Contents

Note on references and style — XIII Abbreviations — XV Chapter 1: Introduction — 1				
			1.1	Topic and approach — 1
			1.2	The key persuasive phenomena — 3
	Evangelistic proclamation in Acts —— 4			
	Persuasive phenomena — 7			
	Key persuasive phenomena —— 8			
	Less prominent persuasive phenomena —— 13			
	Method of classification —— 13			
1.3	Methodology — 14			
	Narrative influence — 15			
4 /	Socio-historical influence — 19			
1.4	Structure —— 25			
Chapte	r 2: Early audiences and their perception of Acts —— 27			
2.1	The early audience perspective —— 27			
2.2	The early audiences of Acts — 27			
	The author of Acts — 27			
	The early audiences of Acts —— 29			
2.3	The genre of Acts — 35			
2.4	The credibility of Acts — 38			
	Speeches — 39			
	The supernatural —— 42			
Chapte	r 3: Jewish and Greco-Roman persuasive religious			
	communication —— 44			
3.1	Preliminary matters —— 44			
3.2	Jewish persuasive religious communication —— 46			
3.3	Persuasive phenomena associated with Jewish proselytising			
	and conversion to Judaism —— 47			
	Josephus' account of the conversion of the royal house of Adia			
	bene (Jewish Antiquities 20.17–96) —— 49			
	Josephus' Jewish Antiquities — other accounts relevant to pro-			
	selytising and conversion —— 54			

Josephus' Against Apion — 57 Philo's On the Life of Moses — 60 Philo on the welcoming of converts — 61 The Letter of Aristeas — 62 The Third Sibylline Oracle — 64 Horace's Satires 1.4.138-43 --- 66 Other references to Jewish proselytising — 66 Summary — 67 3.4 Persuasive phenomena and Jewish persuasive religious communication — 68 lewish Scriptures — 68 Human physical coercion (use or threat) — 70 Greco-Roman cultural interaction — 71 Good character — 73 Jewish community — 74 Witnessed supernatural events — 75 Other persuasive phenomena — 77 Summary — 79 3.5 Greco-Roman persuasive communication — 79 3.6 Persuasive phenomena associated with Greco-Roman proselytising and adoption of Greco-Roman religions --- 80 Lucian on Alexander's Cult of Glycon (Alexander the False *Prophet*) — **81** Livy on the Bacchanalia (Ab Urbe Condita 39.8-19) — 85 Plutarch on the Oracle of Mopsus (De defectu oraculorum 45) — **86** Apuleius on the Cult of Isis (The Golden Ass 11) — 87 Horace on Jupiter (Odes 1.34) — 88 1 Maccabees 1:41 – 53 — 88 Acts 8:9-11 --- 89 The Emperor Cult — 90 Summary — 96 3.7 Persuasive phenomena and Greco-Roman persuasive communication — 96 Witnessed supernatural events — 97 Human physical coercion (use or threat) — 99 Visual/concrete phenomena — 100 Greco-Roman cultural interaction — 101 Greco-Roman rhetoric — 101 Oracles — 104

Community — 104 Other persuasive phenomena — 104 Summary — **106** 3.8 A brief comparison of Jewish and Greco-Roman persuasive religious communication — 107 Chapter 4: Persuasive phenomena associated with evangelistic ministry in Acts 1-12 — 109 4.1 Introduction — 109 4.2 Luke's presentation of Peter — 110 4.3 Persuasive phenomena associated with evangelistic ministry in Acts 1-12 --- 110 Acts 1:1 – 12: Introduction — 110 Acts 1:13 - 26: Peter's leadership in the early Christian community — 112 Acts 2:1-41: Peter's paradigmatic ministry at Pentecost — 115 A paradigmatic passage — 116 Persuasive phenomena — 119 Acts 2:42 – 47: Peter and the paradigmatic summary of the early Jerusalem Christian community, Part 1 — 130 A paradigmatic passage — 130 Persuasive phenomena — 131 Acts 3:1-4:4: Peter speaks in the temple — 135 Acts 4:5 – 22: Peter speaks before the Sanhedrin, Part 1 — 140 Acts 4:23 – 31: Peter and the Christians pray — 141 Acts 4:32 – 37: Peter and the early Jerusalem Christian community, Part 2 — 142 Acts 5:1-11: Peter and community discipline — 142 Acts 5:12 – 16: Peter and the early Jerusalem Christian community, Part 3 — 143 Acts 5:17 – 42: Peter speaks before the Sanhedrin, Part 2 — 145 Acts 6:1-7: The choosing of the Seven — 146 Acts 6:8-8:3: The arrest, speech and stoning of Stephen — 147 Acts 8:4-25: Philip, Peter and John in Samaria — 149 Acts 8:26 - 40: Philip and the Ethiopian — 152 Acts 9:1-31: Saul's conversion and early ministry — 153 Acts 9:32 - 43: Peter in Lydda and Joppa — 154 Acts 10:1-11:18: Peter's paradigmatic ministry at Cornelius' house — 154 A paradigmatic passage — 157

