

Bearing Witness from the Whole Story

Part 1: When the Gospel Is Challenged

Acts 7:1-53

4 Movements in Acts 7:1-53:

THE CONTEXT: The Opportunity for Faithful Witness When the Gospel Is Challenged (v1)

THE CALLING: God Calls His People to Bear Faithful, Christ-Centered Witness (v2-50 - overview)

THE METHOD: Faithful Witness Proclaims Christ from the Whole Story of Scripture (v2-50)

- **God Initiates His Promises** (Abraham to the Patriarchs - v2-8)
- **God's People Grow... and Rejection Enters the Story** (Joseph -v9-16)
- **God Sends a Deliverer... Who Is Rejected** (Moses - v17-29)

- **God Reveals Himself and Reaffirms His Promise** (v30-38)\
- **God's People Resist... Again.** (v39-43)
- **God Dwells with His People... Beyond Structures** (v44-50)

THE INDICTMENT: Outward Religion, Unchanged Hearts. (v51-53)

Encourage you to journal or pray through these this week:

1. Where is my confidence most naturally anchored when my faith is questioned? Is it in a familiar verse, a past experience, or a general sense that "things will work out", or is it in the **whole story** of what God has promised and fulfilled in Christ?
2. When clarity feels risky, what am I most tempted to protect... Christ's truth or my own comfort? Are there places in my life where I've learned to stay vague, quiet, or non-committal because speaking clearly about Christ might cost me something?
3. Am I engaging God's Word as isolated promises, or as the unfolding story that leads me to Christ? How might growing in my understanding of God's redemptive story deepen my delight in Him and shape my faithfulness over time?