

Acts 04 – Receive Salvation - Acts 2:12-41

WOW - did we have a COOL Msg last week !! (*Receive Power!*)
if you weren't here - ***Please GET a COPY***

To see SO MANY of you up front - TRUSTING God -
Asking to be FILLED with the Holy Spirit

It was Incredible - It was Wonderful -
The kind of thing that brings Revival to a Church / Community

Please - continue to TRUST GOD - & RESPOND to Him

If you will continue to MAKE ROOM for the Holy Spirit
by emptying your life of SELF Lordship

& if you continue to ASK God to FILL YOU
with His Holy Spirit - - - HE WILL !!

& our lives will NEVER be the Same
PRAISE the LORD - We are Tremendously Blessed

We left off last week - with the Disciples supernaturally speaking
in other known languages - ***The Mighty Works Of God***

in Acts 2:6 we read - the sound created by
the Coming of the Holy Spirit - had brought the Multitude together

& the best the Scholars can figure - is that the multitude
probably gathered - at the Southern Steps of the Temple Mount

Which is a Wonderful, Incredible, Awesome place to be

& so the Disciples are probably on the Southern Steps

Speaking Supernaturally in other Languages
about the *Mighty Works of God*

Most of the people were “*Amazed & Perplexed*”
But some were “*Mocking*”

Acts 2:11–13 (esv)

11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

12 And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”

13 But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Some Amazed - some Perplexed - some Mocking
this is the way it always is - when God’s Word goes out

Some Amazed - some Perplexed - some Mocking

3 TYPES of people are gathered on the Southern Steps
about to hear - the First Spirit-Filled N.T. Sermon

& we read - - in Acts 2:14 (esv)

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: . . .

Whoa whoa hold on . . . PETER ??

PETER stood up, & lifted up his voice to address them ??

Hey guys - PETER’S *standing up*

Wait, wait, a minute, are you SURE he’s the RIGHT GUY ??

Have we forgotten - the OTHER times
Peter has "STOOD UP" to speak

Remember on the Mt of Transfiguration . . .
"Ahhh it is good for us to be here . . . duh!"

Or how about at Cesarea Philippi
when he told Jesus - he didn't think the cross was such a good idea
& that's when Jesus called him - SATAN !!

Or how about at the Last Supper - all Prideful

When he told Jesus - even if ALL ELSE Deny you Lord,
I will NEVER Deny you !!

& then he DENIED Him that VERY night
& he folded to the pressure of - - a CAMP-FIRE Girl !!

Come on guys ? - REALLY ? - Peter ??
Is that the BEST we've got ??

What happened to Peter - to make him ready
to be used by God for the FIRST N.T. Sermon ?

& before you jump to your answer - - May I suggest
it was actually a THREE STEP PROCESS

#1) - Peter had to REALIZE that all things "SELF"
had to be CRUCIFIED - OBLITERATED

Somewhere between;

The PIERCING LOOK from Jesus
when Peter denied him the 3rd time

And - **BREAKFAST** by the Sea of Galilee in **Jn 21**
where Jesus **RESTORED** Peter

Peter realized - he had to be **EMPTIED**
of ALL **SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

#2) - Peter became **COMPLETELY DEPENDENT** on the Holy Spirit

I'm sure - during the **MANDATORY**
10 day waiting period in the upper room

Peter Must have recognized his **COMPLETE DEPENDENCE**
on the **POWER** of the Holy Spirit - that was to come **UPON** Him

& this is the **SAME WAY** - **YOU & I** are made **READY**

#1 - He was **EMPTIED OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

#2 - He became **COMPLETELY DEPENDENT** on the Holy Spirit

#3) He was **FILLED** with the **POWER** of **The Holy Spirit**

& when he was **Filled** with the **Power** of the Holy Spirit
this was no more - **Bumbling, Self-Focused** Peter

Peter was Operating in the **POWER** of God
& he was **about to deliver** the Sermon of his life

Actually - This First Sermon in Acts - is a **CLASSIC EXAMPLE**
of **Exactly** what the **Gospel Message** should **always look** like

& so - I need you to **KNOW** One more thing
before we get rolling

When it comes to the **GOSPEL MESSAGE**
there are really only **TWO** types of people

There's **ONE PERSON** who needs to **HEAR**
the **Life-Changing Msg** of Jesus Christ

& There's **ONE PERSON** who needs to **LEARN**
HOW to SHARE the **Life-Changing Msg** of Jesus Christ

& **EVERY** Single person in this room
is in **one** of those **two** places

So Let's Pray before we start

So **those** in the crowd who were **MOCKING** the power of God
said **the disciples** who probably just **DRUNK**

& **THAT** - is where **Peter's** going to **START** his sermon

Acts 2:14-15 (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.

