

“My First Sermon”

Acts 2:14-41

Introduction:

First sermon in a church setting was at an Independent Baptist Church... *Berean Baptist in Hephzibah, GA.*

My text was 2 Peter 3:18 – But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. I probably have the sermon somewhere in a box tucked away so no one could ever see it.

One of my best friends was there who was lost. He did not get saved, but I prayed for him for years. To my knowledge, he never received Christ. About 15 years later he died as a result of steroid use as a weight lifter.

I still wonder today what I might have said or done that could have helped him see the truth. One thing I do know is that my friend heard the truth and I did my best.

First sermons are special to all preachers. Here in our text, we see another 1st sermon. It was not only Peter’s 1st sermon, it was the first sermon of the New Testament Church. About 300 people were saved. How about that?

“My First Sermon Outline”

Acts 2:14-41

I. Introduction and Context: vv. 14-21.

Peter uses an Old Testament passage from Joel as an opening illustration to his sermon to explain what happened on Pentecost with the coming of the Spirit.

II. Condemnation: vv. 22-24

Point blank... you killed Jesus, but God raised Him from the dead.

III. Confirmation: vv. 25-28

This passage is not about the Pope. This is confirmation concerning the resurrection and Christ never seeing corruption.

IV. Confidence- vv. 29-36

Christ is alive and eternal; David's body has decayed. Christ has been raised and is at the right hand of the Father. He sent the Holy Spirit. The One they killed was the Messiah.

V. The Conviction: v. 37

What should we do? Beautiful phrase.

VI. The Commitment- vv. 38-40

Conversion brings the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

**“My First Sermon”
Acts 2:14-41**

I. Introduction and Context: Verses 14-24

First Sermon Context of Peter's first sermon. Joel's Prophecy ([Joel 2:28-32](#)). The Background for Peter's sermon was the OT prophecy by Joel. This tells us a lot about Peter and the effects of the indwelling of the Spirit's power. Peter went straight to the scriptures for his text to explain what had happened on The Day of Pentecost. From the time that Jesus was ascended into heaven, Peter was studying the scriptures. Peter was led by the Spirit to prepare for the promise.

The ignorant preachers of today think they are smarter than that. They think that ignoring the scriptures and the power of the Holy Spirit is the way to preach. They think that [sermonspice.com](#) is better than the Holy Spirit. They think AI is better than God's Word.

If you are called to preach the first sermon of the New Testament Church, preacher, make it a good one. The pulpit is not for messing around. We don't do little talks and devotions from the

pulpit. The sacred desk is for preaching. Your political agendas and sexual preferences don't belong in the pulpit. If you're a woman, a homosexual, or transgender, you don't belong in the pulpit anyway.

I put the best preachers I can in this pulpit when I am away from my fellowship. This is not amateur hour, the comedy club, or a political podcast. This sacred desk is from where the eternal message of the inspired scriptures is preached. When one shares a testimony or an encouraging word, it should be prepared and filled with the Holy Spirit's care. I don't pass the mic around and let folks make a fool of themselves talking about themselves and giving testimonies about their dreams, visions, and personal opinions. The sermon, a testimony, or word of encouragement, is not for self-glorification or a chance to show people how cleaver or spiritual you are. Sharing the Word is **not** for personal glory. Neither is Sunday school time; Bible study and Sunday school are for edifying the Saints and honoring the Word of God.

Illustration: One man came down during the invitation and asked me if he could share what happened to him that morning after he got out of the shower. He claimed an angel flew into his bathroom and wrote a message on the fogged up mirror with its wings. He wanted me to let him share that. No!!!

One pastor, I recently saw passing the mic around, had a woman start describing all kinds of sex acts she had with men when she was a prostitute. That's not appropriate for the worship service, or any service.

Thank God Peter was filled with the Spirit and set the NT church on a solid Rock with the first message from heaven for the church. People that knew the rash and volatile Apostle would surely have seen a massive change in his life as verse 14 describes how he took over the situation and began to explain from the scriptures what had happened

on that first day of the Spirit's powerful filling.
The man that cursed his Lord and was afraid of a little damsel is now the leader of this 120 people and soon to be 300 neophytes.

Evidence of The Apostles Filling:

- Risked his life.
- Peter stood up.
- Raised his voice.
- Proclaimed the truth (To enunciate clearly).
- Gave glory to God.
- Used the Word as his text.
- Had the support of the other disciples (The 11).

Peter was given power and the gift of preaching at Pentecost. He immediately started to preach. The mission was clear and the time was short. The Holy Spirit's power changed this man.

The first thing Peter said was...

- "Let me explain this to you..." **gnostos**, get to know. Get close to or get to know what I am sharing with you.
- "Pay attention to me..." Listen up.

I agree and want you to do likewise while I am preaching. Listen up! Preaching and explanation are done at the same time.

Verse 15: *"These folks are not drunk as you have said."* I have been accused of picking on people and calling them out. I do not do that. This message I am preaching today was prepared at 12:50, Friday morning, on December 22, 2023. Now, if God lined it up for you to hear this at this moment, don't you think the message is really from the Lord? Take it up with Him.

They said exactly what Peter addressed, why would they be upset at Peter addressing this? They sneered at the apostles. Peter says,

“These folks are not drunk.” *Can you imagine equating one of the greatest OT prophecies with people being drunk. **Now, that’s some kind of spiritual insight. That’s almost like listening to a preacher that doesn’t think the OT is relevant anymore.***

Verse 16: The prophet Joel told them what was going to happen and they didn’t know the prophecy. The Pharisees missed it; but the greatest group that missed the meaning of the prophecy were the scribes. They actually copied the scrolls. Verses 17-21 is the prophecy.

Joel gives a bleak prophecy about the future. The people had already experienced devastation from a locust invasion. The people could have very well starved to death. Their disobedience was epic and they had been disciplined. Their two sins were disobedience and drunkenness.

