

Acts Chapter 2

V: 1 Pentecost; first fruits, harvest, feast of weeks, celebrated 7 complete weeks after Passover, or 50 days after Passover.

- Apostles & disciples were all gathered with one accord.

Acts 1:14 “These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication,…”

- One of the earmarks of the early church, the earmark of a Spirit filled church today, a powerful, or power filled church, is unity in the body of Christ, being of one accord.

Psalm 133 “¹Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! ²It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments. ³As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.”

- This is a good example; God loves unity in the Spirit, in truth - He hates dis-unity and discord among the brethren.

Proverbs 6:16-19 “¹⁶These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him: - ¹⁹A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”

“Prayer produces unity, and unity empowers prayer.”

Matthew 18:19-20 “¹⁹Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.”

This is exactly what Jesus prayed for:

John 17:20-21 “²⁰Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; ²¹That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me.”

Paul exhorts us to the same thing:

Ephesians 4:1-6 “¹I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, ²with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; ³Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

V: 2 Key word: “... *from Heaven*” (Source)

Ephesians 2:2 “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”

- Satan can create storms and winds etc., but this is something different and we have to be discerning.

2 Corinthians 11:14 “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”

- “*From Heaven*” - The origination, the source is from heaven, from God Himself.
- Just as God breathed life into man, here He breathes life into His church - the breath of God.

Precedent:

Genesis 1:1-2 “¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God (*ruwach*) was hovering over the face of the waters.”

- H7307. **ruwach**, roo'-akh; wind; by resemblance a breath, i.e. a sensible or even violent exhalation; blast, breath, tempest, wind. – “*Mighty Rushing Wind*”

Genesis 2:7 “And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

- The result was life. Something formed from in-animate components became alive.
- Bible / God breathed! Reading the Bible apart from salvation, apart from the regeneration of the Spirit - it's just a dead book to many, but being alive in the Spirit, filled with the Spirit - brings it all to life!

Genesis Ch. 17 Abram – Abrah**am** / Sarai – Sarah**h**

- What preceded this change?

Speaking of Abraham:

Genesis 15:6 “And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.”

“... *and it filled all the house where they were sitting.*”

- Dedication of the Tabernacle and the Temple: same thing occurred.
- God's people gathered together for one purpose, in one accord, in unity – and the glory of God filled the place.

Exodus 40:34 “Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”

1 Kings 8:10-11 “¹⁰And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord, ¹¹so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord.”

- These were each beautiful structures, filled with symbolism and meaning – but apart from God, apart from His glory and power, each dead – cold places.
- Upper room / disciples gathering – God's glory manifest, emptied the place out, and when they got outside they began to give God glory and testify of His greatness!
- Our church today / any Sunday, we should leave this place overwhelmed by the Spirit, testifying of His greatness, and speaking of the things of God.
- I want to feel the breath of God in my life.

James 4:8 “Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.”

Psalm 139:23-24

- **Draw near:** Time spent being close: Lily w/Grandma & Grandpa.
- Draw near to God: Abiding with Him, Abiding in Him.

John 15:5 “I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.”

- Ever feel like you just can't do anything?
- Maybe it's time to abide, to draw near.
- How do we do that?
 - Spending time with Him in His word, letting Him teach us and speak to us.
 - Spending time with Him, hanging out talking – praying.
 - Spending time with Him, worshipping Him, adoring Him, proclaiming Him.
 - Spending time with Him, in His body, in fellowship, gathered together in unity, serving Him.

- God blesses us because of His grace, and because of His mercy to us. We don't earn any of His blessings towards us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 and many other scriptures make that very clear.

- People will at times go to church, almost with an entitlement mentality, an expectancy of God's blessing – and there is good reason for that.
- But there are some who slouch back in their seats, and in an apathetic kind of way say to God in a sense "*fine, I'm here, impress me.*"
- The priests and the people in the Old Testament went to the Tabernacle or Temple for specific reasons but it wasn't always to receive.
 - ❖ They went to serve, and to offer their tithes and their sacrifices
 - ❖ They went to offer their worship and prayers
 - ❖ They went to hear the voice of God
 - ❖ They went simply to be in His presence.
- **So often in God's economy, receiving is a bi-product of giving.**
- Kind of like when Jesus said:

Matthew 16:25 "For whoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it.."

Mark 10:31 "But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

- We need to approach God with an attitude of giving, not of receiving – come to church to bless and to praise, not necessarily to receive.
- Give Him your heart, your attention, your worship, your mind, your time, and strength, your service.
- The blessing will come as a by-product of our giving.
- Not a pitch for tithes or offerings, but it's an opportunity to give of yourself. There is a lot of needs / opportunity in children's ministry and in the nursery, there is a lot of opportunity and need in the Radio Ministry, cleaning the church, maintenance, etc.

