

Foothills Christian Assembly Sermon April 3, 2022
Acts 2: 14 – 41 “Peter’s Sermon at Pentecost” – Part 1

1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs--we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." 12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?" 13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. 21 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.'

22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know-- 23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. 25 For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the Lord always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. 27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.' 29 "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the

promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, 35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." ' 36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." 40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

I. Introduction Peter's Sermon at Pentecost Acts 2:14-41

a. Acts 2:14-21 "Peter's Sermon at Pentecost – Part 1"

- i. Setting v14,15
- ii. Joel predicted this Pentecost Day v16
- iii. In the Last Days v17a
- iv. Pentecost AD 30: God pours out His Spirit on all flesh v17b – 18
- v. AD30 – AD70: God shows heavenly wonders and earthly signs v19,20a
- vi. AD70: The Great and Awesome Day of the Lord v20b
- vii. Whoever calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved v21
- viii. Questions to know, love and obey God

b. Acts 2:22-36 "Peter's Sermon at Pentecost - Part 2"

- i. Peter preaches Christ's life, death, resurrection, ascension, enthronement supported by OT Scriptures
- ii. Peter preaches that Pentecost is the continuing work of Christ
- iii. Jesus is both Lord and Christ

c. Acts 2:37-41 "Peter's sermon at Pentecost – Part 3"

- i. The people are cut to the heart and repent and are baptized
- ii. About 3000 souls added to the Kingdom

II. Setting v14,15

- a. But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.
- b. So, the Holy Spirit outpouring has occurred and gained the attention of all the people at the Temple. The divided tongue of fire upon the head of each disciple. Each disciple suddenly given the ability to speak in another language. All the visiting Jews from all around the world are amazed they can hear these Galileans speaking in their own native tongues and dialects.
 - i. V12,13 "So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?" 13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

- c. “But, Peter, standing up with the eleven”
 - i. Let’s remember how far Peter has come in 53 days
 - 1. Lk 22:55-62 “55 Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. 56 And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him." 57 But he denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him." 58 And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" 59 Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean." 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." 62 So Peter went out and wept bitterly.”
 - ii. And also how far the other apostles have come in 53 days
 - 1. Mk 14:50 “Then they all forsook Him and fled.”
 - iii. This terrified, scattered band is now fearless and together, because they have come to know and believe in Jesus as the Messiah, that it was necessary for Him to suffer and die.
- d. “Raised his voice and said to them...let this be known to you and heed my words” – The boldness of the Lord causes Peter to speak up loudly enough to gain the attention of the crowd. Peter speaks as one with authority.
 - i. Henry “Peter’s sermon ... is recorded, to be an evidence for him that he was thoroughly recovered from his fall, and thoroughly restored to the divine favor. He that had sneakingly denied Christ now as courageously confesses him”¹
- e. Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem
 - i. Peter addresses both those Jews who live in Judea, with a focus upon those who live in Jerusalem.
 - 1. Note: in some fashion the gift of tongues was still underway during or after Peter’s sermon if those Jews who didn’t understand Peter’s language were to understand his sermon.
 - ii. Henry “[Peter] addresses his discourse (v. 14) *to the men of Judea and the inhabitants of Jerusalem*; but we have reason enough to think that the other disciples continued to speak to those who understood them (and therefore flocked about them), in the languages of their respective countries, *the wonderful works of God*. And it was not by Peter’s preaching only, but that of all, or most, of the rest of the hundred and

¹ Matthew Henry, [*Matthew Henry’s Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume*](#) (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 2068.

twenty, *that three thousand souls were* that day converted, and added to the church.”²

- f. “For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.”
 - i. Referencing those given the miracle of tongues, Peter denies the false speculation that they are only drunk babblers.
 - ii. Bock “Peter explains (*γάρ, gar*) that the idea that the disciples are drunk is not realistic. The juxtaposition of wine and the Spirit is not unusual, as it appears in Luke 1:15 and Eph. 5:18 (Harrison 1975: 57). The point of the similarity is the “control” that wine or the Spirit can exercise. It is only “the third hour,” which means nine in the morning, since the day starts with sunrise. So Peter argues that there must be another explanation for what is taking place. This would be the hour of morning prayer, with the first meal of the day to follow”³
- III. Joel predicted this Pentecost Day v16
 - a. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:
 - b. Peter now goes on to tell the people what is happening. This section of Joel 2 makes 2 broad prophecies. 1) The Holy Spirit will be poured out on all flesh and 2) God will show wonders and signs.
 - c. Joel 2:28-32 ““And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. 30 "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. 32 And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.”
 - d. The book of Joel is likely a post-exilic work. It’s major theme: the horrible destruction of Israel by armies of locusts, and yet God will destroy their enemies and restore their peace.
 - i. Joel 3:17-21 "So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who dwells in Zion, my holy mountain. And Jerusalem shall be holy, and strangers shall never again pass through it. 18 "And in that day the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the streambeds of Judah shall flow with water; and a fountain shall come forth from the house of the LORD and water the Valley of Shittim. 19 "Egypt shall become a desolation and Edom a desolate wilderness, for the violence done to the people of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in

² Matthew Henry, [*Matthew Henry’s Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume*](#) (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 2067–2068.

³ Darrell L. Bock, [*Acts*](#), Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007), 111.

their land. 20 But Judah shall be inhabited forever, and Jerusalem to all generations. 21 I will avenge their blood, blood I have not avenged, for the LORD dwells in Zion."