Joel 1:2-7

2 Hear this, you elders;
listen, all who live in the land.
Has anything like this ever happened in your days
or in the days of your forefathers?
3 Tell it to your children,
and let your children tell it to their children,
and their children to the next generation.
4 What the locust swarm has left
the great locusts have eaten;
what the great locusts have left
the young locusts have eaten;
what the young locusts have left
other locusts have eaten.
5 Wake up, you drunkards, and weep!
Wail, all you drinkers of wine;
wail because of the new wine,

for it has been snatched from your lips.
 6 A nation has invaded my land,
 powerful and without number;
 it has the teeth of a lion,
 the fangs of a lioness.
 7 It has laid waste my vines
 NIV

The people did **not** get a pat on the back. As a matter of fact, Joel says it's going to get worse. Yet, in the midst of all this, God uses Joel to give a grand and glorious prophecy concerning a latter day promise. God promises to restore what the locusts had eaten. Peter takes this text as his first point of the sermon.

Quote: James Montgomery Boice, in his commentary on Acts, says this about Peter's sermon and the prophecy from the book of Joel, "Peter referred to this text first because it was the clearest and most obvious Old Testament prophecy of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Then, with marvelous clarity and urgency, he linked it to what everyone in Jerusalem was noting: namely, the clear, powerful proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone in his or her own language. *This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel*, was Peter's contention. What was happening was what Joel prophesied" (p.48).

Verse 17-21: When we get to Peter's sermon you will see that the focus of the sermon is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Peter is preaching repentance, faith, and responsibility for crucifying Jesus. Most people concentrate so much on the tongues speaking that they miss the importance of the NT church starting and the gospel message. Peter's sermon had a clear outline:

The death, the burial, the resurrection of Jesus, and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The greatest organic, dynamic, and

efficacious institution the world has ever seen was established—the glorious New Testament Church.

Peter steps up and says these people are not drunk, this is about that which the prophet Joel predicted. What they heard that day was of one of the greatest prophecies in the OT being fulfilled. The NT church had been started, gifted, and empowered. Game on! The church will be unstoppable and undeniable. We are still a force of heaven.

Joel 2:28-29

28 'And afterward,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your old men will dream dreams,

your young men will see visions.

29 Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

NIV

Verses 17 and 18 speak of the Spirit's filling of all people no matter social status, national origin or ethnic background. It serves the truth that if salvation is for all men, then the fillings of the Spirit is as well.

Many think that verses 19-21 have a double prophetic meaning. The implications of this Joel passage does have future fulfillment in the latter days. I believe we are in the latter days but these specific prophecies are reserved for the tribulation and the days prior to the Second Coming of Christ. Peter's use of the text was to draw men to Christ for salvation and to reveal the fulfilling of the prophecy concerning the power and filling of the Holy Spirit.

To be saved is to be placed into the body of Christ. Salvation puts you into the family of God. You are saved, sealed, gifted, and

empowered to serve. *Peter uses an OT passage that speaks about **repentance** as his opening point in this great sermon.*

Historical background on Joel: From- [Got Question.com](#)

~We will exegete the Joel passage at another time due to time, space, and subject matter, but I want you to see the background of the book of Joel so you will understand why Peter used this passage. This is for your personal study. I will not be able to preach all of this during worship time.

Date of Writing: The Book of Joel was likely written between 835 and 800 B.C.

Purpose of Writing: Judah, the setting for the book, is devastated by a vast horde of locusts. This invasion of locusts destroys everything—the fields of grain, the vineyards, the gardens and the trees. Joel symbolically describes the locusts as a marching human army and views all of this as divine judgment coming against the nation for her sins. The book is highlighted by two major events. One is the invasion of locusts and the other the outpouring of the Spirit.

The initial fulfillment of this is quoted by Peter in [Acts 2](#) as having taken place at Pentecost.

Key Verses: [Joel 1:4](#), "What the locust swarm has left the great locusts have eaten; what the great locusts have left the young locusts have eaten; what the young locusts have left other locusts have eaten." [Joel 2:25](#), "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten..." [Joel 2:28](#), "And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions."

Brief Summary: A terrible plague of locusts is followed by a severe famine throughout the land. Joel uses these happenings as the catalyst to send words of warning to Judah. Unless the people repent quickly and completely, enemy armies will devour the land as did the natural elements. Joel appeals

to all the people and the priests of the land to fast and humble themselves as they seek God's forgiveness. If they will respond, there will be renewed material and spiritual blessings for the nation. But the Day of the Lord is coming. At this time the dreaded locusts will seem as gnats in comparison, as all nations receive His judgment.

The overriding theme of the Book of Joel is the Day of the Lord, a day of God's wrath and judgment. This is the Day in which God reveals His attributes of wrath, power, and holiness, and it is a terrifying day to His enemies. In the first chapter, the Day of the Lord is experienced historically by the plague of locusts upon the land.

Chapter 2:1-17 is a transitional chapter in which Joel uses the metaphor of the locust plague and drought to renew a call to repentance. **Chapters 2:18-3:21 (Peter's illustration comes from these verses) describe the Day of the Lord in eschatological terms and answers the call to repentance with prophecies of physical restoration (2:21-27), spiritual restoration (2:28-32), and national restoration (3:1-21).**

Foreshadowings: Whenever the Old Testament speaks of judgment for sin, whether individual or national sin, the advent of Jesus Christ is foreshadowed. The prophets of the Old Testament continually warned Israel to repent, but even when they did, their repentance was limited to law-keeping and works. Their temple sacrifices were but a shadow of the ultimate sacrifice, offered once for all time, which would come at the cross ([Hebrews 10:10](#)). Joel tells us that God's ultimate judgment, which falls on the Day of the Lord, will be "great and terrible. Who can endure it?" ([Joel 2:11](#)). The answer is that we, on our own, can never endure such a moment. But if we have placed our faith in Christ for atonement of our sins, we have nothing to fear from the Day of Judgment.

