

## **A Guaranteed Promise of Rescue**

### **Acts 2:22-40**

How is it that the last days have arrived?

- Jesus is the fulfillment of specific promises given by God through King David.
- The one who is raised is the true son and heir of David the rightful King of Israel.

Psalm 16 is quoted in **vs. 25-28, 31**

Both Luke and Peter attribute Psalm 16 to David who is explaining the phenomenon of the resurrection (as a prophet).

- Your body will not see decay (2:27).

Psalm 16:9-11 can't be about David.

What you have witnessed...

- Tongues like flames
- The outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- The ascension
- The resurrection

Pentecost is continuing to point you to the reality of the resurrection.

-> Israel's true king is the world's true Lord!

God's promise to David is a key to unlock the truth of Jesus' identity.

**Luke 20:41-44** Then he said to them, "How can they say that the Messiah is the son of David? **42** For David himself says in the Book of Psalms:

**The Lord declared to my Lord,**

**'Sit at my right hand**

**43 until I make your enemies your footstool.'**

**44** David calls him 'Lord.' How, then, can he be his son?"

**vs. 34-35**, quoting Psalm 110

We must embrace the beauty and the mystery of the person of Jesus.

-> To take in all that is Jesus is to look at the human face of God. <-

**vs. 23**, according to God's determined plan and foreknowledge

They had completely rejected the identity and reality of Jesus.

- Judas' betrayal
- Peter's denial
- The absurdity of the charges.
- The kangaroo court - jumping over evidence that would be in favor of the defendant.
- Pontius Pilate - indifference and cowardice, not interest in justice (washing his hands)
- Blood thirsty crowd
- Mocking soldiers

Crucifixion was designed to squeeze every last ounce of human dignity out of the individual as slowly as possible, with as much pain as possible, drop by drop.

EVIL -> doing its absolute worst to Jesus.

**vs. 32-35**, In light of the resurrection and the gift of the Spirit we now have the perspective that Israel's God had determined all of this must take place.

This is the plan of salvation! This is the ultimate rescuing task!

Rome was incapable of justice.

Israel's temple had become shallow / Empty, monotonous religion.

Jesus took the full force upon himself.

Evil will never recover from the blow that Jesus delivered.

Already / Not yet -> in the last days some power remains out of desperation by the evil one.

Peter is announcing this truth: The God of Israel has launched the long-awaited rescue of his people through the cross of the Messiah.

It is the Messiah who will take the curse of disobedience upon himself and bear it upon the cross.

Jesus' death accomplishes many things.

**Isaiah 48:6** You have heard it. Observe it all. Will you not acknowledge it? From now on I will announce new things to you, hidden things that you have not known.

**Revelation 21:5** Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new." He also said, "Write, because these words are faithful and true."

This is what Jesus' death has accomplished

- Ushers in the new covenant (Mark 14:22-25).
- Restores Israel and draws the nations into the family of Abraham (Luke 1:68, 2:38, 23:27-31; Acts 3:18-21, 13:25-29; Galatians 3:13).
- Rescues us from the kingdom of darkness and the present evil age (Galatians 1:4; Colossians 1:14).
- Redeems us from slavery (Romans 3:24, 8:23; Galatians 3:13, 4:5; Ephesians 1:7, 14).
- Provides forgiveness of sins (Luke 1:77, 24:47; Acts 2:38, 5:31, 10:43, 13:38, 26:18; Hebrews 9:22; 1 John 1:9).
- Provides a ransom for sins (Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45).
- Heals our wounds and brokenness (Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24).
- Provides an example to be followed (Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 12:1-3; 1 Peter 2:21).

\*Michael F. Bird, What Christians ought to Believe

**vs. 37-40**, They were pierced to the heart. What should we do?

There is nothing that you can do. You must be rescued!

**Luke 19-21** -> Jesus continues to warn Israel (religious leaders).

You are ignoring the poor.

You are embracing violence.

You are denying God's call to be the light of the world.

**Luke 13:5** No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as well."

**Luke 19:41-44** As he approached and saw the city, he wept for it, **42** saying, "If you knew this day what would bring peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. **43** For the days will come on you when your enemies will build a barricade around you, surround you, and hem you in on every side. **44** They will crush you and your children among you to the ground, and they will not leave one stone on another in your midst, because you did not recognize the time when God visited you."

Be saved! (vs. 40)

Jesus has taken the judgement.

Death is a result of rejection. Let us not be a people who reject God's way. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6).

Find rescue in Jesus.