



**Peter's Sermon!**  
**Acts 2:14; to 2:24;**

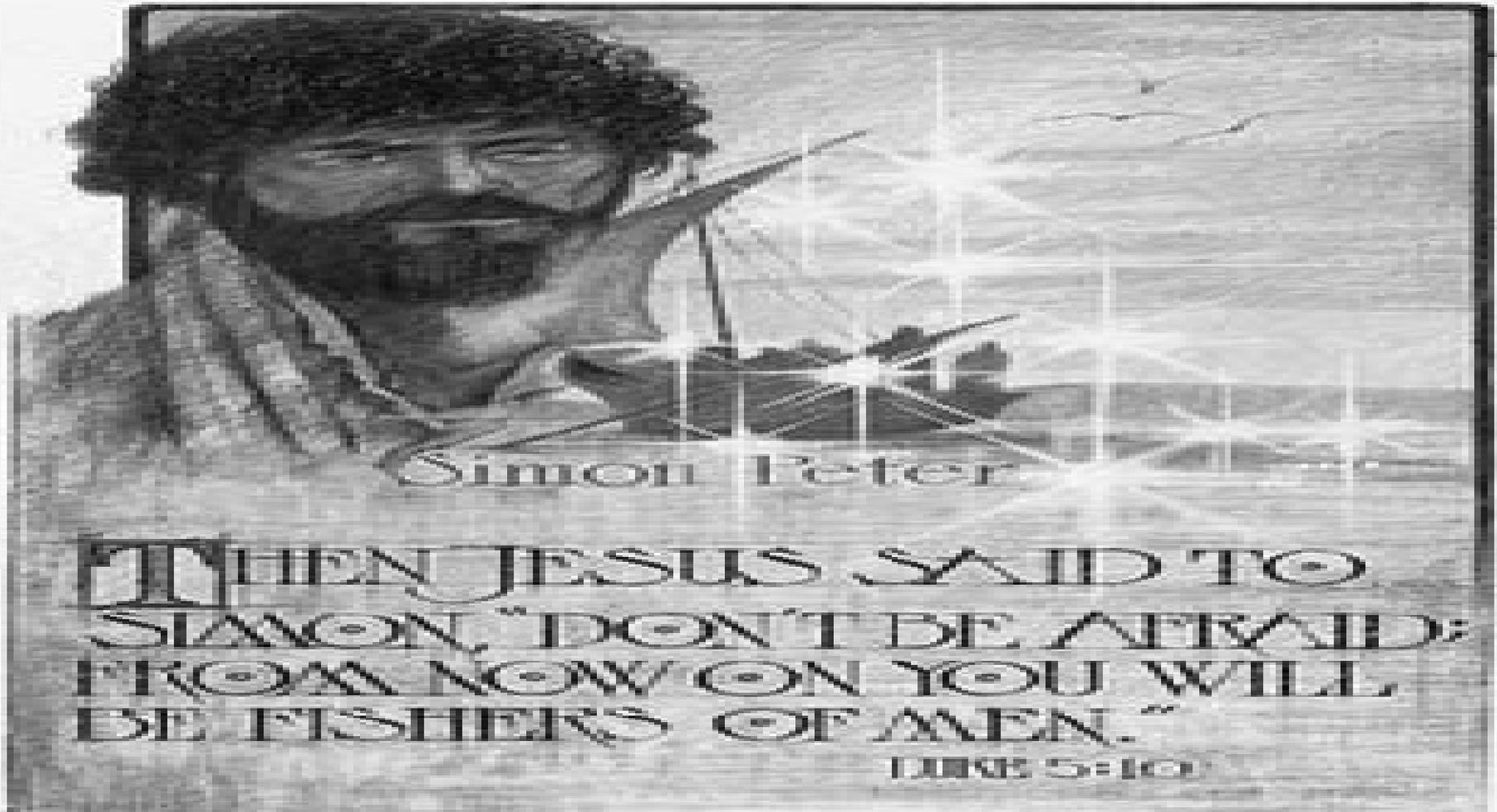
# Peter Takes Charge!



# SIMON PETER. 2:14-24;

Peter Takes Charge.

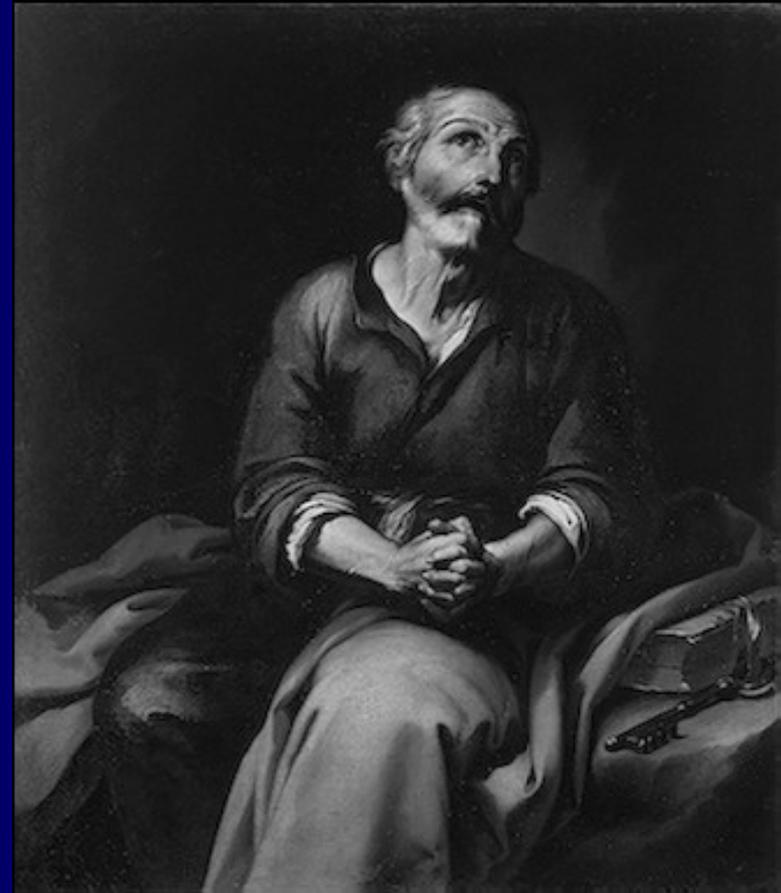
2:14-36; PETER BEGINS TO FISH.



# **SIMON PETER. 2:14-24;**

**Acts 2:14; “Then Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed them in a loud voice:- “Men of Judaea, and all you who live in Jerusalem, make no mistake about this, listen carefully to what I say.”**

**Leader of  
The Apostles.  
First among Equals.  
Gospel Preacher.  
Scripture Writer.  
Not the first Pope.**



## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;**

It had been **Peter** who had spoken up in chapter 1 regarding the necessity of appointing a replacement for Judas Iscariot.

Once again, he is acting as the leader of the apostles, speaking as their spokesman.

**These men had preached before.** This is not the first sermon that Peter had ever preached. He had been a part of an Israelite Mission Team.

He had gone out with many other disciples in a ministry of preaching and teaching and healing and casting out demons.

