



THE BIBLE

THE BIG PICTURE

Part 8 of 10

“ACTS: The Gospel Hits the Road”

Adam Spence

THE BIBLE (66 Books)

OLD TESTAMENT
(39 Books)

400 Silent
Years
Inter-Testament
Period

NEW
TESTAMENT (27
Books)

FOUNDATIONAL
(5 Books)

FOUNDATIONAL
(4 Books)

HISTORICAL
(12 Books)

HISTORICAL
(1 Book)

INSTRUCTIONAL
(22 Books)

INSTRUCTIONAL
(22 Books)

GENESIS
↓
DEUTERONOMY

JOSHUA
↓
ESTHER

JOB
↓
MALACHI

MATTHEW
↓
JOHN

ACTS

ROMANS
↓
REVELATION

MT	MK
LK	JN

THE GOSPELS :

MATTHEW

Key word:

King

Audience:

Jews

Author:

Matthew - Tax collector

Focal point:

Make disciples

Distinctive feature:

Genealogies

Major Themes:

- a. Jesus is Messiah and King
- b. New community of faith
- c. Great commission
- d. Kingdom citizenship & character

MT	MK
LK	JN

THE GOSPELS : MARK

- Key word: **Servant**
- Audience: **Romans**
- Author: **Mark - Missionary**
- Focal point: **A life given in service**
- Distinctive feature: **"Immediately"**
- Major Themes:
- a. Power & authority of Jesus
 - b. Suffering – Jesus & His followers
 - c. Humility
 - d. Imitation

MT	MK
LK	JN

THE GOSPELS : LUKE

- Key word: **Son of Man**
- Audience: **Theophilus (& Greeks in general)**
- Author: **Luke – Physician & Historian**
- Focal point: **Seeking & saving the lost**
- Distinctive feature: **The humanity of Jesus**
- Major Themes:
- a. **God's rule over history**
 - b. **Assurance of the Jesus-account**
 - c. **Compassionate love**
 - d. **Paradox: an upside-down world**

MT	MK
LK	JN

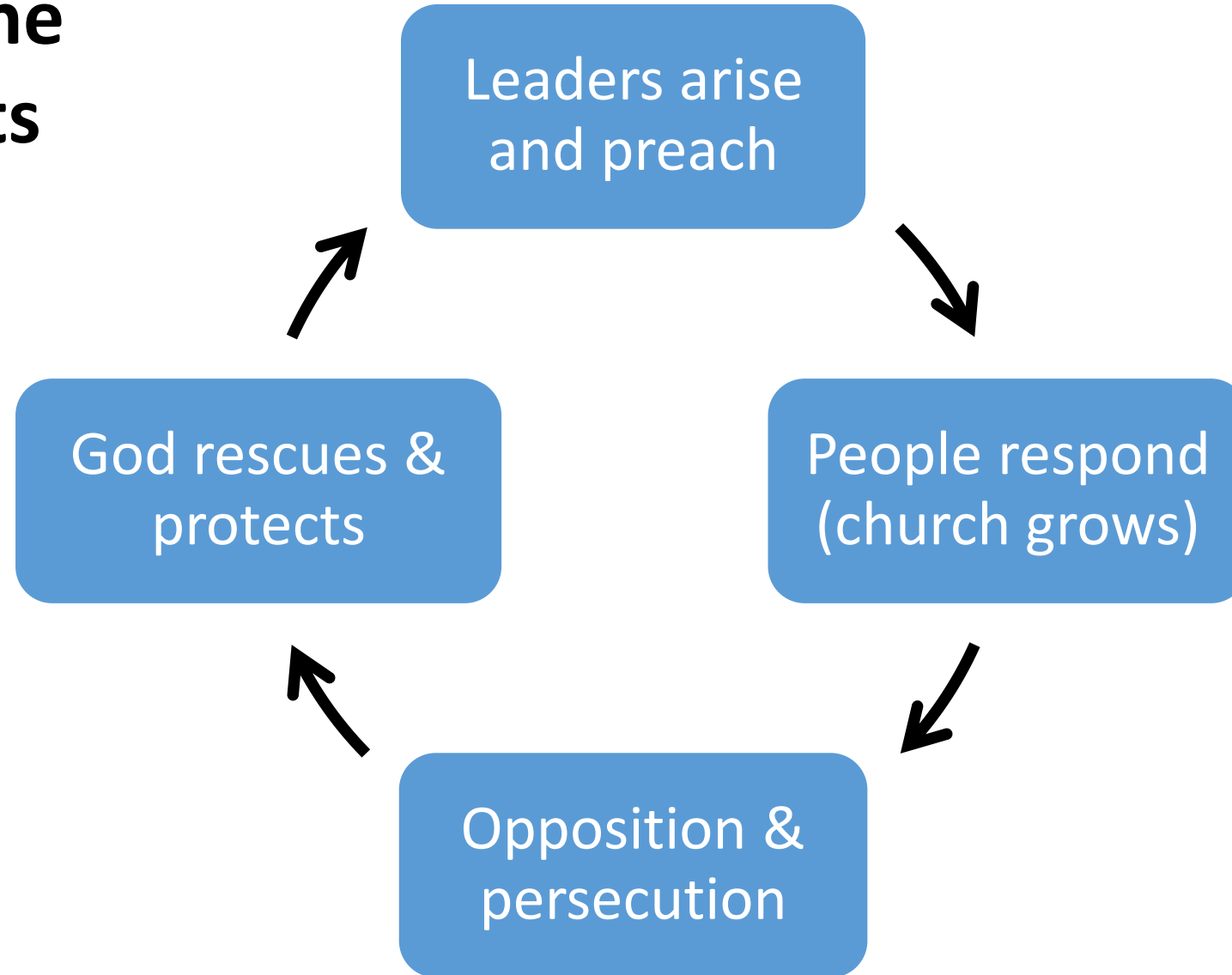
THE GOSPELS : JOHN

- Key word: **Son of God**
- Audience: **Global**
- Author: **John - Fisherman**
- Focal point: **Believe in Jesus & live**
- Distinctive feature: **Miracles**
- Major Themes:
- a. **Jesus is God**
 - b. **Jesus is THE source of eternal life**
 - c. **Salvation is NOW for believers**
 - d. **Executive summary**

BOOK OF ACTS BIG PICTURE

1. A pattern book
2. An adventure
3. Expansive in it's organisation (small to big)
4. A series of summaries of early church life
5. Sermons are 1/3 of the book
6. Ministries of key people
7. Important places
8. Examples are representative of a larger picture
9. Cyclical in approach

A Cycle in The Book of Acts



UNDERSTANDING

ACTS

	Jerusalem	Judea/Samaria	Beyond (World)
Chapters	1 – 7	8 – 12	13 – 28
Person	Peter	Philip	Paul
Audience	Jewish	Samaritan	Gentile
Pattern	Birth	Growth	Expansion
Keys	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Spirit of God2. Power3. Persecution	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Persecution2. New people3. Vision	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Preaching2. Paths/Journeys3. Mission
Places	Jerusalem	Antioch	Rome

BOOK OF ACTS THEMES

1. Empowerment
2. Emphasis on worldwide witness
3. There is a cost of faithful witness
4. Need for unity for effective witness
5. Gospel always calls for a response
6. Sense of continuation in Christ's ministry
7. God preserves His witness
8. Resurrection as the cornerstone (see the sermons)