

Acts 2:14-41 - Peter Preaches
September 20, 2020
Outline and Scripture

Outline

- 1. Greet one another, begin with prayer, and read Acts 2:14-41.**
- 2. Remind the class about the events of Acts 2:1-13.**
- 3. Discuss Peter as the first Christian preacher in Acts 2:14.**
 - Remarkable transformation in his life since denying Jesus in Luke 22:54-62
 - Stands in clear concert with the other apostles
 - Does God transform lives today as He did Peter's? Who are examples we would lift up as signs that He still changes people today?
- 4. Discuss Peter's sermon in Acts 2:15-36.**
 - Peter begins by answering what is happening with Joel 2:28-32
 - Then transitions to Jesus as Peter describes what he and the others have witnessed: Jesus Christ crucified and risen, "Lord and Christ" (2:36, ESV)
 - Psalm 16 and 110 provide Scriptural support for Peter's strong claims about Jesus; important support for a Jewish audience
 - Peter begins with what everyone is asking. How is this starting-off point helpful in spiritual conversations? How do we move from "felt" needs to true needs?
 - Peter's sermon is direct, clear, and strong. How might our discussions of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior benefit from a similar emphasis upon directness, clarity, and strength? How do we strike the right balance?
- 5. Discuss the response to Peter's sermon in Acts 2:37-41.**
 - The crowd is "cut to the heart": growing awareness of their sin and need
 - Peter's reply: repent and be baptized, and receive forgiveness and the presence/power of the Spirit; approximately 3000 "souls" respond
 - Covenantal: for you, for your children, and for those far away geographically and spiritually, "everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself" (2:39)
 - Why is the Spirit's coming linked here with the time of salvation and not to a "second blessing" that comes after professing Christ? Why is this important?
 - How is God still bringing "souls" into relationship with Himself? Where is this happening today? How can we be part of God's continuing work of salvation in the name of Jesus Christ at home? At work? In the neighborhood?
- 6. Close in prayer.**

Scripture (ESV)

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. **15** For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.^[a] **16** But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

17

*"And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;*

18

*even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.*

19

*And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;*

20

*the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.*

21

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

22 *"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—*

23 *this Jesus, [b] delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. **24** God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. **25** For David says concerning him,*

*"I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;*

26

*therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.*

27

*For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.*

28

*You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'*

29 *"Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. **30** Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, **31** he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. **32** This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. **33** Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. **34** For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,*

*"The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,*

35

until I make your enemies your footstool."

36 *Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."*

37 *Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" **38** And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." **40** And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." **41** So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.*

Footnotes

Acts 2:15 That is, 9 a.m.; Acts 2:23 Greek this one