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- We have God breathing life into His church as a rushing mighty wind fills not just on the house – but upon and filling the people in it.
- Jesus said that He would build His church, and here we see Him doing just that.



The Spirit has come:

- The Holy Spirit had been active prior to Pentecost. We see Him working in creation, hovering over, moving upon the face of the waters. **Genesis 1:1-2**
- We see the Holy Spirit in Old Testament history:

Judges 6:34 “But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon...”

1 Samuel 16:13 “... and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward...”

- Going through the Gospels we’ve seen the Holy Spirit working in the life and ministry of Jesus beginning at His conception:

Luke 1:35 “And the angel answered and said unto her, the Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.”

Luke 4:1 “And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.”

- There are many other references to the Holy Spirit operating during this time, but now there would be a change in how He would operate, a different dispensation.
- The Spirit would dwell in people and not just come on them, and His presence would be permanent, not temporary.

John 14:16-17 “¹⁶And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”

V: 3 John the Baptist, the greatest of all the Old Testament prophets prophesied of this event:

Matthew 3:11 “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.”

- Jesus said that this would involve power – the power of God – the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

Acts 1:8 “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

“Each of them...” meaning not just the Apostles, but all the disciples present.

V: 4 **“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”** (directed them)

- While the mighty rushing wind, and the cloven tongues of fire are never seen again that way, the gift of tongues appears repeatedly in the book of Acts.
- “Other tongues” in Greek is “glossolalia”(G1100), meaning a tongue that is unknown to the person who is speaking.
- Though they themselves did not understand, people from all over the world recognized their own languages and dialects, and marveled.
- The gift of tongues is totally contrary to our intellect. It would seem childish to utter sounds that we do not understand. But like all the other gifts, tongues is exercised through faith, as we are yielded to the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

“As the Spirit gave them utterance.” (directed them)

- Gift of tongues is just one of the Spiritual gifts,
- **Direction:** The gift or utterance of tongues is always directed to God.

1 Corinthians 14:2 “For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God,...”

Acts 2:11 “Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speak in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”

- **Purpose:** Edification.

1 Corinthians 14:4-5 “He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. ⁵I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.”

- One on one, God will use the gift of tongues to edify the individual; in a group setting the exercise of the gift of tongues will only edify if there is actual interpretation.

- **Effect:** - **to build our faith.** Building and strengthening faith.

Jude 20 “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.”

Romans 8:26-27 “²⁶Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷And He that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

- As the Holy Ghost came upon the disciples and they began to speak in tongues, we see the Holy Spirit guiding, speaking through the disciples - and the group, this public gathering is edified because there is interpretation.

Acts 2:11 “Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speak in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”

- As there was interpretation, what was being spoken gave glory to God!

V: 5 The Law required Jewish men who lived within 20 miles of Jerusalem to present themselves at each of the three major annual feasts. The Feast of Passover, the Feast of Tabernacles, and the Feast of Pentecost. Those who lived farther were to attend at least one feast a year. The population of Jerusalem increased dramatically during these times. These were those who were “devout,” who were obedient to the law, willing to travel great distances to obey their God.

“.... *every nation under heaven.*” Most likely refers to the known nations at that time, those under Roman rule, and those known to exist at that time as opposed to the American Indians, and the Incas, etc.

V: 6 “*When this sound occurred...*” (NKJV / NASB) That’s an attention getter, first the sound of a mighty rushing wind - then they look in the direction that it came from and all the people gathered at that location have flames of fire on top of their heads.

- The initial reaction is confusion on the part of those hearing what is being spoken by the Spirit through the gift of tongues. Shortly thereafter there is interpretation.
- That initial reaction was only momentary, they quickly realized that they were hearing different languages, then began to discern their own native language being spoken.

1 Corinthians 14:26-28 “²⁶... let all things be done unto edifying. ²⁷If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. ²⁸But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.”

1 Corinthians 14:40 Pentecostals / Baptists

V: 7-8 There are those present who can interpret, because of that interpretation they move from confusion to amazement.

- The Apostles and disciples are identified as Galileans. All the Apostles, and a good many of the disciples were from Galilee. Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus was the only Apostle from outside Galilee, he was a Judean - same tribe as Jesus.
- They are hearing them speak in their native tongues - not in some new language. It was simply new and un-known to the speaker. (**1 Corinthians 13:1**)

1 Corinthians 13:1 “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels...”

V: 9-10 A listing of those present, from all over.



