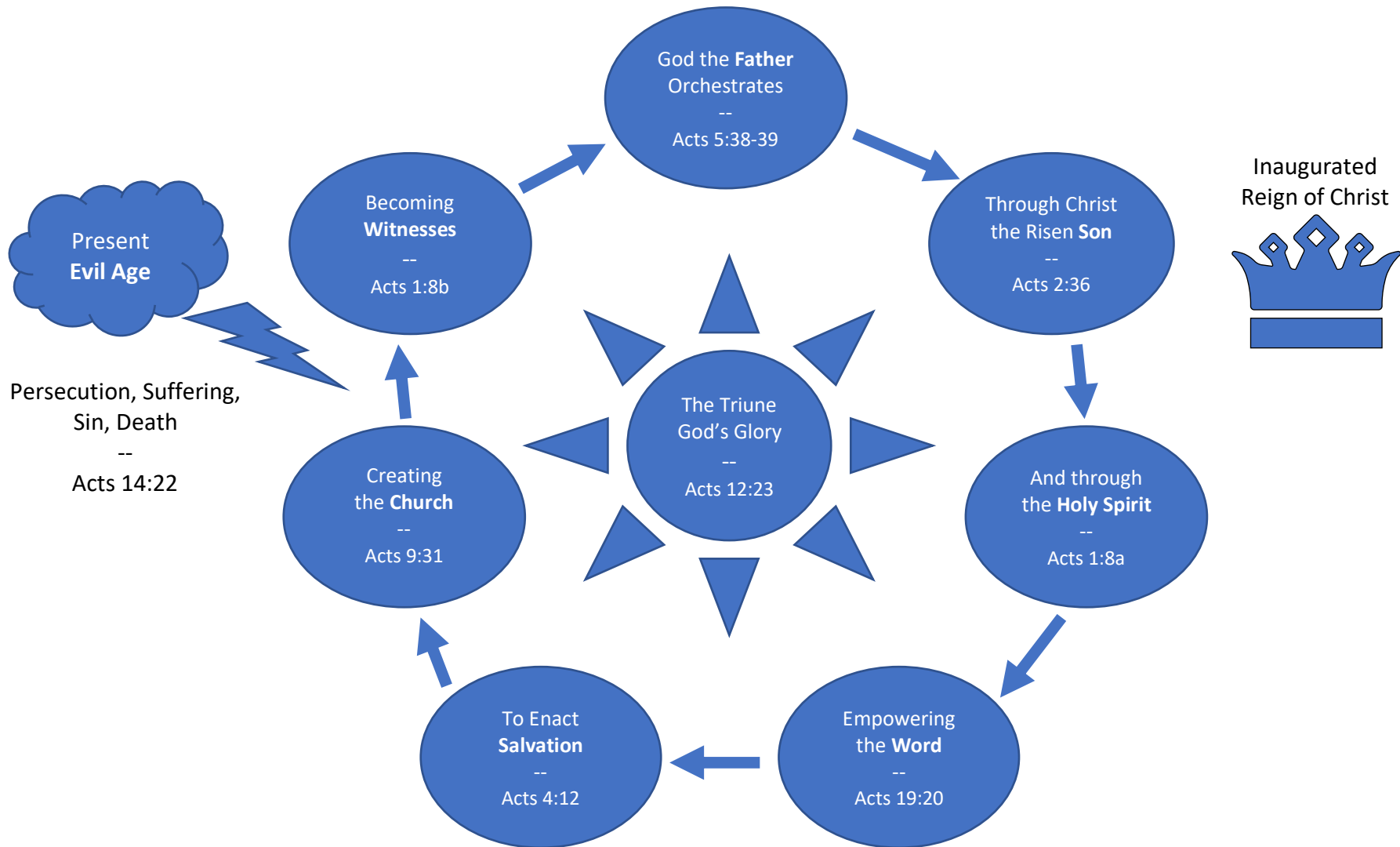


Acts' Constellation of Themes and Their Theological Logic:¹



¹ This figure is adapted from Patrick Schreiner, *The Mission of the Triune God: A Theology of Acts*, New Testament Theology (Wheaton: Crossway, 2022), 27, and expanded upon.

