with God because of mankind's sins against Him. So, staying with the theme of his Treatise was what he did. This problem would have detracted from his goal. By the time he has Dr. Paul go

back to Corinth (about four years from leaving) for three months, the problem was rectified and on goes Dr. Paul with his unification of the Jewish and gentile (most had some Jews) congregations, which in about eight years is going to be a great blessing (A.D.66-the year Judea declares war with Rome)?

39. Y/N ___ A major disturbance began in Ephesus, then, by many craftsmen, who made small silver shrines of Artemis, the area Goddess. Their ringleader, Demetrius, developed a giant mob in Ephesus, completely opposed to Dr. Paul and his work throughout Asia. They were entirely rejecting his idea that gods cannot be made by men, that he was misleading everybody in Asia and they could not make a living anymore selling their home shrines. This also will mean that the temple of Artemis will be rejected. The entire mob began to scream for hours, "Artemis of the Ephesians is great!" They filled the local massive theater and dragged Gaius and Aristarchus with them, who were Dr. Paul's co-workers. Dr. Paul attempted to go into the mob, but disciples stopped him, and he received a plea from some of the local officials, who were friends of Dr. Paul, to not get involved. Most of the mob was enraged and did not even know why they were so enraged. A Jewish leader from the synagogue wanted to likely include his hostility toward Dr. Paul, but when the mob realized he was a Jew they shouted him down for two hours. Finally, the town clerk was able to quiet the crowd. He reminded them that everyone knew that Ephesus was guardian of Artemis, so they must quiet down and do nothing reckless. You have brought these men for judgement and

harm and they have done nothing to desecrate her or the temple! If Demetrius and the craftsmen have charges, take them to the courts! He told them that this is an unlawful riot and in danger of charges by the Romans, and you have no justification for your mob actions! He then told them to disperse and they did. Since things quieted and no abuse was done upon the Kingdom's congregation, Dr. Paul gathered the disciples, encouraged them to keep the plan and sailed to Macedonia?

40. Y/N ___ Dr. Luke's report of Dr. Paul's evangelistic work needs to be evaluated at this point in the report. Think back to Dr. Paul being converted (as Saul of Tarsus) in about A.D.33 in Damascus. He spent three years in the desert of Arabia in transition in some kind of private training to reform of all he had known as accurate as a Pharisee. So, he was retaught by Jesus (or angel(s) or someone) to understand the New Covenant for which Jesus died to establish for man. This takes him to about A.D.36. He is forced out of Damascus and goes to Jerusalem. There he spends about 2 months before he is escorted to a ship to go home to Tarsus. He works among and evangelized there for several years, including into Syria. Barnabas then, brings him to Antioch and they work there for just over a year. He, apparently, is now prepared for the work among the gentile world for which Jesus has called him to do. About the time of the death of Herod (died in A.D.44), he and Barnabas return from Jerusalem having delivered the assistance for the coming famine. They, then, are set aside by the Holy Spirit to go. This is about A.D.46ish. This means in about 12 years he has covered every area (and village) over thousands of

miles guided by the Spirit and Jesus on foot, boat and maybe an occasional mule. He has learned much and improved his evangelistic method with Jesus' blessing. His doctrine of Jesus' Kingdom has been consistent from since the three years in the desert. 'The Faith' has never changed but the pace and method have. He is about to be back in Corinth for his third time: 1) To gather the funds he has been promoting for a year from among the many areas the congregations of Jesus' Kingdom have developed, 2) To gather a massive team of his coworkers he knows well (there are over 50 named and not named) for his next effort beyond Rome. He plans to use the Roman congregation for his next base, 3) To complete the unity of the congregations of Jews and gentiles as a unified body by the contribution of all areas and prepare for the coming destruction of the Jewish nation, providing the Jewish christians a place to go and continue Jesus' work. This is an impressive effort for anyone. It will not go as he thinks it will, but he knows who is the One in charge, well. Some small areas still need covering before he is allowed to travel to Spain. This begins Dr. Paul's continuing effort for the spread, establishment, maturing, and the continuing saturation of all these new areas ahead of him, such that, those new areas will be taught exactly as the congregations and leaders, as those he has been involved with for the past 12 years. Remember, when you get to Dr. Paul's contemporary histories, 2nd Corinthians is really 4th Corinthians (preserved by the Spirit for posterity as are the other 26 histories) and in his 2nd Letter to Corinth (called 1st Corinthians) he will say several times, that throughout his work for Jesus, "...he teaches the exact same things in every congregation."

This was written before he arrived in Corinth for his third time, so does it mean all the work since Damascus were organized alike?

SUBMIT your answers

15th thought

1. Y/N ___ After Dr. Paul left Ephesus and traveled to Troas to sail to Macedonia, he began to gather money, workers and congregation's assistance for Judea's needs. He strengthened all the saints from town to town and went to Greece (Achaia) and did the same. Then he stayed in Corinth to complete the corrections of a few holdouts, as he has discussed in his Letters to the Corinthians, which are not mentioned by Dr. Luke's history (Dr. Paul writes his histories about internal needs of reform and his work with the saints in each place, while Dr. Luke is concerned with the spreading and establishing of the Kingdom of Jesus by Dr. Paul and others.). Dr. Paul will write a Letter of introduction to the congregation in Rome from this last stop in Corinth, which is included in your future Master's studies. He discovers that his continuing foes (the fanatical Jewish haters of his work) are about to attack him in Corinth and so he modifies his plans for the Jerusalem trip with all the bounty they had?

2. Y/N ___ He and a few go the long way, while another group went directly to Troas by ship and waited his arrival. It is noticeable that Dr. Luke mentions the various parts of the Empire all these men are from to

watch and deliver the funds to Jerusalem. Also, with Dr. Paul, besides Sopater, was Dr. Luke. Notice the “us” in the Text. He had come to Corinth to join this group going to Jerusalem, too. The plan was to stay in Philippi until after Passover, because most Jews would be in Jerusalem, and they could spot any lurking around them and Philippi had no synagogue, so too, they would be able to spot any in the area. They left after the Jewish holiday for Troas to meet the other group?