Practical Application: Without repentance, judgment will be harsh, thorough, and certain. Our trust should not be in our possessions but in the Lord our God. God at times may use nature, sorrow, or other common occurrences to draw us closer to Him. But in His mercy and grace, He has provided the definitive plan for our salvation—Jesus Christ, crucified for our

sins and exchanging our sin for His perfect righteousness ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)). There is no time to lose. God's judgment will come swiftly, as a thief in the night ([1 Thessalonians 5:2](#)), and we must be ready. Today is the day of salvation ([2 Corinthians 6:2](#)). "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon" ([Isaiah 55:6-7](#)). Only by appropriating God's salvation can we escape His wrath on the Day of the Lord.

Holman Old Testament Commentary: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah by Trent Butler Joel, Obadiah, Jonah & Micah, New International Commentary on the Old Testament by Leslie C. Allen

II. The Condemnation: vv. 22-24

Condemnation – You killed the Son of God, but God raised Him from the dead. The wicked men killed Jesus, but it was all a part of God's sovereign plan working.

Verse 22: After the explanation about Pentecost from the book of Joel, Peter starts the meat of his sermon with an explanation about the death of Christ.

Greek: Pointed out (HCSB) or accredited (NIV), attested (NASU), approved (KJV)- Apodeiknumi- to show off, exhibit, to prove, to set forth or accredit.

There was no excuse for the wicked men who killed Jesus because God pointed Him out as the Savior of the world. God placed His stamp of approval upon Jesus as the Messiah. Peter says, "Listen up men of Israel... God pointed Jesus out to you by miracles, signs, and wonders, and you killed Him. And Peter says, **"You knew it."**

Millions throughout history have claimed that God has not revealed Himself to them and that they are not guilty of sin.

That's a lie, and you will be held accountable. God has literally pointed Him out and you still will not believe, v. 22.

The fulfilled prophecies alone concerning His first coming are copious. Some say there are 300, or as many as 365, fulfilled prophecies by Jesus' first coming. There is the protoevangelium in genesis 3:15. Isaiah 53 is known as the messianic prophecy chapter. Isaiah 52:13-15 should also be read with that chapter. Psalm 22 is known as the Messianic Psalm. The seed of the woman Genesis 3:15. He would be from the tribe of Judah. He would be born in Bethlehem. He would be born of a virgin. Jesus would be declared the son of God. Jesus would be the prophet like unto Moses. Jesus would speak in parables. He would be a priest in the order of Melchizedek. He would be betrayed by a close friend. He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver. Jesus was silent to accusations. He would be hated without cause. None of his bones would ever be broken. His side would be pierced. He would be buried with the rich. He would be crucified with criminals and subject to public execution. His hands and feet would be pierced. Jesus would sit at the right hand of God the Father. He would be forsaken by the Father. He would be given vinegar to drink. Soldiers would gamble for his garments. Jesus prayed for his enemies. Jesus as the Messiah would be rejected by his own people. Jesus would be called Immanuel. Jesus would be called a King. The throne of Jesus would be anointed and eternal. The Messiah would be beaten and spat upon. Messiah would come from the line of Abraham. Messiah would be a descendant of Isaac. Messiah would come from Jacob. The Messiah would make a triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Messiah would be accused by false witnesses. Messiah would ascend to heaven to be at the right hand of the father. Messiah would be resurrected. Messiah would be in Egypt for a season. A messenger would prepare the way for the Messiah. Messiah would be preceded by a messenger or forerunner. Messiah would be preceded by Elijah. There would be a slaughter of children. Jesus would bind up the broken hearted. Messiah would be praised by little children.

Messiah would be heir to the throne of David. This is only the tip of the iceberg concerning the prophecies that were fulfilled concerning Christ's first coming. How could these men and women have missed the eternal son of God. There are twice as many prophecies concerning His second coming.

Verse 23: God's sovereign plan is wonderful. The plan of salvation reveals the directed and controlled love of God, worked out in the life of Jesus **(determined through foreknowledge)**.

No greater love has ever been seen or manifested. The greatest display of love was met with violence and hatred. Wicked men killed the Son of God. They killed the One who came to show them God.

John 1:18

18 No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, **has made him known (Exegeted)**.
NIV

Verse 24: Do you need hope today? I have a Word for you. Do you need a memory verse? Do you need a principle by which you may live? Here it is; this is one of the great verses of the Bible.

Acts 2:24

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.
NIV

~ If this be true, and it is, then what does that mean for us? This means that we have also conquered death and the grave.

Next... Peter does the unthinkable.

Peter uses an OT passage, that many preachers today, think is not relevant anymore. Can you believe that? The apostle Peter, filled

with the Holy Spirit, dared to use the OT to preach theology and truth at the beginning of the NT church. Peter speaks of King David, which many theologians and archeologists say never existed. Well, now there has been archeological evidence found where enemy kings speak of *The House of King David*.

