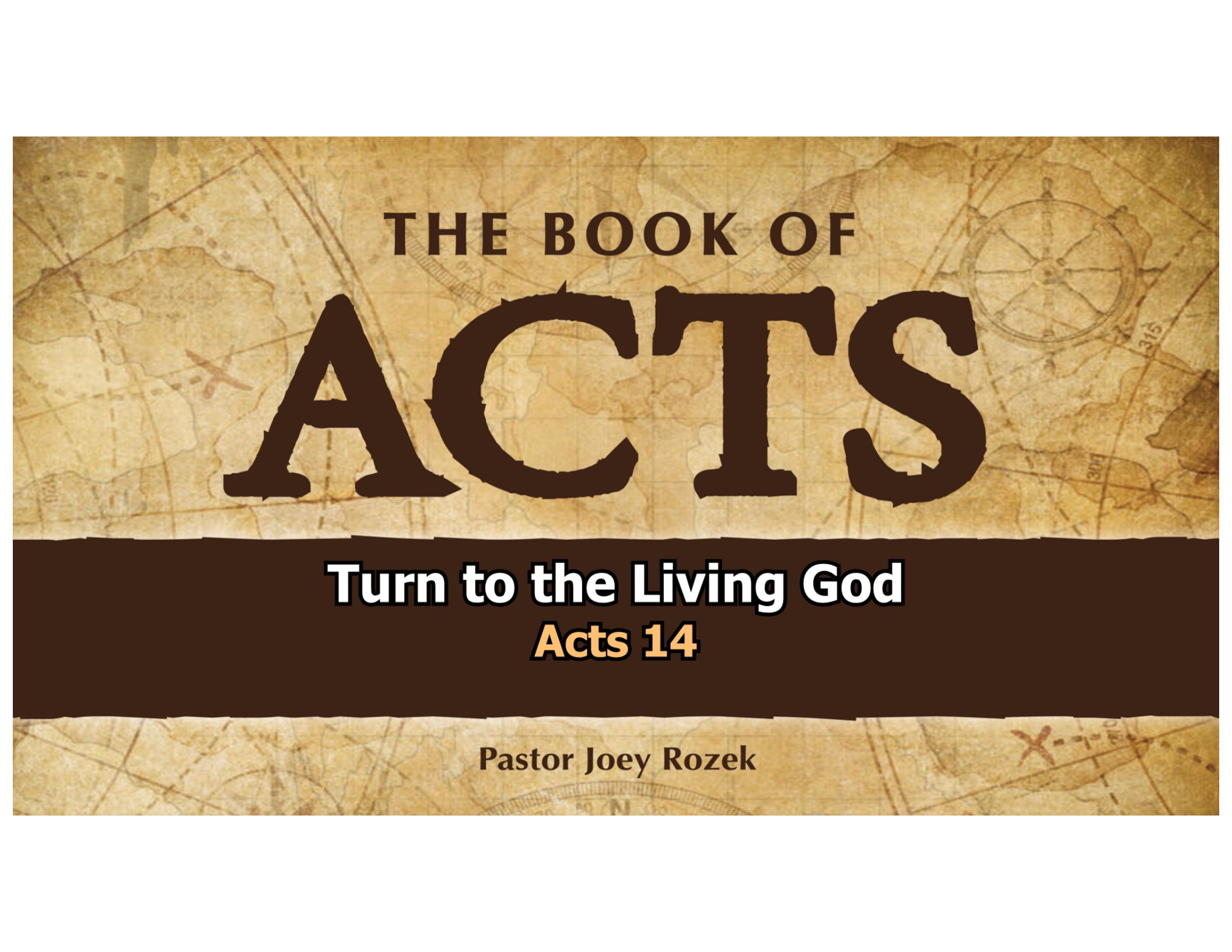




THE BOOK OF
ACTS

ALL OF JESUS FOR ALL THE WORLD!



