

Norman C. Schwab
Yacolt EV Free
March30, 2003

Don't Miss it...(Part 1)
Acts 2:14-21

The first sermon I ever preached was when I was a Senior attending Washington State University in Pullman. The small Southern Baptist church met in a grange hall in just a smudge of the road just over the Washington border a few miles into Idaho. One of the few things I remember about it was that my palms were wet and clammy from nerves. Erin and I provided the special music. About half-way through the sermon, there was this man. He was seated in the front row...which was only one row up from the back. He was a very large man dressed in overalls and plaid shirt and midway through my second point, he leaned his head back and started to snore. At the end of the service he came up and thanked me, said he enjoyed the service. I think he was an elder or something. I didn't ask him what God was talking to him about.

God only knows, but I'm sure my first sermon had none of the results that Peter's first sermon had on those who were listening. For at the end of Peter's sermon they were "pierced to the heart asking, "What should we do about these things?" 3000 people came to find their faith and life in Jesus Christ that day. What a great first fruits harvest to jump-start the early church.

Turn with me in your Bibles to the book of Acts. We are going to be studying Peter's sermon that he preached, without notice or notes right after the Holy Spirit came down in power like a rushing wind and fire on the day of Pentecost. People have said this is a model sermon to follow. But we can read the entire thing in less than three minutes. Some still say; That is why it's a model sermon...get it all in, but keep it short. Preachers can take encouragement however from v.40 that says "and with many others words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them." So I too will use many other words to challenge us with. READ.

Peter's sermon is in response to the peoples question in v.12 "What does this mean." The rushing wind, the fire from heaven, the speaking of the excellencies and praises of God in languages they could understand in their own dialects. What does all this mean? Over 3000 people dropped what they were doing, many had been probably worshipping, in the temple courtyard, attracted to the noise of the rushing wind. They showed up to see a show, but Peter made sure they didn't walk away until they understood that there was a whole lot more happening here, then just some wind and fire. This was far more than a show.

V. 14 Peter stands up with the other 11 apostles and begins to speak. In chapter 1 Peter stood up to speak taking leadership and listening to God leading the group to choose another disciple to take the place of Judas. Before that the last time Peter had stood up to say anything was in the temple courtyard. John 18,18,25 "Aren't you a Galilean? I can tell by your accent." Here in Acts. How could these country bumpkins from Galilee be speaking my dialect from Phrygia? I wonder if Peter remembered they the last time His hick accent from Galilee was called into question by the servant girl, the night he stood up and vehemently began using words he hadn't used in a long time to deny any sort of identification, or relationship to Jesus. Then Jesus looked at Peter. A look of love mixed with the painful hurt of betrayal.

I wonder if Peter remembered that night he stood up to deny and thought, "Never again" I will follow Him to my death. I will be identified with Christ. Peter stands up in the face of those mocking and says; "Guys, listen up and think about what I'm going to say to you." First he quiets their objection. No this is not about some guys hitting the juice and acting crazy. No one is drunk here. It's only 9am in the morning. We aren't filled with the spirits, we are filled with the Spirit, Holy Spirit that is.

Then Peter explains what this is all about. He takes them to the Old Testament that they know so well to state his compelling case.

Remember, he is preaching to Jews. Jews from the area and also those who traveled from all over the world and are now living temporarily in Jerusalem to attend the Feast of First fruits and Day of Pentecost. These Jews have ingrained in them a burning longing for the Messiah promised Savior and deliverer. From Isaiah 53 they read about a suffering servant who would die for the sins of the world. From Isaiah 9 they read about the messiah who would come in glory to set up His kingdom. Many didn't understand the suffering servant part, but saw the Messiah as a king who would set up His kingdom and they longed for a deliverer who would come and rid them of the terrible Roman oppression. In light of their intense expectation for the Messiah, Peter's use of "last days", a term for Messianic times, was shocking to the Jewish listeners. For if indeed the Messianic age had already begun, then the Messiah must and come and they had missed it. That's the main point that Peter makes in his sermon to the Jews as He presents the truth that Israel's long awaited Messiah has come in the person of Jesus as the Messiah. Peter closely connects this coming of the Messiah to the pouring out of the Spirit.