The **Tel Dan Stele** is a fragmentary [stele](#) containing a [Canaanite inscription](#) which dates to the 9th century BCE. It is notable for possibly being the most significant and perhaps the only extra-biblical archaeological reference to the [house of David](#).^{[1][2]}

The Tel Dan Stele was discovered in 1993 in [Tel-Dan](#) by Gila Cook, a member of an archaeological team led by [Avraham Biran](#). Its pieces were used to construct an ancient stone wall that survived into modern times.^[2] The stele contains several lines of [Aramaic](#), closely related to [Biblical Hebrew](#), and historically a common language among [Jews](#). The surviving inscription details that an individual killed [Jehoram](#) of [Israel](#), the son of [Ahab](#) and king of the house of David.^[1] These writings corroborate passages from the [Hebrew Bible](#), as the [Second Book of Kings](#) mentions that Jehoram is the son of an Israelite king, Ahab, by his [Phoenician](#) wife, [Jezebel](#). Applying a Biblical viewpoint to the inscription, the likely candidate for having erected the stele is [Hazael](#), king of [Aram-Damascus](#) (whose language would have thus been Aramaic) who is mentioned in the Second Book of Kings as having conquered the [Land of Israel](#), though he was unable to take [Jerusalem](#). The stele is currently on display at the [Israel Museum](#).^[3]



III. The Confirmation: Verses 25- 28

~ Be sure of this... this Jesus you crucified, God made Him Lord and Christ.

* He is the Savior and the Boss.

~ Peter progresses through the message from his introduction and context to the Condemnation of the men who killed Christ to Confirmation of God's plan. He raised Christ from the dead.

~ Main point – If Jesus has defeated the grave and conquered death, we also have done the same.

~ Peter now will illustrate his theological truth with another Old Testament quote.

Verse 25-28 is a quote from Psalm 16.

Psalm 16 is a prayer for safekeeping. David is pleading for the Lord's protection in death. This Psalm is also called a Psalm of trust.

Bible scholars and students call it ***The Golden Psalm*** – a precious, rich jewel of David because it is filled with references of Christ.

The Psalm is a ***Miktam*** – A musical term, not much is known of the definition of Miktam. David uses it in Psalms 56-60 in his prayer Psalms where he is facing great danger.

~ David quotes and speaks in Psalm 16 as if he were speaking as the Messiah; he speaks in the first person.

Verse 25:

Peter uses the quote as a confirmation to the Jews to whom he is speaking as an illustration. Hundreds of years previously to this, David spoke a prophetic Word about the Messiah.

David said, “death could not hold to Messiah.” David speaks saying, “Christ would always be at the right hand of God.”

Literally – “I saw the Lord beforehand.” To be before one's eyes ***“continually”*** (Imperfect verb).

~ We will not be shaken by death. Because there will always be a messiah on the throne. That means He has to be eternal; that also means the virgin birth is real. *We had to have a God-Man. David understood that for a man to always be on his throne that He would have to be the Messiah.*

Because there is an eternal Messiah, we shall not be shaken.

Verse 26:

David was certain his body would live in hope. He had this hope to the point of rejoicing. This truth brings a gladdening to our hearts- To rejoice exceedingly.

~Peter says our bodies have hope. They live in hope.

***John 1:14- The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. Dwelling is the word for body in Acts 2:26. It means to pitch a tent. To live in a tent. To live in a temporary dwelling. John and Luke both use the Greek word **skenoo** for the word dwelling. Both associate the word *flesh* with a dwelling.

David says that his heart (**Cardia**) was glad and his tongue will rejoice because his dwelling (flesh) will not be left in hades. Hades is the place of the dead. When the Christian dies, his spirit goes to paradise. When a nonbeliever dies his spirit goes to hades, the place of the dead. David could rejoice in the fact that one day even his body would be raised and taken to glory... never going to hades.

David goes one step further in speaking of the Messiah. His body would not decay in the grave. Jesus would be raised on the third day but His flesh would not decay, not one cell of His body.

2 Corinthians 5 – “If this tent is destroyed?”

Rogers tells us that Jesus’ body replaced the tabernacle and temple as the place on earth where God’s presence dwells. That means that if Jesus lives in your tent, the presence of God lives there too.

I have news for you – one day, I am going to pick this tent up and move. God never intended for me to live in a tent forever. I’m waiting on a permanent dwelling.

~ Peter preaches eternal hope through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus... Jesus and the Gospel.

The greatest statement in all of human history about our bodies after death was written by Paul the apostle.

2 Cor 5:1-10

Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. 6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. 7 We live by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

NIV

Verse 27: What a grand and glorious promise.

God has promised not to abandon us to the grave.

Greek – Abandon means to leave behind, forsake or desert. Even my ashes will be resurrected and changed. Jesus redeemed our mind, body, soul, and spirit. Satan will not be allowed to even have our ashes.

Catholics claim the Pope does not corrupt or decay after death. This is ridiculous. Psalm 16 is not a reference to the Pope but to Jesus Christ- the Messiah. David speaks prophetically about the Messiah and our hope in His resurrection. We will be raised, but our bodies go to the grave in expectation of resurrection and eternal change.

Jesus did not see decay or corruption. His physical body was sinless. *The reason we decay and die is due to sinfulness. In a twinkling of an eye, we will be changed. If we are changed and given new bodies, there must have been a problem with the old tent. Read 2 Corinthians 5:1-9; 1 Corinthians 15:42 ff.

1 Cor 15:42-44

42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.
NIV

Verse 27 makes 2 Corinthians 5:1-9 and 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 a reality.

Verse 28: David claims to know the way of salvation. Some commentators claim verse 28 is out of place – ain't so!

David is saying that God has revealed to him, in the Old Testament, that Messiah will defeat death and the grave, and that God has promised, that if David trusts Messiah with his life, Messiah will not leave him in the grave. That's the path of life. Do you understand the magnitude of these verses?

~Peter sees it too and preaches it!!!

"You will fill me with joy in your presence."

~ To defeat death is to live in the presence of Jesus. The word here is **prosopon**- appearance, fashion, face, appearance, countenance. David had confirmation that he would stand in the presence of God and see His face. He had the path of life revealed to him. That's why his heart was glad.

~ God is the one who reveals it. What has been revealed? The way or path. The Greek word is **hodos**. You know this word very well. It is the word in John 14:6 where Jesus said, "I am the **Way**, the truth, and the Life." This is not a road made of concrete or black top. This is the path of life or path of life you should be on. Jesus is your:

- Way- direction, journey, or path.

