

A Sermon w/Power
Acts 2:36-37
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show the power behind Peter's sermon.

Intro:

1. The sermon that Peter presented on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 is a sermon that should still impact us today.
2. Whose sin did Christ carry on the cross?
3. What was the price He paid?

I. The sermon begins

A. Peter reminds them of Joel (**Acts 2:16-21**)

1. Peter quotes from Joel 2:28-32
2. This was an actual demonstration of the power the apostles had. They could now state positively that these Pentecostal events were specifically what Joel was prophesying. Peter now knows and says all of this by the power of the Holy Spirit.
3. Acts 2:17-20 – the prophesy
4. Acts 2:21 – the beginning of obedience

B. Jesus crucified by those who hated Him (**Acts 2:22-23**)

1. He demonstrated that Jesus was a man approved (shown to be what he claimed to be) Of God. This approval was confirmed and validated by miracles, wonders and signs.
 - a. "Miracles" is translated from the ordinary word for power. This shows how what was done was accomplished.
 - b. "Wonders" is used from the standpoint of the reaction of the people.
 - c. "Signs" may have indicated the purpose of the miracles.
2. This happened by the "determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God."
 - a. "Determinate" means by predetermined plan, or by God's set purpose or set plan.
 - b. "Foreknowledge" means that God knew what was going to happen before it happened. (How sad that premillennialists claim that God was surprised at how strong the rejection of Jesus was, and substituted the church for the kingdom!)
 - c. This word for "wicked" describes a violator of the law; he is lawless.
 - d. It was godless men who crucified and slew the Savior.

C. Jesus' resurrection (**Acts 2:24-28**)

1. Peter show's Christ's power over death.
2. The grave could not hold Christ, it could not conquer Christ instead, and Christ conquered the grave, it was Christ who conquered death! (**1 Cor 15:26**).
 - a. Christ conquered death and the faithful will as well when Christ's raises them from the dead (**1 Thess 4:16b**)

II. Peter's powerful conclusion of his lesson.

A. Christ is exalted (**Acts 2:29-35**)

1. **v.29-31** - were fulfilled when Christ died on the cross, rose three days later and then ascended to the right hand of God (Luke 24, Acts 1).
2. **v.32** – they, the apostles and all others who saw Christ after His resurrection, are all witnesses, eye witnesses.
3. **v.33-35** – what they see and hear is a result of fulfillment of prophecy and the promise of God.

B. Peter closes with boldness (**Acts 2:36**)

1. God made Jesus, whom they crucified, both Lord and Christ.
 - a. They, those standing there, were responsible for Christ dying on the cross.
 - b. They were guilty of the death of Christ.
2. Peter would continue preaching & teaching (**Acts 2:40**).

III. The response of the People (**Acts 2:37**)

A. 3000 responded (**Acts 2:41b**).

1. What did they do? (**Acts 2:38, 41a**)
2. How did they obey?
 - a. By receiving the word
 - b. By obeying it (including Baptism)
3. When did they act? **Immediately**
 - a. Acts 2:41a; **Acts 16:33b**

B. What did they do following obedience? (**Acts 2:42**)

1. Their obedience was NOT a one time act.
 - a. Baptism was not the finish line, it was the starting line.
 - b. The same is true today, obedience to the gospel is only the beginning.

Conc:

1. How should you respond?
2. Peter's sermon was a lesson that was aimed at the heart.
 - a. **Isaiah 53:4-5**
3. A changed person begins in the heart (**Acts 2:37a**) – “cut to the heart.
4. These individuals responded to the message in obedience.
5. How should you respond?

Hear

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Believe

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Repent

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Confess

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Be baptized

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.’

Remain Faithful

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.