

“The Day Of Pentecost (Part II)”

Acts 2:22-47

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Teaching Aim: To examine the circumstances surrounding the Day of Pentecost and the Spirit led sermon that Peter preached. To observe how Peter used examples from the Old Testament Scriptures to connect with his Jewish audience and to point them to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. To understand the need for all of God’s people to repent from their sins and to yield their life to the Lord. To see the beauty, simplicity, and effectiveness of worship in the early church.

DIGGING DEEPER INTO GOD’S WORD (*BIBLE STUDY*)

Part I: The determined purpose and foreknowledge of God in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:22-28)

- 1) The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was one of the greatest events in human history. Everything changed that day, the world would never be the same. Freedom came like never before. Isn’t it strange that some groups of Christians want to go back to being under the law again, they insist that Jesus and His disciples were under the law and question why Christians are not too? Were Jesus and His disciples under the law in the gospels? (See **Matt. 5:17-18**) What changed? (See **Matt. 26:26-28**) Note: Today we are not bound by the Old Covenant Law, rather by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, we live under the New Covenant of God’s grace. The law simply pointed to our need for Christ! (See **Gal. 3:24**)

- 2) According to **verse 22**, who was Peter preaching to on the Day of Pentecost? Peter first identified Jesus in His human nature before letting his hearers know that He is also “*Adonai*” (or Lord). The word “*Adonai*” means, “*The Supreme Sovereign One.*” How did Peter stress the human nature of Jesus in **verse 22**? What did God use to demonstrate the mission and message of Jesus was accepted by God?

- 3) The crucifixion of Jesus Christ is a paradox. On the one hand, it was the most gruesome act of violence humanity has ever done when they crucified the sinless Son of God. On the other hand, it was the most beautiful act ever by bringing salvation to God’s people. Was the crucifixion of Christ a surprise to God (**vs. 23**)? God is not the author of evil. How do you see “*the doctrine of concurrence*” at work in the crucifixion of Christ? (See Dictionary)

- 4) The major emphasis in **verse 24** is the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the inability of the grave to hold Him. The crucifixion and resurrection had happened just two months prior and was still fresh on the minds of many who listened to Peter. Why do you think the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so important to the gospel message? (See **Acts 2:32; 3:15; 5:31-32; 10:39-41; 13:29-31**)

- 5) Peter then quoted King David from **Psa. 16:8-11** to demonstrate David prophesied about the resurrection of Jesus Christ. What is the major emphasis in **verses 25-28**? What did David mean when he said, *"For You will not leave my soul in Hades?"*

Part II: King David illustrated that Jesus would be far superior to him (Acts 2:29-35)

1. What argument did Peter use in **verse 29** to show that David could not possibly have been talking about Himself in **verses 25-28**? Do Jews and Christians still visit what they believe to be the tomb of King David in Jerusalem today? (Hint: Search Online)

2. David was not only a king but also a prophet (**vs. 30**). What oath did God swear to David during David's reign as king? (See **2 Sam. 7:11-13, 16**) Who did Peter indicate the Davidic Covenant was speaking of? How do we see a dual fulfillment in both Solomon and Jesus?

3. What is the theme of **verse 31**? Why was it critical that the Holy Son of God not stay in the grave? According to **verse 32**, who raised Jesus up from the dead? Who witnessed the resurrection of Jesus Christ? Note: Keep in mind the eleven were with Peter as he preached.

4. The doctrine of the Trinity is implied in **verse 33**. Where do you see each member in this verse? The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ was critical if God's Holy Spirit was to come to earth and indwell every Christian. What can we learn from Jesus in **John 16:7**?

5. During the ascension, Jesus ascended to His coronation as King of kings and Lord of lords. According to **verse 33**, what happened after Jesus came to heaven and was exalted to the right hand of God? How was the Day of Pentecost a fulfillment of an earlier prophecy by John the Baptist? (See **Luke 3:15-16**)

6. As Peter spoke, he proved that David was not speaking about himself because he did not ascend to heaven. Who would ascend to heaven? What can we learn about Jesus from **Psa. 110:1**? "*Yahweh*" is the covenantal name of God with the nation of Israel while "*Adonai*" is the title. What does each mean? (Hint: Search online) Which of the two refers to Jesus?