- Truth- your doctrine or belief, your constitution.
- Life- Life source, not life span. He is life.

How did Peter know how to preach this word? God revealed it to him. The word is **gnorizo**- to declare, make known, certify, wit.

Listen - That's as good as I can preach it! – That's the Gospel. This is salvation.

IV. The Confidence: Verses 29-36

Verse 29: David died and his body was there where they knew he was. David was in the grave and the people knew where it was. This also speaks historically to the existence of the King. David's body was in the grave and his soul in heaven. When the rapture happens, David will be resurrected. Think about that for a moment.

Greek: Confidently- parrhesia from pas and rheo. This is the words for all and to speak. A slave was said to have confidence, access, or permission to “speak it all” to his master. This means to have confidence to say it all.

Let me translate with a modern day translation Brother Jerry style... *“Men of Loganville, I have a right to speak into your lives. I have earned the right to speak to you freely (With Confidence) because God have revealed the true path of life to me, and I want you to listen up.”*

David was a type of Christ but he was clearly speaking of the Messiah. David is here and in his grave, but Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead. Jesus is at the right hand of the father.

Verse 30: However, God called David as a Prophet and he had a promise that one of his descendants – Literally, one from His loins (The fruit of his loins) - would eternally sit, be caused to sit, be installed to sit, or appoint to the throne. This was spoken on oath by God. David knew this because he was a prophet. The throne that

Christ sits upon is called the throne of David. For this prophecy to be true, there must be an Eternal King on that throne. Please understand these next two passages and their significance.

2 Sam 23:4

5 "Is not my house right with God?
Has he not made with me an **everlasting covenant**,
arranged and secured in every part?
Will he not bring to fruition my salvation
and grant me my every desire?

NIV

2 Sam 7:12-16

12 When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom **forever**. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. **16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."**

NIV

Verse 31: For one to sit on the throne eternally, he must live forever! He cannot die. An eternal Kingdom demands an eternal King!!! David saw this beforehand- **pro-eido**.

* **ἀνέστησεν** – to raise up. Peter says that David saw this in advance. David understood the resurrection. David understood the death, the burial and resurrection of the Messiah. **The OT Saints were saved just like we are- minus the church words.** Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were saved by belief in the coming of the Messiah. It's always been by grace through faith.

David knew about the resurrection and so did Peter, that's why he used it in his first sermon.

Illustration: Proof! 2 Sam 12:20-23

20 Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

21 His servants asked him, "Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!"

22 He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let the child live.' 23 But now that he is dead, why should I fast? **Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.**"

NIV

Verse 32: We have Peter and others who are witnesses to the Resurrection. It's real, historical, dynamic, up to date.

These men and women were martyrs (Witnesses) to the facts of the Gospel. If a preacher's not brave enough to preach the facts, he needs to quits preaching.

Quote: "Somebody needs to tell Joel Osteen you can't have a resurrection without a crucifixion. I'm not interested in drawing a crowd, I'm concerned for lost people going to hell."

Verse 32 is a fulfillment of 1:8 – "You will be my what? – **witnesses.**" A martyr is one who gives his life for his beliefs. Greek word is **martus**.

Verse 33: Exalted – He was raised up from the dead then lifted up to the throne. (Passive Participle – God put Him on the throne).

Phil 2:5-11

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God,
 did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
 7 but made himself nothing,
 taking the very nature of a servant,
 being made in human likeness.
 8 And being found in appearance as a man,
 he humbled himself
 and became obedient to death —
 even death on a cross!
 9 Therefore God **exalted** him to the highest place
 and gave him the name that is above every name,
 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

NIV

Exalted- Hupsoo; highly exalted is huperhupsoo. Same word for exalted in both places.

Men cannot undo what God has done. God put him on the throne eternally and at His right hand – The place of favor.

Illustration: “To get **right**” really means something. When I say get right I really mean it. Get on the right side. Get on the right hand of God where Jesus is. Get away from the goats.

Dexios – Right. Matthew 25:31 *ff*

- Sheep on Right
- Goats on Left- **euonumos**.

In divisions, appointments, transactions, prominences, dignity and favor, the right hand is preferred.

~ Peter now comes back to the reason he is preaching. He explains what they had seen in the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. The coming of the Spirit was a direct result of the Promise of the Father. Christ, now exalted, sends the Holy Spirit to

indwell believers. He was God's presence on earth – now, the church is the presence of God in the world and filled with the Holy Spirit.

All of mankind will have to deal with the exalted Son of God that has been enthroned at the Father's right side in the last days. Your pronouns won't matter in that day. You better be right with God.

Greek: By the way – “**Poured out**” is an Aorist Act Ind. – It happened once. The Holy Spirit was poured out in a point in time that day. Done!

The pouring out of the Holy Spirit is the confirmation of the prophecy fulfilled. Think about this... Who else in all of history, in heaven or earth, could have send the Holy Spirit to indwell believers? Moses? Abraham? David? Buddha? Joseph Smith? Tazz Russell? Zeus? Paul? Gnostic gods? The Pope? Who predicted it and then made it happen? How as it even theologically, forensically, and righteously possible to send the Holy Spirit? Who made it possible? Not even David! **Jesus did!!!**

Verse 34-35:

Read it thus – The Lord (God) said to my Lord (Jesus) – sit at my right hand until I make...

Ps 110:1

The Lord says to my Lord:
 "Sit at my right hand
 until I make your enemies
 a footstool for your feet."

NIV

David was under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to write this Word. Even though his descendant (Jesus) would come after him, he was before him. Jesus was eternal. He came after King David

but was his God. He was commanded to sit (**kathemai- to dwell or reside**) on the throne. This is a present m/p imperative. Who else in history could occupy that seat? Why is Jesus seated? His work is done and God told Him to sit.