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;**

**But something new had happened.  
Jesus had instituted a NEW Covenant.  
One involving His own body and blood.**

**No longer would the presence of God  
as signified by a cloud or a pillar of fire come  
into a tabernacle or a temple in Jerusalem.**

**From now on, the spirit of God would reside  
in His LIVING temple - the church.**

# **SIMON PETER RECEIVES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;**

**Peter is preaching the new gospel of the New Covenant for the first time with keys. (authority.)**

**MATTHEW 16:19;**

**"I will give you the keys  
of the kingdom**

**of heaven;**

**And whatever you shall**

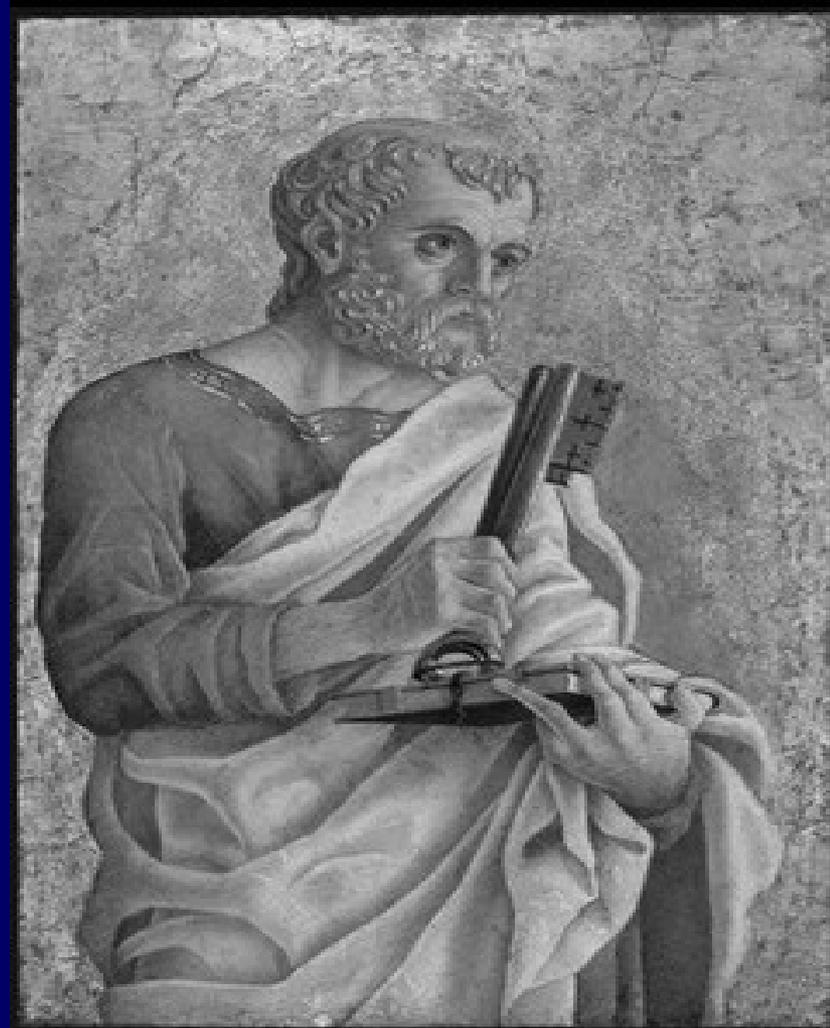
**bind on earth shall**

**Be bound in heaven,**

**and whatever you shall**

**loose on earth shall**

**be loosed in heaven."**



# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;**

**All the other apostles received  
the same instructions and authority.**

**See the context:-**

**Matt 18:1; “At this time the disciples came  
to Jesus and said, “Who is the greatest  
in the kingdom of Heaven?”**

**Matt 18:18; `In truth I tell you, whatever  
you bind on earth will be bound in heaven;  
whatever you loose on earth  
will be loosed in heaven.**

# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;

**JOHN 20:23;**  
"If you forgive  
the sins of any,  
*their sins* have been  
forgiven them;  
If you retain the *sins*  
of any, they have  
been retained."



**SIMON PETER RECEIVES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;**



# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-36;**

**The HOLY SPIRIT shows  
Peter's Message involves:-**

**Fulfillment of Prophecy.**

**“Last Days.”**

**Gifts of Revelation.**

**Heart of the Gospel.**

**The HOLY SPIRIT Through PETER  
Convicts the crowd  
of SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS and JUDGEMENT.**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-36;**

**This is a model sermon because  
it is a sermon full of Jesus.**

**The entire sermon revolves around  
and centres in Christ.**

**There are 40 nouns, i.e. 40 times  
Peter refers to Jesus one way or another.**

**14 TIMES Peter uses PRONOUNS referring  
to Jesus. He speaks of JESUS OF NAZARETH  
a name which EVERYONE had heard,  
and declares He was sealed by God.**



## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;**

**“14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd.”**

**"Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say."**

**“15 These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning!”**

# PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;

Peter is first ready to refute those who are making fun of him and the other apostles.



How many times we sin by just supposing things!  
How many times men reject  
the pure Gospel of Jesus  
by just simple suppositions without any basis.

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;**

Now Peter is the only apostle speaking.

**He probably spoke either Aramaic or Greek**  
which all Jews could understand  
as their second, if not their first language?

The three signs:- **The sound like a violent wind, the likeness of fire on the apostles, and the twelve were all Galileans.**

**Speaking fifteen or more languages, had attracted their attention and convinced most of them that Peter was speaking for God.**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;  
Peter spoke with INSPIRED REVELATION.**

**Revelation. (Rev 1:1;)**

**Inspiration. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-21;)**

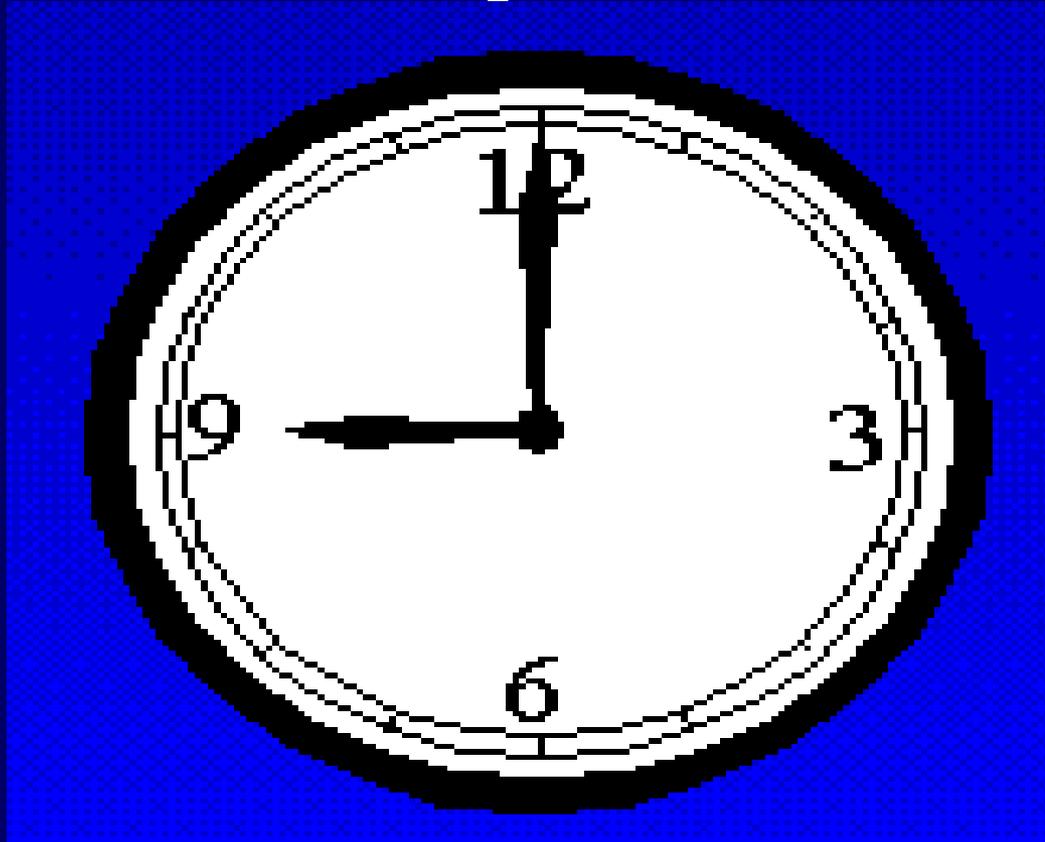
**Illumination. (1 Corinthians 2:6-16;)**

**Peter said WE ARE NOT DRUNK  
It is only the THIRD HOUR of the day.**

**Unusual to be drunk during daytime. 1 Thess 5:7;  
“For people who go to sleep, go to sleep at night;  
and people who get drunk, get drunk at night.”**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;**

**In verse 15 the N.I.V. says 9:00 in the morning.  
The KJV says the third hour.**



**The Jews measured time from daylight (i.e. 6:00 AM)  
and thus the third hour after 6:00 AM was 9:00.**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;**

**Barnes says “it was usual for the Jews NOT to eat or drink ANYTHING until AFTER the third hour of the day especially on main feasts such as Pentecost.”**

**Peters most convincing argument against being drunk was the stirring sermon he is about to deliver.**

**v14 “Pay CLOSE ATTENTION to my WORDS.”**

**Whatever God wants people to understand about salvation, He USUALLY communicates through WORDS.**



## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-15;**

Hear my words? That is how we understand each other **we put our thoughts into word form** and therefore we can communicate with each other

**God has always used human instruments to pass His word** unto all human kind!

Acts 11:14; “who will **speak words to you** by which you will be saved, you and all your household.”