3. Y/N ___ After a five-day trip, they arrived and stayed seven days. An answer as to whether a congregation of Jesus’ Kingdom was there is answered?

4. Y/N ___ Except for the few contemporary histories that explain the importance of a meeting of the entire congregation to worship together on the 1st day of the week, centering that worship around Jesus’ sacrifice, this is only the 2nd time Dr. Luke has mention that weekly worship. Dr. Paul does the speaking for that gathering, which is a part of all weekly gatherings mentioned in the histories. He spoke till midnight, during which a young man fell asleep, fell three floors, and died. Dr. Paul raised him from death in that gathering. His name is provided by Dr. Luke to verify this event for those who are suspect of it. Then, after midnight they all partook of the commanded two items the Lord’s Supper required. With Jesus having said that He, too, is in attendance in all congregation’s worship, this is expected to be taken to remember and to honor His sacrifice for everyone’s sins. His physical body is to be represented by unleavened bread and His blood sacrificed for the sins and salvation of all who are in His Kingdom (would make no sense for

unbeliever to partake, nor those not yet committed to Jesus' Way) by grape wine (or juice), and done each 1st day of the week until He returns for His Kingdom. Many have said you get your sins removed weekly by partaking but this is an error, as Jesus died "ONCE" for the sins of all not weekly, and His Kingdom is to 'confess' their new sins against God to God, as soon as they recognize their error, reform and ought to be thankful to God for His mercy. This is the only given doctrine in Jesus' new Way. The reason for waiting till 'midnight' is interesting. With Jews and gentiles having different calendars, it would mean that from 'midnight' till sunset the next day both calendars would be the same day. Thus, Dr. Paul waiting till midnight to have the 'loaf' (meaning the Lord's Supper) was on the 1st day of the week by either calendar. The other location the Lord's Supper is mentioned by Dr. Luke is in the beginning of the Jerusalem congregation. There were four areas of "reform" all those new Jewish Christians most needed to understand, which were parts of Jesus' new Way. One was the "breaking of 'the' bread". The Jews had no knowledge that the Jewish method under Moses Law was now (at the cross of Jesus) annulled by the new Way. So, explaining what is meant, why change to this weekly activity as a congregation, who should participate, who was to be thanked and honored in their participation and that Jesus one day would return, He has to be honored as a part of the memorial. So, the raising of the boy by Dr. Paul is mentioned, but the worship is being centered more for the reason for the congregation's gathering, not to visit or hear Dr. Paul speak, but to worship and honor Jesus?

5. Y/N ___ The group with Dr. Paul (including Dr. Luke) sailed to Assos, but Dr. Paul walked across the peninsula alone. His purpose must have been meditation and instruction. He will reveal some of it in Miletus with the elders from Ephesus. They all sailed through several Islands for about six days. The ship stopped in Miletus which was the seaport about thirty miles from Ephesus. The loading and unloading must have taken some time, as Dr. Paul, not wanting to stay in Ephesus for any time, attempting to arrive in Jerusalem by Pentecost (this is the Jews 2nd commanded yearly Festival God, through Moses' Law, established. Obviously, the crowd that would be there was important to him for some reason). So, during the wait at Miletus, he asked the elders (no evangelist or others in the congregation) to meet him there for a short visit before traveling on. There is little indication as to how many were there. Dr. Paul likely had his group with the funds there with them. Read the lesson he gives them. It will take about three minutes. Then use the "study skills" Y.E.Stm has taught you to use in all your Lessons. Then read it out loud as if you were Dr. Paul talking to men you had spent nearly every waking hour for three years accomplishing incredible things for Jesus' Cause. Do you understand the seriousness of this exhortation to them?

6. Y/N ___ He only took three minutes to talk to them, yet, he took all night in Troas, because these men did 'understand' the man Paul well. They had been involved in the entire plan he used, 'daily' for three years and now were responsible for that plan to continue to saturate with Jesus' Truth for their generation. They had seen and

experienced all the hostility against him and the relentless reason for his unyielding determination to provide each and every soul an opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus at any cost to himself. He taught and trained them, while leading them day and night with many tears and exhortation as to why all should be taught, and why they must plan to do the same in their time?

7. Y/N ___ They had received from him the complete knowledge of Jesus' new Way, time and again. Answering every question with Jesus' new Way so they themselves could continue to reform their minds and lives to be, think and imitate Jesus. They experienced his drive and method, house to house and in public events?

8. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul then says, "Now Behold!" Which means: "All of you, you must hear me clearly!" He has not backed down one bit! He is continuing to press on for Jesus. He is heading to Jerusalem, knowing (by the Holy Spirit explaining to him) that what is coming is going to be another serious test and violent. As always, Dr. Paul has no fear of his own fate, but is doing this with all his strength and self-control, realizing the Grace of God is with him in life or death?

9. Y/N ___ He proclaims a second "behold!" with the same meaning to them. They are not going to see him again in this life. His example and he being confirmed many times in their intimate work with him, along with what they all as elders have committed to Jesus to achieve, have to maintain their motivation, so their working together will continue to have Jesus as the only

reason for what He has for them to do, no matter the personal cost?

10. Y/N ___ He declares that he has delivered every necessary thing they need to know to do Jesus' work accurately [he said, 'ALL'] and he is not in any way responsible for any lack of effort, knowledge or understanding of Jesus' new Way. They have God's Plan! They must continue themselves with It?