1. GOD THE FATHER ORCHESTRATES...

- a. *Creation* (4:24)
- b. *Historical Epochs* (1:7)
- c. *Israel's History* (13:17-41)
- d. *Jesus's Incarnation* (13:23)
- e. *Jesus's Life* (2:22)
- f. *Judas's Betrayal* (1:16, 20)
- g. *Jesus's Death* (4:27; cf. Lk 9:22)
- h. *Jesus's Resurrection* (ref'd 11x: 2:24, 32; 3:15; 4:10; 5:30; 10:40; 13:30, 33, 34, 37; 17:31.)
- i. *Paul's Ministry* (14:27; 15:3-4, 12; 21:19)
- j. *Inclusion of Gentiles* (11:17-18; 15:7, 13)
- k. *His Plan* (2:23; 4:28; 5:38)
- k. *Everything* (δεῖ [it is necessary], 40x in Luke-Acts; see esp. Luke 24:44)

2. THROUGH CHRIST THE RISEN SON...

- a. *Jesus's Continuing Work* (1:1)
- b. *Jesus's Exalted State and Reign* (1:2, 22; 2:33-36)
- c. *Jesus Pours Out the Spirit* (2:2, 33; cf. 16:7)
- d. *Jesus Adds to the Church* (2:47; cf. 5:31; 11:21)
- e. *Jesus Proclaims Light to All* (26:23; cf. Eph 2:17)
- f. *Jesus Converts and Calls Paul* (chs. 9, 22, 26; see 8:3; 9:1)

e. *Jesus Directs Paul's Ministry*

- His Chosen Instrument (9:15)
- He Directs (16:6-10; 18:10; 23:11)
- Opens Hearts (16:14-15)
- Gives Courage (23:11; cf. 28:15)

3. AND THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT...

- a. *Who Saves* (2:21)
- b. *Who Shapes the Church* (2:42-47)
- c. *Who Empowers the Church* (8:29; 10:19-20; 13:2, 4; 15:28)

4. EMPOWERING THE WORD...

- a. *As It's Preached to the Lost* (4:2, 31, 33; 14:3, 15; 15:35; 16:10; 17:17-18; 18:11, 25-26, 28; 19:8; 20:25)
- b. *As It Builds Up the Church* (15:32, 40, 41; 16:5; 18:23)
- c. *Multiplying It Despite Opposition* (6:7; 12:24; 19:20)
- d. *Making It Unstoppable* (28:31)

5. TO ENACT SALVATION...

- a. *The Forgiveness of Sins* (2:38; 5:31; 10:43; 13:38; 15:9; 22:16; 26:18)
- b. *To All Flesh*:
Jerusalemites, Judeans, Hellenists, Samaritans, God-Fearers (chs. 10-11), Pagans (e.g., ch. 27, Barbarians (ch. 28).

6. CREATING THE CHURCH...

- a. *God's Calling and Election* (2:39, 41, 47; 5:14; 11:24; 13:48)
- b. *God Grants Faith / Repentance*

(3:16; 5:31; 11:18; 15:8-9; 16:14; 18:27)

- c. *The Church Grows* (1:15; 2:41, 47; 4:4; 5:14; 6:1, 7; 9:31, 35, 42; 11:21, 24; 12:24; 13:48; 14:1; 16:5; 17:4, 12, 34; 18:8; 21:20; 28:24)

7. BECOMING WITNESSES...

- a. *Jesus's Kingdom Commission: to His Disciples* (1:8)
 - Jerusalem (Acts 1-7)
 - Judea/Samaria (Acts 8-12)
 - Ends of Earth (Acts 13-28)
- b. *Jesus's Commission: to Paul* (9:15)
 - Gentiles (Acts 13-14, 16-20, 27-28)
 - Kings (Acts 24-26)
 - Israel (Acts 15, 21-23, 28)
- c. *In the Face of Persecution and Strife* (e.g., 4:4-5; 5:18-19; 8:1-4; ch. 12)
- d. *With All Boldness* (2:29; 4:13, 29, 31; 9:27-28; 13:46; 14:3; 18:26; 19:8; 26:26; 28:31)

8. ALL FOR THE TRIUNE GOD'S GLORY.

- a. *Jesus's Glorification* (2:33, 36; 3:13; 5:31, 41; 8:8, 39; 19:17; 22:11)
- b. *Glory to God* (2:11, 47; 4:21-22; 7:2, 55-56; 10:46; 11:18; 12:23; 13:48; 21:20)