Jews & Proselytes from “Every nation under heaven.” (Map)					
1	Parthians	N/W modern Iran / Persia	9	Phrygia	West central Asia Minor, part of Galatia
2	Medes	Eastern Iran / Persia	10	Pamphylia	Coastal region, Southern Asia Minor
3	Elamites	Southern Iran / Persia	11	Egypt	same as modern day
4	Mesopotamians	N/W Syria & Iraq - Assyrian - Babylonian	12	Libya	same as modern day
5	Judea	Israel / Judea	13	Cyrene	area between Egypt & Libya
6	Cappadocia	Central Asia Minor, along Euphrates, Turkey.	14	Rome	same as modern day
7	Pontius	N. Asia Minor, Black Sea	15	Cretes	same as modern day
8	Asia	Catch all rest of Turkey, Asia Minor	16	Arabians	same as modern day

- All Jews & proselytes, meaning converts. Luke gives us the locations so that we can appreciate the diversity and that it was not just a local phenomenon.
 - All hearing them speak in their own native tongue the wonderful works of God.
 - Another reason that the Holy Spirit through Luke gives us this list of countries / languages is that Pentecost is a reversal of the judgment at the Tower of Babel when God confused man’s language. (**Genesis 11:1-9**)
1. God’s judgment at Babel scattered the people, but God’s blessing at Pentecost united the believers in the Spirit.

2. At Babel, the people were unable to understand each other; but at Pentecost, men heard God's praises and understood what was said.
 3. The tower at Babel was a scheme designed to praise men and make a name for men, but, but Pentecost brought praise to God.
 4. The building of Babel was an act of rebellion, but Pentecost was a ministry of humble submission to God.
- Another reason for this list is that it points to the fact that the Gospel was and is for the whole world.
 - God truly is not willing that any should perish, that all should come to repentance (**2 Peter 3:9**), and He comes to us where we are the way we are, in whatever language we need to hear it in.

V: 11 Interpretation: *“speaking... the wonderful works of God.”*

- Those that heard their own languages being spoken, what did they hear? They didn't hear preaching, nor teaching - they heard them worshipping and declaring the wonderful works of God.
- When the gift of tongues is being utilized, that which is spoken will always be directed to God and about God, giving Him glory for the great things He has done.

1 Corinthians 12:3 “Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.”

- Basically if someone is speaking in the Spirit, or speaking in tongues - there are limitations as to what will be communicated or said.

1 Corinthians 14:2 “For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God,...”

Psalms 150 “¹Praise ye the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power. ²Praise Him for His mighty acts: praise Him according to His excellent greatness. ³Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet: praise Him with the psaltery and harp. ⁴Praise Him with the timbrel and dance: praise Him with stringed instruments and organs. ⁵Praise Him upon the loud cymbals: praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals. ⁶Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord!”

Philippians 2:9-11 “⁹Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

V: 12 In light of V:13, these were seeking to understand.

Matthew 11:15 “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

- God seekers readily receive the wisdom of God:

James 3:17 “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

V: 13 Mockers & scoffers; those without understanding .

2 Peter 3:5 “For this they willingly are ignorant...”

Eli wasn't walking in the Spirit, and he drew the wrong conclusion:

1 Samuel 1:12-17 “¹²And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli marked her mouth. ¹³Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. ¹⁴And Eli said unto her, how long wilt thou be drunken? Put away thy wine from thee. ¹⁵And Hannah answered and said, no, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord. ¹⁶Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto. ¹⁷Then Eli answered and said, go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of Him.”

2 Samuel 6:12-23 David dancing before the Lord and Michel not understanding, drawing a wrong conclusion.

V: 14 “But Peter” – not “Simon”, but Peter.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- Peter is a new creature in Christ Jesus, the old man is gone, what we are seeing is the new Peter, filled with the Spirit and speaking the things of God with authority and power.
- He's gone from [Failure / denying Jesus](#), to [restoration](#), and [empowerment](#).

Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

“be this be known to you, and heed my words.”

- Peter steps out in front of a potentially hostile crowd and addresses them with the same authority and boldness that Jesus spoke with.

Matthew 7:28-29 “²⁸And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at His doctrine: ²⁹For He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”

- Peter is also modeling something else that Jesus did, and that we are called to do. (Oswald Chambers, My Utmost For His Highest – Sept. 2)

John 7:37-38 “³⁷In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. ³⁸He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”

Oswald Chambers - My Utmost for His Highest
September 2nd

The sacrament of sacrifice

He that believeth in Me, ... out of him shall flow.... **John 7:38.**

Jesus did not say—‘he that believeth in Me shall realize the blessing of the fullness of God,’ but—‘he that believeth in Me, out of him shall escape everything he receives.’ Our Lord’s teaching is always *anti*-self-realization. His purpose is not the development of a man; His purpose is to make a man exactly like Himself, and the characteristic of the Son of God is self-expenditure. If we believe in Jesus, it is not what we gain, but what He pours through us that counts. It is not that God makes us beautifully rounded grapes, but that He squeezes the sweetness out of us. Spiritually, we cannot measure our life by success, but only by what God pours through us, and we cannot measure that at all.

