

THE BOOK OF ACTS DEVOUT CHRISTIANITY

AUGUST 9, 2026

SCRIPTURE

And Saul approved of Stephen's execution. And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. **Devout men buried Stephen** and made great lamentation over him. But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison. Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. Acts 8:1-4

CORRECT BELIEFS & PRACTICES

Ortho-doxy is having correct doctrines and beliefs. Ortho-praxy is having correct practices and actions.

You believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless? James 2:19-20

Our salvation is based solely on Christ's work. Our salvation is shown by our works.

DEVOUT CHRISTIANITY

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40

Acts 2 offers us a grid of how to practice loving God and loving people.

"The best are the best because they refuse to get bored with the basics."

1/ A devout Christian takes gathering with the saints seriously.

It's a commitment to gather in large settings.

It's a commitment to gather in small settings.

2/ A devout Christian takes glorifying God seriously.

It's a commitment to worship.

God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and

every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

3/ A devout Christian takes growing spiritually seriously.

It's a commitment to Scripture.

You must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Pt 3:18

Scripture: Read a section.

Observation: "What does this teach me about God?"

Application: "What is God saying to me?"

Prayer: Ask God to help you.

"Most issues don't need to be casted out. They need to be crowded out." Pastor Chitty

It's a commitment to prayer.

Intimacy: Give thanks & praise & worship.

Intercession: Ask God for needs & wants.

Adoration: Give thanks for who God is.

Confession: Search the heart & confess sins.

Thanksgiving: Give thanks for what God has done.

Supplication: Ask God for needs & wants.

"The only person who dares wake up a king at 3am for a glass of water is a child. We have that kind of access to God." Timothy Keller

4/ A devout Christian takes giving seriously.

It's a commitment to give tithes.

It's a commitment to give offerings.

5/ A devout Christian takes going to the lost seriously.

It's a commitment to serve locally.

It's a commitment to serve globally.

For clarity, a born-again Christian will go to heaven without doing any of this. But a generational and influential faith requires a serious approach.