Look with me at v.16. Peter begins his sermon by taking them to the book of Joel. He says, "Let me help explain what happened this morning." It's the start of what the prophet Joel mentioned in his book many years ago. It's important to note what Peter did not say. He did not use the phrase typically used in the New Testament concerning OT prophecy. He did not say, "Thus is fulfilled what was said by the prophet Joel." Peter simply said, "This is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel." This is what he predicted. As we read through these verses and look at other scriptures, its pretty obvious all these things have not yet happened. Joel's prophecy has yet to be fulfilled in a total and complete way. God will again visit his people at the second return of Jesus Christ.

Joel wrote his prophetic book, his country was in the middle of an economic crisis. A devastating locust plague had attacked Israel wiping out the grape vines and grain. Joel 1:4 "What the cutting locust left, the

swarming locust has eaten. What the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten, and what the hopping locust has left, the destroying locust has eaten.” The plague is no accident, as Joel sees it as a judgment from God on the people who had left the Lord. The locusts are God’s great army; Joel 2;11 “The Lord utters his voice before his army and his host is exceedingly great, he that executes his word is powerful For the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; who can endure it? So Joel calls for repentance; 2:12 ff “So yet even now says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart.” The people respond to Joel preaching and God responds and says, “I am going to pour out my blessing on you. I will send my grain and wine and oil and you will be satisfied .” Then Joel looks further into the future and again delivers God’s word in 2:28ff.

Now hundreds of years later Peter stands up and quotes this passage in Acts chapter 2. Where Joel says, “and after this” Peter replaces those words with his own God inspired words to clarify what it is God doing with the phrase; “in the last days”

Let me talk just a minute about the NT writers quoting OT books. If you compare the two there will often be variations for several reasons. Often the NT writers will give the “general sense” of a passage rather than a direct quote word for word. Differences also come from their quoting from the Septuagint, which is the Greek translation of the Old Testament and used by many Jews. Other times, the NT author will enlarge, abbreviate or adapt, or combine the passages to make his point. We look at this and see them stretching the original text and just picking and choosing to fit their purpose. Whereas we should not do this, remember, the Holy Spirit has inspired these adaptations just as He has inspired the rest of Scripture.

So Peter adapts the Joel passage to say “in the last days”. If you read the verse just before this quote in Joel 2;28 the prophet has just predicted that the Lord would visit his people. He would come and live in their midst 2:27. “Afterward”, i.e. after the visit, God will then pour out

my Spirit on all flesh.” Peter says that “afterward” that Joel speaks of is the “last days” and Peter says here they are. The ‘last days’ have begun.

The next question you might ask is; “How can that be the last days and still 2000 years later we are still in the last days?” The first appearing of God in Christ kicked off Joel’s prophecy, of God, living in the midst of us. That happened with Jesus, God’s son coming to live on this earth and dirty his sandals with us and die for our sins. “Afterwards”, Jesus ascension and outpouring of His Holy Spirit at Pentecost was opening the pages of the last chapter in the book. We live in the last days. No one could have guessed that this “last days” chapter was at least 2000 pages long. Peter himself answers that in book he wrote II Peter 3:8 “with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years are as one day.” These prolonged “last days” are a patient time of opportunity that God has extended to us to “all who will call on the name of the Lord” v.21.

Let me take a side street for a few moments. Because a guy came into my office last week and asked, “So with this war and all, do you think this is it? Is this the last days?” When we see the war exploding in the Middle East, Babylon. When we hear of natural disasters; increased earthquakes around the world, wars and rumors of war. Is our world simply going to be a bleak and downward spiral to the end where there will be complete moral collapse? Is there no hope for a great spiritual awakening, only more and more spiraling despair.