When Mary of Bethany broke the box of precious ointment and poured it on Jesus’ head, it was an act for which no one else saw any occasion; the disciples said it was a waste. But Jesus commended Mary for her extravagant act of devotion, and said that wherever His gospel was preached “this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.” Our Lord is carried beyond Himself with joy when He sees any of us doing what Mary did, not being set on this or that economy, but being abandoned to Him. God spilt the life of His Son that the world might be saved; are we prepared to spill out our lives for Him?

“He that believeth in Me out of him shall flow rivers of living water,” that is, hundreds of other lives will be continually refreshed. It is time now to break the life, to cease craving for satisfaction, and to spill the thing out. Our Lord is asking who of us will do it for Him?

V: 14 As Peter addressed the crowd, he does so in the common tongue of the day, Aramaic, as opposed to preaching in tongues.

V: 15 3rd hour of the day: 9 AM. These men aren't drunk!

1 Thessalonians 5:7 “For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.”

- After dismissing the mockers accusation or conjecture that they were drunk he turns his message to their question - “what does all this mean?”

V: 16 Referring to the disciples speaking in tongues & Pentecost – verses 17-21 are quoting **Joel 2:28-32**

- Peter's response is one of explanation & instruction. He didn't give them his opinion, he gave them a scriptural reference. This is the fulfillment of Joel
- Much of what is practiced in the church today is done so apart from any spiritual or scriptural foundation.
- There are those who say that “God is not limited by His Word.” Which you could argue either way. God is limited in the sense that He will not contradict His Word, in another isn't limited by His Word because God is God; He's not limited by anything.
- Some also say, “God is greater than His Word.” This is also true.
- All that being said, God has chosen to reveal to us all that is necessary for life and godliness within His Word. He has chosen to limit His work to that which He has revealed.
- If we declare and believe that the Bible is God's Word, and the final authority for all faith and practice, then the Bible must be the standard by which we determine truth, it is also the guide by which we practice that truth.
- So when the Bible sets guidelines for the spiritual gifts, or any other aspect of life, then the church must allow the Word of God to be the final authority and guide.

- We / the church cannot allow our emotions or experience to be the final authority, there will be no end to it.
- Litmus: did Jesus teach about it? Did the church of acts practice it? Do the epistles instruct us? (Scriptural basis)
- Notice that Peter didn't have a Bible in his hand like we do today, he didn't unroll one of those cumbersome Torah scrolls - being guided by the Spirit he simply spoke.

Jesus said:

John 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

1 Peter 3:15 "But sanctify the Lord God in our hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear;"

V: 17 The last days? The dark days leading up to the great tribulation, or the tribulation itself? Long and short term fulfillment.

- Prophecy is being fulfilled before their very eyes. (120 men & women)

Isaiah 44:3 "For I will pour water on him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring;"

- Jesus described the outpouring of the Spirit in the life of a believer:

John 7:38 "He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

V: 18 Prophecy will be a particular end times gift of the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 Diversities in the gifts of the Spirit, listed.

- Prophecy is speaking forth the Word of God, whether in a futuristic / predictive sense, because only God knows the future, or as it is already given to us in the Bible. In either event true prophecy will not contradict the Bible because God does not contradict Himself.

Matthew 24:11 "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many."

1 John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

V: 19 The last of the last days described

Revelation 6:12-17 “¹²And I beheld when He had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; ¹³And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. ¹⁴And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. ¹⁵And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; ¹⁶And said to the mountains and rocks, fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”

V: 20 Sun being turned into darkness; possibly a solar eclipse, or smoke or dust covering it as with volcanic eruptions.

- The moon being turned to blood: much talk about blood moons.
- This year there have been and will be a total of three “blood moons” all of which correspond with Jewish feasts.
 1. April 4, 2015 [Passover](#)
 2. September 13, [Rosh Hashanah \(Trumpets\)](#), a partial blood moon.
 3. September 28, [Sukkoth, Booths / Tabernacles](#).

V: 21 “It shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” God’s grace in Joel and now.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Romans 10:13 “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

V: 17-21 In context, this promise was for the last days, and Joel actually carries it through the great tribulation period right into the second coming of Christ.

- So the empowering of the Holy Spirit was not limited to just a short period of church history - it didn’t cease - but it continues throughout church history right up to the 2nd coming again of Jesus Christ.

- Those known as “ceasasionists” who say the gifts ceased with the apostles are wrong.