Acts 8:35-36; “The eunuch addressed Philip and said, **Tell me**, is the prophet referring to himself or someone else? Starting, therefore, with this text of scripture Philip proceeded **to explain the good news of Jesus to him.**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:16-18;**

**Peter continues:- “16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:  
In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.”**

**“Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.”**

**“Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.”**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:16-18;**

Peter gives the **INSPIRED** interpretation  
of what the **CROWD SAW** and **HEARD**.

Peter gives the **REASON** why they received  
the gift of languages. It was a **FULFILLMENT**  
of a **PREDICTION** by the prophet **JOEL**.

Peter gives the **REASON! THIS IS THAT**  
**Spoken by** the prophet **JOEL**.  
**Joel 2:28-32;**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,  
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall  
prophecy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**According to verse 17,  
when did these “last days” start?  
When was the prophecy to be fulfilled?**

**“The SPIRIT to be POURED OUT  
in the LAST DAYS.”**

**Dan 2 Spoke about the kingdom of God  
being established in the LAST DAYS.**

**Heb 1:1-2; Speaks about “speaking  
through the SON in the LAST DAYS.”**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**Matt 16:15-19; Jesus** speaks about:-

“**BUILDING His Ekklesia** and giving Peter the **KEYS of the KINGDOM.**”

**This sermon is Peter using the KEY.**

**Therefore the Ekklesia, His Kingdom, His body was to be established and we are in that relationship and living in the LAST DAYS.**

**NO ONE** according to Jesus in Matt 24:36-44; **will KNOW** when the **LAST DAYS** will end except God the Father.

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

The following are **important points** to understand in the prophecy of **Joel 2:28-32;**

**“last days”:** The events about which **Joel 2** speaks would come to pass after

**Jesus Death Burial and Resurrection.**

In quoting this prophecy on the day of Pentecost, Peter interprets **“last days,”** to mean a reference to the last days of the Jewish Commonwealth.

**The promise** would be **fulfilled after** the return of the Jews from the dispersion of the Babylonian and Assyrian captivities. **It would take place during the end of God's special work with the nation of Israel.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

The prophecy was to find its **fulfillment after the captivities and after** the almost **four hundred years of "inspirational silence"** from the prophet **Malachi** to the days of **John the Immerser**.

During the **four hundred years** following the work of the prophet Malachi, there was **no inspired prophet** in Israel **until** the time of **Jesus and John**.

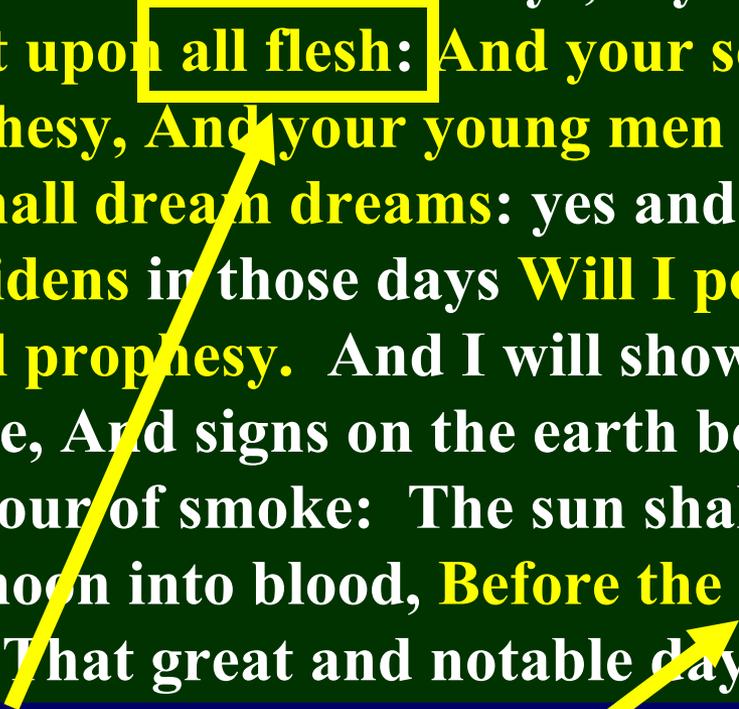
**The fulfillment** of this prophecy, therefore, **would mark the end of the inspirational period of silence**.

It would **also signify the beginning of the last days of the Jewish Commonwealth**.

# PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE JOEL 2.

Some will say Wasn't Holy Spirit baptism promised to **“all flesh?”** (Joel 2:28;) (Acts 2:17-18;)

**Acts 2:17-18;** " And it shall be in the last days, says God, **I will pour forth of My Spirit upon all flesh:** And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, And your young men shall see visions, And your old men shall dream dreams: yes and on My servants and on My handmaidens in those days **Will I pour forth of My Spirit; and they shall prophesy.** And I will show wonders in the heaven above, And signs on the earth beneath; Blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, **Before the day of the Lord** come, That great and notable day.



**ALL PEOPLE /ALL FLESH kjv**

**Notice also the Destruction of Jerusalem**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:16-18;**

In this **prophecy** by the Holy Spirit and **interpreted** by Peter, he said that the **SPIRIT** would be **POURED OUT** on **ALL FLESH**.

**“ALL FLESH”** Did he mean that **EVERY ONE** would receive the Pouring out of miraculous power?

Did he mean that **ALL HUMAN BEINGS** would receive miraculous power?

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**"All flesh":** It must first be understood that **"all flesh"** does not refer to believers and unbelievers.

**We do not understand this from the prophecy itself.**



Joel is not saying **[all]** meaning **everything** that **possesses a body of flesh and blood**, for this would include **dogs, snakes, and people like Hitler and Saddam Hussein.**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:14-24;**

**“ALL FLESH” ALL is determined by the context**

**John 12:32; “I will draw ALL men unto me”**

**Is Jesus saying that ALL will be saved? – NO!**

**Jesus meant that ALL classes and kinds of people would be drawn to Him.**

**Joel’s prophecy has a similar application**

**NOT ALL people but ALL classes**

**and kinds of people could share**

**in the miraculous gifts given by the Spirit.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**Joel's prophecy did not even mean**

**ALL Christians. 1 Cor 12:29-30;**

“29. Are all apostles? are all prophets?  
are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?

30. have all gifts of healings? do all speak  
with tongues? do all interpret?”

**DID ALL Christians IN THE EARLY CHURCH  
RECEIVE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.**

**Are ALL prophets? NO. Are ALL apostles? NO.**

**Are ALL teachers? NO.**

**Are ALL workers of miracles? NO.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

When we continue our study to the ministry and teachings of Jesus, the **"all flesh"** will be **narrowed down first to the apostles,** and then to **"those who believe."**

In other words, **the Spirit will first be poured out on the apostles.** Then **According to the will of the Spirit gifts will be available through the laying on of the apostles' hands, to all those who believe.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**“ALL FLESH”** Therefore **NOT ALL** but **ALL classes and kinds of people.**

**Jews** often thought in racial terms but **Paul** said Gal 3:28; **“neither JEW nor GREEK.”**

Some have used this prophecy to show that **the baptism of the Holy Spirit** was for **all** men and women, young and old.

But **what began with the baptism of the Holy Spirit on the apostles, when shared with others through the laying on of their hands, was an extension of the outpouring of the Spirit** and thus fulfilled the prophecy.

