pen. In both the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts, God brings to pass events predicted in scripture (Luke 1:20; 4:21; 21:24; 22:16; 24:44; Acts 1:16; 3:18; 13:27; 14:26). Times and seasons are set by God (Acts 13:47; 17:26), and God determines the fate, purpose, or destiny of people’s lives (Acts 2:23; 10:42; 13:47–48; 17:31; 22:10). One of Luke’s favorite words is the simple Greek term *dei*, which means “it is necessary”; he uses this word repeatedly to indicate that things must happen because God has willed them to happen. It was necessary for Jesus to die and rise from the dead (Acts 17:3; cf. Luke 9:22; 13:33; 17:25; 24:7, 26); it is also necessary for Judas to be replaced (1:22), for Paul to visit Rome (19:21; 23:11; 25:10; 27:24), for the gospel to be proclaimed to Jews first (13:21; 23:47) and to suffer for Christ’s name (9:16). Luke expects his readers to be comforted by the assurance that God is in charge and that everything is going according to plan.