Verse 36:

Greek: ἀσφαλῶς - Assuredly – used to emphasize the conclusion which Peter is drawing from his three texts and sermon. The One that God has made to be Savior **AND** Lord is seated next to God the Father.

Peter says – Absolutely, positively, assuredly, without a doubt, - this Jesus you crucified – God has made Him Lord and Christ. You don't get to make Him Lord only. You can't make Him Savior only. He is Lord and Savior.

~ Peter has now preached the death, burial & the resurrection of Christ. **What comes after good preaching?**

V. Conviction: Verses 37

My First Sermon – A dear friend was there. He did not pray and receive Christ – He later died in his late thirties of a heart attack from steroid use. He did not make the football team because he was too small. He changed his body but never met the exalted Christ that I know of. One rejection in his life caused him to go about proving he was big enough by lifting weights. The drug abuse came and it took his life. As we shared Jesus with him, he would only say he was not ready. Respond to the conviction for salvation and health. Never put off receiving Jesus as your Lord and savior for another day. Never ignore the conviction.

In verse 37 we see that the hearing of the Word is what caused this conviction. The text says they were convicted or pricked in their hearts. The word pricked or convicted is the Greek word

Katanusso, which means deep or heavy conviction. Also the word agitate, prick, or thoroughly pierce are good translations. This is exactly what happens when the truth is spoken. The Holy Spirit works in this fertile soil of conviction to draw men to salvation and backsliders to repentance.

The music we sing on Sunday morning softens the heart and creates an atmosphere of worship so the Word will be well received. Music is a great tool in the arsenal of the Holy Spirit. Have you ever listen or watched a movie without music. When we see a video without sound it is hard to do because we are so used to having all our senses stimulated at the same time. The musical score of a movie adds so much to the mood and drama of each scene. Music can grip the heart and emotions and help as the Spirit calls a person to repentance.

The **kardia** is spoken of here. This is the heart. This is where the mystery of salvation takes place. The mind, the emotional center of our being and where we feel is affected by conviction.

I hope you are seeing the progression of the Spirit's work here. The Word is shared, the sinner hears, faith is given, contrition is birthed, a commitment is made. The last thing that was said was, *"brothers, what shall we do."*

William Shakespeare said, "If you bethink yourself of any crime unreconcil'd as yet to heaven and grace, solicit for it straight." Othello

"Man, wretched man, whene'er he stoops to sin, feels, with the act, a strong remorse within." Juvenal

John 16:8- *And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.*

"One man with conviction will overwhelm a hundred

who have only opinions” Churchill

Psalm 32:5

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.’
And you forgave the guilt of my sin.”

Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

VI. The Commitment- vv. 38-40

The people were convicted at the preaching of Peter. That’s what we want to happen. This is the preacher’s goal and purpose. Conviction shows that there is another force involved in the preaching. Conviction confirms to the preacher that God is working and that God is upon the message. I know when God is working and so do you. The saved understand and sense the moving of the Spirit upon the message and the hearts of the hearers. The preacher preaches and God brings the conviction.

Greek: Conviction: Katanusso. Kata, down from or by means of, and **nusso, nudge**, pierce, prick. We all know what it is like getting pricked in the heart. We have all felt that nudge. Sometimes it is a “push.” I have literally seen conviction upon people. I have seen the physical effects of conviction on a man’s face. The manifestation of conviction is powerful.

1 Thess 1:4-5

4 For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction.

NIV

Illustration: I had a girl under conviction one night as I shared the gospel with her. Her friend, who was a Christian, was so afraid for her because she saw the physical effects of conviction on her, that she interrupted my witness. She took her away. I am sure she thought she was rescuing her friend from embarrassment. She thought the conviction would push her away from God. She was actually the one that took her from God. Let me ask you this? Do you think the same? From where does conviction come? Right, the Holy Spirit. So why do people think that the Holy Spirit doing His job is harmful? If you think that I am wrong, then you don't understand what it takes for people to get saved. People don't come to Christ without conviction. Grace never saved a good. Conviction reveals sin and draws the sinner. Let it happen.

How did the people respond:

1. They came because of being “**cut**” or pierced by the Holy Spirit.
2. They “**came publicly.**” They overcame pride, fear, and embarrassment.
3. They “**came responsibly.**” They took responsibility for themselves. “**They came.**”
4. Purposefully – What shall “**we do?**”

Salvation explained: Verse 38

1. Repent- This is **meta**, “with” and **noeo**, “to consider, think, or perceive.” **Metanoeo**, To change the mind, to think differently or afterwards, or reconsider. **In plain English, this means to change your mind.** That's what I want you to do. I want you to change your mind about Jesus. If you have never understood or considered Jesus, I want you to perceive Him after you hear the truth. This is not just saying a prayer; this is considering the truth

and perceiving you are lost, then changing your mind and receiving Christ.

There are many preachers that teach saying a sinners prayer is sending people to hell. The bible actually says to believe in the heart and confess with the mouth. Praying is simply how we do that. David Platt, and many others, are legalistically teaching against people praying a sinner's prayer. Can I just ask, "how else are we to talk to God?" Salvation and praying to receive Jesus are not places for "*shock jock*" preachers to play games with people's hearts.

Rom 10:8-13

8 But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: 9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. 11 As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." 12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile — the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

NIV

~When the preacher goes against the teachings of the Word that are clearly taught, then it's time to get a new preacher.

2. "Be Baptized in the name of Jesus, each of you." **Baptizo- to immerse.** As Paul began to set the doctrines of the NT church in place, baptism by immersion came to be the mode of baptism. The two ordinances of the church came to picture the gospel. In the book of Acts, sometimes baptism is mentioned and sometimes not. In the early church, baptism was so closely related to

salvation they were considered one act of obedience. As Paul developed the teachings for the NT church, God revealed to him the doctrines of baptism for the new believers.

At Woodlake Baptist Church, we take great care to teach our candidates that baptism is symbolic and does not save. Baptism is your first step of obedience. Baptism is extremely important, but we do not believe in baptismal regeneration. In other words, water baptism cannot save you. Baptism, by immersion, is the only way to clearly symbolize the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Sprinkling does not picture the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

3. “For the forgiveness of sins.” Let’s read the text together so that I can explain an extremely important bit of grammar and syntax to you. My first encounter with this truth was with Carroll Sinclair. I thank him for finding this jewel of truth and sharing it with me. I knew it to be true but never placed it in this context. I have researched it fully and would like to share it with you for your full assurance of faith.

Many people say baptism is necessary for salvation. Let’s fix that.

Acts 2:38

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.

NIV

Acts 2:38

38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ **for** the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

NASU

Acts 2:38

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for** the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

KJV

Acts 2:38

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.

ESV

Acts 2:38

38 And Peter (said) unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **unto** the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

ASV

Acts 2:38

38 "Repent," Peter said to them, "and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus the Messiah **for** the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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Acts 2:38

38 "Repent," Peter said to them, "and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus the Messiah **for** the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

(from The Apologetics Study Bible, Copyright © 2007 by Holman Bible Publishers. All Rights Reserved.)

Not one of these translations has the best, and in my opinion, the right translation. This is why many denominations and charismatic groups claim that you must be

baptized to be saved and receive the Holy Spirit. I will now enlighten you to the truth.

As I have said to you, the book of Acts is a book of transition and we must be careful as we build doctrine from this book. The church changed drastically as it grew and Paul writes epistles to fix problems in the church and set down clear and revealed doctrines for the church. Baptism is one of them.

We know that John the Baptist baptized for repentance, and his baptism was done in preparation for Messiah coming. Note Acts 19. Even so, John did not baptize until the person repented of their sins.

Matt 3:11-12

11 "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

NIV

Many times in Acts the preacher says to repent and be baptized. At other times, baptism is not mentioned. In Acts 10 the people were filled with the Holy Spirit and had not been baptized.

Acts 10:47-48

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

KJV

First, I will give you historical and scriptural proof and then we will look at the grammatical proof concerning baptism.

Historical and Scriptural Proof: No Baptism Mentioned with Salvation.

Acts 3:17-19

17 "Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. 18 But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

NIV

Acts 8:20-22

20 Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! 21 You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart.

NIV

Acts 17:29-31

29 "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone — an image made by man's design and skill. 30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

NIV

Acts 26:20-21

20 First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. 21 That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me

NIV

Baptism given with the salvation experience.

Acts 2:41

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

KJV

Acts 8:12-13

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

KJV

Acts 8:36-38

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

KJV

Acts 11:16

16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

KJV

Acts 16:31-34

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

KJV

Acts 19:2-5

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

KJV

Acts 22:16

16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

KJV

Grammatical Proof:

If you will notice in verse 38 the word **for**. This is the word **εἰς (pronounced ice)**. There are many translation to the word **εἰς**. This is why translation is difficult at times. Choosing the right preposition can be difficult.

NT:1519 εἰς– **for, because of.**

KJV - [abundantly-], against, among, as, at, [back-] ward, before, by, concerning, continual, far more exceeding, for [intent, purposefore], forth, in (among, at, unto, -so much that, -to), to the intent that, of one mind, never, of, (up-) on, perish, set at one again, (so) that, ***therefore** (-unto) **(Because of)**, throughout, till, to (be, the end, -ward), (here-) until (-to), ... ward, [wherefore-], with. Often used in composition with the same general import, but only with verbs (etc.) expressing motion (literally or figuratively).

(Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright © 1994, 2003, 2006, 2010 Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc.) ***(emphasis mine)**

The New Linguistic and Exegetical Key to the Greek New Testament by Cleon Rogers, says that the word can be causative. Hence the translation above . Rogers says that this word may be translated as for or because of. His reference used is from ***A Manuel Grammar of The Greek New Testament, Dana and Mantey***, page 104.

This book and these scholars are two of the world's greatest Greek scholars.

Quote: “The following is a quotation from J. R. Mantey’s article in the *Expositor* (London), June, 1923, unusual meanings for propositions in the Greek New Testament.”

When one considers in Acts 2:38 repentance as self-renunciation and baptism as a public expression of self-surrender and self-dedication to Christ, which significantly it certainly had in the first century, the expression εἰς ἀφεσιν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν ὑμῶν **(for the remission of your sins)** may mean *for the purpose of the remission of sins*. But if one stresses baptism without its early

Christian import, as a ceremonial means of salvation, he does violence to Christianity as a whole, for one of its striking distinctions from Judaism and paganism is that it is a religion of salvation by faith while all the others teach salvation by works.”

Scriptural and Grammatical examples:

“The sentence **μετανοησεν εις το κηρυγμα Ιωνα** (repentance at **(because of)** the preaching of Jona) in Mt 12:41 and Lk 12:32 is forceful evidence for a causal use of this preposition. What led to their repentance? Of course, it was Jona’s preaching.

Mt 3.11 furnishes further evidence:

εγω μεν υμας βαπτιζω εω υδατι εις μετανοιαν (***I baptize you in water for repentance***). Did John baptize for repentance or because of it. If the former, we have no further scriptural confirmation of it. If the latter, his practice was confirmed and followed by the apostles, and is in full harmony with Christ demand for inward, genuine righteousness. In connection with this verse, we have the testimony of a first-century writer to the effect that John the Baptist baptized people only after they had repented. Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, book 18, chapter 5, Section 2: “Who (John) was a good man, and commanded the Jews to exercise virtue, both as to righteousness towards one another and piety towards God, has so to come to baptism; for that washing (with water) would be acceptable to him if they made use of it, not in order to the putting away of some sins, but for the purification of the body; supposing still that the soul was thoroughly purified beforehand by righteousness.”

Secular usage:

“Deissmann in *Light From the Ancient East* gives several convincing quotations from the papyri to prove that **πιστευειν εις αυτον** (***To believe into him or himself***) *surrender or submission to. A slave was sold into the name of the god or a temple; i.e., to be a temple servant.* G. Milligan agrees

with Deissmann that this papyri usage of *εἰς αὐτόν*, is also found regularly in the New Testament. Thus to believe on or to be baptized into the name of Jesus means to renounce self and to consider oneself the lifetime servant of Jesus.” *A Manuel Grammar of The Greek New Testament, Dana and Mantey, p., 104-105*

The point of this chart and me sharing it with you is to show you that the Greek preposition can change meaning according to its classification. The change in meaning is important and can direct us to better theology.

Prepositional Meanings Classified Dana and Mantey, p. 114

	<u>Direction</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Relation</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Means</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
<u>ἀνα</u>	up	in, by						
<u>ἀντί</u>			in exchange for, instead of, for			because of		
	<u>Direction</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Relation</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Means</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
<u>ἀπο</u>	from		for	by		on account of		
<u>διά</u>	through		for	by	through by means of	because of		for the sake of
<u>ἐκ</u>	out of	on			by means of	because of		
<u>ἐν</u>	into	in, on, at, among,	besides	in	with, by means of	because of	with	

within								
<u>εις</u>	into unto, to	in, among, upon	as, for, against, in the time of		because of		for the purpose of	
<u>επι</u>	up to, to	upon, at on, in, by, before, over	against, after, in the time of		on account of		for	
<u>κατα</u>	along, down, upon, through- out	down upon, at, in, by, before	according to, from, reference to				with	
<u>μετα</u>			after			with		
<u>παρα</u>	beyond, to the side of	beside, before	contrary to			with		
<u>περι</u>	around, about		in behalf of, con- cerning			with		
<u>προ</u>		before						
	<u>Direction</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Relation</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Means</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
<u>προς</u>	to, towards	at, on beside	against, for, per- taining to		by means of	on acc- ount of	with	for
<u>συν</u>			besided				with	
<u>ὑπερ</u>	beyond	over, Above	concerning, for, instead of, on behalf of					for the sake of
<u>ὑπο</u>		under		by				

I repeat- The point of this chart and me sharing it with you is to show you that the Greek preposition can change meaning according to its classification. The change in meaning is important and can direct us to better theology.

Verse 38 continued: We have seen that salvation was obtained by repentance and forgiveness of sins came with that repentance and that on account of that, or because of repentance and forgiveness, a person should be baptized. The phrase, “and then you will be filled with the holy Spirit,” likewise is connected to the **εἰς, because of**. Therefore, repentance, salvation, and the filling of the Holy Spirit are all prior to baptism.

Verse 39: Verse 39 is filled with theology.

- First let me say that salvation is for all. This word is a promise of God. The word is **epaggelia**, which means announcement, pledge, divine assurance, message or promise. Don't ever let anyone tell you that you cannot be saved.
- The promise is for those who are far off, **makran**. These are they that are a far way off. How about you?
- As many as God will call. He is not willing that any should perish. The “who-so-ev-ers” of this world can come.
- The promise is for anyone, no matter who you are and no matter how far you are away.

Illustration: No Matter How Long [Phillips, Craig & Dean](#)

I watched you as you stumbled out of bed
 Rushed out the door your coffee in your hand
 And you looked so lost and lonely
 I knew I had to find a way
 To make you understand, I wanna be your friend
 So I painted you a sunrise in the sky
 And I caused the birds to sing you lullabies
 And I whispered sweet "I love you's"

In the breeze that brushed your face
You didn't even see, you never noticed Me

No matter how long it takes, somehow I'll find a way
No matter how far you run, there's no distance that's too great
'Cause when the wind blows through the treetops
And in the music of the rain
Somehow My love will find a way
No Matter how long it takes

I watched you as you fell asleep last night
And I trembled as I watched the tears you cried
So I splashed your face with moonlight, and I longed for your embrace
You never called My name, I loved you just the same
In the laughter of the children
I'll be calling out your name
Somehow My love will find a way
Somehow My love will find a way
My love will find a way
No matter how long it takes

Verse 40: I like the words Luke records for us. “And with many other words he testified.” He strongly urged (**parakaleo**) them. He invoked them. Peter beseeched, desired, and exhorted them to be saved. Peter called their generation **skolios (scoliosis)**. They were crooked and warped. The **genea (Generation)** had spiritual scoliosis. I am proud to know that every week that I come to this pulpit, I do the same thing that the apostle Peter did. God gets the glory!

VI. Conversion: Verse 41

The reason for the baptisms was their faith in the message. The 3000 people that accepted the message were those who were baptized.

Greek: Gladly accepted- Some of your translations will say gladly accepted and some will not. This is an accretion or addition by some mss (E P 614 cop G67 Augustine, et al).

Accepted- apodechomai: To fully take, to gladly receive, to welcome and approve of all things.

Don't let this pass you by. The 3000 people that received and fully accepted the message were the start of the NT church. The world would never be the same.

My question to you is this... have you received the message?

When these 6 things happen, what is the result?

- I. Introduction and Context: Verses 14-21**
- II. The Condemnation: vv. 22-24**
- III. The Confirmation: Verses 25- 28**
- IV. The Confidence: Verses 29-36**
- V. Conviction: Verses 37-40**
- VI. Conversion: Verse 41**

Church happens. God made not only a local church but a worldwide body of the Lord Jesus.