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,  
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall  
prophecy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**How Did God distribute the out pouring  
upon ALL FLESH in the 1st century.**

**First to APOSTLES. Acts 2:1-4;**

**THEN through the APOSTLES PREACHING.**

**(We receive indwelling HOLY SPIRIT, when we  
respond in faithful obedience to the gospel.)**

**THEN THROUGH the**

**LAYING ON OF THE APOSTLES HANDS.**

**(They passed on Miraculous gifts  
as the Holy Spirit willed.)**



# PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE JOEL 2.

In the context of Joel 2, what follows the statement of **"all flesh"** explains what is meant by the outpouring on **all flesh**.

**"Sons and daughters, old men and young men, menservants and maidservants are included in the "all flesh."**

**The Spirit would not be poured out on a special class of prophets as in the Old Testament Jewish dispensation. He would not be given only to special old men who were prophets of the special Jewish people.**

He would be poured out on sons, daughters, old men, young men, male and female, servants and slaves.

## PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE JOEL 2.

The **emphasis** here is **not** so much that the **Spirit** would be given **to every individual**, but that He would be given **to every class of individuals**.

The **outpouring** would be in **contrast** to how the **Spirit** was given during the **Old Testament era**.

Under the Old Testament law the Spirit was given to selected older prophets who were **a class of men by themselves**. (2 Kg 24:2; Heb 1:1;)

A time was coming, when **even the lowest class of society (servants and slaves)** would receive the Spirit as the esteemed aged prophets of the O. T.

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

It was **not necessary** for every miracle worker or prophet **to receive a baptism in the Holy Spirit directly** in order to have **the special powers.**

**But it was necessary for an apostle to lay his hands on them to give the power.**

**We learn from Acts 6 and 8 that the only way the Holy Spirit’s miraculous power could work through those who were not apostles of Christ was for one of these apostles to lay his hands on them.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**ALL FLESH** in the 1st century To males  
(your sons) and females (your daughters)  
To older people (your old men) and younger  
people (young men.) Acts 21:9-10;

9. He had **four unmarried daughters who were prophets.** 10. When we had been there several days a prophet called **Agabus** arrived from Judaea.

When God said on **all flesh** He meant **on all categories and types of people.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**God** placed **a limit** on the **time** and **purpose** when these **gifts** were to be used. 1Cor 13:8-10;

These would **cease** when the full or complete revelation became available.  
**See Study on Holy Spirit for greater detail.**

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## **PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE.**

**"Shall prophesy."** Not only would the outpouring be miraculous when the Joel 2 prophecy was fulfilled, **the RESULT of the outpouring would be miraculous.**

**Prophecy is first the speaking forth of the word of God.** Throughout both the Old Testament and New Testament, **the definition of prophecy is the preaching of the word of God.**

**However, in reference to inspired prophecy, the preaching or teaching of the word of God was by inspiration of the Holy Spirit.**

**Acts 2:17;** “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

**"This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel."**

said Peter. We need to understand that **the day of Pentecost saw the beginning of the fulfilment** of what Joel said.

But the **prophetic words** were **not ALL fulfilled on that day.**

The Spirit was to be poured out upon **all flesh;** but there was **only** the one nation, **the Jews present** in Acts 2.

As yet only **the 12 Apostles** had **received miraculous power** to **speak a language** they had not learned.

**Sons and daughters were to prophesy** but **not on the day of Pentecost.**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

Young men were to see visions, and old men dream dreams; but **visions are unreported, and dreaming found no place on the Day of Pentecost.**

There is no change in heaven or earth, sun or moon, nor of blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke.

**The day was quiet as usual;** everything was regular in the workings of nature as on every other day.

What had happened, however, was **the beginning of the fulfilment** of Joel's prophecy. The secret of the wonderful speaking of the apostles was that **God had begun to carry out the promise** made long before through the prophet.

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

In the **context** of the promise of **Joel 2**, **inspired prophecy** is under consideration. The direct result of the outpouring would be seen by the **inspired work of prophecy** **by men and women after the outpouring.**

**"Wonders."** in Joel 2:30-32; continue the prophecy of what God would do in **these last days.**

**The metaphors in these passages refer to the finality of**

**the Jewish Commonwealth, the Temple and the city.**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**The fulfillment of Joel 2**

**did not all completely happen in one day**

**But rather from the day of Pentecost**

**until the destruction**

**of Jerusalem in A.D. 70**

**is included in this prophecy.**

**The fall of celestial bodies in prophetic literary language was used to figuratively portray the termination of earthly kingdoms.**

**(See Is 13:9-10; 34:4; MI 4:1,5-6;).**

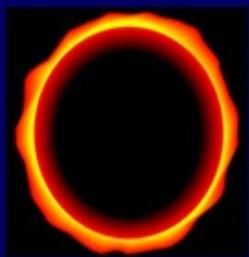
# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:16-18; The destruction of Jerusalem**

**Is included and described here.**

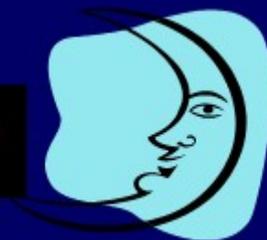
**Acts 2:17-18; " And it shall be in the last days, says God,  
I will pour forth of My Spirit upon all flesh: And your sons  
and your daughters shall prophesy. And your young men  
shall see visions, And your old men shall dream dreams:-  
Yes and on My servants and on My handmaidens  
in those days Will I pour forth of My Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.**

**I will show wonders in the heaven above,  
And signs on the earth beneath;  
Blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun  
shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood,  
Before the day of the Lord come, That great and notable day."**

**Last Days / Destruction of Jerusalem**



**What is all This?**



# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

Wonders in the heavens above including **FIRE, BLOOD** and **SMOKE**. This language is often used to describe **JERUSALEM** on the **SPECIAL DAYS OF SACRIFICE**.

Some think the blood, fire, billows of smoke, the **darkened sun** and the **blood-red moon** were natural phenomena.

Caused by the **thousands of bloody and smoking sacrifices** that were being **offered on the altar** in Jerusalem during the seven weeks leading up to this **Day of Pentecost**.

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**Blood** flowing from the altars like rivers.

**Fire** and **vapour of smoke** ascended from **the altars** as the same sacrifices were burned.

**The moon viewed through the smoke appeared as the colour of blood.**

**Some historians write about it.:-**

**“in Jerusalem the sun was quite literally  
“turned into darkness,”  
being hidden because of  
the smoke encumbered atmosphere.”**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**Wonders in the heavens above including  
FIRE BLOOD and SMOKE.**

**This language is also often used  
to describe wars and destruction.**

**Josephus** describes such a situation in AD 70  
when Jerusalem was destroyed  
“**FIRIE METEORS and a COMET.**”

**Other historians write about continual pillars  
of SMOKE rising from the burning of houses  
and synagogues by the Romans.**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

“Darkening of the SUN, moon turned to BLOOD?”

**Was SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE** used to describe  
the destruction of those who opposed  
**GOD**

Isa 13:1, 9-13; **BABYLON.**

Isa 29:1-6; **JERUSALEM.**

Eze 32:2, 6-8; **EGYPT.**

**Jesus** also used similar language  
to describe this **destruction of JERUSALEM**  
in Matt 24:1-2; 24:15-29; Luke 21:20-26;

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**The sun usually referred to the president or king of the nation. The moon and stars referred to the governors, generals and captains who received their power from the king.**

**When a nation was to fall, the Old Testament prophets figuratively portrayed such by the fall of the sun, moon and stars. Joel did the same in reference to national Israel.**

**He was prophesying a time when the Jewish Nation and Temple would be terminated. The outpouring of the Spirit in the last days, therefore, was a signal of the end of God's relationship with national Israel.**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**"The great and awesome day of the Lord":**

The word **"day"** refers to the time when **God would come in judgment on national Israel.** It was a great and awesome day for believers.

It would be a sad day  
for those who did not believe.

