

R. J. ALLEN, *Acts of the Apostles*, Fortress Biblical Preaching Commentaries (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2013, paper \$22) xvii and 233 pp., 3 tables. Bibliography. ISBN: 978-0-8006-9872-0.

Allen, professor of Preaching, Gospels, and Letters at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, seeks to spark conversations with Acts that respect the otherness of the text—the

**166      NEW BOOKS**

NTA 58 (1, '14)

The notice of the highlighted book appeared in *NTA* 58/1 in March 2014 (© Boston College). A corresponding record will appear in *NTA Online* (see [www.ebscohost.com](http://www.ebscohost.com)).

The editors appreciate the cooperation of the publisher in making the review copy available.

Books for review may be sent through the US postal service to: *New Testament Abstracts*, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, 140 Commonwealth Avenue, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467-3800, USA. For items sent via a delivery service (e.g., FedEx, UPS), please use the following address: 9 Lake Street, Brighton, MA 02135-3841. E-mail: [NTAbstracts@bc.edu](mailto:NTAbstracts@bc.edu).

## ***New Testament Abstracts 58/1 • 2014***

differences in its world from the world of today—while exploring points at which this conversation continues to offer hope. After a fourteen-page introduction to Acts, he moves passage-by-passage through the text. Each discussion contains three elements: interpretation of the passage in the light of its historical, literary, and theological function in Acts; explanation of its place in the giant chiasmus of Luke-Acts; and suggestions for sermons. He divides Acts into four major parts: the coming of the realm of God—the main theme of Acts (1:1–2:13); you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea (2:14–8:3); you will be my witnesses in Samaria (8:4–25); and you will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth (8:26–28:31). Also included are an index of passages from Acts in the Revised Common Lectionary, and four appendixes: the chiastic structure of Acts; a table correlating lectionary readings from Luke with chiastic parallels from Acts; sermon series from Acts—representative texts, characters, and themes; and suggestions for further study.