Lets look at a couple of other scriptures that talk about the last days. Hebrews 1:1-2 “In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days, he has spoken to us by his son.” I Peter 1:20 “Christ was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest at the last of the times for your sake.” I Cor 10:11. “These things happened to them as a warning, but they were written down for our instruction, upon whom the end of the ages has come.” These passages sure point to the last times as when Jesus came.

The coming of the Messiah was the beginning of the end. Jesus came and the “last days” started.

So now our question; Does the Bible teach that as the end of the last days comes near that spiritual conditions would only get worse and worse? II Timothy 3:3 “Understand this, that in the last days there will come times of stress. Men will be lovers of self, lovers of money proud, arrogant, abusive and disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving without natural affections. II Peter 3:3 says that Scoffers will come in the last days, following their passions and saying, “where is the promise of His coming?” Does it sound like we are nearing the end of the last days? Jesus said in Luke 21:9-11 “When you hear of wars and tumults do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once. Nation will rise against nation and kingdom will rise against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.” Certainly, the Bible is clear that the end of the end will be bleak; physically, morally, socially. But that is not the whole story to the end.

Lets look at one more scripture before we head back to Acts 2. We need to look together at this one. I’m reading from Matthew 24:9-14 “They will deliverer you up to tribulation and put you to death; and you will be hated by all nations for my names sake. And then many will fall away, and betray one another, and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because wickedness is multiplied, most men’s’ love will grow cold. But he who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come.”

This verse says that because of wickedness gets multiplied, the love of many will grow cold. Note it says the love of many...but not all. There is something implied here that indicates that right alongside of this

cold indifference to God, there will be a group that is red hot and passionate for Jesus who witness His truth with unshakeable boldness. See v.14 says, “The gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come.” It will be preached to the very nations who hate the disciples. Who is going to be doing this preaching to the nations? Who is this group that is committed and strong and empowered in the face of violent persecution to finish the great commission?

You don't have to read far in Acts to know the answer. These are the folks we have been talking about, the disciples whom Jesus has zeroed in the goal and target in Acts 1:5 “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.” Jesus has baptized these men with incredible power for worldwide bold witness. In Acts 2:17 Peter says that Joel prophesied that in the last days it shall be, God declares that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.” God's purpose is to pour out His spirit to all who call on the name of the Lord in order to reach this message of good news to the ends of the earth. Sure many in the last days will have their love grow cold. Yes, there will be widespread apostasy and many will forsake their faith when the world starts to turn up the heat. But in the face of all that terrible “last days” bleakness. The fire of persecution will refine a true church of God that will have extraordinary boldness and passion and zeal for loving Jesus and sharing the truth until every tribe and nation has seen the light of the truth.

Peter makes it clear; these last days will be mixed days. V. 17,18 they will be days of a powerful witness and days of terrible calamity. Vv19-20. The bright part in v.17-18 promises that God will pour out His spirit and the young men, sons and daughters shall prophesy, servants and old people. People of every kind; men and women, young and old will be empowered by God to speak boldly in God's man and declare the

greatnesses of God. As had just happened, earlier that morning, on that day of Pentecost. Believers of all stripes and nations and social standing will be so gripped by the power of God and they see the greatnesses of God so powerfully and clearly they will be compelled to speak it boldly.

When God make himself known and experienced in people lives, Peter quotes Joel in saying that they will dream dreams and see visions and prophesy. These are all signs of what's happening inside and what our minds our saturated with. These people have become filled with the Spirit and drawn near to the very presence of God in such a way they can't help but declare God. There is a huge difference between viewing a lake at the top of a ridge and going down and diving in being immersed by the lake. So there is a difference with some of us viewing God as a distant object of unknowable awe and then being drawn into His presence where we are immersed soaked and saturated by the presence of the spirit of God in our lives. What is inside a person usually comes out. It doesn't take long to tell if a person has dove in and has been drenched with the Spirit because if he or she has, their mouth will be declaring the excellencies of God. When God pours himself into an individual, the inner life is changed. It must be because it is filled with God. And since the mouth is simply a pressure valve for the inner life, when the inner life is full of God, the mouth must pour out the truth of God. The bright part about Joel's prophecy is that in the last days, believers will be gripped by the Spirit of God and so see God's greatness that they will be able to speak it with extraordinary clarity of understanding and boldness.