The **"day of the Lord"** would be **a day of judgment** for those who would not accept the results of the outpouring of the Spirit.

**"Shall be saved."** Salvation here does not refer to salvation from the disaster that would come upon national Israel. **Salvation would be for those who would turn to God by "calling on His name."**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:21;**  
This salvation would be redemptive in reference  
to **sin**, though the ones who would accept the Lord  
would be saved from the destruction of A.D. 70,  
the time of **the destruction of national Israel**  
**through the fall of Jerusalem.**

Since the prophecy of **Joel 2;** is the prophecy  
that was quoted by Peter in reference  
to **its fulfillment in Acts 2; this prophecy**  
**becomes special** in the Old Testament.

However, we must keep in mind that **other prophets**  
**spoke** of the **same events** about which Joel spoke.  
Though other prophecies are **not as much in detail**  
as Joel 2, the **other prophets agree**  
**with what Joel prophesied.**

# PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE Ezek 36.

## Promise of the Spirit within:-

**Ezekiel** looked beyond the restoration of Israel from captivity of Babylon.

He prophesied of a time when Israel would have **a changed attitude;**

**They would have a spirit of obedience.**

**Ezekiel 36:24-28;** is a significant prophecy of a special time that was to come.

## **PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE Ezek 36.**

**“For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.**

**I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**

**I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.”**

# PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE Ezek 36.

**Ezekiel 36:26;** discusses a new attitude as opposed to Israel's **rebellion**

and **stiff necked** attitude **before the captivity.**

They would have **a spirit of obedience** to the one God as opposed to serving the idols of many gods.

**Ez 36:27;** God says, **"I will put My Spirit within you."**

(See Ez 37:14;) It would be good

to compare this prophecy with a similar prophecy of the same time period to which Ezekiel looked.

**In Jeremiah 31:31-34;** God affirmed that during this new time, "no more shall every man teach his neighbour ... **for they shall all know Me.**"

## **PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE.**

The **Jewish babies** did not know the Lord when they were **born into a covenant relationship with God.** **They had to be taught to know the Lord** as they grew up in the Jewish nation.

However, during the period which was coming.

Those who were **spiritually born of the word of God** would already know the Lord at the time of their infancy.

Christians walk in the statutes of God because

**“They have been begotten by the Spirit-inspired word of God.”**

**(See 1 Pet 1:23;)**

## **PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE Ezek 36.**

**We know God when we are born into Christ.**

**Here is the concept that the ones coming into a covenant relationship with God would have the Spirit in them because of their close relationship with the will of God from their new birth as part of His heritage.**

**They will have been people who responded to the gospel of Christ that was preached through the medium of words. At the time of their new birth, they "knew God."**

**The Spirit will have worked in them through the preaching of the gospel message in order to bring them to the cross.**

## **PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE.**

The **above prophecies** established **anticipation** in the Jews' hearts concerning the coming promise.

**The setting was thus established for the coming of the Spirit.**

**A great day was coming when God would do something great in Israel.**

The Jews, as in all prophecy, did not fully understand all the implications of the promises. Nevertheless, **they were expecting something.**

Therefore, **when John and Jesus came preaching the kingdom.**

The Jews were awakened to the promise and the imminent fulfillment of the prophecies.

## **PROPHECY CONCERNING THE PROMISE.**

**All prophecies concerning the Spirit centre around what the Spirit would do through inspiration and miracle.**

**Therefore, when we come to the fulfillment of the prophecies, we must focus on what the Spirit would do.**

**The Emphasis is not on locating the Spirit here or there, but on the work of the Spirit in reference to accomplishing the work of God to bring us into an eternal saved relationship.**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**“the Great and Glorious Day of the Lord?”**

The phrase might ALSO mean  
**the Great Day of Pentecost** when  
**the Kingdom of God came upon the earth.**

It was a great and glorious day.

**Because similar events** are described at the  
**CRUCIFIXION** just preceding Peters sermon.

**Matt 27:45, 50-54;**

**Tertullian wrote to the emperor TIBERIUS!**

**“The moon being like blood did not shine the whole night yet it happened to be at the full.”**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**  
**Remember all these wonders and signs**  
**are to take place**  
**BEFORE the great DAY OF THE LORD!**

**In the Old Testament this phrase is usually**  
**associated with Judgement or downfall**  
**of rebellious nations like:-**

**BABYLON, JERUSALEM, EGYPT,**  
**EDOM. - Obadiah v15;**  
**ISRAEL. - Amos 5:18-20;**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:20;**

**DAY OF THE LORD**

**in the NEW TESTAMENT ALSO refers to  
the DAY of JUDGEMENT at the END of time.**

**2 Thess 1:7ff; 1 Cor 5:5; 2 Cor 1:14;  
1 Thess 5:2; 2 Pet 3:10ff;**

**“10. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief,  
and then with a roar the sky will vanish,  
the elements will catch fire and melt away,  
the earth and all that it contains will be burned up.  
11. Since everything is coming to an end like this,  
what holy and saintly lives you should be living.”**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**Reasons for believing that the DAY OF THE LORD that Joel speaks of is the DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM. It is consistent with the use of this term in the Old Testament.**

**It was a demonstration of Gods WRATH upon the REBELIOUS nation of Israel.**

**God had worked patiently and mercifully with Israel for HUNDREDS of years, BUT Israel continued being rebellious towards God.**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

**The SIGNS that Joel predicted would take place DID take place at the time of the DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM.**

**The Language that Joel used was similar to that which Jesus used about the DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM.**

**Finally by the TIME of the DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM. God had POURED out His SPIRIT on ALL flesh Jew, Gentile, Old, Young, Male, Female, etc.**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:19-20;**

God had **POURED** out His **SPIRIT** on **the APOSTLES**. Gifts of **POWER** had been given as **the SPIRIT WILLED** and **ALL** Gods new followers in Christ had the **SPIRIT INDWELLING** them.

There will also be **FINAL DAY** of **JUDGEMENT** but of **THAT** day and hour **NO MAN KNOWS** **BUT** you and I must be prepared for that day.

# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-23;

When

in

Psalm

“40.

# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-23;

When

in

Psalm

“40.

# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-23;

When

in

Psalm

“40.

# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-23;

When

in

Psalm

“40.

**Calling on the Name of the Lord. 2:21;**

**God through Joel predicted  
that “DURING the LAST DAYS.**

**Those who CALLED  
on the name of the Lord shall be SAVED.”**

**“21 And everyone who calls on the name  
of the Lord will be saved.” What is meant  
by “calling on the name of the Lord?”**

**Does it mean crying out, “Lord, save me!”?**

**Does it mean submitting  
to the will of God in faith and obedience?**

## **Calling on the Name does NOT mean. 2:21;**

**Luke 6:46-49; “46 Why do you call Me, "Lord, Lord," and do not do what I say? 47 "Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like:-”**

**48 “he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.”**

**49 "But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."**

**Calling on the Name does NOT mean. 2:21;  
JUST CALLING ON HIS NAME. Matt 7:21-23;  
“21 "Not everyone who says to Me, "Lord,  
Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven,  
but he who DOES the will of My Father  
who is in heaven will enter.”**

**“22 Many will say to Me on that day, "Lord,  
Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and  
in Your name cast out demons, and in Your  
name perform many miracles?”**

**“23 And then I will declare to them, "I never  
knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO  
PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.” NASU**

**What calling on the Name DOES mean. 2:21;**

**Jesus COMMANDS saying and doing  
faith and obedience in our worship  
and in our Christian walk.**

**v17 In these last days**

**v21 call on his name to be saved**

**WHAT EXAMPLE DO WE HAVE**

**of this as Peter continues his sermon?**

**HOW DO THE LISTENERS RESPOND?**

**What calling on the Name DOES mean. 2:21;**

**Those saved on the day of Pentecost**

**HEARD the gospel. 2:22-36;**

**BELIEVED that gospel message  
and were SORRY for their sins. 2:37;**

**REPENTED and were BAPTISED**

**for the forgiveness of their sins**

**and received the gift of the indwelling Spirit.**

**2:38, 41;**

**CONTINUED steadfastly**

**in the APOSTLES DOCTRINE.**

**2:42;**

**What calling on the Name DOES mean. 2:21;**

**The RESULT of CALLING on the NAME  
of the Lord in THIS way is that:-  
THEY were ADDED by the LORD  
to HIS FAMILY His Kingdom. 2:47;**

