

Acts 2:14-36
CBBC
7/27/2025

Introduction—What historical event do you wish you could have been at knowing how transformational it would be in the future?

Peter showed from Scripture how the giving of tongues confirmed that Jesus Christ was the resurrected Lord, and that the end was coming.

I. **The baptism of the Holy Spirit tells us we are in the Last Days.** 2:14-21

The tongues themselves—speaking in known languages. Peter knows what has happened. He has over two years of constant teaching from the God-Man, Himself, Jesus Christ. He has also been baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. He heard the rushing wind as well as saw the tongues of flame, showing the presence of God going into each person's heart. He has received the gift of tongues, as well as probably teaching. He is going to interpret this event for the crowd. In fact, he has been equipped to do so by Christ's teaching and by the Holy Spirit.

These people are not drunk. It is only 9:00 in the morning. You might expect to find a few drunkards, but not 120 of them. But rather, this is a fulfillment of Scripture. Israel had been immersed in this idea of the Messiah, coming to deliver them, but they were unsure as to when and where this would be taking place, plus there were so many other prophecies. Peter quotes from Joel 2:28-32. There is a lot of discussion as to whether Joel was written after the exile to Babylon or before. Most believe it is pre-exile and is addressed to the Northern Kingdom. There has been a plague of locusts, and a call to repent, but woven through Joel is the idea of the day of the Lord. It's portrayed as a time when God will descend and bring judgment upon all the earth. No one will

escape His wrath, and He will reward and take His own people to Himself, and bless them forever. He will change the nature of the entire earth.

The passage here is broken up into two sections. In the first section, we see that one day God promises to pour His Spirit upon all flesh. I don't believe this is saying that God will pour His Spirit upon all people, no matter who they are, but that the Spirit will be poured upon both Jew and Gentile. What is going to happen as a result of the Spirit? Jews, both men and women, will prophesy. Old men will dream dreams. Young men shall see visions. The Spirit will be poured upon slaves. Remember that before Jesus came, people had a 600-year period where God had been silent. There were no prophets. All they had at that point was the Old Testament (covenant). They are promised that there will come a point in the future when God will reveal Himself to all sorts of people and communicate through them. This is that. The Spirit is being poured out upon people, and although it doesn't state it explicitly, I think it's clear that what is wonderful about the Promise is that people are finally going to hear from God again. They will be able to know Him in a way that they had not previously.

He quotes the rest of the passage. There will be these celestial and supernatural events that will all take place before the day of the Lord, and everyone who calls upon the Lord will be saved by Him from His wrath. There is a lot of debate over this. There are some who would say that this passage is talking about Christ's death, resurrection, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. That this is not in the future. It is happening. This entire passage is in our past.

I believe that this is one of those prophecies that takes place over time, that are stretched out. We see some of that in Revelation and in some of the prophets. They are

right next to one another in the text, but they are stretched out over time. The first part is the tongues, and then there is going to be this long stretch of time, and all of these celestial catastrophes will take place, which leads right up to Christ's bringing in the day of the Lord.

Peter is saying, "We are now in the last days." (definition of the doomsday clock) We are now at the beginning of the end. History is moving towards its inevitable conclusion. The baptism of the Spirit told people that they are in the last days. And who is the only person who is going to be saved? The one who calls on the name of the Lord. This miracle was incredible, but it also demonstrated that the clock has started ticking.

Jesus is alive. Vs. 22-28 He talks about who Jesus was. He was a historical man, Jesus of Nazareth. God confirmed who He was by the mighty works that the Father did through Him. He confirmed everything that Jesus said through the miracles, and the people knew it on one level.

This Jesus was crucified. His crucifixion was not plan B. Jesus was delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God. But what does he also say? Jesus was crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. This is one of the best examples of what it looks like to see God's sovereignty side by side with man's responsibility. I don't exactly understand how all of this comes together. The ones who crucified Christ are absolutely responsible for what they did. At the same time, this was all part of God's plan.

That Jesus is not dead, though. God raised Him from the dead. In fact, it was impossible for Jesus to stay dead. How do we know this? Peter quotes from a song,

Psalm 16. The Psalm is a song of trust and confidence in God, no matter how bad it will get. Peter quotes from the second half. No matter what is happening, God is always there. He rejoices in God. Even if death happens, that is not a bad thing, because it is said that God will not abandon the soul of the righteous to Hell or the Holy one to be corrupt. In fact, in the end, to sit at God's right hand forever in righteousness is what is promised. Even if Death happens, God is there and will bring eternal blessings.

Peter interprets that, and through the working of the Holy Spirit, does something with the Psalms, not just this one but also with 110. He is going to point out that some of these songs are not about David, but David prophesying about someone else.

Let's look at what Peter says about David. He is dead. He is buried. So he has seen corruption. David was a prophet. Some of his songs were prophecies. He also knew that God had sworn that one of his descendants would sit on the throne. Psalm 16 is not about David. It's about Jesus and His resurrection. David foresaw that Jesus would not be abandoned to Hades, nor that His flesh would see corruption.

God raised up Jesus, and the 120+ saw and knew that. You can see Peter wavi at the people who are speaking in tongues. He has been exalted at the right hand of God, and the Father promised that He would pour His Spirit on His people if Jesus submitted to the Cross. The believers have received that Spirit. The audience sees that the Spirit is working.

It was promised that the baptism of the Spirit meant that the End times were coming. Then he builds the case that Jesus is alive, and that was prophesied in the Old Testament. The baptism of the Spirit is here because of Christ's death and Resurrection. But then he is going to make one more connection, another prophecy.

Vs 34-36—**Jesus is the Lord who will save all who call upon Him.** Peter says that there is another prophetic psalm, Psalm 110. Let's read through it together. This obviously does not talk about David. The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit down at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool." This isn't David. This is talking about Jesus. So let all of you Jewish people around me realize that God made David both Lord and Christ, or Messiah. This Jesus whom they crucified."

Peter is making a huge point here. The baptism of the Spirit shows that the end times are here and the Day of the Lord is coming. Only those who call on the name of the Lord will be saved. Who is that Lord? The Lord they must call upon is the Resurrected Jesus Christ. His death was part of God's plan, and His resurrection was part of God's plan. What people saw as a mangled rebellion was really God's plan to save His people from all nations.

Conclusion—the clock is still ticking. It is getting closer and closer. It started when God was baptized with the Holy Spirit, and it is moving towards a day in which God will unmake the heavens, and only those who call upon the Lord will be saved.

Who is that Lord? It is the crucified and resurrected Jesus Christ. That changes everything today.