V: 22 **“Men of Israel, hear these words...”** – authority.

- Having given them a scriptural basis to understand what they are seeing - having answered their question as to what does this mean - now he begins to preach the Gospel to them in fulfillment of **Acts 1:8**.

Acts 1:8 “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

“Jesus of Nazareth...”

- Identifying Jesus. Jesus was a common name - this Jesus of “Nazareth...” specifically.

“Approved of God...” – attested to by the Father.

Jesus' baptism:

Matthew 3:17 “And lo a voice from heaven, saying, “this is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Mt. transfiguration:

Matthew 17:5 “While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, “this is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him!”

John 12:28 “Father, glorify Thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.”

- There were Old Testament prophets who at times did various miracles, healing the sick, raising the dead, stopping and starting the rain, and my personal favorite, calling fire down from heaven.
- There was over 400 years of a spiritual drought, a demarcation of sorts to draw the distinction.
- When Jesus appeared on the scene He didn't just heal a few people, or raise a single person, or make it rain. He healed multitudes, He raised the dead who were de-composed, He stopped the violent storm in the middle of it – He demonstrated power over nature, men, and the universe in not just dramatic fashion, but in sheer overwhelming numbers like no other prophet ever before.

John 10:25 “Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me.”

John 10:37-38 “³⁷If I do not do the works of My Father, believe Me not. ³⁸But if I do, though ye believe not Me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.”

- Even Jesus’ enemies acknowledged the works and miracles that He was doing.

John 11:47-48 “⁴⁷Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, what do we? For this man doeth many miracles. ⁴⁸If we let Him thus alone, all men will believe on Him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.”

John also wrote:

John 21:25 “And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.”

- Demonstrating His power over nature: He calmed the storm.

Mark 4:39 “Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, Peace, be still! And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.”

Psalm 46:10 “Be still, and know that am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

- [Faith is not produced by miracles, signs, and wonders: it is the product of God’s Word.](#)

Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

John 8:30-32 “³⁰As He spoke these words, many believed on Him. ³¹Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, if ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; ³²And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

V: 23 “*Him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God...*” This was no fluke or coincidence.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 “³For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

- Speaking of God’s prophetic plan from the beginning of time.

Genesis 3:15 “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel.”

Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” (God with us.)

- Job laments that there is no one to act as a go between or mediator between a Holy God and sinful men.

Job 9:33 “Neither is there any daysman / mediator betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both.”

- “Delivered” – like a baby is delivered.

Isaiah 9:6 “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 35:5-6 “⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.”

Psalms 22 / Isaiah 52-53

- All of this to say that this was no accident, but a carefully thought out and crafted plan for our redemption from the beginning of time.

“Lawless hands” – Peter is speaking to the Jews, not to the Romans.

John 18:12-24, a parallel account, the account of Jesus “trial” at the hand of the Jews.

- Jewish law required that a trial be conducted during day light hours so that all could see.
- The Sanhedrin was already assembled in the middle of the night. Night court. Rooster’s crow starting at about 3-4 AM.
- This was a violation of the law and contrary to God’s word which forbids judgment or trials between sunset and sunrise. **Isaiah 29:15**
- This was done in secret to keep the people from finding out until the timing was right.

Matthew 26:65 “Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold now ye have heard His blasphemy.”

- The High Priest tore his clothes. Either because of his grief concerning blasphemy, or was it out of jubilation at having come up with a charge?
- In either event, it was unlawful for a High Priest to tear his clothes in the traditional expression of grief as others did.

Leviticus 21:10 “And he that is high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes;”

- False witnesses: **Matthew 26:59-60** as opposed to Leviticus

Deuteronomy 17:6 Jewish law required that there be two or three witnesses that agreed as to the charge before anyone could be put to death.

Deuteronomy 19:16-19 Dealing with false witnesses.

- Prisoners were not supposed to be beat up / struck prior to being found guilty.
- All of this describes or proves the wicked and unlawful hand of the Jews, not to the Romans.

V: 24 *Jesus's stint in the grave was very short lived - pun intended.*

- *Peter moves to the heart of the Gospel - the resurrection.*
- *Not only does he introduce the resurrection of Jesus, Peter also declares that it was not possible for Him to be held by death.*
- *Why was it impossible that Jesus should be held by death? God said He would raise Him from the dead. God's Word is going to stand!*
- *If God has declared it, then indeed it shall be. God keeps His Word!*

John 10:17-18 “¹⁷Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again. ¹⁸No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.”

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death...”

- Jesus never sinned, so death had no power over Him!

1 Corinthians 15:55 “O Death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory?”

- Peter is sharing the Gospel with this crowd, and he’s speaking of the resurrection, the central point of the Gospel.
- Just as Peter gave them a scriptural basis for their previous question, he will give them a scriptural basis for the resurrection from Psalm 16.