The dark part in v.19-20 "Blood...fire, smoke and the sun turns to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes." There will be wars, bloodshed, natural disasters, and supernatural disasters. There will be fighting and devastation. But...as we look at the War with Iraq and living in an increasingly terrorizing world. Will it all be only bleak and a blackened moral collapse until the end?

No. There is a great promise that in the last days, the spirit will be poured out...all the nations WILL be reached. The true church will be awakened and revived and will be sent out with extraordinary passion and boldness and power. In the midst of the wars and terrorism and persecution and disasters, the “last days” church will complete the great commission and welcome the return of the king.

Folks, I want to be a part of that “last days” bold, passionate Jesus loving group of folks that take the message of v. 21 everywhere that “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

(Note: My thanks to John Piper as I have drawn heavily from his work on this passage.)

Notes for Acts 2:14-37

I remember one of my first sermons: Small church in Idaho. Erin and I were special music. Senior preaching at Dallas. Certainly Peter had great results. Amazing because just a month and 1/2 earlier he stood up and denied Jesus. He was always first at everything and the leaders' disease led to presumption. First with the sword, first with the mouth, first his mouth. Lord all these others will leave you but I never will. Jesus you are looking at a real man. Oh really? You're so much different than all the rest? Then that pride took him on a plunge where he dredged up words he hadn't used in years to deny knowing his friend. (Huges p37)

The situation threatened to become a side show with crowds far in excess of 3000 and mockings of drunkenness.

3000 dropped everything to come when they heard the wind. But when they arrived they realized there was much more to this whole thing than just wind and fire.

Why was this a great sermon?

- The sermon was great because it was simple. He answered their question He told them about Jesus.
- He asked them to make a commitment.
- It was scriptural. He had been in God's word quite recently and the overflow of his heart came out in the sermon. There was not notes in front of him or hours of sermon directed preparation. He didn't know he was going to preach that morning. And yet he was ready to give an answer to everyone who asked.
- It was convicting
- It was practical. He answered their question. What does this mean? And ended it by answering "What shall we do?"
- He was filled with the Spirit so it was just as if Christ had stood up to speak in person.

Evidence of the Spirit is not foretelling here, but forthtelling. Proclaiming the truth of God. The gift to communicate truth with daring boldness and freedom.

v. 14 Peter taking his stand (ala 1:15 "Peter stood up.." John 18:18 and 18:25 Peter stood warming himself by the fire...during betrayal. Surely you're a Galileans, your accent gives you away. (Ala 2:7 "Are not all of these who are speaking Galileans?) First time he denies it emphatically like only a fisherman could. I'm not one of them (Matt 26:70) Luke's gospel says that Peter was sitting among them, but then we know from John and Matthews gospel, Peter stood up to vehemently deny identification with Jesus. Remember baptism means "identified, closely relationally connected. Then the Lord turned and looked at Peter....Ahhrrrggg. It wasn't an "I told you so look". It was a look of love.

What comes out of your mouth when you are taking a stand??? It all depends on whether you are identifying with Christ or protecting your own interests.

Peter helps others stand up. Acts 3:6 "I don't have silver or gold, but in the name of Jesus Christ, stand up and walk."

Peter helps others know what to stand up for and what not to. Acts 10:26 “Stand up for I too am just a man” Said to Cornelius who had fell and began worshipping at his feet. Peter raised him up.