& so Peter **GETS** their **ATTENTION**
& then **tells them** what this is - - **NOT** !

The Disciples are **DEFINITELY NOT** Drunk

It's only the **THIRD hour** of the Day - **9:00 AM**
Sacrifices are made at **10:00 AM** - - **Main Meal** is at **NOON**

& the Jews don't drink any wine before the main meal
So . . . NO . . . that's NOT what this is

So he tells them what it's NOT
Now he's going to tell them what it - - IS

Acts 2:16–18 (esv)

*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.*

IMMEDIATELY Peter Quotes God's Word - & says
THIS is exactly what God said would happen - in The Last Days

God had promised - in the last days
He would POUR OUT His Spirit on His people

& Peter is saying - THIS is the fulfillment of that Prophecy
That is Exactly what you're seeing here today

When we talk about “The Last Days”
were talking about a season, a period of time

& Thru the Prophet JOEL - God actually told us
HOW the Last Days would BEGIN - &
HOW they would END

The “Last Days” STARTED on the Day of Pentecost - Right HERE
with the Pouring out of the Holy Spirit

& that **Season** (that Age) **ENDS**
with the Great "**DAY OF THE LORD**"

In **Vs's 19-20** - Peter's Describes the **END**
of **the Age** known as "**The Last Days**" - that **WE** are living in

This **AGE** is going to **END** - with the **GREAT & MAGNIFICENT**
"Day of the Lord"

Acts 2:19-20 (esv)

***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.***

The Prophet **Joel** (& now **Peter**) put "**Book Ends**"
on the **time period** known as "**The Last Days**"

it **BEGAN** at the **Day of Pentecost**
it **ENDS** with the **Great & Magnificent** - "**Day of the Lord**"

Peter writes about "The Day of the Lord" - in 2Pet 3:10 (esv)

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. (or - burned up - another trans)

We can't know **WHEN** "**The Day of The Lord**" will come
but God **HAS** given us **SIGNS** to know when it's "**CLOSE**"

& I **PROMISE** You - the Signs are **CLEARLY SEEN** - **TODAY**

**As far as Bible Prophecy is concerned
there is NOTHING that has to happen**

**before Jesus can Return - & CLOSE this season (*The LAST DAYS*)
& THAT is very EXCITING**

But TRULY - - The Absolute GREATEST Part
about these last days - - is written in V.21

Acts 2:21 (esv)

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

These "*Last Days*" that BEGAN at Pentecost
is also called - the "*Age of GRACE*"

Because it's when God's Grace
has been POURED OUT on this world

Jesus Christ DIED - to fully PAY for all of our sin
& God has made a way

For EVERY Single person
who CALLS on the Name of the Lord - - TO BE SAVED !!!

THAT - is the most, *Miraculous*, Eternally *Life-Changing* Truth
about these "*Last Days*" that we are Living in

ALL who CALL upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved

& I pray not one of you would MISS that eternal opportunity

& now - just after answering
the mocking statement about the Disciples being Drunk

Peter is going to immediately make
the LIFE, DEATH, & RESURRECTION of Jesus Christ
the Absolute CENTRAL FOCUS of his entire Sermon

There is NO GOSPEL - there is NO GOOD NEWS
that DOES NOT FOCUS completely on Jesus Christ

The LIFE, DEATH, RESURRECTION, & ASCENSION
of Jesus Christ - - IS the GOSPEL (*it IS the Good News*)

& so - if YOU are someone who needs to RECEIVE
the Good News of Forgiveness of Sins & Eternal Life

Please KNOW - it is ALL about Jesus Christ

& if YOU are someone who needs to SHARE
the Good News of Forgiveness of Sins & Eternal Life

Please KNOW - it is ALL about Jesus Christ

If it is NOT about Jesus Christ
then it is NOT about Eternal Life !!!