Persuasive phenomena — 158

Acts 11:19 - 30: The church at Antioch — 162 Acts 12:1 – 25: Peter's escape and the death of Herod — 163 Peter in Acts 13 - 28 - 164 4.4 Brief comments — 164 Chapter 5: Persuasive phenomena associated with evangelistic ministry in Acts 13 – 28 — 165 5.1 Introduction — 165 5.2 Luke's presentation of Paul — 165 5.3 Persuasive phenomena associated with evangelistic ministry in Acts 13 - 28 - 166 Saul/Paul in Acts 1 – 12 — 166 Acts 13:1-3: Saul/Paul and Barnabas sent out — 166 Acts 13:4-12: Saul/Paul on Cyprus — 168 Acts 13:13 - 52: Paul's paradigmatic ministry in Pisidian Antioch — 169 A paradigmatic passage — 170 Persuasive phenomena — 171 Acts 14:1 - 6: Paul in Iconium — 175 Acts 14:6-21: Paul in Lystra and Derbe - 176 Acts 14:21 – 28: Paul follows up churches, Part 1 — 180 Acts 15:1-35: Paul and the Council at Ierusalem — 180 Acts 15:36 – 16:5: Paul follows up churches, Part 2 — 182 Acts 16:6 - 40: Paul in Philippi — 183 Acts 17:1-9: Paul in Thessalonica — 186 Acts 17:10 - 14: Paul in Berea - 187 Acts 17:15 – 34: Paul's paradigmatic ministry in Athens — 188 A paradigmatic passage — 189 Persuasive phenomena — 191 Acts 18:1-18: Paul in Corinth — 196 Acts 18:19 - 23: Paul in Ephesus, Part 1; and Paul follows up churches, Part 3 — 196 Acts 18:24 – 28: Priscilla, Aquila and Apollos — 197 Acts 19:1-20:1: Paul in Ephesus, Part 2 — 198 Acts 20:1-38: Paul follows up churches, Part 4 — 199 Acts 21:1-36: Paul approaches and arrives in Jerusalem — 200 Acts 21:37 – 22:22: Paul speaks to the Jerusalem crowd — 200 Acts 22:23 – 23:11: Paul before the Sanhedrin — 202

```
fore Felix — 203
          Acts 25:1-22: Paul's trial before Festus, who then consults King
          Agrippa — 204
          Acts 25:23 - 26:32: Paul's paradigmatic speech before King Agrip-
           pa and Festus — 204
          A paradigmatic passage — 206
           Persuasive phenomena — 206
          Acts 27:1 - 28:14: Paul travels to Rome - 208
          Acts 28:15 - 31: Paul in Rome — 209
5.4
       Brief comments — 210
Chapter 6: Impact upon early audiences of Acts - Part 1: Phenomena,
       contexts and influence - 211
       Introduction — 211
6.1
6.2
       Jewish Scriptures — 212
          The What? — 212
          The Where? — 213
          The How? — 217
6.3
       Witnessed supernatural events — 218
          The What? — 218
          The Where? — 221
          The How? — 224
       Christian community — 225
6.4
          The What? — 225
          The Where? — 227
          The How? — 229
6.5
       Greco-Roman cultural interaction — 229
          The What? — 229
          The Where? — 232
          The How? — 232
6.6
       Human physical coercion (use or threat) — 233
          The What? — 233
          The Where? — 233
          The How? — 233
       Summary — 234
6.7
Chapter 7: Impact upon early audiences of Acts - Part 2: The ongoing
       mission — 235
```

Introduction — 235

7.1

Acts 23:12 - 24:27: Paul's transfer to Caesarea and his trial be-

7.2 7.3 7.4	Ongoing mission — 236 The early audiences' role — 238 The place of key persuasive phenomena — 240 Jewish Scriptures — 242	
	Witnessed supernatural events — 243 Christian community — 247 Greco-Roman cultural interaction — 248 Human physical coercion (use or threat) — 249	
7.5	Summary — 250	
Chapte	er 8: Conclusion —— 252	
8.1	Introduction —— 252	
8.2	Distinctive findings — 252	
Adde	ndum	
Tables —— 259		
Table 1	261	
•	graphy —— 264	
	ference works — 264	
A.1	Reference works – General — 264	
A.2	Reference works – Online —— 264	
B. Primary sources — 265		
B.1	Biblical and associated Jewish texts — 265	
B.2	Jewish and Greco-Roman authors —— 265	
B.3		
C. Se	condary sources —— 273	
Index of ancient texts —— 291		
Index of modern authors —— 314		