11. Y/N ___ The sobering thought is that now each of you, as elders, not only 'must' guard yourselves to continue accurately, but 'must' shepherd (all shepherds understand their jobs and its dangers and know the sheep intimately or they die) the Lord Jesus' called-out people (The same as: His Kingdom, body, disciples, saints, or those of 'the Faith'.) (The reason the Greek word-ekklesia- is translated: called-out people, is that it is an accurate English translation of the word. The England believers in the 1500s already had their "church" under the various kings and queens, when they began to "translate" the Greek Text of the 1st century contemporary historians that wrote them. They did not 'translate' ekklesia, they 'interpreted' it by their already established word, which described all Christendom, not the 1st century kingdom. This, we give, is the translation. Nearly every language that translated the original Greek word [not to mention other words they interpreted], used a word or phrase in their language which meant 'called-out group', unless they followed the incorrect word 'church'. 'Church' is from German and Martin Luther who translated the German Bible before the English ones, never used the word-church-or a like word for ekklesia.

This error over the years, has allowed anyone who wants to call themselves 'the Church', whether they hold to the Way of Jesus as authority or not, to do so. So, we decided to accurately translate it each time the historians used 'ekklesia'). Does this seem to you to be ok?

12. Y/N ___ The motivation Dr. Paul uses is the obvious one: "...whom He bought with HIS own blood!". There, in Dr. Paul's mind, can be absolutely no other motive for them to elder and shepherd Jesus' called-out group, than the fact that HE bought them, not us! And they ought to be straight about that, as they go on to the job they aspired to accept. It is a wonderful job, but they have to remain dedicated to Jesus' Way and His doctrines in His Way or they ought to resign now for their eternity's sake. God will not deal with them mercifully, if they go another way (You will find in the last contemporary history by Prof. John in A.D 96ish, that the congregation, as Dr. Paul foretold here, did have some of them create a following, taking folks down a sinful road.). Jesus' blood was shed for them, not yours, is the sobering exhortation?

13. Y/N ___ Paul has been made aware by the Spirit that after he has gone from the area, some will come in to kill some saints' faith and understanding of Jesus' new Way, replacing It with error. Worse, is the fact that from among these elders with him, there will be some that will be false teacher inside the congregation, that will draw some to their ways, again not as Jesus' new Way demands all to uphold?

14. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul pleads with them to not give in and be steadfast to the correct Way of Jesus. He had

constantly warned the error of doing so and yet you still are just waiting to do so?

15. Y/N ___ Now that he has said these things to these elders that the Holy Spirit has wanted said before he goes on, as a serious and sober warning, he says that he now commits them to God as their only source of Truth, from which they will understand, if they have His Grace working with them. Only It can and will build them and their efforts for Jesus. And only His Grace can give them the coming inheritance God has determined for those in Jesus' Kingdom and only those in His Kingdom. All others receive God's wrath for eternity by His same Plan?

16. Y/N ___ They clearly knew of Dr. Paul's frugal example (exactly like Jesus' was) and seeable secular work (he worked) to see to the needs for his team (many of them also worked some secularly). This was his example of the best way to be a provider for anyone's needs (not neglecting his own team, and not concerned for anything he might 'want', but rather, sacrificed as Jesus was, to the 'needs' of others. Jesus, Dr. Paul says, said it best, "It is more blessed (by God, Who has given in an incredible way for all) to give than to receive." (The trap is to rationalize, based on your desires for security and cultural pressures, to neglect His seeable, explained, and exemplified new Way. This is true often in any generation and any culture.)?

17. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul finished this short exhortation, which is packed with reality, deep concern, letting them be aware that God knows their hearts, direct prophecy of some coming errors that they will have to correct or displease Jesus and his unwavering love and concern for

each of them; and then he leads in a prayer for them and their work in Jesus new Way, the New Covenant Way and It only?

18. Y/N ___ After the prayer, their love for Dr. Paul is displayed by their tears and hugs. They were deeply concerned that he would not return. Then the team departed again by a ship?

19. Y/N ___ They again made their way between the many islands heading south along the coast until they ported in Tyre, where the ship was unloaded?

20. Y/N ___ Because they were to be there a week, they searched for any disciples of Jesus. They stayed with them for a week (because Dr. Luke has explained many of Dr. Paul's regular practices and pattern, and since he taught and worked the same way in every congregation of Jesus' Kingdom, can we assume that since they were in Tyre for a week and found the christians there, that they came together for at least one 1st day of the week to worship as Jesus commanded to be done each 1st day of the week, even though that gathering is not mentioned?

21. He must have given some of the details for the trip and future plans, as they were very concerned about Dr. Paul, even saying he should not continue to go to Jerusalem. All the families had learned to love Dr. Paul in the week he and his group were there and they all went to the ship, having a prayer for the trip and Dr. Paul before they boarded the ship and went on?

22. They only had a one day stay in Ptolemais, but they found the brethren and visited. The next day they made

port at Caesarea, which was the city where Cornelius was converted with his family and friends, years earlier and of the prophet Philip (also an Evangelist. Who was still working that area for the Lord Jesus), with his four daughters who were busy also, prophesying or teaching with their dad, the Good News of Jesus in the area. They stayed for a good while, apparently waiting on Pentecost to begin?

23. Y/N ___ While Dr. Paul and his group were in Caesarea, a prophet working in Jerusalem came to visit with a message of what awaited Dr. Paul in Jerusalem. He took Dr. Paul's belt and tied his hands and feet, explaining that Dr. Paul will suffer in Jerusalem by the Jews and he will be given to the gentiles (meaning Romans), and this was from the Holy Spirit. The reason all the listeners reacted as they did was because this is exactly what happened to Jesus 20+ years earlier. They 'assumed' it meant Dr. Paul's death, violently?

24. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul was aware of all he was told, so it was for the others that this was done. Is it not noticeable that the prophet did not mention more of what would occur, if it were for Dr. Paul?

