

**Title:** List of Old Testament Texts to Be Familiar With

**Date/Location:** Sunday 10/18/2020, Wednesday 10/21/2020, and Sunday 10/25/2020 at FBC

What OT texts should you be able to use in evangelism?

## **I. Old Testament Texts used in Evangelism in Acts**

The following OT texts are used in the book of Acts.

1. Psalm 16:8-11 (Acts 2:25-28) – resurrection of Messiah
2. Psalm 110:1 (Acts 2:34-35) – Jesus ascended into heaven. Suggest Psalm 68:18 as well.
3. Psalm 2:1-2 (Acts 4:25-26) – the rage of the nations against Christ
4. Amos 5:25-27 (Acts 7:42-43) – the idolatry of God’s chosen nation. Corollaries to this are Deut 4:19 (don’t worship the heavens) and the warning of Psalm 81:12 which speaks of giving people over to their own hearts. Sin is dangerous and it is necessary to preach about sin in the gospel presentation.
5. Isaiah 66:1-2 (Acts 7:49-50) – God is infinite, witnessed by the fact that He does not dwell in a house made with hands. A focus on an earthly temple is off.
6. Isaiah 53:7-8 (Acts 8:32-33) – the sacrifice of the Messiah
7. Psalm 2:7 (Acts 13:33) – The resurrection and glorification of Messiah is taught here
8. Isaiah 55:3 (Acts 13:34) – the promise to David and his greater Son meant that Messiah had to rise from the dead
9. Psalm 16:10 (Acts 13:35) – again the resurrection of Messiah.
10. Hab. 1:5 (Acts 13:41) – God has told us in advance what is “up” and yet people still refuse to believe it. This was written to Israel before the Babylonian captivity, but it is applicable anytime a person hard-heartedly rejects Christ.
11. Isaiah 42:6, 49:6 (see also Luke 2:32, Acts 13:47) – Messiah would bless the Gentiles. Notice that the Bible is very clear that God promised the gospel beforehand (Romans 1:1-2). This is not the same as promising the church beforehand, because Ephesians 3:6 makes it clear that the body of Gentiles and Jews together was a mystery in times before. So, Gentile

salvation YES, but Gentiles and Jews in a church body NO, not revealed before the time of the apostles.

12. Amos 9:11-12 (Acts 15:16-17) – Used by James to support that Gentiles are “in” God’s program.
13. Isaiah 6:9-10 (Acts 28:26-27) – People are hard-hearted and do not understand or turn to God.
14. Joel 2:28-32 (Acts 2:17-21) – Most of this text is used as a defense of the apostles who just had received the Spirit. But the last verse does say that anyone who calls on Christ will be saved.
15. 1 Samuel 13:14 and Psalm 89:20 (Acts 13:22) – God sought out a man who would do His will and chose David to be that man. David will once again rule over the people of Israel in the future kingdom.

It is interesting that after Acts 13:47, there are no long quotes from the OT until Paul ministers to Jews in Acts 28. Ministering to the Gentiles doesn’t make it conducive to use the OT in such a significant way. The Hebrew Scriptures are very helpful for Jewish people. But there have to be allusions to the OT text even in the later sermons in Acts.

## **II. Other Old Testament Texts Used in Acts or Elsewhere in NT**

These are other OT texts, though not used in the preaching found in Acts, which are significant for proclaiming the truth of Christ from the Old Testament.

16. Isaiah 53 was mentioned above, but all of its verses are significant in connection to preaching the gospel. It covers both the suffering of Christ and the glory that follows (1 Peter 1:11, Luke 24:25-27), which refer to his death and resurrection, ascension, exaltation at the right hand of the Father. It covers the imputation of human sin to the Servant, and His work to provide atonement for iniquities.
17. Gen. 3:15 – the proto-evangelium
18. Isaiah 32:1, Jer. 23:5 – Messiah as coming King
19. Psalm 110:4 – Messiah as priest in the order of Melchizedek
20. 1 Samuel 2:35 – a priest who walks before the Lord’s anointed, indicating that the anointed is always present.
21. Daniel 9:24-27 – The timing of Messiah’s coming, His death, and that He will make atonement for iniquity.
22. Daniel 7:13-14 – Messiah’s taking the kingdom and reigning forever.

23. The sinfulness of mankind – Psalm 58:3, Eccl. 7:20
24. Isaiah 28:16 – Messianic expectation, and those who believe in Christ will not be put to shame.
25. Psalm 118:22 and Isaiah 8:14 – the Messiah will be rejected
26. Psalm 34:12-16 – God blesses the righteous and is against the evil.
27. Prov. 3:34 – God gives grace to the humble.
28. Genesis 1:1 – God created everything. This is a critical starting point for non-Jews and especially evolutionists today. Paul started at this theological truth in Acts 17. (There are probably quite a few secular Jews who do not believe the Bible’s account of creation, so this may be a critical starting point for *most* evangelism today.)
29. Isaiah 7:14 and 9:6 are often used at Christmas-time, but they are texts which prophesy of the virgin birth and the coming Messianic kingdom. These can be used to support the gospel accounts of Christ and the need to repent in light of the coming of the great King.
30. Isaiah 61 promises that the Spirit-anointed servant will come to preach good tidings, liberty, etc. He will comfort and bring righteousness, and will be an agent of restoration of the people of Israel, their cities, their agriculture, etc. He will bring them the new covenant and with clothe them with salvation so that righteousness and praise will spring forth from the nation before all the world to see.
31. Deut 18:15, 18 – Messiah as the coming Prophet.
32. Jer. 31:34 - God will forgive the iniquity of His people and will not remember their sins anymore (against them).
33. Zech 13:1 – a “fountain for cleansing” will be provided for the Jews so that they sin and impurity can be cleansed away.

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