**Another CONTEXT where we see CALLING  
on the NAME of the Lord spoken about  
is found in Rom 10:13;**

**What calling on the Name DOES mean. 2:21;**

**Rom 10:13-14;**

**“13 for WHOEVER WILL CALL ON  
THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.”**

**“14 How then will they call on Him in whom  
they have not believed? How will they believe  
in Him whom they have not heard?  
And how will they hear without a preacher?”**

**Here in Rom 10:13; We see CALLING  
on the NAME of the Lord involves HEARING  
the GOSPEL preached so that people  
can respond with FAITH and OBEDIENCE.**

**What calling on the Name DOES mean. 2:21;**

**In Acts 22:15-16;**

**“15 For you will be a witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard.”**

**“16 Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.”**

**Here in Acts 22:16;**

**We see CALLING on the NAME of the Lord involves REPENTANCE and BAPTISM for FORGIVENESS of sins.**

**Just as it did in Acts 2:37-47;**

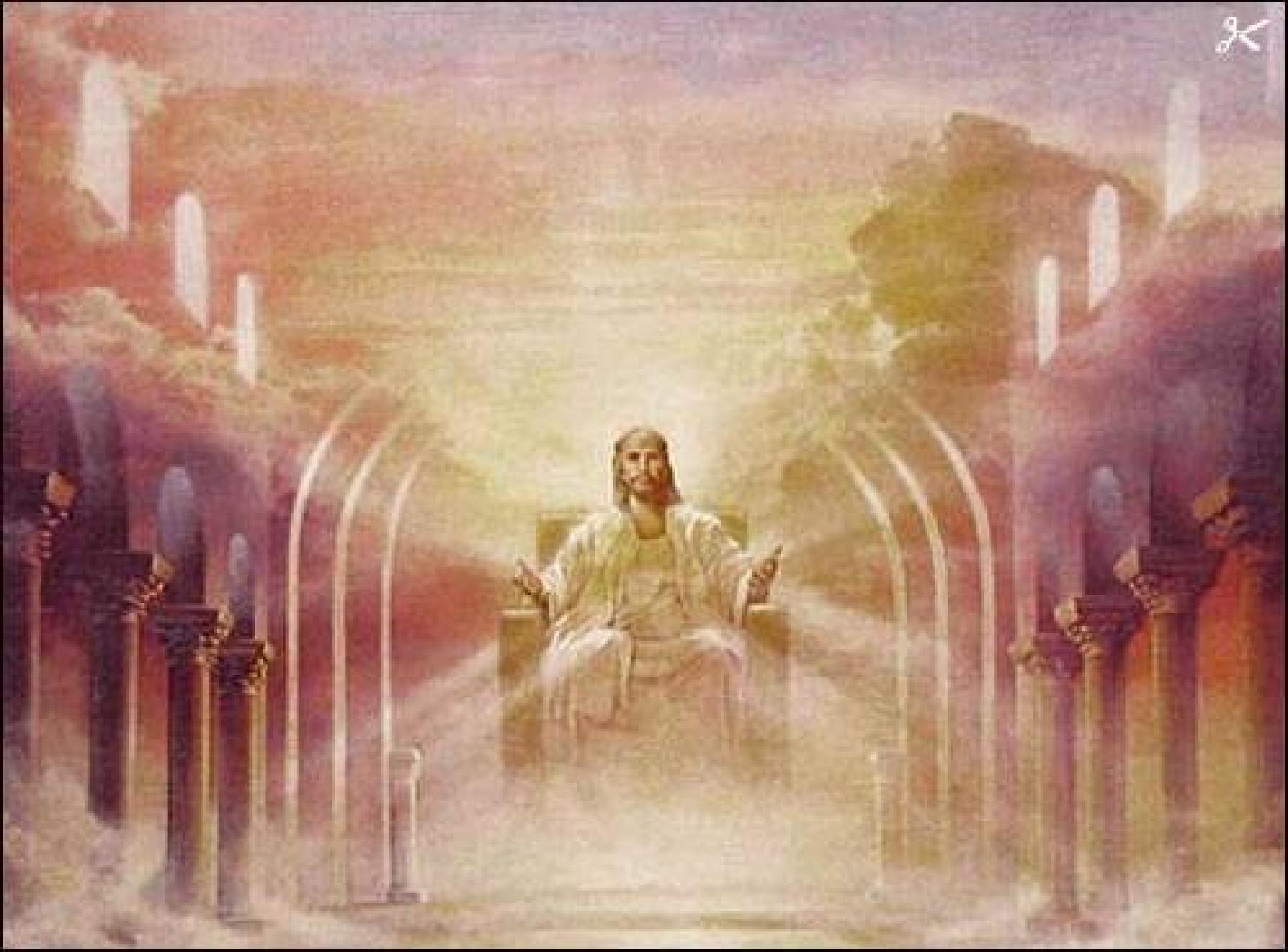
**What calling on the Name DOES mean. 2:21;**  
**Saul [Paul] understood that calling**  
**on the name of the Lord** was not fasting  
or praying a “sinner’s prayer.” see Acts 9:9-11;

Paul **has been** Fasting and praying but has  
then to be baptised to receive forgiveness of sins.

**He had to obey his Lord** Who had said, (Mark 16:16;)  
“He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.”

**Later Paul called on the name of Caesar**  
to save him from the Jews  
who were trying to kill him in Palestine.

**“Calling on the name” meant submitting**  
**to the authority represented by the Name.**



## **SUMMARY of 2:14-21;**

Inspired interpretation of these events

**In v14-15;** Peter DENIED that he and the other apostles were drunk as had been accused.

**In v16;** Peter said that what was happening was the FULFILMENT of the PROPHECY found in Joel 2:28-32;

**v17-18;** In that PROPHECY God said that He would POUR out of His SPIRIT on ALL categories of people.

## **SUMMARY of 2:14-21;**

**v17-18; This would enable His people to PROPHECY,  
Dream dreams, see visions miraculously  
by the POWER of His SPIRIT.**

**v19-20; In addition, at some time BEFORE  
the DAY of the LORD, God would SHOW great SIGNS  
and WONDERS in the heavens and on earth.**

**Acts 2:43; 5:12;**

**v21; In the LAST DAYS, those who CALL UPON  
the NAME of the LORD WILL be SAVED.**

## **SUMMARY of 2:14-21;**

**v21; Calling on His name:-**

**When One is SENT to TEACH & PREACH the gospel.**

**We Hear the gospel to create faith. (:14,17;)**

**We respond by Believing in the Lord. (:14;)**

**Obeying the gospel by Repenting of our sins. 2:37;**

**Confessing our Belief in Jesus. Rom 10:9;**

**Being buried with Christ in Baptism. Rom 6:1-4;**

**receiving the indwelling Holy Spirit,**

**rising to walk a new life.**

**Thus calling upon the name of the Lord. (22:16;).**

**The result being ADDED by Christ to His body  
the church just as they did in Acts 2:37-47;**

# The First Gospel Sermon.



# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-23;

What a powerful sermon is contained in this chapter! Having refuted the charge of drunkenness in the first part of his message.

While at the same time announcing the dawn of the Christian age, the apostle Peter now turns to the heart of his sermon with a proclamation of the great fundamental facts of the gospel.

Jesus during his time on earth had charged the disciples that they should tell no man that He was the Christ." (Matt 16:20;), And had even refused to give a direct answer to a question about it. (Luke 22:67;)

The time has now come for Peter  
and the other Apostles to publicly declare  
That **"Jesus of Nazareth."** (Acts 2:22;)

Is in fact **"both Lord and Christ."** (Acts 2:36;)

The thrust of his sermon  
is **not only to proclaim this**  
**but to prove it to be true.**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-23;**

Acts 2:22-23; Peter continues:-

22 “Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: **Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God** by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through Him when He was among you, as you know.”

