

Acts Chapter Two (HCSB)

1 When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place. **2** Suddenly a sound like that of a violent rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were staying. **3** And tongues, like flames of fire that were divided, appeared to them and rested on each one of them. **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.

5 There were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** When this sound occurred, a crowd came together and was confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. **7** And they were astounded and amazed, saying,^[a] “Look, aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? **8** How is it that each of us can hear in our own native language? **9** Parthians, Medes, Elamites; those who live in Mesopotamia, in Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking the magnificent acts of God in our own languages.” **12** They were all astounded and perplexed, saying to one another, “What could this be?” **13** But some sneered and said, “They’re full of new wine!”

Peter’s Sermon

14 But Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them: “Men of Judah and all you residents of Jerusalem, let me explain this^[b] to you and pay attention to my words. **15** For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it’s only nine in the morning.^[c] **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.

19
I will display wonders in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below:
blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.

20
The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the great and remarkable Day of the Lord
comes.

21
Then everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.^[d]
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. **23** Though He was delivered up
according to God’s determined plan and
foreknowledge, you used^[e] lawless people^[f] to
nail Him to a cross and kill Him. **24** God raised
Him up, ending the pains of death, because it
was not possible for Him to be held by it. **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 me 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.^[g]

29 “Brothers, I can confidently speak to you
about the patriarch David: He is both dead and
buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.
30 Since he was a prophet, he knew that God
had sworn an oath to him to seat one of his
descendants^[h]^[i] on his throne. **31** Seeing this in
advance, he spoke concerning the resurrection of
the Messiah:

He^[j] was not left in Hades,
and His flesh did not experience decay.^[k]

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 declared to my Lord,
'Sit at My right hand

35

until I make Your enemies Your footstool.'^[1]

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

37 When they heard this, they came under deep conviction^[m] 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 Christ 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,^[n] 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^[o] generation!”

41 So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about 3,000 people were added to them. **42** And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to the prayers.

43 Then fear came over everyone, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. **44** Now all the believers were together and held all things in common.

45 They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as anyone had a need.^[p] **46** Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with a joyful and humble attitude,

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved.

Teaching Notes:

Introduction:

A great many scholars believe that Acts chapter two describes the circumstances surrounding the _____ of the _____.

We can divide the chapter into three distinct _____, each with its own _____.

Unit 1 (verses 1-13): A Sign

A. The believers were _____, but they were _____ in _____ place

B. Something _____ happened.

C. The believers were _____ by the _____.

D. The Holy Spirit moved with _____.

E. There were two responses to the Holy Spirit: _____ and _____.

F. The Day of Pentecost was a _____ called _____ which was a festival that celebrated the _____ of the wheat harvest. (Matthew 3:11-13; Luke 3:16-17) (Parable of the Sower: Matthew 13:1-43) (Satan desires to sift us like wheat Luke 22:31-34)

G. From the beginning, the _____ of the church was intended for every _____ under heaven.

Unit 2 (verses 14-36): A Message

A. Peter uses the _____ and the _____ of others as an _____ to share the _____ message.

B. There is an _____ no matter how someone responds to a _____ of the Holy Spirit.

C. The focus is not on the _____. The focus is the _____ from God.

D. An _____ sign is never as valuable as the _____ working of the Holy Spirit. However, the Spirit is definitely sent to produce _____.

E. Those who received Peter's message were _____ and they asked the apostles a very important question.

F. Peter told them that they must _____ and be _____ for he forgiveness of the their _____.

G. Those who repent and are baptized would receive the promised _____.

Unit 3 (verses 37-47): A Church

A. Those who received Peter's message were _____ and they asked the apostles a very important question.

B. Peter told them that they must _____ and be _____ for he forgiveness of the their _____.

C. Peter said that those who repent and are baptized would receive the _____ of the _____.

D. The first believers devoted themselves to four things: _____, _____, and _____.

E. The life of full hearted devotion that the early believers experienced produced both _____ and _____ growth.

Discussion Questions:

Acts 2: 1-13

1.) Acts 2 begins saying, "When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place." How valuable is it that Christians come together and why is it valuable?

2.) What would you have felt if you were present when God sent His Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? How would you have responded to the miracle?

Acts 2:14-36

1.) Peter proclaimed that Jesus was both Lord and Messiah. He also urged them to be "saved from this corrupt generation. Peter's message still relevant today? Why or why not?

2.) Those who heard Peter's message were convicted of their sin and their need for a savior. What does conviction of sin feel like? How is confession and repentance an appropriate response to conviction? Is conviction, confession, and repentance still necessary?

3.) A pre-requisite is a requirement before something can happen. Why do you think repentance and baptism are described as a pre-requisites for receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit?

4.) How might your life change if you engaged in confession and repentance more often?

Acts 2:37-47

1.) The first Christians devoted themselves to four things. What were those four things and why do you think they devoted themselves to them. (See verses 43-47 for help.)

2.) Is it possible to devote ourselves to these four things today? What are some obstacles to full-hearted devotion to Christ and His Church?

3.) What changes would you make in your personal life in order to devote yourself more to the things of God?