RIGHT DIVISION of The New Testament Jan Lilleby

From Matthew to the end of Acts The offer to Israel to have their Kingdom

- A. The four gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John is about Jesus and His disciples, and the entire story tells of God's promised millennial kingdom for Israel. God controlled all of it so that the Jews would crucify Jesus, He made them spiritually blind. Without such over-rule the crucifixion could not have taken place.
- B. The Book of Acts is all about the followers of Jesus, what they said and did, after His resurrection, as He sent them to Israel's land first; and not long after that, He called Paul, sending him to the Provinces to let the Jews there hear the news of Jesus Christ, those who had not experienced Jerusalem at Pentecost (Acts 2). Peter and the eleven preached to the Jews inside the land (the circumcised) while Paul was sent outside to Gentile-proselytes, kings and the children of Israel (Acts 9:15). It was now the will of God to have the whole nation of Israel come to faith in Jesus and repent and be baptized so that He could return from Heaven in their life time and establish the Kingdom for Israel. But they rejected Jesus when regarding the nation as a whole. The majority rejected Him, and causing God Jehova to send upon them the Roman Army in A.D. 70, destroying them and scatter them into the civilized world. Acts is the book which are testifying to the tragical *fall of Israel* as a nation for God!

Post-Acts in Biblical time line The free Grace Salvation to the whole world

After that Paul confronted the Sanhedrin leadership (of the eleven Synagogues) in Rome A.D. 60, as found in Acts 28:25-28, he was released from cust-ody in A.D. 62. But in 62-63 Paul wrote the epistles to the Ephesians and the Colossians, and also Philemon. He had then been put in regular Roman jail, and no longer in that hired appartement. Israel was fallen from God as His nation, and He had broken all contact with His ancient people! So He let Paul be trusted with an entirely new revelation, called *«The Mystery»* - the free Grace Gospel to the entire world. Eph. 3:1-4 shows us Paul as one who was sent to the Gentiles. Thus God had started the new dispensation, that of God's free Grace, salvation by faith alone and no works (Eph. 2:8, 9). Our hope of salvation is the Heaven up above, where Christ now is sitting at His Father's right hand. The earthly kingdom preached to Israel in Acts-period is absolutely not the hope for the Body of Christ, the 'One new man' of Eph. 2: 14, 15. All epistles from the time of Acts-history are about the kingdom and we can only find our faith doctrine in Ephesians and Colossians, thank God!