25. Dr. Paul, when he decided to develop this assistance to the congregations of Judea from every part of the area he had worked, did not plan to accompany them but go on to Spain (after a stop off at Rome). He had a change of heart about that and said he would go to Jerusalem. He many times had been corrected by Jesus about where he was to travel and even when. He walked to Assos (about 10 miles) over night by himself, and though he wanted to bypass Ephesus, he had the elders meet him in

Miletus, because God always prepares folks in trouble of coming problems and to let them know that He is watching, whether they choose to reform or not. So, it is clear Dr. Paul has known that the trip was for more than just delivery of the assistance. He is practicing, what he calls, "all things for all men", among the Jews and Jewish Christians, who needed a serious stirring prior to the destruction of Jerusalem (coming in about 12 years). God had to shake their hold on the Law of Moses before they left Jerusalem, or the unity would be affected. And they needed to realize they had many places to go for safety when it happened. The peace in Jerusalem for the Kingdom was more due to the lack of confronting Jews, rather than what was done in the early years. The Apostles were all now gone and only James (Jesus' brother) was still there and the elders. Dr. Paul, when told of the Jerusalem events coming, even with the brethren begging him not to go, seems to not see any reason for not going? ___ he is just a foolish man determined to take the assistance, ___ even though the Holy Spirit says there is much pain coming to him, he arrogantly goes, ___ even though the whole group begged him not to go, he was now very confused, ___ it is obvious, since he did not hesitate, that he knew what and why he must go, and the group reasoned and realized he must go, as they went also

26. Y/N ___ A larger group (some from the Caesarea congregation went) stayed at Mnason's home in Jerusalem?

27. Y/N ___ They made contact with some of the Jerusalem congregation. They met with all the elders of

the Jerusalem congregation and James (Jesus' brother) and presented the assistance to them. Dr. Paul told of all the work among the gentiles God had done through them. The Jewish brethren praised God for all the success?

28. Y/N ___ Then they had a conference with Dr. Paul that asked him to do the congregation in Jerusalem a favor. The congregation now had many thousands of converted Jews, who were very zealous for the Law of Moses. They said that those thousands had been told that Dr. Paul taught rebellion against the Law to all the Jews living among the gentiles. Did he?

29. Y/N ___ Also, they said the congregation had been told, he said for them to not circumcise the baby boys. Did he?

30. Y/N ___ Too, they said the congregation had been told, he had told Jewish converts not to keep the 'customs'. Did he?

31. Y/N ___ Because there was no doubt that the congregation would know of his presence in Jerusalem with this assistance, they had an idea of what should be done by him to be sure that unity and peace was maintained. They wanted him to participate in a Nazirite vow with four of the brothers who had a desire to consecrate themselves for some kind of reason. Dr. Luke does not tell why. It will not matter because it does not finish. As they were ready for the sacrifices to be completed the next day, they notified the Jewish priest and Dr. Paul was spotted by some Jews from Asia. They grabbed him, accusing him of speaking against the Law

and the Jewish ways and that he had brought gentiles into the Temple, which defiled it. They had seen him with Trophimus earlier and assumed he was in the Temple. They dragged Dr. Paul out of the Temple and closed the gates, never finishing the vow?

32. Y/N ___ The Jewish group was attempting to kill Dr. Paul, when the Romans became aware of the mob. They stopped them from assaulting Dr. Paul and attempted to determine why they were so upset. They could not get a reason, so they carried Dr. Paul up the steps of the Antonio facility to separate him from the mob?

33. Y/N ___ As they were taking him into the barrack, Dr. Paul asked if he might speak to the Roman Captain. He asked Dr. Paul, in surprise, if he knew how to speak Greek. He further asked if he was not the Egyptian that had been a leader of some assassins, to which Dr. Paul said he was from Tarsus a free Roman city. Then he asked if he might have permission to speak to the crowd and he was allowed to speak?

34. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul got the attention of the crowd and declared to them that they ought to allow him to defend himself. He was speaking in Hebrew, so they became quieted?

35. Y/N ___ He said he was a Jew from Tarsus and had been educated by Gamaliel in Jerusalem as a Pharisee. And he was a zealot, as much as any of them. He had mercilessly persecuted the Way by seeking them out in Jerusalem and putting them in jail awaiting death sentences from the Sandhedrin. The High Priest and the Council would testify this is true. They had such

confidence in him that they gave him authority to go outside of Jerusalem to capture these of the Way?

36. Y/N ___ On one such trip to Damascus, just out of the city, about noon, suddenly, light much brighter than the sun, surrounded him and those with him. The horses threw them to the ground and all of them heard a voice! It spoke to me, saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?". Not understanding, he answered, "Who are you Lord?", as he was blinded by the light and could not see. The Voice answered him, "I AM, Jesus the Nazarene Whom you are persecuting!" He was suggesting that they check with those who were with him, who heard the voice, but saw no one. After a moment, he resumed talking to the crowd, "I asked, 'what shall I do, Lord?', and He told me to go into Damascus and there you will be told about all the things which have been appointed for you to do."?

37. Y/N ___ He told the crowd that he was blind. But, those with him took him into Damascus. He said that later a man named Ananias came to him and healed his vision. So, his words to me must be from God, when he said exactly what Dr. Paul was going to be required to do for God?

38. Y/N ___ Then Ananias said, "Now, why do you delay? Arise, having called upon the Lord's Name, you must be immersed, and must wash away your sins."?

39. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul relates to his return after three years alone in the Arabian desert being re-taught and for a while, then, being in Damascus before he came to Jerusalem, where he went for a couple of weeks. Jesus

must have told Dr. Paul to leave Jerusalem. Dr. Paul thought he could explain his news, but Jesus said to go. He did, then, go to Tarsus, but here Dr. Paul said he went to the gentiles?

40. Y/N ___ The crowd thought that Dr. Paul had presented a great argument, and everyone went home?

41. Y/N ___ The mob, when he used the word 'gentile' went crazy?

42. Y/N ___ They shouted that he, Dr. Paul, must be killed, now?

43. Y/N ___ They went on and on, so the Captain ordered Dr. Paul to be taken inside the barracks out of their view?

44. Y/N ___ The Captain wanted to know why they hated Dr. Paul and decided to flog him to get some answers. They began to strap him down and Dr. Paul asked the centurion nearest him if it was lawful to do this to a Roman citizen?

