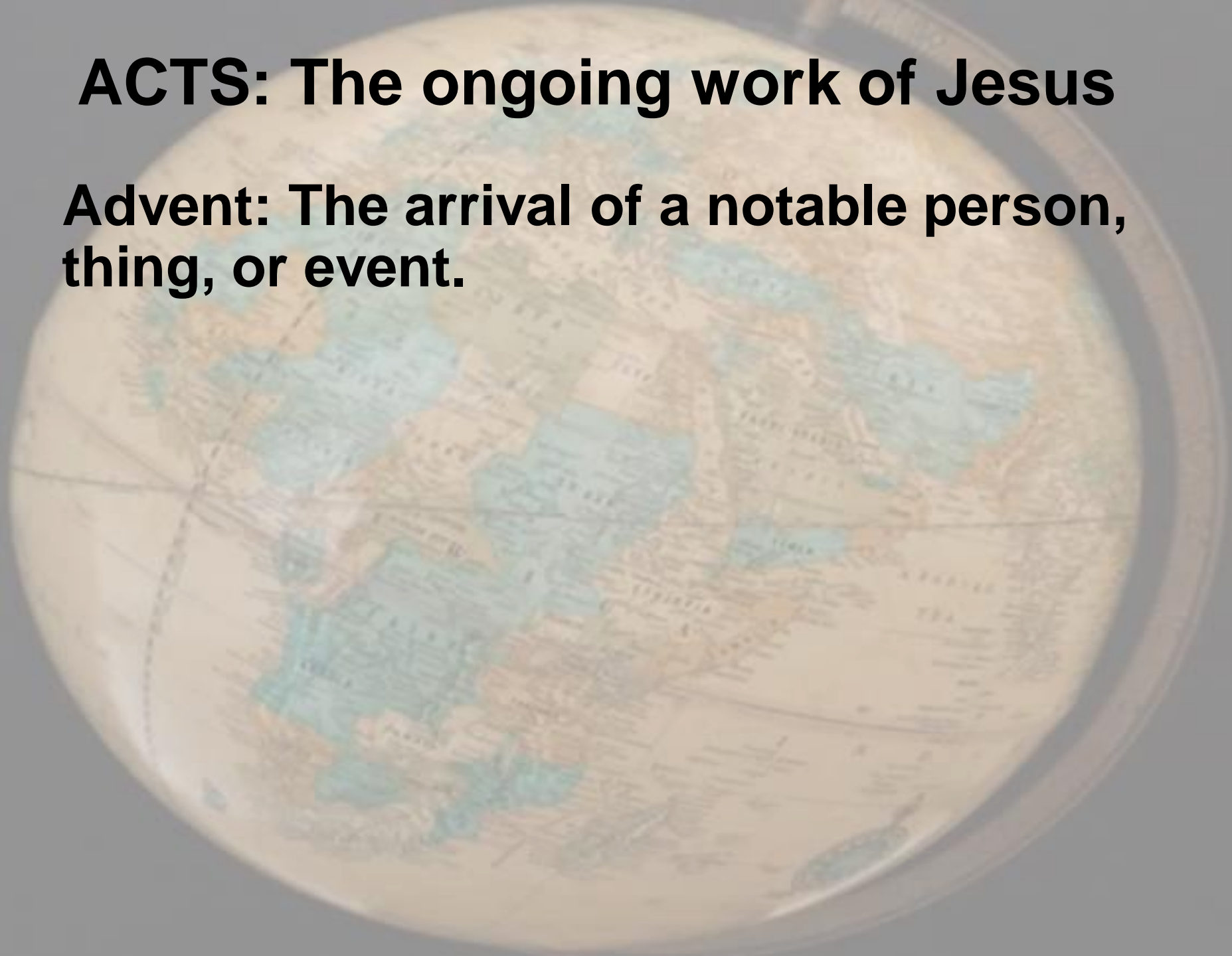


**ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**Advent: The arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.**



**ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

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# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**Matthew 12:18-21 (NIV)**

**<sup>18</sup> “Here is my servant whom I have chosen,  
the one I love, in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on Him,  
and He will proclaim justice to the nations.**

**<sup>19</sup> He will not quarrel or cry out;  
no one will hear His voice in the streets.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>20</sup> A bruised reed He will not break,  
and a smoldering wick He will not  
snuff out,  
till He has brought justice through to  
victory.**

**<sup>21</sup> In His name the nations will put  
their hope.”**

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# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

## **Acts 6 (NIV)**

**<sup>1</sup>In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>3</sup> Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>5</sup> This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.**



# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.**

**<sup>7</sup> So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>8</sup> Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.**

**<sup>9</sup> Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. <sup>10</sup> But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>11</sup> Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, “We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.”**

**<sup>12</sup> So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>13</sup> They produced false witnesses, who testified, “This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. <sup>14</sup> For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.”**

**<sup>15</sup> All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

## **Acts 7:48-60 (NIV)**

**48 “However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says:**

**49 ““Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool.**

**What kind of house will you build for Me? says the Lord.**

**Or where will My resting place be?**

**50 Has not My hand made all these things?’**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**51 “You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! <sup>52</sup> Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered Him— <sup>53</sup> you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>54</sup> When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

**<sup>57</sup> At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup> dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.**

**<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup> Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.**



# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

## **Acts 8 (NIV)**

**<sup>1</sup>And Saul approved of their killing him.**

**On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.**

**<sup>2</sup> Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. <sup>3</sup> But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.**

# **ACTS: The ongoing work of Jesus**

- Decorate Building Dec 7, 9am**
- Float build Dec 7, 9am**
- Parade Dec 7, 5:30pm**

## **Nativity Dec 13-15 (Characters and walkers)**

- Dec 13, 7pm**
- Dec 14, 7pm**
- Dec 15, 7pm**

## **Nativity Service (Characters)**

- Dec 15, 11am**

**Name and contact**\_\_\_\_\_