



---

## THE FIRST SERMON – ACTS 2:14-36

### GETTING STARTED

The coming of the Holy Spirit came with many amazing gifts, speaking in other languages, tongues of fire resting over the disciple's heads, but one of the most amazing is seeing a coward like Peter suddenly declare in front of thousands of people the good news of Jesus! Only a few weeks earlier Peter was saying he had never met Jesus, now he will declare to a wondering crowd that Jesus is both the Messiah and the Lord! Peter preaches his very first sermon, and the first sermon of the Church as it now is established and lays the groundwork for what preaching is, namely it is empowered by the Holy Spirit, it is based on the Word of God and it reveals the glory of Jesus!

### READ THE TEXT: ACTS 2:1-13

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>15</sup> For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup> But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup> " 'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; <sup>18</sup> even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup> And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;



<sup>20</sup> the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. <sup>21</sup> And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.' <sup>22</sup> "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup> this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him, " 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; <sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' <sup>29</sup> "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup> Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, " 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, <sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies your footstool." ' <sup>36</sup> Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

## UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. What are the main points in Peter's sermon? How does he make these points?
2. What is the significance of Jesus being declared both the Lord and Christ in vs 36? How does that help us understand the rest of Peter's sermon?
3. How was the Holy Spirit active in the Old Testament? How does that change at Pentecost?

## APPLY THE TEXT



4. What difference does the Holy Spirit make in your life? How are you using his gifts?
5. In verse 35, Peter quotes from Psalm 110 (the most quoted Psalm in the NT!) which speaks of one day the enemies of Jesus being under his feet. How should we react to that promise? What should it encourage us to be doing now?

## **SHARE & PRAY**

1. As we study the book of Acts, think carefully about 1 or 2 people that you would like to actively share the gospel with. Share them with your life group and hold one another accountable in prayer and support.
2. In light of Acts 2:14-36, pray that God would fill each and every one of us with the Holy Spirit in order to use his gifts, and proclaim the good news of Jesus to our own hearts and to those around us.