Part III: Repentance, baptism, and the effectiveness of the early Church (Acts 2:36-47)

1. What accusation did Peter make against the house of Israel in **verse 36**? What revelation did he make about Jesus? (See **John 1:1-4; Col. 15:15-17**) How did Peter's sermon affect his Jewish listeners (**vs. 37**)? In their desperation, who did they cry out to? What did they do upon being convicted of their sin by the Holy Spirit?

2. **Verse 38** is the high point of Peter's sermon. What was Peter driving toward? How would you define the word "*repent*"? (See Dictionary) Is true repentance more than just feeling sorry for what you did? What is true repentance? The Greek word for baptism means, "*to be dipped or immersed in water.*" What is the significance of baptism and why should every Christian follow the Lord in water baptism soon after coming to faith? How is Christian baptism different from the baptism of John the Baptist?

3. Peter breaks from the traditional baptismal formula in **Matt. 28:19-20**. What is meant by being baptized "*in the name of Jesus?*" Is this formula equally valid to that in **Matt. 28:19-20**? Does undergoing the ritual of water baptism save you? Why? (See **Eph. 2:8-9**) What did Peter promise would happen after they repented & were baptized in the name of Jesus (**vs. 38**) What does the fruit of the Holy Spirit look like in our lives? (See **Gal. 5:22-23**)

4. To whom would Peter's promise apply (**vs. 39**)? How many people will be saved according to **verse 39**? (See **Rom. 10:9-10**) Has the Lord called you to salvation?

5. **Verse 40** seems to imply that only an edited version of Peter's sermon is found in **Acts chapter 2**. What exhortation do we find in **verse 40**? Is the same true for us today? Who is the only one that we can go to for salvation in today? (See **John 3:16; 14:6**)

6. What happened at the conclusion of Peter's message (**vs. 41**)? Where could that many people be baptized at once? It is likely around one million people were in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost, how many of them repented at Peter's sermon?

7. The Bible tells us that the law kills, but the Spirit gives life. (See **2 Cor. 3:6**) How many Jews died because of their disobedience following the giving of the law on Mount Sinai? (See **Ex. 32:28**) How many Jews were saved on the Day of Pentecost through Peter's preaching? Note: Saved Jews are not converted Jews, they are "*fulfilled Jews*" who have found their Messiah.

8. **Verse 42** gives us a glimpse of the simplicity of the early church. In what four areas did the apostles continue steadfastly in? Why is doctrine so important to the health of the church? Where can we find the apostle's doctrine today? What is the meaning of the Greek word "*koinonia*?" Why is it critical for every church to have this kind of fellowship today?

9. What did Luke mean in **verse 42** by "*the breaking of bread*?" Why is it important for every Christian to pray and pray often? What came upon everyone individual who saw the many wonders and signs God was doing through the apostles (**vs. 43**)? Why?

10. What can we learn about the early church from **verse 44**? How was this a fulfillment of the High Priestly prayer of Christ in **John 17:20-23**? Sadly, some have used verses **44-45** to justify the governmental systems of communism & socialism. Why are they wrong in doing this? Note: Communism and socialism require mandatory wealth sharing. **Acts 2:44-45** speaks of a voluntary sharing to meet needs within the body of Christ – the church.
11. Notice the beauty, simplicity, and effectiveness in the way the early church worshiped (**vv. 46-47**). Why is it important for Christians to gather and to share common meals with others in their homes? How has meeting in small groups affected your spiritual walk? Has this helped you to develop friends and grow spiritually? How did the Lord respond to this kind of worship in the early church? Should we still be worshiping this way today?

MINER'S CORNER ~ *Manna to live by!*

- Jesus, in His human nature, was attested by God to the Jewish people through miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him and before them.
- The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ was by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God; it provides the only way for God's people to be saved from their sin.
- King David prophesied that God would not allow His Holy One to see decay in the grave.
- David prophesied that the Son of David (meaning Jesus) would be far greater than him.
- In quoting **Psa. 110:1**, David identified his future Son (Jesus) to be Adonai (the Lord).
- Peter called on his listeners to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus.
- Only then would his Jewish audience (God's chosen people) receive the Holy Spirit.
- The early church continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- As a result, the Lord added to the church daily people who were being saved.