45. Y/N ___ The centurion went to the Captain and told him that this man claims to be a Roman citizen! This might be a major mistake?

46. Y/N ___ The Captain said to Dr. Paul that he had paid a lot of money for his citizenship. Dr. Paul answered that he had been born a Roman citizen?

47. Y/N ___ This sent fear into all the soldiers because they had erred in even putting him in bonds?

48. Y/N ___ The next day Dr. Paul was released but had to attend a summit with the Sandhedrin, which was called by the Captain. Everyone arrived. Dr. Paul addressed

the Sandhedrin, stating he was still living in good conscience before God and the High Priest had him struck by a soldier. Because that was not in accord with Jewish law procedures, Dr. Paul directed a verbal chastisement to the High Priest for his lack of proper standards. He did not know he was the High Priest and when told, he took it back. Dr. Paul knew the group was split between Pharisees and Sadducees, he then said he was being judged as a Pharisee, believing in the resurrection of the dead. Sadducees do not believe in a resurrection or personal spirit. An uproar started between them and the Captain saw Dr. Paul was in distress and brought him to the barracks?

49. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul, then, had Jesus come to him and tell him he was to go to Rome?

50. Y/N ___ The zealots of the Jews said they would kill Dr. Paul if they could get him to be brought to the Council's building by the Romans. Dr. Paul was informed, and had the Captain warned?

51. Y/N ___ He had Dr. Paul removed from Jerusalem and taken under full military escort to Caesarea (the Roman command center for the Province about 70 miles north). He wrote a letter to the governor, Felix, with details about Dr. Paul, a Roman citizen and for the Jews to bring their accusations to him in Caesarea?

52. Y/N ___ Because Dr. Paul was from Tarsus, he had him housed in Herod's house (Tarsus was his Province)?

53. Y/N ___ Several days later, the Jewish leaders with a lawyer named Tertullus came to bring charges against Dr. Paul. He charged Dr. Paul with some deceitful lies, which

the Jews accounted as accurate. All of them, though, had to do with the Jews, not Roman Law?

54. Y/N ___ The governor allowed Dr. Paul to respond to the charges. He explained he had arrived 12 days ago at Jerusalem. He had not debated or caused any scene, not even in any synagogue in the area. Also, though, he did serve God in the Way which they called a Sect. He confirmed that he believed the Law and Prophets and that God was going to have a general resurrection of just and unjust men. He closed with the fact that some Jews from Asia saw him in the Temple that started this mess and ought to have to come to explain why. Dr. Paul declares that he is actually being charged today about his belief that all will be resurrected after death?

55. Y/N ___ Governor Felix was well versed about the teaching of the Way and he said he would delay a verdict until the Captain arrived to report. He dismissed the court and gave Dr. Paul liberty to be with his friends until he came?

56. Y/N ___ After a few days, the governor and his wife had Dr. Paul explain to them 'the Faith' of Jesus Christ. The talk scared Felix and he had Dr. Paul back to talk several times. He, too, was hoping to coax Dr. Paul into giving him a bribe. This went on for two years?

57. Y/N ___ He was relieved by Festus as governor. He wanted to have good relations with the Jewish leaders, so he went to visit them in Jerusalem. They mentioned Dr. Paul being brought to Jerusalem (they planned to kill him on the way). Festus then went to Ceasarea and had Dr. Paul brought to decide about a Jerusalem trial. The Jews

made the usual charges with no proof. Dr. Paul stated that all was untrue, he had not said or done anything wrong, not even against Caesar. Festus asked him if he was opposed to being tried in Jerusalem by him. Dr. Paul stated that he had no need and that none can force him to go. He then appealed his case to Caesar. Festus said he would be sent to Caesar?

58. Y/N ___ Shortly, king Agrippa came to town and Festus brought up Dr. Paul, who had appealed to Caesar. He had agreed but had no charge, as Dr. Paul's charges about a resurrected Jesus, would be rejected as a charge. Agrippa asked if he might hear Dr. Paul, as he had for some time wanted to hear what he says about these matters. They set up the meeting for the next day?

59. Y/N ___ Festus set up an elaborate meeting. Dr. Paul was summoned. Festus addressed the crowd of Roman and city leaders and gave the questioning to king Agrippa. He allowed Dr. Paul to give his opening remarks?

60. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul is elated to address Agrippa, as he knows he is well versed in the Jewish way and Law. Paul says he is a Pharisee by Jewish standards and being judged because of the hope of the promise which God made to Abraham. What can be wrong about believing God can raise the dead, was his question to judge. He had zealously and orderly destroyed everything about the Name of Jesus. He had voted, as do all the Sanhedrin appointees, against those of the Way. He tried to force them to blaspheme against Jesus and chased them down in several other cities. He was nearly to Damascus when the light beyond belief came upon him. He was

confronted by Jesus, but not in flesh, in a Voice and instructed what he would have to do to please Him. He will bring forgiveness of all past sins to the gentile world and His Message of His inheritance of eternal life. Dr. Paul states that he was now convinced he had erred badly, and obeyed Jesus completely in Damascus, Judea and throughout the gentile world, proclaiming that all need to reform their minds and lives, turn to God and do the deeds of Jesus' reforms. This is why I was arrested in the Temple. Until that day, Dr. Paul states he had taught nothing other than what the Prophets and Moses said: The Christ must suffer, and He would proclaim light to all people, proved by His resurrection?

61. Y/N ___ Festus broke in, "You are out of your mind, Paul!" Dr. Paul responded, "I am not insane, most noble Festus, as I am declaring true and sensible words."?

62. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul then returns to king Agrippa, saying he was aware of all he is talking about. None of it has been hidden from men. And asked king Agrippa if he is persuaded by the Prophets because he knows he believes them. King Agrippa says to him, asking, if Dr. Paul is in this short session expecting to convert him into becoming a christian. Dr. Paul answers that his hope before God is that that would become true, whether in a short time or long. He adds that he hopes that for all that are in attendance, that they too would be becoming just as he is except for his chains?

63. Y/N ___ King Agrippa stood, and the decision was made that Dr. Paul did not deserve any punishment and could be released, but he has appealed to Caesar?

SUBMIT your answers

16th thought

1. Y/N ___ So, we are in the summer of A.D.59, which will be seeable in a few sentences. Dr. Paul has been under house arrest and chains for two years since his arrival to Jerusalem. He has just finished attesting to the Good News of Jesus and His Kingdom to a full house of Roman and some Jewish aristocrats and moved them with the history (in chronological order) of his work over the past 26 years and the reasons for his effort for Jesus new Way. Jesus had declared to Dr. Paul that he would go on to Rome and do the same there and it is now time to go. Keep in mind that there is very little area between Jerusalem and Rome that Dr. Paul has not walked and evangelized with Jesus' Kingdom news. Dr. Luke was with Dr. Paul during this last two years and used it well. This is the period of research and writing his first contemporary history. Most would date its finish and distribution beginning in A.D.60, which will roughly the time of arrival in Rome. The special centurion named Julius is given the commission to transport Dr. Paul to Rome. He must decide by land or by sea. He chose by sea?

2. Y/N ___ There were other prisoners added to the centurion's responsibility, which meant extra soldiers for guarding and riot. The bunch boarded a ship sailing north called an Adramyttium ship. Mostly it is because it hugs the coastline and is from that city, which is in Mysia

above Ephesus. It is bound for ports in Asia, which will cause centurion Julius to change ships in Myra. One of the extra helpers of Dr. Paul that traveled with him on the trip was named by Dr. Luke. The “we” indicates that Dr. Luke was also on board. There is a possibility of more, which was allowed certain kinds of passengers. Dr. Paul was viewed as such a person. There will be one we will discuss at the island of Crete, when we get there. Dr. Paul is for sure, ready to go on?

3. Y/N ___ They stop the next day in Sidon, which is about 70+ miles up the coast. Julius allowed Dr. Paul’s group to leave the ship while they stay to visit some of ‘the Faith’ in Sidon, and they then sailed north of Cyprus using the regular winds to move. They moved better close to the coastline heading north. Then they sailed over open seas to Myra. This is an important stop. This is the major stop for all shipments from Egypt to Rome. Egypt was the most important supplier of wheat. Their wheat was known as the best. Rome required massive amounts of it. Egypt was a province of the Roman Empire. The government controlled all shipments of wheat to Rome and the ships returning to Egypt. Scheduling, loading and even when you could leave were controlled. Myra was the halfway point. Also, they never tried to sail directly across the ‘Great Sea’ because of the treacherous bottoms of the Sea, so they ran the coast. The ships could load many thousands of tons of grain each, so they must sail safely. The ship owners were paid by the load upon arrival, but rich Romans would insure each load and gain a share of the profits upon arrival. It was big business because of the millions of pounds of

wheat. So, the government only allowed these monster ships which could barely be guided to travel from Feb. 12th till Sept. 11th. They travel at their own risk in what was named "Dangerous seas" from Sept. 11th through Nov. 14th. No grain ships were allowed to travel with grain aboard from Nov. 14th till Feb. 14th, which was the end of winter. They could not afford to lose ships of grain, so these rules were enforced by the government. So, the group made it to Myra?

4. Y/N ___ Julius found a grain ship headed to Rome quickly and they left Myra. Remember these ships are very heavily loaded, big, very difficult to steer and crowded. They traveled west from Myra for many days. They do not go fast nor far daily as they have to attempt to 'tack' (sailing term for sailing into the wind with no engine, only sails). The bigger and heavier the boat the more difficult it is. Many big boats that are loaded as these are cannot be steered but go where the wind pushes them. They attempted to land at the good harbor of Cnidus but because of the wind could not get in the harbor, so they continued on to Crete. Obviously, the ship's captain was skilled and experienced as to know how to use the winds best?

5. Y/N ___ Crete is important because of the time of the year. Dr. Luke tells us that the "Fast" was already done. That is the 'Day of Atonement' of Moses Law. This is the one day yearly when the Jewish "High Priest" only, goes into the Holy of Holies in the Temple with a sacrifice of one of two perfect lambs. His blood is offered for the sins of all Jews for the past year. His blood, too, is on the other lamb that is escorted out far into the desert and let

loose. They never come back. So, symbolically God has forgiven all their sins over the past year, until the next year, when they must do it again. (Jesus annulled and finished this system, in that He died one time and became God's fulfillment to the system of Moses and for all sins either way from Jesus death on the cross (A.D. 30, April 7). This means in A.D.59, it is after Oct. 5th, so they are sailing during the "Dangerous Period". They wisely are looking to put in at Crete for the winter as it has several good ports and a couple of excellent ports. They will make a giant mistake about which port to stay at?

6. Y/N ___ They made the west end of Crete called Salome. They followed the south coast for wind breaking, because of the northwest or west headwinds. It was very difficult to make any headway and not be driven out to the open south Great Sea, which was very dangerous. Almost halfway along Crete is a harbor known as Fair Havens, they are able to get into the harbor for cover against the winds and sea. It is not an excellent port to stay for a winter, but it is much used to do so, if you are too late to reach Phoenix. Beyond Phoenix, an excellent port, the coast of Crete turns north, and the ship will be uncontrollable against the horrible, annual northeasters (hurricane kind of weather), that destroys ships. They stay at Fair Haven about a month, waiting for the best winds that would allow them to move up the Crete south coast to Phoenix's harbor. They had no plan to go on until winter was over in middle Feb.?