Acts 10:17 “Simon the Tanner’s house, Peter was very hungry, but goes to sleep and sees a vision of all kinds of animals coming down from heaven. Lord says “Peter stand up, kill and eat” No. I can’t eat what is unclean. God says, “What God has cleansed no longer consider unholy”

Acts 12:14 “there was Peter standing outside the gate” Freed from prison.

v.14 “...with the eleven” They are all there now, even Mathias standing together. Listen up. Judeans, and those from other parts of the world who are currently living in Jerusalem.

v.16 Peter has been reading and studying God’s word. (Godly leaders do that) Joel. Disaster strikes the southern kingdom. Invading armies will swarm in like locusts. All green is stripped bare. A terrible judgment for sin, but God’s future judgment during the day of the lord will pale by comparison. Joel uses natural catastrophes as an illustration of a fear greater judgment to come. In that day God will destroy His enemies but bring incredible blessing to those who faithfully obey Him. Joel 2:32 “whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be delivered” Written as a warning that people need to turn humbly to the Lord chpt 2. so that God can bless them rather than buffet them. God’s outpouring of blessing was initially fulfilled at Pentecost and ultimately when Christ returns for the “Big D” Day of the Lord.

This is that which Joel prophesied. Peter applies this to Jesus who brings salvation from sin to everyone who calls on His name. We live in the age of the spirit and look to the completion of its prophecy. This is the end times, or last days. The tie which stretches between Pentecost and the Day of the Lord when Christ returns again is a time of opportunity for all who will “call on the name of the Lord”

The best way to understand Pentecost is not through the OT but through and man Jesus.

OT presents the Messiah would come as the Suffering Servant to dies for the sins of the world Isas 53 also as the Messiah who would come in glory to set up His Kingdom Isa 9:6

Pentecost ushered in the last days. Hebrews 1:2 “and in these last days has spoken to us in His son.” These last days have lasted 2000 years and its been a time of patient opportunity for unbelief. Joel’s fulfillment is complete when Christ returns again in the Millennial kingdom.

The little d day of the Lord may refer to any time God acts in judgment. But this refers to the ultimate Big "D" day of the Lord. Rev. 8 9, 14, 16 refers to the signs and wonders that will be associated with darkened skies and blood and fire.

In light of the intense Jewish expectation for the Messiah, Peter's use of the term "Last days" a name for the Messianic times was shocking. For if indeed the Messianic age had already begun, then Messiah must have come and they missed it. That is the Point that Peter is making here as He presents the truth that Israel's long awaited messiah has come in the person of Jesus. Messiah was the central figure in Jewish thought. Its hard for us to appreciate who disturbing the claim was that Jesus was Messiah. He was to be a descendant of David, a lion of Judah from whom the scepter of rulership would not leave. Shocking that Peter makes this announcement only 1-1/2 months after they killed him for claiming to be Messiah. Knowing that his listeners would demand compelling evidence before accepting such a claim, Peter proceeds to provide it and in doing so explains the miracle of Pentecost by demonstrating Jesus credentials of His life, death, resurrection, ascension and exaltation. Greatest proof was not is miracles, teaching or even His death. It is His resurrection. That is now the main theme of Peter's sermon. V.23 Death was powerless to hold him.

David is prophetically speaking of the Messiah as in the first person. The Messiah has a confidence that will not be shaken as he looked to the cross.

Psalm 16 speaks of a resurrection and since David was not resurrected it cannot speak of him. So it must be a Psalm of the Messiah. It was this Jesus that God raised up again to which we are all witnesses. Therefore, Jesus is the Messiah.

Not only raised again but exalted at the right hand of the father. Peter brings the listeners back to Pentecost. He tells them that what they had just seen resulted from God's promise to send the Spirit that started the last days or Messianic age. Ps. 110 cannot refer to David since it was not David who ascended into heaven.

v.17 Quote from Joel 2:28-32 Peter turns here because it is the clearest OT picture of the Holy Spirit in the OT.

When are these "last days?"

Pentecost is the pouring forth of the Spirit

On "all mankind?" are all saved then?

How can the time two thousand years ago be considered “last days”. If so what are the days we are in now???” “Very, very, very....last days???”