& so Peter Focuses his ENTIRE MESSAGE
on the PERSON, & the WORK - of **JESUS CHRIST**

Acts 2:22–23 (esv)

22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested (proven) 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, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

THAT - is what you call - **TURING** the **focus** of a Conversation

This is **NOT** about **SPEAKING** in other **LANGUAGES**
This is about **JESUS CHRIST** - & about **SALVATION**

Peter tells them **what's happening** *Prophetically* - from God's Word
& then he turns the **ENTIRE** focus on Jesus Christ

He **starts** with His **LIFE**;

Jesus of Nazareth, a man [proven] to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs . . . as you yourselves know

this Jesus, [was] delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God . . .

He came as a **MAN** - He came as **GOD'S PLAN**

He came - to **DIE** - to be delivered up
to **pay** the full **penalty** for our sin - on **the cross**

But **altho** it was according to **God's Plan**
you & I **had a PART** in it

We had a **ROLE** - we had a **CHOICE** - - & **We CHOSE SIN**
& **OUR SIN** Crucified Jesus Christ

as the End of **V.23** says - - [This Jesus] ***you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.***

Jesus **CAME to DIE** - According to **God's Plan** of Salvation
But it was **OUR SIN** - that **Put Him** on **the Cross**

But Jesus Living the Perfect Life
& Dying for our sins on the Cross

DIDN'T Complete God's Plan of Salvation !!

Jesus Had to CONQUER Death & the Grave - *on our behalf !!*

Again - V.23, & 24 - - Acts 2:23-24 (esv)

23 this Jesus, 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.

JESUS CHRIST:

LIVED the Perfect Life - to become the Perfect SACRIFICE
DIED on the Cross to pay for your Sin - so you DON'T have to
ROSE from the Dead Victorious - So you CAN also

Right now - the Jews are being ROCKED !!

Even Tho the O.T. Made it perfectly Clear . . .

their Religion made NO PLACE

for Victory thru DEATH on a CROSS

Their Religion had made the Victory of their Messiah

Political - Material - Worldly

But Jesus made it clear - His KINGDOM was

NOT OF THIS WORLD !!

& KNOWING the Jews are ROCKED - - the Holy Spirit again

leads Peter - to BASE what he's saying on Scripture (Psa 16)

Acts 2:25–28 (esv)

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.’

& **then** - just as I would **explain** to you
that **this Psalm** is a **Prophetic** Psalm about **Jesus Christ**

Peter does the **Exact Same thing** for the Jews

Acts 2:29–32 (ESV)

29 “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David (who wrote the Psalm) 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.

Again - Peter - **FILLED** with the Holy Spirit
BASES what he’s saying - on God’s Word

In order to **UNVEIL** God’s plan for His people

& please **notice** - the Holy Spirit was **bringing up** Scripture
that Peter **ALREADY KNEW**

Peter had **NO time** to go back to his **RV**,
flip on his laptop, get a **satellite internet** connection

& do a **quick search**
for **something relevant** to what was occurring here

THIS was ***ON-THE-SPOT !!***

& the **Only Way** the Holy Spirit
can **pull up Scripture** in your Mind - for you to use ***On-The-Spot***

Is if you have previously ***“Hidden His Word in your Heart”***
As **Psalm 119:11** calls us to do

Peter had done that - & **so now** the Holy Spirit
is just **pulling up** scripture - Peter **already knew**

He **explains** that this Scripture is actually
a **Prophecy** of the **Resurrection** of Christ

& **then** he says - We are **ALL WITNESSES** to that Resurrection
(*meaning all the Disciples*)

& it's **NOT ONLY** the Original Disciples
that can have **that Testimony** - - **We can have it too**

If you are truly **saved** today - - then **you** have
the **Resurrected Life** of Jesus Christ - **Living in you**

& **Prayerfully** - Your Life - **is a WITNESS** to that truth !!

So - Peter **STARTED** with the **LIFE** of Christ
Then His **DEATH** on the Cross
Then His **RESURRECTION** - conquering Death

& now - he finishes - with His **ASCENSION**
& the **POURING OUT** of the Holy Spirit !!

THIS - is what you call - a PERFECT SERMON

Acts 2:33 (esv)

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.

Not only did Jesus

LIVE - DIE - CONQUER DEATH - & RISE AGAIN

Be He now lives **EXALTED** at the Right Hand of God
& **POURS OUT** the Holy Spirit - *for you* to live Miraculously !!

