

## The Bible in Four Acts

### Act Three: Salvation

#### INTRODUCTION:

##### Act 1: Creation

God makes Man in God's image  
Sin and Judgment  
Grace

##### Act 2: Continued Sin

God's chooses a man and a nation  
That man and family continue to sin  
God's grace in preserving them

##### Act 3: It all leads to Salvation

Part of the Bible: The Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, John  
Gospel means "Good News"

#### Features of the Gospels

##### 1. Same story, different writers.

What is important is this: God inspired each author. Inspired means that the Spirit of God worked in each man so that he wrote exactly what God wanted written and it was written accurately.

Matthew, Mark and Luke are very similar causing some people to think that they copied each other.

- Matthew was one of the twelve disciples and an eye witness to the events recorded.
- Mark was a Christian who was close to Peter, Paul and Barnabas
- Luke was a doctor and Gentile (non-Jew) who was close to Paul. He researched the accounts of the life of Jesus and recorded them in Luke.

John was also one of the twelve disciples. He was an eye witness. His writing follows a different approach but his purpose is the same: to show that Jesus is the Son of God who came to die and be resurrected so that we could be saved.

2. **Genealogies. They show that connection to the promises of the OT all the way back.**
  - Genesis 3:15 – Seed of woman. Luke 3:23-38
  - Genesis 12,15 – Seed for Abraham. Matthew 1:2-17
3. **Proof provided about Jesus**
  - that Jesus was Son of God
  - that he was the promised Messiah

**Proof was given in two ways**

  - He did miracles
  - He preached
4. **All four Gospels tell the story that leads to Salvation**

## **Scene 1: The Birth of Jesus**

- A. **Genealogies**
  1. Show that Jesus was descended from Abraham and David as promised
  2. In Matthew we see the mercy and grace of God as 4 women are included should not be there .
- B. **Miraculous Birth**
  1. Throughout the Old Testament the key women couldn't have a baby until they were old. They God miraculously gave a baby
  2. Now a young virgin girl has a baby
  3. Many Witnesses: Shepherds, Wise men, The Temple
  4. God become man

Luke 2:10–11 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Philippians 2:5–7 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

## **Scene 2: The Life and Ministry of Jesus**

- A. **Ministry started**
  1. Baptism by John and Spirit of God upon him
  2. 40 days in Wilderness and Temptation by Satan
- B. **Content of his ministry**
  1. Preaching

2. Healing
3. Miracles
4. Casting out demons

**C. Purpose of His ministry**

1. Show that Jesus was Son of God
2. Show that he was the promised Messiah
3. To die for our sin

## **Scene 3: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus**

**A. The ultimate purpose of Jesus coming was so that He could die for our sins.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**B. Jesus willingly allowed himself to be crucified to fulfill his purpose – our salvation**

1. It was real and it was hard.  
He prayed that he might not have to go through with it.

Matthew 26:39 And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”

2. He did not resist.

Matthew 26:67–68 Then they spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him, 68 and said, “Prophecy to us, You Christ; who is the one who hit You?”

**C. On the cross Jesus paid the price for our sins.**

**D. He was raised from the grave on the third day.**