“your Sons and Daughters” why the next generation? Why not and “you shall prophesy” And the people spoke in mighty praises 2:11, did they also prophesy?

Your young men will see visions.

Old men shall dream dreams. Visions same idea? What will they see visions of? They are looking.

A indication that the Spirit has been poured out. All will prophesy.

Not just the priests or the spiritual elite.

Servants, men and women. No limits, no one excluded. All shall prophesy.

Near-far prophesy. See that little league player? A scout comes by and says, Someday that guy is going to play in the professional + big leagues. At major all-stars he leads his team to an incredible victory and is league MVP. Its not the pros but it’s a beginning and strong hint of what is to come.

v.19

2nd indication of Spirits pouring out in last days.

Wonders in heaven and signs on earth.

- Blood
- Fire
- Vapor of smoke (sounds like war with burning oil fields so black you can’t see the sun, but this is God ordained.)
- Sun turn to darkness, moon to blood. Paul prophesied magician would become blind and not see light of the sun. Acts 13:11

Before the “GREAT and Glorious Day of the Lord”

v.21 “everyone that calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” Quoted by Paul in Romans 10 after if you confess with your mouth.

What point is Peter trying to make here?

- *He deflects their objections.* Not a filled with the Spirits problem, but a spirit filled reality.
- *He paints a picture of promised blessing* from that which they know (book of Joel). This is a God’s promised Spirit pouring out that had been promised for a long time.
- *He opens the invitation up to ALL.* yet he speaks of the great blessing available to all people, all groups. A point of availability. No one excluded from God’s blessing.
- *He makes clear terrible risks in not responding.* In context of God’s great judgment and great blessing available. There is a threat of locust eating judgment in the background,

- *He challenges them to “call on the name of the Lord” then He explains who that name is.*
- *He points them to Jesus.*

V.22 Speaking to Israelites, “Men of Israel. “Listen up” Jesus from Nazareth.

Attested to you by God with Miracles
Wonders
Signs

Which God performed through him. In your midst. You saw it. You witnessed them for yourselves.

Peter did not preach that Pentecost was the fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel, because the signs and wonder that were predicted had not occurred. Joel’s prophecy deals with the nation of Israel in the end times connected to the Day of the Lord. Peter was led by the Spirit to see an application to the church. He said, “See here? This is the same Holy Spirit that Joel wrote about. He is here (Acts 2:29) The Jews understood the Spirit only for a few select folks. The spiritually elite. Moses, David the prophets. Here all 120 are filled individually and together. It was the dawning of a new era, the “last days”. God in Christ had completed his redemptive plan now all that was left was to share the good news with the world beginning with Israel. The invitation is still the same “Whoever will call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

V23 “A man, this man” Delivered up by you

Incarnation

Crucifixion

Resurrection

(a deliberate and well-thought out plan of God, no accident, no oops. Sure you killed him, but God easily raised him to life)

The predetermined plan

The foreknowledge of God

YOU nailed to the cross

By the hands of godless men

And

Put him to death.

And God RAISED him up again

(putting to end the agony of death since it

was **impossible** for him to be held in its power)

. Jesus was crucified by people very much like ourselves. It might be tempting for them (and us) to say, “I wasn’t there, I didn’t do that. I’m not a Roman soldier, or corrupt politician, religious leader. In a very real sense, we all nailed Him to the cross as it was for our sins he died.

OBJECTION: Wasn't Jesus death a signal of defeat? How could such a one be defeated by death?...but no it was a great victory.v.24

LOOK what God has done in spite of what you have done. Here is the gospel message.

1. Not drunk this it the Spirit
2. Peter connects the Spirit very close to Jesus
3. You killed him and missed what Jesus was about. Jews were all looking for Messiah. They all were culpable in the death. We all are.
4. Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ all were longing for.
5. So..Here it is. God extends another welcome invitation. Don't miss it...again.
6. This is a simply gospel message. Not about doctrine, denominational polity.