23 “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took, with the help of wicked men, **put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross.**”

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

While the **"gospel"** had been preached since the beginning of Jesus' ministry. (Mark 1:14-15;)

It had been **a different gospel.**

It had been the **good news that the Christ, the king was coming to set up His kingdom.**

When **John Baptised for the forgiveness of sins,** those who responded were not added to the new kingdom, they were preparing themselves for the new kingdom.

They were supposed to be **turning away from their sins and turning back to be faithful Jews.**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**The Pentecost sermon by Peter was the first time the gospel was “fully preached.” (Rom 15:19;)**

**They had to wait in Jerusalem to receive the power to proclaim new message of Salvation.**

**The first public announcement of the death, burial (by implication) and resurrection of Christ. These facts are the heart of the gospel. (1 Cor 15:1-4;)**

**It was Peter's initial purpose to set forth things about Jesus before going on to Jesus ascension and enthronement.**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

At the outset of his sermon, **Peter** had respectfully called his hearers “**Jewish men**” (Acts 2:14;)

**Peter** now marks a major shift in his message by **honorably addressing them** as “**Israelite men.**” (so the Greek literally reads.)

Peter then informs them that **the one known to them** (and posted to the world John 19:19;)

As **the lowly and despised “Jesus of Nazareth”** was “**a man approved of God.**”

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

While **Jesus** is elsewhere called **[anthropos]** a “**man**” in the sense of a human being. (1 Tim 2:5;) The word here is **[aner]** a “**man**” in contrast to a woman or a boy. (John 1:30; Acts 17:31;)

Though **Jesus was truly “a man,”**  
**Peter will show** before he is through  
that **Jesus was a man such as the world**  
**had never seen and, in fact, more than a man.**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man **attested by God** to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**JESUS commended (approved) by God!**  
killed by the Jews. Raised by the Father.  
**Peter's First Point** is that Jesus  
was **approved by God** the Father.

1. At **His BAPTISM.** Luke 3:21-22;
2. At **His Transfiguration.** Luke 9:35;
3. John 6:27; says, “**on Him the Father,**  
**God himself, has set His seal.**”

This is an **interesting statement**, because before  
**a sacrificial VICTIM** was offered, it was **examined**  
by the priest to see if it was **fit for sacrifice.**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man **attested by God** to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**The Priest** then pronounced it **FIT** to be offered and **PLACED A MARK ON IT**, to indicate that it was free from blemishes.” In this way the sacrifice was **SEALED - MARKED OUT**.

So in **John 6:27**; Jesus Himself tells us that **HE** has also been **SEALED** by the Father.

Bearing in mind that **John** had been calling people to **BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD** which takes away the sin of the world.

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man **attested by God** to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**We will appreciate that another  
Significance of the descent of the SPIRIT  
on Jesus at HIS baptism.**

**Was that God, in this way,  
was INDICATING that HIS Lamb was  
SEALED, MARKED FIT FOR SACRIFICE.**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**In contrast, notice the Jews' failure to “prove” (same word) charges against Paul. (Acts 25:7;)**

**Just as Paul's preaching was later shown to be true  
“in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.”  
(1 Cor 2:4;),**

**so Jesus was authenticated to the Jews  
by “mighty works and wonders and signs.”**

**This is Peter's Second Point:-** These miracles were worked in the very MIDST of the JEWS.

Jesus of Nazareth had been preaching and healing more than three years in the Land of Israel.

**The Jews listening to Peter had heard about Jesus and knew He claimed to be their Messiah.**

**They had heard about His miracles and knew about His teachings. They knew from their history that all prophets were accredited by God by the miracles they performed.**

**And Jesus had done more and greater miracles than all of them.**



**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**  
**The JEWS were in error - grave error, when**  
**they accused Jesus of performing miracles**  
**with the help of the DEVIL! Beelzebub.**

**NICODEMAS was quite correct**  
**"No man can do these miracles." John 3:2;**

**Not like the MANY Pretend or Counterfeit**  
**miracles that are often claimed today.**  
**2 Thess 2:9-12;**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**So Jesus was authenticated to the Jews by “mighty works and wonders and signs.”**

**These three terms are the key New Testament words describing miracles.**

**Our English word “miracle” comes from the Latin “miraculum,” meaning “a wonder” of some kind.**

**But Bible usage is more definitive.**

**Bible miracles are described in three ways:-**

- 1) something mighty or powerful;**
- 2) something wonderful or amazing; and**
- 3) something meaningful or significant.**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**“Mighty works”** is the plural of the **Greek word [dunamis]**.

Out of **120** New Testament **occurrences** of the word. it was **translated** in the KJV as:- **“miracle(s)”** 8 times and as **“mighty work(s)”** 12 times.

But its **literal meaning** (in the plural) is **“powers.”**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**“Wonders”** (from **[teras]**)

occurs **16 times** in the New Testament.

It is found **only in the plural** and **only in conjunction with “signs”** if not also **“powers.”** It is therefore **subordinate in meaning** to these **other Bible terms.**

**“Signs”** is from the **Greek [semeion]** which, out of **77 occurrences,** the KJV rendered as **“miracle(s)” 22 times.**

The **ASV** consistently translated the word as **“sign(s).”** This is the favorite word used by **John** for the selected **miracles of Jesus** described in his Gospel account, though he sometimes uses the term **“works” [erga].**

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

In **summary**, the **three key terms** reveal **true miracles as God's power-works**, often performed as **signs of authority or promise**, and **designed to produce wonder or amazement in the minds** of the observers of hearers.

The ultimate **purpose** of these miracles is to **confirm the message** by promoting **acceptance of God's revealed Word**.

Therefore **convincing of sin** and **stimulating faith in the heart** leading to **acceptance of Jesus as the Son of God**.  
(John 20:30-31;)

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

The **full, three-fold description of miracles** as given here by Peter is found only two other times in the New Testament. (**2 Cor 12:12; Heb 2:4;**)

Where **confirmation of the preached Word** is the point of emphasis.

(See also Acts 6:8; Rom 15:19; and 2 Thess 2:9; where **“power”** occurs in the singular.)

Though **Jesus** had been **accused of working miracles** through the power of Satan. (Matt 12:24; and parallels), **Peter affirms that God did them through Jesus.**

**Jesus** Himself had made the point that **“the very works”** that He did **testified that the Father had sent Him.**

(John 5:36; John 10:37-38;)

**Acts 2:22;** “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

**Refusal to accept the self-evident nature of Jesus' miracles led some to commit blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.  
(Matt 12:31-32; and parallels.)**

**Peter does not expect his hearers to repeat the same mistake, telling them “you yourselves know” that His miracles were genuine.**



**God's Set Purpose and Foreknowledge.**

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

**This is Peter’s Third Point:- This means that God had PLANNED ahead of time that JESUS would DIE for the SINS of the world.**

**The death of Jesus on the cross as the world’s sacrifice for sin was planned and carried out by God using the hands of men to accomplish it.**

**God had known from the Creation what He would do and how He would do it. Eph 1:1-3;**

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”



**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

Each of the Gospel accounts tells of Jesus' being delivered up. **Jesus** himself had **foretold** that:-

**He would be delivered** into the hands of “**men**”  
(Mark 9:31;) **Described** by an angel **after**  
**His resurrection** as “**sinful men.**” (Luke 24:7;)

Specifically, **Jesus was delivered up** by **Judas**  
to the **chief priests** and **scribes.** (Mark 10:33;)

Then by **Caiaphas** to **Pilate.** (Mark 15:1;)

By **Pilate back to the Jews.** (John 18:36;) and **finally**  
By the **Jews to the Gentiles.** (Mark 10:33;) to be killed.

