

"EASTERING" AT PENTECOST

Acts 2:36-47

Pentecost, June 5, 2022

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins.

And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This promise is for you and your children

and for all who are far off –

for all whom the Lord our God will call.

Acts 2:38-39

First important question: What does this mean?

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Acts 2 (note: Peter's answer refers back to Joel 2 and the GATDOTL!)

1. Once again, the disciples (all 120 of us!) are together
2. The arrival of the Holy Spirit should not be a secret
3. This is Babel in reverse – the curse is beginning to lose its power!
4. Important question: What sign of the Holy Spirit and the God's GATDOTL program do we expect to see here in Anacortes?

Which Jesus? (or, The essential element of every good sermon)

²² “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him [Psalm 16:8-11]

²⁹ “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. ³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said [Psalm 110:1]

³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Acts 2 (Peter quotes from Psalm 16 and Psalm 110)

1. Get the right Jesus, not the _____ Jesus (place your adjective there)
2. The “normal” way to meet Jesus is _____

What God is doing while Peter is preaching

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “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 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Acts 2

1. God is piercing hearts, so I _____
2. God is giving gifts, so I _____
3. God is calling, so I _____
4. This is how God is at work during the GATDOTL!

What to do when your heart is pierced

- 1) The good news about repentance “Go east, young man” (with apologies to Horace Greely)

¹⁷ “Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰ and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

Acts 3 (Peter’s next great sermon)

- 2) The next step is baptism

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6

- 3) Find a church that encourages you in the Word, in prayer, in fellowship and in service

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2

Resources for studying Luke's two part story of Jesus

Bible.org has some wonderful resources at <https://bible.org/book/Luke>

J. C. Ryle has an interesting commentary at <https://gracegems.org/Ryle/124.htm> I have also included his classic article, "Repentance", at <https://www.monergism.com/repentance>

Bob Deffinbaugh has a very interesting sermon series on Acts at <https://bible.org/series/studies-book-acts> which include his "What Must One Do?" sermon at <https://bible.org/seriespage/5-what-must-one-do-be-saved-acts-237-41>

Spurgeon has a wonderful Acts 2 repentance sermon at <https://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/2102.htm> and a "Far Reaching Promise" sermon at <http://www.spurgeongems.org/vols43-45/chs2586.pdf>

Kevin DeYoung has a good Ascension summary at <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/theological-primer-the-ascension/>

F. F. Bruce's helpful study of the Jerusalem church at http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/cbrfj/church-jerusalem_bruce.pdf

Tim Keller has an important sermon on Acts 2:37-47 at <https://www.monergism.com/signs-king-%E2%80%93-acts-237-47> He also has some very interesting comments on the mission of the church at <https://redeemercityocity.com/articles-stories/the-missional-church> and a contemporary look at repentance at http://download.redeemer.com/pdf/learn/resources/All_of_Life_Is_Repentance-Keller.pdf

If you want to equip yourself to explain why we believe in resurrection, Michael Horton has a wonderful, if a bit heavy, article at <https://whitehorseinn.org/resource-library/articles/risen-indeed-2/>

The ACTS of Jesus & the SPIRIT

LUKE ACTS
 - A UNIFIED, TWO-VOLUME BOOK
 - FROM THE SAME AUTHOR: LUKE
 - A TRAVELING CO-COOKER WITH PEARL (LUKE 10:1-11)
 - "to produce my first account about all the things Jesus BEGAN to do & teach"

1 INTRODUCTION
 KINGDOM OF GOD: JESUS RESTORES GOD'S KINGDOM OVER THE WORLD. CALLED ISRAEL TO FOLLOW HIM. ENTROINED AS KING THROUGH HIS DEATH & RESURRECTION.
 PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT: "I WILL SEND TO YOU THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER, WHICH HE HAS PROMISED TO YOU. YOU WILL HEAR HIM, BUT HE WILL LIVE WITHIN YOU, AND HE WILL BE WITH YOU AND WITH YOU." (JOHN 14:26)
 JESUS IS EXALTED AS KING OF THE WORLD. (DANIEL 4:34-37)
 JESUS IS ENTROINED AS SON OF MAN.

2-7 IN JERUSALEM
 2 TENEOST: HOLY SPIRIT. GOD'S GLORY: FILLING IN THE TEMPLE. IN THE PAST: EXODUS 16, 2ND CHRONICLES 7. IN THE FUTURE: EXODUS 16, HOSSEA 2.
 A PRACTICE DESCRIBED IN THE TORAH: "AND YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND YOU SHALL LOVE HIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR POWER, AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." (DEUTERONOMY 10:1-4)
 THE NEW TEMPLE OF JESUS COVENANT: ISRAEL REINFORCED UNDER THE MESSIANIC KING (ISAIAH 11, EZEKIEL 37).
 JESUS' FOLLOWERS SELL POSSESSIONS TO SUPPORT THE POOR.
 PETER HEALS & PREACHES IN THE TEMPLE--ARRESTED & TRIED.
 JESUS' DISCIPLES GATHER DAILY IN THE TEMPLE COURTS & HOUSE.

8-12 JUDEA & SAMARIA
 HAD THE MOSTLY JEWISH, JERUSALEM-BASED COMMUNITY OF JESUS.
 PHILIP IN SAMARIA: CONVERSION OF SAUL OF TARSAUS.
 PETER & CORNELIUS: DON'T CALL PEOPLE SOMETHING YOU AREN'T.
 THE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH: PHILIP, ETHIOPIC, INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT.
 FIRST MULTI-ETHNIC CHURCH: FIRST USE OF "CHRISTIANS" (11:26).

13-20 THE MISSIONARY JOURNEYS
 ASIA MINOR: 13-14 ASIA MINOR, 15-16 ASIA MINOR & GREECE, 16-20 ASIA MINOR & GREECE AGAIN.
 THE PARADOX OF THE EARLY CHURCH: A JEWISH PESSIMAL MOVEMENT, but ethnically diverse. MEN & WOMEN, RICH & POOR, SLAVE & FREE, all treated as equals. -LEVEL TO JESUS ALONE. -BUT NOT A RESTORATION "MUST" TO ROME.
 ACCUSATIONS OF REBELLION (ch. 17, 18): "LET'S REFORM OUR SOCIETY TO BE LIKE THE GREEKS, BUT WE'LL KEEP OUR GODS." (17:23)

21-28 PAUL'S WITNESS SPREADS TO ROME
 21-22 PAUL ARRESTED IN JERUSALEM: HE TRIED TO ARGUE AGAINST OUR PEOPLE & OUR TEMPLE. HE'S THE TROUBLEMAKER FROM COPTI!
 23-26 PAUL ON TRIAL BEFORE: GOVERNOR FELIX, GOVERNOR FESTUS, KING AGRIPPA. HE'S OUT OF HIS MIND! HE'S DOING NOTHING WORTHY OF DEATH. I STAND ON TRIAL BECAUSE OF MY HOPE IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE SUFFERING MESSIAH. (24:15, 24:17)
 27 THE SANHEDRIN: PAUL'S IMPRISONMENT ALLOWS TIME TO COMPOSE HIS APOSTOLIC LETTERS.
 28 UNDER HOUSE ARREST IN ROME: HE'D ALL ANNOUNCED THE KINGDOM OF GOD, "BUT YOU'RE TEACHING ALL ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD, THE MESSIAH, THE ONLY ANNOUNCIER." (28:17)

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