7. Y/N ___ A good south breeze began to blow, and they left the harbor and headed west toward Phoenix. Then the wind changes. It began to blow from the northeast

and became a typhoon! This blew them out to sea away from shelter. It was just a matter of time before they all die at sea. Dr. Paul was allowed in the conference at Fair Havens about whether they stay there or attempt to make Phoenix and he advised to stay. He said to leave meant the destruction of the ship, produce and lost of everyone's life. They overruled him and here they are out-of-control in the middle of a typhoon driving them right into deep trouble?

8. Y/N ___ They just now were running with the wind in serious waters, racing this full ship which was showing it was in trouble. They ran under Cauda (tiny island) for a few minutes of less trouble, so they pulled in the small boat and tied it down and wrapped the ship with rope to help keep the hull from cracking up. They then lowered their sails, hoping to miss the shallows of Syrtis down off Africa, and let the storm drive them more westward. The seas were so violent they decided to throw everything that was not part of the ship into the sea, hoping to lighten the load?

9. Y/N ___ The weather was so bad and overcast, they had no idea where they were. And the storm would not quit. The beating of the ship and thinking for days the next crash of the monster waves will break up the ship, 24 hours a day for over a week, had caused the crew and Dr. Paul's group to almost wish for the relief of death. They, also, had not eaten for days (likely to sick and have had no real sleep). This is a dark, depressed, whipped, waiting upon doom, group of men. So, Dr. Paul stands among them and says, "Well, it looks like I was right, huh?" You all need to listen to me, now! No one is going

to die! My God's angel just told me we are only going to lose the ship. I worship and serve my God constantly, and I was just told that I still have to witness before Caesar in Rome, so you can depend upon my words. By the way, the angel said God has granted my prayers for you all, no one is going to die! So, let us eat and take courage. God has never gone against His Word?

10. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul also said that they will soon run aground (ship will stick on rocks or beach), and on the fourteenth night of this horrendous storm they took some soundings (A rope thrown in the water to determine how deep the water is.) to see how deep the water is and saw it was getting shallower. They threw over four anchors to stop or slow the ship until daylight. The crew lied to the centurion and were attempting an escape by the little boat, but Dr. Paul warned that if they leave the ship, you will not make it. The centurion had the rope cut, releasing the little boat. Dr. Paul again says for everyone to eat and they did?

11. Y/N ___ They did not recognize the land, but they wanted to try to run the ship up on the beach they could see, so they put up sail and aimed for it. They did not make it and ended up on rocks. The waves were breaking up the ship and after a good plan for getting off the finished ship, everyone made it to shore safely, as Dr. Paul said they would?

12. Y/N ___ Before we begin to follow the continuing work of Dr. Paul on this little island, it is important to remember Dr. Luke purpose. It may not be important to most, but he as a historian has presented a near perfect plan by Jesus to use Dr. Paul in saturation or allowing

every soul in his area of work to have had a good opportunity to hear His Good News and to receive follow-up as needed. Even the men on the ship are receiving an opportunity to hear the history of Jesus and His purpose for coming (being sent by God) to Earth: the creation of God will sin against Him and outside of Jesus' sacrifice there is no way to have sins forgotten by God. Mankind ought to respond to God's offer of reconciliation and live as the Way will teach them to reform, which will result in God rewarding such service with an eternal home with Him?

13. Y/N ___ The only land mass in this part of Dr. Paul's area of work that had not been taught or followed up upon, was Crete. His month or so there, as the ship's crew determined whether to go to Phoenix to winter, more than gave he and his team an opportunity to evangelize the island. Until you have an opportunity to read Dr. Paul's historical writing to Titus whom he left on Crete for the two years he would be in Rome, you will not see the theme of Dr. Luke fulfilled in Crete. Would Dr. Paul ever (as you notice his pattern of work) have bypassed such an opportunity with over a month in an untaught area?

14. We can historically discern of Prof. Titus' ability and time with Dr. Paul from Antioch of Syria, through Corinth and now in Crete to mature correctly the folks converted in several cities of Crete in Dr. Paul's historical letter to him. It explains why he left him and of the release from Rome and regrouping for the future efforts. But here in Dr. Luke's contemporary history there is only a reference

as to the month (or so) they stayed in the harbor-Fair Havens?

15. Y/N ___ Now they have in an orderly way, safely left the destroyed ship and are marooned on an unknown island?

16. Y/N ___ An unbelievable trip has been had and recorded in history by Dr. Luke of how inhospitable the Great Sea is to those that do not respect it. They had no desire to lose the ship and the grain, and someone would have to answer for not staying in Fair Haven. The being caught in the typhoon in their move might save them from harsh treatment by the Romans, as Wheat is (every grain) needed by Rome. They have landed, they are told by natives, on Melita (today's Malta)?

17' Y/N ___ The natives were very kind to the entire group. Because it was winter, it could be cold, so they started a fire for the group. As the group was gathering wood to sustain the fire overnight, Dr. Paul picked up some wood which had a poisonous viper hiding in it, which bites his hand. Several of the natives saw it on his hand and knew he would be dead in moments. They also knew that though he had survived the storm, he was obviously an evil man and 'Justice' was now being served him?

18. Y/N ___ But Dr. Paul did not die! The native then decided that he was a god, because no one has ever survived this viper's bite?

19. Y/N ___ The 'First Man' (Roman title) of the island, Publius, treated these ship-wrecked men with great benevolence, allowing them to regain their strength for

three days. Publius' father was gravely ill, and Dr. Paul healed him. The entire island, then, brought all the sick to Dr. Paul and he healed them?

20. Y/N ___ During this three months, they stayed there over the winter stoppage of ship traveling, Dr. Paul relaxed, did not evangelize, disciple or immerse anyone. He just healed everyone for their health sake?

21. Y/N ___ Just because Dr. Luke does not detail the effort for Jesus in Malta, could the miraculous healing of Dr. Paul to everyone on the island been accomplished without Dr. Paul evangelizing?

