

READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2021 Week 28 (July 12 – 16)

(“Let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly” ... and bear fruit in our lives) – Colossians 3:16.

Historical Context (Paul’s third missionary trip).

59 AD Approximate date of the writing of Matthew.

60 AD Paul arrives in Rome, where he stays for two years under house arrest as he waits trial before Emperor Nero.

62 AD Paul is released from Rome.

This is also the earliest date for the writing of **Acts**, as it references Paul’s two years in Rome. Acts may also have been written during, or after, Paul’s 4th missionary journey. Acts may have been designed to be the second installment of a three (or more) part work.

The writer of Luke describes Acts as a follow up of the **Gospel of Luke**. Luke has significant differences from Matthew (including the genealogy of Jesus). Noting that the writer of Luke says that he referenced other sources carefully, as he himself was not an original eyewitness, it suggests that Luke was written before Matthew was widely available.

Day Reading Clarification from the Greek (the original language)

Mon.	Acts 28	(:30)	Rented House = The word comes from “pay / wages / reward”, and means “contract / price / rent.”
Tues.	Luke 1	(:19)	Gabriel = To get a sense of who this angel is, see also Daniel 8:20 – 9:27.
Wed.	Luke 2	(:14)	“And on the earth, good will toward men” = Literally: and “ <u>on / over</u> ” the earth, peace “ <u>in</u> ” men “ <u>of / belonging to</u> ” + (colloquial word formed from “ <u>good</u> ” + “ <u>acceptance</u> ”).
Thurs.	Luke 3	(:3)	Remission = Release / set free / cancel / pardon. It is another translation of the word “forgiveness” that we looked at in Acts 5:31 (week 1). It is closely related to the word which – attested from Homer (@ 750 – 700 BC) onward – means the voluntary release over what one has legal or actual control. In legal use, it means release from obligation, acquittal, release from criminal proceedings and penalty, and setting free.
Fri.	Luke 4	(:30)	“Passing through the midst of them” = “Go through / come through” the “middle” of them. It is interesting to compare this with Jesus allowing himself to be arrested in the garden.

Sources: www.thebiblejourney.org; [Word Pictures of the New Testament](#); [Analytical Greek New Testament](#); [The Interlinear NIV, Parallel New Testament in Greek and English](#); [Young’s Analytic Concordance of the New Testament](#); [Dictionary of New Testament Theology, Vols. 1-3](#); [Basics of Biblical Greek \(Mounce\)](#); www.ancient-literature.com/greece_homer; [The New Linguistic and Exegetical Key to the Greek New Testament](#); [New Revised Standard Version Bible](#) – © 1990, Thomas Nelson.

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