V: 25-28 Peter quotes King David directly from **Psalm 16:8-11**, who prophesied the resurrection of the Messiah.

V: 29-30 “Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you...” Peter is relating to them and he’s making a personal appeal for them to listen and consider, he is seeking to reason with them.

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”

- Peter is explaining that David was not speaking of himself, but that he was prophesying of the Messiah to come, and that Jesus is the One that David spoke of.
- David is dead and buried; he’s not the one this prophecy speaks of, you can see his tomb.

Psalm 132:11 “The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; He will not turn from it; of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.”

1 Chronicles 17:11-14 “¹¹And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish His kingdom. ¹²He shall build me an house, and I will stablish His throne for ever, ¹³I will be His Father, and He shall be My Son: and I will not take my mercy away from Him, as I took it from him that was before thee: ¹⁴But I will settle Him in Mine house and in My Kingdom for ever: and His throne shall be established for evermore.”

- There is certainly a dual fulfillment of this at least in part as it refers to Solomon, that would be the short term and partial fulfillment. But the long term and complete fulfillment can only happen through the Messiah, the Son of David, Jesus Himself.

V: 31 Peter has been describing the prophecy of David concerning the resurrection of the Messiah / Jesus which started in V: 25.

Psalm 16:10 “For Thou wilt not leave My soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.”

- Peter is pointing out this Messianic Psalm which only finds its fulfillment in Jesus, not in David personally. David understood this in a prophetic sense and he placed his faith in it, he trusted the Lord more because of it.

Psalm 49:15 “But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me.”

- There is a dual fulfillment of this as another Messianic psalm and to David personally.

V: 32 Peter is saying that he / they are eye witnesses of the resurrection – solid evidence.

- He is making this statement to a group of people who could easily access a number of witnesses, of which there were many.

1 Corinthians 15:3-6 “³For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures. ⁵And that He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶After that, He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.”

V: 32-33 “This Jesus hath God raised up...” God the Father is taking credit for having raised Jesus from the dead.

Jesus also takes credit:

John 10:17-18 “¹⁷Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again. ¹⁸No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.”

The Holy Spirit is also given credit:

Romans 8:11 “But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

- Peter’s declaring that he himself and the others with him are in fact also eye witnesses.

- This is part of what they are seeing, the effect of having seen the risen Lord, now they are testifying, they are literally on fire for the Lord and it shows.
- Here we see all three parts of the Trinity present in this passage; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.
- We don't ever see the word "Trinity" spelled out specifically, but we do see it described in many passages.

1 John 5:7 "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are One."

V: 33 Jesus didn't just walk over and sit down so to speak, he was "**exalted**" to the right hand of God.

- "Exalted" (G5312) – hupsoo; to elevate (lit. or fig.):--exalt, lift up; to raise to the very summit of opulence and prosperity.

Philippians 2:9-11 ⁹Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Hebrews 10:12 "But this Man, after that He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God."

"He shed forth this / He poured out this which you now see and hear."

- Jesus, being seated on the throne of God, from that location – is powerful and able.
- This is "**The promise of the Holy Spirit.**" spoken of by the Prophet Joel that we talked about, which Jesus also taught about.

(Turn to:)

John 14:16-18, 26 ¹⁶And I will pray the **Father**, and He shall give you another **Comforter**, that He may abide with you forever; ¹⁷Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."

²⁶But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

- That is exactly what we are reading about here in Acts, these are not Peter's carefully crafted words, this powerful oration did not originate in or with Peter, this is the fruit of the spirit coming out just as Jesus said it would.

V: 34-35 David was great, but he did not ascend up into heaven. He is dead and buried.

- The Greek word for "hell" is "Hades", it's a word that speaks of the grave, but it also describes a place of torment. It is the same as the OT Hebrew word "Sheol", which is sometimes translated "grave" or "hell," - a place of eternal torment.
- Prior to the death and resurrection of Jesus hell was divided up into two distinct compartments; one a place of torment, the other a paradise, a place of comfort, a waiting place.

Luke 16:19-31 Lazarus & rich man, Abraham's bosom, OT believers.

Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

Ephesians 4:8-10 "8Wherefore he saith, when He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. 9Now that He ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things."

Matthew 16:18 "And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock (confession) I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

"34... *the LORD said unto my Lord...*"

- Quoting David - "**LORD**" / YHVH (tetragrammaton), Yahweh / Jehovah, the unspeakable name of God.
- "Lord" "Adonai" – meaning Lord, master, teacher.

(Turn to:)

Matthew 22:41-46 As Jesus was confronting the Pharisees, Peter was listening and learning.