22. Y/N ___ Has the entire historical work not clearly explained Dr. Paul's only mission was to evangelize, disciple for Jesus, immerse folks willing to reform to Jesus new Way so they can be reconciled to God, mature the new citizens of Jesus' Kingdom such that they can be the local correct like Jesus leadership and he then go to new places that had not yet been made aware of the Good News of Jesus?

23. Y/N ___ So, this island for three months heard, committed, and grew in Jesus' new Way. The team was 'greatly honored', meaning: these new christians had responded to the Good News and were assisting them on their way to the next place God was sending them with a thousand examples of confirmation that they were men of the Most Holy Living God, to Whom they had responded, understood and were now a part of His Kingdom. Some had had Dr. Paul's hands laid upon them and were miraculously enabled to teach correctly and heal. Since this is the consistent method Dr. Paul used

for the past 27 years of Dr. Luke's historical coverage, does it not demand a sensible person to 'read-in' to the three months that this was what Dr. Paul and his team did?

24. Y/N ___ The group (soldiers, crew and Dr. Paul's small team) sailed toward Italy after the winter ban was done. They sailed on a ship that had wintered in Malta and sailed to Syracuse in Sicily (an island just off Italy) and stayed for three days (guess what Dr. Paul and his team did?), before they followed the normal traffic flow (Many ships require a rigid, structured movement plan to keep delays and wrecks down, and the Roman had a circuit set up.) to Rhegium (on the tip of Italy) to be guided through the straits when the winds were right (any mistake in these areas could stop up the waters with a wreck which would hurt delivery of wheat and such to Rome). They entered the Italian port of Puteoli (the major port for all grain ships) and found a congregation that they stayed with seven days (it took about that time to unload the ship in the harbor). By now Julius' relationship with Dr. Paul was such that he allowed it before going to Rome?

25. Y/N ___ While in Puteoli, word was sent to the Roman congregation about Dr. Paul's arrival. The Roman congregation had been there since before Dr. Paul was converted in A.D. 33 and he had sent a Letter to them from Corinth before he left to go to Jerusalem (A.D. 57ish) with the assistance that was gathered from across all the areas he had planted congregations. In that Letter (It is a contemporary history that has been preserved and is in your 'advanced' Master study), he told them he was going to visit Rome for a while on his way to Spain, which

had not yet been evangelized. Also, at the end of it, he introduced around 30 workers that were there or coming to be a part of his new efforts in Spain. That Letter was delivered about two years earlier, and the team (at least some of them) were still waiting and working in Italy and Rome. So, when the word that Dr. Paul had finally arrived, elated, some of them started for Puteoli on the Appian Way (the Roman highway for straight delivery to Rome. It was a magnificent interstate.) to meet him?

26. Y/N ___ There were two groups that left Rome to meet Dr. Paul. The first met him at the 'Forum of Appius' on the highway and the next at 'Three Taverns'. Can you image the way they and Dr. Paul felt at this long waited for reunion?

27. Y/N ___ After a while they went on to Rome. Dr. Paul had to go through the normal Roman procedures for someone that "Appealed to Caesar", before they would know exactly what he was free to do or not do. Dr. Paul was allowed to stay on his own (this is not easy to have in these circumstances, and it makes you think that Julius has played a great role in this really exceptional result, but no one knows for sure). He had to have soldiers with him. It took Dr. Paul three days to go back to work. Was it a surprise that his 'work' was not with the congregation in Rome but among Jews in the synagogues of Rome?

28. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul then explains to his tribesmen-Jews-, the reason he was in Rome. They confirm that they do not know anything about him and no report from anyone in or from Jerusalem has mentioned him. They did, though, want to discuss the "Sect" (the new Way of Jesus), which was well known throughout Italy?

29. Y/N ___ They picked a time to meet to discuss the teaching of the 'sect' with Dr. Paul. On that day a large number of the Jews throughout Rome came to Dr. Paul's abode to discuss the 'sect'?

30. Y/N ___ Dr. Paul, once again, began his lessons from the old Scriptures (the 'New' Scriptures were the Letters he and others had been writing since the 1st one, which he and Barnabas delivered to Antioch in A.D.46ish. All of those Letters are in chronological order in your 'advanced Masters study' materials.), as he had done hundreds of times in every synagogue in every city, which he was guided to go too. As he did so (remember his habit was to do so for three Sabbaths, but he would go on until they kicked him out, if he could. He even taught in the synagogue in Ephesus for three months.), some of them were persuaded (meaning they became citizens of Jesus' Kingdom), but even though they continued to come, some were not convinced?

31. Y/N ___ In their last joint meeting, the converts were being pressured by the Jews that were not convinced, so Dr. Paul stepped in and said that the Holy Spirit has correctly spoken of men like you all: no ability to perceive correctly, you are dulled in your hearts such that you refuse to respond to the Truth, your ears just cannot hear the Truth, so your eyes will not open to God's new Way. You reject allowing God to reconcile you because of your arrogance! So, since it is getting ugly, as God wants me to do, from tonight, I will go teach the gentiles the Plan of Salvation, God has provided all men, because they will listen to Jesus?

32. Y/N ___ So from that meeting, Dr. Paul for the rest of the two years, did what he was expected by Jesus to do. Anyone that came to his rented home, Jew or gentile, he proclaimed the Kingdom of God and explained clearly all the aspects of the Lord Jesus Christ's Kingdom among men. The Romans never harassed him, and he, as always, spoke and taught with great enthusiasm and boldness?

33. Y/N ___ The reason Dr. Luke says, "...two 'whole' years is that all 'Appeals to Caesar' are for two years or less. If no accusers show in that period, the one appealing is released. Dr. Paul's work, as explained by Jesus at Dr. Paul's conversion, must final (after a lifetime of battling for the souls of men) be satisfied, since these days in Rome (in A.D. 63), are Dr. Luke's contemporary history's last report on Dr. Paul?

SUBMIT your answers

CONGRADULATIONS!!!!!!

Y.E.S,tm hopes the best for you.

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