The **ENTIRE** Gospel Msg of the *Life of Christ*
in a Sermon that takes **less than 5 Minutes** - to read straight thru

THIS Jesus - Has been **Exalted** to the Right Hand of God
& Has **POURED OUT** the Holy Spirit upon His Believers

THAT - is the **Crescendo** - of the Salvation Message

The word Translated **“POURED OUT”** means Literally
“To Bestow LARGELY”

Guys - The Holy Spirit is the **DYNAMITE POWER** of God
waiting to be **POURED OUT** on you . . .

To be ***“BESTOWED LARGELY”*** on **YOUR LIFE**

If you were here last week - you **PROBABLY**
came forward to **RECEIVE** the Holy Spirit

Have you - in this last week - ***Continued to;***

EMPTY your life of **SELF** focus & **SELF** control

RECOGNIZE your **TOTAL DEPENDENCE** on the Life of God

RECEIVE the Gift of **THE HOLY SPIRIT** - to Empower your life

God will **CONTINUE** to **POUR OUT** the Holy Spirit **UPON** you

But you must **CONTINUE**

to **RECOGNIZE** your **CONTINUAL NEED** - &

to **CONTINUALLY RECEIVE** - - His **LIFE & POWER** - Every Day

Alright - **to close** that thought on the **Ascension**

Peter **AGAIN** Quotes **SCRIPTURE**

Acts 2:34–35 (esv)

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.’

Here **Peter** is just using Scripture to Validate the **ASCENSION**

And **NOW** - the Holy Spirit **DROPS** the **HAMMER**,

the **LEFT HOOK** . . . the **KNOCK OUT Punch** . . .

Acts 2:36 (esv)

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.

KNOW this - for CERTAIN;

God has made Him both **LORD & CHRIST**
this Jesus - Whom **YOU CRUCIFIED !!**

& **You & I** must know the **SAME** thing

THIS JESUS;

Who is **LORD of ALL** Creation

Who is **CHRIST** - MESSIAH

Who is the One **COME FROM GOD** to the earth

THIS Jesus - **WE CRUCIFIED** - with **OUR SIN**

We had some **Roman Soldiers** carry it out

But it was **OUR SIN** that Nailed Jesus to the Cross

& we **CANNOT** Begin a Relationship with God

until we Understand - **THAT TRUTH**

The Jews - on the Southern Steps That Day

Understood **that TRUTH**

& **I Pray** that **EACH** Person *listening* to me right now

would Understand **that TRUTH**

& **I PRAY** that we Would **RESPOND** the **EXACT SAME WAY**

the People on **THAT** Day - *Responded*

Acts 2:37 (esv)

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?”

THIS - is what **makes** this sermon a **SPIRIT-FILLED SERMON**

In Jn 16:8 Jesus said - ABOUT the Holy Spirit

8 And when he (The Holy Spirit) comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:

& **THAT** is exactly what has **happened** here
in the **First N.T. Sermon**

The Holy Spirit has Spoken

& **the people** wanted to know **what to DO** about it

& so - Peter tells them - in Acts 2:38 (esv)

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.

& **I pray** there is someone here today

that has been **CUT** to the heart by **God’s Word** (& His Spirit)

& I Pray you are saying “*What shall I do*”?

& **GOD** tells you - In **Acts 2:38** - - **[REPEAT]**

& **I’m going** to give you a **chance** to **do that** here in just a minute

I’m **going to ask you** to **Walk** up here

& make a **public stand** for Jesus Christ

But **maybe** you’re saying - “*I don’t know if this is for me*”

“*I don’t know if God will ‘accept me’*”

If you have **ANY** Doubts - just **read the Next Vs** with me

Acts 2:39 (esv)

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."

God is calling you this morning

& **if** you've **never received** the Free Gift
of **Salvation** & **Eternal Life** in Jesus Christ

If you've **NEVER** made a **PUBLIC STAND** for Jesus Christ
Then I want to **give you a chance** to do that - right **here** - right **now**

To close our text today - Acts 2:40-41 says;

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.

If you want to be **SAVED** from this world - that's going to **HELL**

If you want to **RECEIVE** **Jesus Christ** into your life,
with the **POWER** of His **Holy Spirit**

Then you need to **REPENT** (*turn from sin*)
& Commit to be **BAPTIZED** in His Name (*immersed*)

& you will **RECEIVE FORGIVENESS** of your sins
AND - the gift of **The Holy Spirit**

& if **you** want to do **that** right now
I want to **ask you** to **get up** out of your seat & **come** right down here

Let's Pray