- The Pharisees couldn't / wouldn't answer Jesus' question. Peter / we know that David had been given the promise of God that the Messiah would come from his

lineage. No father ever called his son “Lord” - it wasn’t proper, unless your descendant would be the Messiah!

Luke 1:46-55 (Magnificat) Mary was very much in the same place, her Son was the Son of God and her Lord, and Savior.

Vv:30 2 Samuel 7:12-13, 1 Chronicles 17:11-14

- This was long before the prophecies of Isaiah.

“Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

- Peter is quoting **Psalm 110:1**
- Jesus declares the same thing (seated at the right hand of God the Father) in **Matthew 26:63-64, Mark 16:19, Romans 8:34, and Revelation 3:21.**
- There is a coming day when Jesus will reign in power and authority, and be utterly victorious.
- The Romans and the Persians were constantly at war with each other. Later as the Roman empire was in decline the Roman Emperor Domitian (Domitian persecuted the Christians) was captured by the Persians and brought to the court of Xerxes. Whenever Xerxes wanted to ride his horse, Domitian was stripped naked and forced to kneel down on all fours before the king’s horse, then Xerxes would use Domitian as a foot stool to mount his horse.
- This describes absolute victory and subjugation, which is what Jesus will achieve.

V: 36 No pulling punches here, *“this Jesus whom you crucified”* is both Lord and Christ.

- Peter has given them proof from the Bible, citing Messianic scriptures that they would be familiar with, and which Jesus fulfilled.
- Jesus, Lord, and Christ, or He is commonly know to some as Lord, Jesus, Christ.
 1. Lord: Adonai, master.
 2. Jesus: Yeshua; “Jehovah or Yahweh is Salvation.
 3. Christ: Meshiak, anointed as in the anointed One.
- Peter is not blaming the Romans, he is placing responsibility squarely upon the nation of Israel - which they had accepted.

Matthew 27:25 “Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.”

V: 37 “*They were pricked in their heart*” – They had come to the same conclusion that we should all come to, that is that we are personally responsible for crucifying Jesus Christ.

- The straight up hard core preaching of the Word of God that pierces hearts!

Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

2 Timothy 4:2-4 “²Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴And they shall turn away their hearts from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”

- Here we see the Holy Spirit at work, coming along side and convicting of sin:

John 16:8 “And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.”

Hebrews 4:12 “For the Word of God is quick (alive) and powerful, sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Over view of Peter’s sermon thus far:

1. Peter presented Jesus; everyone knew who He was and of His miracles.
 2. He presented the resurrection of Jesus, witnessed by many.
 3. He presented prophesy / scriptures that Jesus fulfilled.
 4. He presented the Holy Spirit who was sent of God.
- The result of this straight forward preaching was salvation for many!
 - There is another day when the nation will be confronted with their sin, it will be a day of awakening for the Jewish people. There is a dual fulfillment of this prophesy: One in the book of Acts, the next upon Jesus’ return.

Zechariah 13:6 “And one shall say unto Him what are these wounds in thine hands? Then He shall answer, those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.”

- There are only two responses when we are confronted with sin.
 1. Repentance.
 2. Rationalization.

- Here we see the desire for repentance, elsewhere (**Acts 5:33, 7:54**) they were “*cut to the heart*” and sought to kill the messenger – kind of like all the prophets...
- When Peter began to address them in **V: 29** he said “*men and brethren...*”, now they respond in the same way “*men and brethren...*” - the Holy Spirit has put them on the same page!
- In asking what they should do, there is a submissive spirit, a desire to do the right thing, and a need for instruction and direction.

V: 38 They asked “**what shall we do?**” - And Peter’s first response is “*repent*” which is the first step towards salvation.

“*Repent*” (G3340) metanoeo, met-an-o-eh'-o; to forsake our sin, to move in the opposite direction, to think differently, i.e. reconsider, to change one’s mind, to heartily amend with abhorrence of one’s past sins.

Proverbs 8:13 “*The fear of the Lord is to hate evil:...*”

Zodiates: denoting change of place or direction, to exercise the mind, think, comprehend. To repent, change the mind, relent. Theologically, it involves regret or sorrow, accompanied by a true change of heart toward God.

- This is distinguished from *metamélomai* (G3338), to regret.
- True repentance involves Godly sorrow about our own sin.

2 Corinthians 7:10 “*For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.*”

- Peter wept bitterly over his sin of denying Jesus, he was truly grieved - he eventually ended up being restored. Judas Iscariot was sorry, he regretted what he’s done with a worldly sorrow and ended up hanging himself.
- Peter then gives them the 2nd step: Be baptized “in” the name of Jesus Christ, is the same as making a public statement of faith.