IV. In the Last Days v17a

- a. 17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days,
- b. The Last Days – Peter makes it clear that Pentecost AD30 is occurring during the last days. “this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel”- the events unfolding before their eyes are last days events foretold by Joel.
 - i. In Joel 2, the text reads “it shall come to pass afterward”. Peter, via the Divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit, teaches more specifically that “afterward” is referencing “the last days”.
- c. Acts 2:17 – the first place in the NT where the phrase “last days” is used. There are 4 others in the NT.
- d. 2 Timothy 3:1-15 – Note how Paul warns Timothy directly, personally not to be drawn into the activities and wickedness of bad men during “perilous times” that occur “in the last days.” Timothy faces the last days. (2 Timothy likely written around AD60-65)
 - i. “1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; 9 but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was. 10 But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, 11 persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra--what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. 12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- e. Hebrews 1:1,2 – Note how the author of Hebrews states that Jesus Christ spoke on earth “in these last days”. (Hebrews likely written cAD66)
 - i. “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds”

- f. James 5:1-3 – James corrects the foolish rich who at that time have heaped up treasure “in the last days” (James cAD45)
 - i. “Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you! 2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days.”
 - g. 2 Peter 3:1-4 – Peter specifically warns his readers not to give way to the scoffers who say that the promise of the coming of the Lord is false. This is a warning to them, at that time. Why? Because the coming of the Lord is approaching them, and he doesn’t want them to be led away from escaping God’s wrath on Israel. (2 Peter cAD 66)
 - i. “Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), 2 that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, 3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."
 - h. So, the events of Pentecost AD30 occur during the last days. What last days are in view? The last days of the Old covenant dispensation. Christ has come.
 - i. Hebrews 8:13 “In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.”
- V. Pentecost AD 30: God pours out His Spirit on all flesh v17b – 18
- a. “says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. “
 - b. Peter makes it clear that what they are observing is the beginning of God pouring out His Holy Spirit on all flesh.
 - c. “I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh” – what is occurring before their eyes is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit of God from heaven, just as Joel prophesied.
 - i. “Pour out” – a word about mode of baptism is in order here. If we are to baptize with water the way God baptizes with His Spirit, then we should pour out water from above the person. God is the One Who is active in this outpouring. We, His people, are the passive recipients. This is true of our salvation. It is monergistic, not synergistic. Thus, our mode of baptism should be the same as God’s. (Other modes of water baptism are not considered invalid, but rather are termed irregular.)

- d. “on all flesh” - Joel’s prophecy focuses upon how God no longer will limit His work to only the people of Israel.
 - e. The work of God will be upon all people, both men and women, boys and girls, young and old, of all classes, and all people of all types over the entire world will speak forth the Word of God.
 - f. Gal 3:26-29 “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”
 - i. Oneness in Christ is demonstrated by God pouring out His Holy Spirit upon all of His people, without distinction, globally.
- VI. AD30 - AD70: God shows heavenly wonders and earthly signs v19,20a
- a. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood,
 - b. By also quoting this section of Joel 2, Peter points to the process of warning God takes His people through before He pours out redemptive judgment upon them.
 - c. We have studied this at length during the 8 sermons on Luke 21:8-36. (January to March 2021)
 - i. First Century Destruction of Herod’s Temple
 - ii. First Century Wars of Palestine
 - iii. The First Century Earthly Disasters and Heavenly Signs of Palestine
 - 1. We looked at 1st century earthquakes, famines, pestilences, and the fearful sights and great signs from heaven as described by multiple 1st century historians.
 - iv. The 1st Century Persecution and Great Tribulation of the Church
 - v. 1st Century Redemptive Judgment Against Apostate Israel
 - vi. 1st Century Hope in the Midst of Widespread Panic
 - vii. 1st Century Fig Tree Generation
 - viii. Take Heed, Watch and Pray Always
- VII. AD70: The Great and Awesome Day of the Lord v20b
- a. Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.
 - b. The Day of the Lord
 - i. This phrase is used numerous times throughout the OT, and it references an earthly visitation of God in redemptive judgment. It does not necessarily point to the last day of history.
 - ii. For example, the “day of the Lord” is used 4 times in the book of Joel, and none of these texts point to the last day of human history.
 - c. So, in context, “the great and awesome day of the Lord”, occurring at the end of “the last days”, must be the closing of the Old covenant dispensation that occurred when Christ visited His judgment upon apostate Israel via the crushing,

comprehensive cruelty of the Roman legions, finalized when the Temple was destroyed with not one stone left upon another.

VIII. Whoever calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved v21

- a. 21 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.'
- b. There is a way to escape from the coming "great and awesome day of the Lord". Peter wants his fellow Jews to know that they do not need to go through the wrath of God that will be released upon apostate Israel. Peter wants his fellow Jews to understand the process of the last day leading up to the days of vengeance upon apostate Israel.
- c. "Whoever calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved."
 - i. Peter points their minds to the Lord, preparing them to hear the message of salvation in Christ that is the 2nd part of His sermon. He teaches them Who "the Lord" IS, what He has done, where He Is, how He relates to the Father, and what He is doing, and He shows them that they are the ones Who killed the Lord of glory. Yet, they can be saved by Him if they call upon Him for mercy.
- d. Joel 2:32 "And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the Lord has said, among the remnant whom the Lord calls."
 - i. This portion of Joel 2:32 further emphasizes the salvation in view in Peter's sermon. First, it is salvation for his countrymen, the remnant whom the Lord will call, but then for all the world.

IX. Questions to know, love and obey God