THE BOOK OF
ACTS

Turn to the Living God
Acts 14

Pastor Joey Rozek

POINT #1:

The Gospel must be SPOKEN to be HEARD

Rom. 10:14-15 How then shall they call on Him
in whom they have not believed?
**And how shall they believe in Him
of whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear without a preacher?**

Proverbs 18:21

**“Death and life are in the power of the tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit.”**

The Greatest Unseen Battlefield is: THE MIND

2 Cor. 11:3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, **so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.**

...What do you do to protect your mind from being corrupted?

POINT #2 - Jesus Requires a FULL RESOLVE

He Divides the Sides: To be FOR or AGAINST Him

Luke 2:34-35 Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, **this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel**, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that **the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.**"

The Spirit of the Antichrist continues to GROW

Matt. 2:16-18 Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and **he sent forth and put to death all the male children** who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, **from two years old and under,** according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

The Spirit of Christ has the Greatest Power

**“Stand up straight on your feet!”
And he leaped and walked.**

1 John 4:4-5 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, **because He who is in you is GREATER than he who is in the world.** They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them.

**POINT #3 - God Does Not Share His Glory
He Alone is to Be Worshipped**

**Psa. 115:1-3 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us,
But to Your name give glory,
Because of Your mercy,
Because of Your truth.
Why should the Gentiles say,
"So where is their God?"
But our God is in heaven;
He does whatever He pleases.**

God's Preserves His Own Glory

1 Cor. 1:27-29 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, **that no flesh should glory in His presence.**

TURN TO THE LIVING GOD

**Turn - Grk. "epistrepho" - to turn toward,
be converted, return, turn again**

Deut. 4:30 When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, when you **turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice**

Deut. 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and **you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them**

Paul Builds a Bridge Using the Created World

Rom. 1:21-25 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and **changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things...who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.**

KEY POINT:

**No matter how a conversation may begin,
we should seek to turn their attention
toward JESUS in the end.**

Paul Received a Vision of Heaven

2 Cor. 12:1-4 It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: **I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—**whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—**such a one was caught up to the third heaven.** And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—**how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words,** which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

SUFFERING FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS

2 Cor. 4:8-12 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. **So then death is working in us, but life in you.**

Paul Carried the Marks to Prove His Loyalty

Gal. 6:17 From now on let no one trouble me,
for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

**What marks do you bear that shows your
uncompromising commitment to Christ?**

POINT #4 - To MAKE a disciple, You must first BE a disciple who is willing to TEACH others...

Matt. 28:18-20 "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **TEACHING them to observe all things that I have commanded you**; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Establishing a Church Requires the Appointment of ELDERS

Titus 1:5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and **appoint elders in every city** as I commanded you—

The Biblical Church in Acts REQUIRED:

- 1. Apostolic Authority/Doctrinal Teaching**
- 2. Pastoral/Elder Oversight & Care**
- 3. Holy Spirit Guidance, Power & Provision**
- 4. The Centrality of the Gospel**
- 5. The Sacraments (Baptism & Communion)**
- 6. The Gathering Together of Christ's Followers**
- 7. The Perseverance through Trial & Tribulation**

“And so it is better to have a little church that is real than a big church that is artificial. It is better to have a simple religion that is real than to have a great ornate ceremony that is only hollow and empty.”

– A.W. Tozer
“The Crucified Life”

Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones:

“There is only one hope for such a world and that is a revived church. So the most urgent need of the hour is revival in the Christian church, and that means revival in individual Christians...”

“Our greatest danger, I feel today, is to quench the Spirit. This is no age to advocate restraint; the church today does not need to be restrained, but to be aroused, to be awakened, to be filled with a spirit of glory, for she is failing in the modern world.”

POINT #5 - Be willing to INVEST TIME among those who are willing to DIGEST TRUTH.

Matt. 10:11-12 "Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and **stay there till you go out.** And when you go into a household, greet it. If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet."



THIS WEEK

ACTS IN ACTION

CHALLENGE POINT:

**Take serious the call to speak the good news of Jesus.
Take notice of the responses you receive from others.
Take time to invest in those who are truly interested.**