“*And be baptized every one of you...*”

This is not anything new:

Matthew 28:19 “*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*”

- Peter is not suggesting that baptism will save them “baptismal regeneration.”

Romans 10:9-10 “⁹That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Peter later teaches:

1 Peter 3:21 “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus.”

- When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we receive the testimony of the Holy Spirit – the Holy Spirit then comes to live within us.

1 Corinthians 3:16 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

2 Corinthians 6:16 “And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

V: 39 The promise (the gift of the Holy Spirit) is to us and our descendants, those that are afar off.

- This is one of the scriptures that refutes cessationism.

Exodus 20:5b-6 “^{5b}... for I, the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; ⁶And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments.”

Romans 10:13 “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Joel 2:28, 32 “²⁸And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and our daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.” - “³²And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered:..”

V: 40 Peter is testifying and exhorting – encouraging.

“Save yourselves from this “untoward / perverse / crooked generation”

“Save” = “sozo”; (G4982) - To save, make whole, preserve from danger

- Don't do what they are doing, separate yourself, come out from among them!
- Church = ecclesia, called out ones.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 “¹⁴Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? ¹⁶And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹⁷Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, ¹⁸and will be a Father unto you and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

- Ecclesia / called out ones...

1 Peter 2:9 “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

V: 41 Those who gladly or readily received the Word / Logos, were baptized. The miracle didn't produce faith, the miracle pointed to the messenger who presented the Word which then produced faith.

Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Romans 10:17 “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

1 Corinthians 12:3 “... no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.”

Jesus said:

John 6:44 “No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him:...”

- Peter is preaching on Pentecost and 3,000 get saved.
- When the Law came down, 3000 died.

Exodus 32:28 “And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.”

- But when the Spirit came down, fell upon the church - 3,000 got saved.

John 1:17 “For the Law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

V: 42 “*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*”

- This is a blue print for the church! The early church placed a big emphasis on the teaching of the Word of God. Sadly in many churches this emphasis has been lost today.

Doctrine:

Joshua 1:8 “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all this is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Psalm 1:1-3 “¹Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. ²But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. ³And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

Psalm 19:7-11 “⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. ⁸The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. ⁹The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰More to be desired are thy than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. ¹¹Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”

Psalm 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “¹⁶All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Psalm 119:18 “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”

Fellowship: Koinonia (Only between believers...)

Amos 3:3 “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”

Hebrews 10:25 “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

1 Peter 2:5 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 2:19-22 “¹⁹Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; ²⁰and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; ²¹In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: ²²In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Ephesians 4:3-6 “³Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all, through all, and in you all.”

Romans 12:4-5 “⁴For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: ⁵So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.”

Breaking of bread: Communion / remembering or Lord's sacrifice:

Matthew 26:26-30, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:19-20 “Do this in remembrance of me...”

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 “²³For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread: ²⁴And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me. ²⁵After the same manner also he took the cup, when He had supped saying, this cup is the new testament in My blood: this do ye, as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me. ²⁶For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come.”

Prayer:

Matthew 6:5-7 “⁵And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily they have their reward. ⁶But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. ⁷And when thou pray, use not vain

repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.”

Luke 11:1 “And it came to pass, that, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, one of His disciples said unto Him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”

James 5:16 “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

Philippians 4:6-7 “⁶Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

V: 43 “fear” (G5401) “phobos”; generally - fear, dread, terror. In a moral sense – fear, reverence, respect, honor.

- As a result of their steadfast commitment to the apostles’ doctrine, fellowship, communion, and prayer, there was a true fear of God in the hearts of the people.
- Perhaps it’s due to the lack of those same things today that there is a prevalent lack of fear for God in our culture and society today.

Proverbs 8:13 “The fear of the Lord is to hate evil...”

- Cause and effect: the fear of the Lord led to many signs and wonders being done through the Apostles.

Acts 2:22 “Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know.”

V: 44-45 The early church entered into a communal sort of living arrangement wherein they shared with each other what they had.

- True love, agape love, is a love that shares. We are called to share for sure, but not necessarily to give all we have to a communal pot.

John the Baptist:

Luke 3:7, 10-11 “⁷Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?” - “¹⁰And the people asked him, saying, what shall we do then? ¹¹He

answereth and saith unto them, he that hath two coats, let him impart to him that none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.”

V: 46 They continued “daily” - not content with a just a once or twice a week routine.

- Unity in the spirit, one accord.

Amos 3:3 “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”

Psalm 133:1 “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

- Meeting in the Temple, meeting from house to house, enjoying food and fellowship - like our home fellowship.

V: 47 Praising God, thanking God - God giving them favor, and adding to the church as He will.

Jesus said:

Matthew 16:18 “I will build My church;...” And He does!