

## Mind Blowing, Heart Filling Refreshment Acts 3:17-26

**vs. 17-18,**

Ignorance

In fulfillment of biblical prophecies.

According to God's plan.

Jesus' death is a necessary part of this fulfillment

**Luke 24:44-47** He told them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." **45** Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. **46** He also said to them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day, **47** and repentance for forgiveness of sins will be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

**vs. 19-20,** Repent, turn back,

- so that your sins will be wiped out
- so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord
- so that Jesus will return

**vs. 21**

He is now in heaven

Until the time of the restoration of all things.

There is a promise that will take place in the **future**.

There is a promise that is offered **now**.

Future -> God will restore all things.

Now -> refreshment.

We know both will and can happen because of Jesus.

Jesus is fully restored. His real human body is whole. He is continually in the presence of God.

How do we experience the promise of the now?

Repentance! - we live in the anticipation of the full and final renewal.

And in that anticipation on this earth we are refreshed through the power of the Holy Spirit and the family of God.

What are some of the most refreshing things you have ever experienced?

Refreshing - having the power to restore freshness, vitality, energy, etc.

Synonyms - exhilarating, invigorating, cooling, restoring, revitalizing, thirst-quenching, unique, original

This is the heart of our core values.

Truth -> refreshing

Community -> refreshing

Prayer -> refreshing

Cultivate -> refreshing

Amplify -> refreshing

Mission -> refreshing

This is the mystery of the sacraments.

Baptism -> refreshing

Communion -> refreshing

Acts 2:42-47, living in the anticipation of the renewal of all things through the power of the Holy Spirit and the family of God.

**Question:** Does your life display refreshment? What needs to be cleaned out? What is your view of kingdom living? Is it a burden or refreshing? Why or why not? What needs to change?

**vs. 22-25,** Big names in the story of God's people.

Isaiah

Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15-19)

Samuel (anointed the first King of Israel)

Abraham (Genesis 12:3, 18:18, 22:18, 26:4)

**vs. 26**, God raised up his servant (Jesus)

What is the biblical story pointing to?  
The restoration of all things!

The restoration has happened -> through Jesus. The Messiah has come! (Luke 24:44-47)

God longs to see children, women, and men live **now** in the anticipation of the future completion.  
Living now is experiencing salvation through faith.

**vs. 16**, Faith in the name of Jesus has made this man strong.

No matter a persons "right now" refreshment is available through Jesus.

**Isaiah 43:25** I am the one, I sweep away your transgressions  
for my own sake and remember your sins no more.

**Question:** Am I truly living in the here and now? Is my life characterized by faith?

**Remember:** Salvation history is unfolding in real time.

**Romans 15:8** For I say that Christ became a servant of the circumcised on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises to the fathers,

Luke's eschatological understanding.

If Israel delays what should be happening as we wait for Jesus' return?  
The hardness of Israel justifies the Gentile mission.

Why is Jesus' return delayed?

Peter is giving a corporate call to Israel to repent. Don't delay!

**2 Peter 3:9** The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.

**vs. 26**, sent him first to you

Israel was the 1st recipient of the blessing.

All families -> applies to Gentiles

What has Peter said?

- Jesus is the suffering servant (vs. 13, 18).
- He is the prophet like Moses (vs. 22, 23).
- The Davidic king (vs. 24).
- The seed of Abraham (vs. 25-26).
- Jesus descended from David (Psalm 132:11 = 2:30).
- He suffered and died for us (Isaiah 53 = 2:23, 3:18).
- He is the stone the builders rejected, and yet he has become the capstone (Psalm 118:22 = 4:11).
- God raised him from the dead (Isaiah 52:13 = 2:25).
- Defeated death, did not experience decay (Psalm 16:8 = 2:24, 27, 31).
- He has been exalted to the right hand of God (Psalm 110:1 = 2:34-35).
- Through him the Spirit has been poured out (Joel 2:28 = 2:16, 33).
- The good news of Jesus is to be proclaimed to all nations (Isaiah 57:19 = 2:39).
- Opposition will continue (Psalm 2:1 = 4:25-26).
- There are real consequences to not listening and remaining rebellious (Deuteronomy 18:18-19 = 3:22-23).
- Those who do listen and respond by faith will inherit the blessing promised to Abraham (Genesis 12:3, 22:18 = 3:25-26).

\* John R. W. Stott, The Message of Acts: The Spirit, the Church and the World

**Question:** How am I participating in the good news of repentance? As we wait are you an active herald (proclaimer)?