Death can't hold Him
He has power at the throne

Death was no match for Jesus. David knew all about that and wrote in Psalm 16

v.25 FOR David says: Psalm 16 (the blessing of being in the presence of the Lord) This could never have been fulfilled by David because it speaks of someone whom the grave could not hold and who did not undergo decay. 16:10. Peter explains that Davids body is in a tomb and deteriorating. Hades=the realm of the dead. The messiahs' body could not remain there.

In the presence of the Lord there I will not be shaken,
In the presence of the Lord there is joy
In the presence of the Lord there is hope. I have pitched my tent in the land of hope.

In the presence of the Lord I understand the meaning of life. I don't getting abandoned into meaninglessness.

v.29 Brothers, we all know David died. We could go visit his tomb.

v.30 David was a prophet who had been told by God that one of his descendents would rule the kingdom. So David looked ahead and saw how Christ and His resurrection would occur. Jesus would not be stuck in Hades, His body would never stink with decay. This is the Jesus God raised up. We all saw it. Jesus is exalted to right hand of God. He got the OK promise from the Father and then poured out His Spirit which you just saw and heard. The God the Father told my lord (Jesus) that he should wait until his enemies become a stool to rest his feet upon.

v.34,35 Ps 110 is very popular with the early church preachers and writers and is quoted over 25 times in the NT. The first word "Lord" is

Jehovah. It refers to the great God of Israel. The second word for Lord is Adonai. It refers to someone greater than the speaker. God is telling another person who is greater than David, who is "David's Lord" to sit at his right hand. This could only be the Messiah. How could David refer to a mere human descendant of his as his Lord. That address would not be proper if that was the case. Unless it was the Lord Messiah he was referring to. He was Jesus the God/man the One whom the Father would exalt above every other name on heaven and earth. Peter says this Psalm 110 cannot apply to David because he did not ascend to Heaven. It must apply to the resurrected Messiah. That Messiah is Jesus. These Psalms can only be understood if we believe in the death and then ascension of Jesus.

If then the HS is in the world, then God must have sent him. Joel said the HS would come, Jesus also promised to send this gift of HS Acts 1:4. But if Jesus is still dead then he couldn't have sent the Spirit. So he must be alive. He couldn't have sent the spirit unless He had returned to heaven to the Father so we know Christ is ascended back into heaven. John 16:7. So that is why Peter quotes from Ps110 a verse that couldn't be applied to David to prove where Jesus is now, at the right hand of God.

v.36 So Israel do not doubt that God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ. Yes it's this same guy whom you crucified. (Stick in reminder again) They heard this and were "pierced" to the heart. Wow...what should we do about this? What should we do now?

Peter's sermon was great because it was full of Christ, Full of Scripture and Full of the Holy Spirit. Peter 50 days earlier had blown it badly, but that emptiness made way for a profound fullness in Peter and he told the people of Israel about their spiritual bankruptcy. The crowd cried out "What must we do???" The sermon was great because it led them to a supreme Savior. A sermon is great not only because of what is said, but because of what it does to us. We can hear great sermon after great sermon, but if

What "pierced them to the heart?" the simply truth. That same truth is scandalous to those who don't believe and shocking to those who believe.

To the believer: Are you living like He is your Lord? Are you consistently saying "yes" to Jesus? Is He the center and focus? Do we understand that He is the Main man, the higher than David, the pinnacle of all Kings who bows down before Jesus. To the Jews, David was about as big as it gets and yet David says, "This is my Lord" Is He your Lord?" (A prominent intellectual asked what was on his reading list. Most books we wouldn't understand but included in the 10 books he read was Ian

Flemmings "To Russia with Love" James Bond book. John F. Kennedy. Immediately people rushed out to buy millions of copies. Celebrity endorsement. What shoes does Mikeal Jordan wear. You all know and trust David and this is what he has to say. V.25 The Lord was on my right hand meaning the Lord was supporting me.

To the unbeliever: