

Acts 2:14-41 Testifying For Jesus Christ Jan 11 2009 AM

Intro: The First Sermon of the Church.

Prerequisite for effectiveness = filled with the Spirit

Acts 1:8 (HCSB)

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 2:4,14 (HCSB)

⁴ Then they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages, as the Spirit gave them ability for speech. . . .

¹⁴ But Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them: “Jewish men and all you residents of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and pay attention to my words.

In a day in which men increasingly listen for sermons that tickle their ears and simply leave them feeling happy; here is a model for a sermon that preaches the good news with the authority of scripture and a clear call to repentance and salvation.

Edmond Clowney writes:

The Scriptures are full of moral instruction and ethical exhortation, but the ground and motivation of all is found in the mercy of Jesus Christ. We are to preach all the riches of Scripture, but unless the center holds, all the bits and pieces of our pulpit counseling, or our thundering at social sins, of our positive or negative thinking – all fly off into the Sunday morning air . . . let others develop the pulpit fads of the passing seasons, Specialize in preaching Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:17-18 (KJV) ¹⁷ For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

¹⁸ For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. . . . **1 Corinthians 1:22-24** ²² For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

²³ But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

²⁴ But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

1. The Scriptures testify for Jesus Christ.

1A. His sending the Holy Spirit Acts 2:16-18 (HCSB)

¹⁶ On the contrary, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ And it will be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out My Spirit on all humanity; then your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸ I will even pour out My Spirit on My male and female slaves in those days, and they will prophesy. (From Joel 2:28-32)

1B. His Resurrection from the Dead. Acts 2:25-28 (HCSB)

²⁵ For David says of Him: I saw the Lord ever before me; because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced. Moreover my flesh will rest in hope,

²⁷ because You will not leave my soul in Hades, or allow Your Holy One to see decay.

²⁸ You have revealed the paths of life to me; You will fill me with gladness in Your presence. (From Psalm 16:8-11)

1C. His Eternal Lordship. Acts 2:34-35 (HCSB)

³⁴ For it was not David who ascended into the heavens, but he himself says: The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand

³⁵ until I make Your enemies Your footstool.’ (From Psalm 110:1)

But Many People Responded by Refusing To Recognize Jesus. John 5:38-40

³⁸ You don’t have His word living in you, because you don’t believe the One He sent.

³⁹ You pore over the Scriptures because you think you have eternal life in them, yet they testify about Me.

⁴⁰ And you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

2. The Miracles testify for Jesus.

Acts 2:22 (HCSB)

²² “Men of Israel, listen to these words: This Jesus the Nazarene was a man pointed out to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did among you through Him, just as you yourselves know.

John 3:2 (HCSB)

² This man came to Him at night and said, “ Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher, for no one could perform these signs You do unless God were with him.”

John 21:24-25 (HCSB)

²⁴ This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

²⁵ And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which, if they were written one by one, I suppose not even the world itself could contain the books that would be written.

But Many People Responded by Rejecting Jesus

Acts 2:23 (HCSB)

²³ Though He was delivered up according to God’s determined plan and foreknowledge, you used lawless people to nail Him to a cross and kill Him.

John 12:37 (HCSB)

³⁷ Even though He had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in Him.

Hebrews 2:3-4 (HCSB)

³ how will we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was first spoken by the Lord and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him.

⁴ At the same time, God also testified by signs and wonders, various miracles, and distributions [of gifts] from the Holy Spirit according to His will.

3. The Resurrection testifies for Jesus.

Acts 2:24 (HCSB)

²⁴ God raised Him up, ending the pains of death, because it was not possible for Him to be held by it.

Acts 2:32-34 (HCSB)

³² “God has resurrected this Jesus. We are all witnesses of this.

³³ Therefore, since He has been exalted to the right hand of God and has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit, He has poured out what you both see and hear.

³⁴ For it was not David who ascended into the heavens, but he himself says: The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand

Acts 2:36 (HCSB)

³⁶ “Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah!”

Many People Responded by Repenting and Receiving Salvation Through Jesus.

Acts 2:37-40 (HCSB)

³⁷ When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles: “Brothers, what must we do?”

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.

³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰ And with many other words he testified and strongly urged them, saying, “Be saved from this corrupt generation!”

Invitation: Jesus Is The Risen Lord and Messiah – How do you respond to Him?