

ACTS, PART 2: "CUT TO THE HEART"

Pastor Luke Uran – October 13, 2019



SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE

Acts 22:22–37 (NIV)

22 “Fellow Israelites, 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 deliberate plan 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:

“I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest in hope,

27 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

you will not let your holy one see decay.

28 You have made known to me the paths of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

29 “Fellow Israelites, 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 to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. 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,

“The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand

35 until I make your enemies

a footstool for your feet.”’

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

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?”

Why were they cut to the heart?

1. They received a clear message of who Jesus is.

2. They realized it was their sin that put him there.

Acts 2:38–41

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.”

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.

GROUP DISCUSSION

To refresh your memory, read Acts 2:22-41 as a group.

Imagine for a moment you were in that early group of believers. What would you be thinking, feeling, experiencing? What would your expectations have been for Jesus’ life and how the church was going to be built?

Share the ways in which the cross has put “a stake in the ground.” Look at this passage to find out how it did exactly that for those in the early church.

How would you define repentance for someone? Share a time in which you were truly repentant as a child or young adult.

If someone were to ask you, “who is Jesus?” How would you answer them?

Where in your life do you see the Spirit working in and through you?