

THE MINNESOTA BIBLE LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS

# Acts of the Apostles: Embracing the Romans

A lecture series by  
the Very Rev. Dr.  
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**St. Mary's Greek  
Orthodox Church**

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**Friday, April 13**

Session 1  
7-9 PM

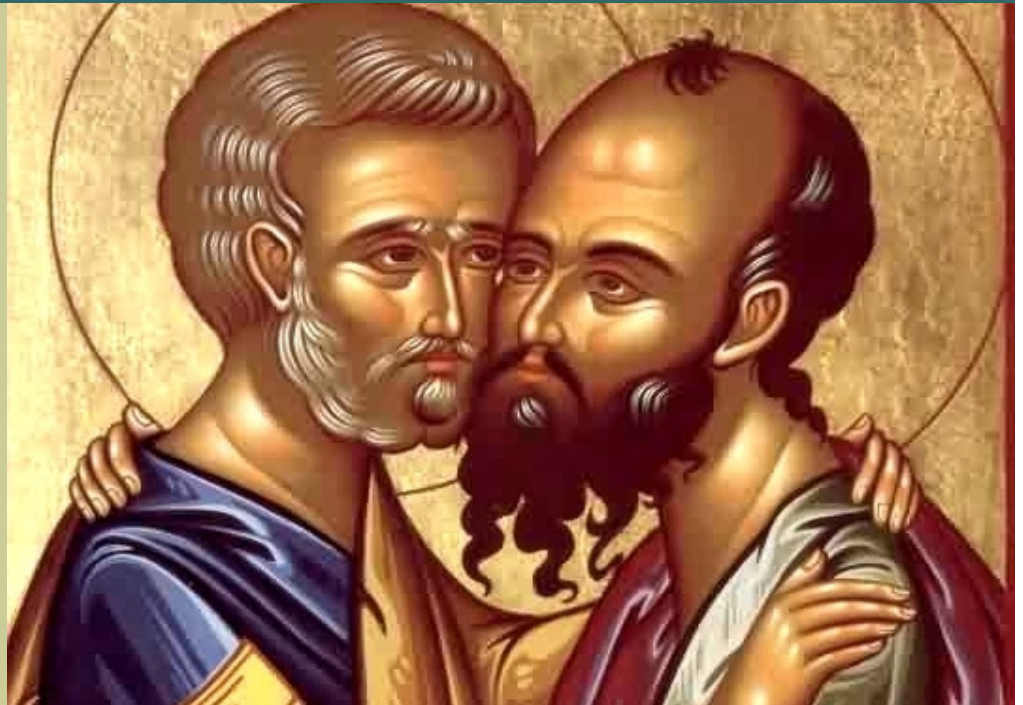
**Saturday, April 14**

Session 2  
9 AM-12 PM

Session 3  
2-4:30 PM

Session 4  
6-8 PM

***Register online \$30  
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In the first century, the Apostle Paul warned the Church in Jerusalem that God's promise of life could only be fulfilled through his Word and not by the sword. Rejecting this, many of the Jewish-Christian leaders insisted upon the centrality of circumcision and the earthly city of Jerusalem, placing their trust, not in the power of the Lord's teaching, but instead, under the influence of their Jewish brethren, in the power of the sword.

Then, in 66-70 AD, Jewish zealots led a revolt against Roman occupation, however, Rome crushed this revolt, destroyed the Temple and scattered the people throughout the empire. Worse, those who had placed their faith in the earthly city had fallen into despair with its destruction.

Seeing their despair, and knowing that the rejection of the Gospel by Jerusalem's leadership was final, Luke set out to write a two-volume work, Luke-Acts. Addressing both Jews and Gentiles in his writing, Luke hoped that all people would finally accept the Gospel revealed to Paul on the road to Damascus.

What does the destruction of the Temple tell us about the relationship between Acts and the Old Testament? Why does the book of Acts appear just before Paul's Letter to the Romans? Why does the story of Acts focus mostly on Rome?