Though **many human beings** were **implicated** in this,  
as well as **Satan** behind the scenes. (Gen 3:15; Rev 12:3-4;)

**Peter reveals that it was all according to**  
**"the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God."**

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

**Peter is simply affirming that God planned ahead of time for Jesus to die for the sins of the world.**

**He was “foreknown” as the sacrificial lamb “before the foundation of the world.” (1 Pet 1:18-20;)**

**Therefore considered “slain” in prospect from the beginning of time. (Rev 13:8; KJV and ASV margin.)**

**God decided on it by His “definite plan.”**

**And saw it fulfilled from past eternity through His “foreknowledge.” (1 Pet 1:2;)**

**It was “determined” or “ordained” [orismene] not only that Jesus would die, (Luke 22:22;) but that He should be resurrected. (Rom 1:4;)**

**And eventually become the Judge of the living and the dead. (Acts 10:42; 17:31;)**

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

**But while God determined**  
that the death should take place,  
**all** (including **Jesus**. John 10:17-18;)  
**were volunteers in accomplishing it.**

**Knowing the end from the beginning.**  
(Isa 46:10;) **God revealed** these things  
**ahead of time** through the **Scriptures.**

1 Pet 1:10-11, 1 Pet 19-20; Isa 53:3;  
Lke 24:25-27; Lke 24:45-46; Acts 17:2-3; Rom 1:2;

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

Finally, **“when the fulness of the time came,”**  
God sent forth his Son as Redeemer. (Gal 4:4-5;)

**Jesus was born to die,** as several **Messianic prophecies** had indicated. (e.g., Psa 22; Isa 53;)

**The Jews as a nation** therefore had **no excuse** not to believe **“what the prophets have spoken“** that **“the Christ should suffer and rise again.”**  
(Luke 24:25,46; cf. Acts 26:22-23;)

**The Jews** delivered him up for **envy.** (Matt 27:18;)

But in **God's plan** He was  
**“delivered up for our trespasses.”** (Rom 4:25;)  
God **“delivered him up for us all.”** (Rom 8:32;)

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**

**Rom 4:24; “JESUS delivered up  
for OUR OFFENCES.”**

**Rom 8:32; “GOD did not SPARE His own SON  
but delivered HIM up for US ALL.”**

**PRIMARY REASON JESUS DIED.**

**NOT Because of ENVY.**

**NOT Because HE was WEAK.**

**But because GOD Planned for JESUS  
to be the SACRIFICE FOR OUR SINS.**

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

**The way of death, the way of the cross  
was the best way to save men.**



**John 3:14-16; Romans 5:6;  
Romans 5:8; Galatians 1:4;  
Hebrews 9:28; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Peter 3:18;**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**

The **FACT** that **God** had **PLANNED** ahead of time that **JESUS** would **DIE** **did NOT** effect any persons **FREEDOM OF CHOICE.**

Consistent with God's dealing with man from the beginning, each of the participants in this stirring drama, **including Jesus,** **freely chose the action they took.**

**Joshua 24:15; “CHOOSE** this day **WHOM YOU WILL SERVE LIVING GOD** or false gods.”

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;  
John 10:17-18; “ POWER to GIVE His LIFE  
POWER to TAKE it again.”**

**To DIE for sin – the Command of GOD  
JESUS made a CHOICE.**

**John 10:17-18; JESUS made a CHOICE  
“To LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR “US.”**

**Acts 2:23;** “This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and crucified and killed by men outside the Law.”

**Peter** does not hesitate **to affix guilt** for **the death of Jesus**. “Wicked hands” (KJV) should be **“the hands of lawless men.”**

This can (and probably does) mean **“men without the law.”** (ASV margin.)

1 Cor 9:21; Rom 2:14; **a reference to Gentiles**  
(Mark 10:33; Luke 18:32;)

These **Gentiles** were the **Roman soldiers** who acted as executioners and possibly **even Pilate** who gave the order. It was through the hand of these men that **Jesus** was **“crucified.”** or (more literally) **“fastened” to the cross.**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**

**When they brought Jesus  
before the Jewish council  
the charge was blasphemy!**

**The punishment for blasphemy by Jewish law  
should have been **stoning**, but **the Jews**  
submitted Him to **death by crucifixion**.**

**WHY?** Because the law said,  
**“CURSED BE EVERYONE  
WHO HANGS ON A TREE.”**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**  
**Here we see the maliciousness, the hatred**  
**that these Jewish leaders had for Jesus.**

**Peter did not need to spend**  
**a great deal of time proving the crucifixion**  
**and death of Jesus. These were **facts****  
**already well-known and believed.**

**JESUS DIED** MOSLEMS and UNBELIEVERS  
**deny this** because  
they want to **deny** that **He ROSE AGAIN.**

## Peter's Fourth Point:-

Peter placed responsibility for the crucifixion and death of Jesus on the Jews **“YOU.”**



**“YOU”** Have taken by the HANDS of Lawless men **IMAGINE THE IMPACT** after all that Peter has just said in v22-23;

Later Peter bluntly said to the Jews, **“you... denied the Holy and Righteous One ... and killed the Prince of life.”** (Acts 3:14-15;)

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**

**Peter did NEED to spend SOME time  
proving the Resurrection of Christ  
so those with honest and good hearts  
would believe in it as a fact.**

**Peter's Fifth Point:-**

**Peter SPEAKS of the Resurrection of Christ.**



**Acts 2:24;** “But God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power.”

God's authentication of Jesus **did not prevent His death**, as the Jewish mind would have expected, for **that was part of God's plan.**

It was also **Part of God's plan to Raise Jesus.**  
God raised Him up,  
**“having loosed the pangs of death.”**

The **“pains”** (KJV) are literally **“birth pangs.”**  
The familiar Old Testament references to the **“cords” of death** and Sheol (Psa 18:4-5; 116:3;) **give way in the New Testament to the picture of a woman in travail.**  
(Matt 24:8; Mark 13:8; 1 Thess 5:3;)

**Acts 2:24;** “But God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power.”

**Jesus was delivered**  
from the travail of **death** because  
“**it was not possible that He should be held by it.**”

## **WHY?**

There was **God’s foreknowledge**  
and determinate counsel.

**Jesus was approved** by God.

**Jesus’ Resurrection was foretold** in the scriptures.

**Jesus was life itself.**

**John 1:4-5; John 10:10; John 17:2-3;**

**Jesus was sinless.**

**Acts 2:24;** “But God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power.”

Before He died **Jesus had said** of his life:-

**“I have power to lay it down,  
and I have power to take it again.”**

(John 10:18;)

He burst the bonds of death,  
for **death could not keep  
the Creator and Sustainer of life.**

(John 1:3; Col 1:16-17;)

Later, **Paul** would say that “when they had fulfilled all things that were written of Him, they took Him down from the tree, and laid Him in a tomb. **But God raised him from the dead.”**

(Acts 13:29-30).

**Acts 2:24;** “But God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power.”

**Acts 2:24 is one of the key statements in Peter's sermon. The Jews knew of the death of Jesus; what they needed now was to believe in His resurrection.**

**For this reason Peter mentioned the crucifixion in just one short statement (with an added phrase later - Acts 2:36;) but devoted nine verses to the resurrection.**

**The prophetic quotation and explanation which follow were for proof of that essential fact, for without belief that “God raised Him from the dead,” one cannot be saved. (Rom 10:9;)**

**Acts 2:24;** “But God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power.”

# **This is the anchor of our FAITH: Jesus RESURRECTION!**

**Acts 3:15; Acts 4:10; Acts 5:30 Acts 10:40 Acts 17:31**

“You must know, all of you, and the whole people of Israel, that **it is by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, and God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man stands before you cured.**”



## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-25;**

**Acts 2:24-25; Peter continues:-**

**24 “But God raised Him from the dead, freeing Him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.**

**25 David said about Him:-”**

**“I saw the Lord always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.”**

**NOTICE the PROGRESSION  
in Peter’s ARGUMENTS!**

# SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-25;

Here is a contrast presented between the actions of men versus the actions of God.

Men brought death. God raised from the dead.

WHAT MEN DID		WHAT GOD DID
JEWS	ROMANS	
<b>YOU</b> NAILED HIM TO A CROSS	BY THE HANDS OF <b>GODLESS MEN</b>	RAISED HIM UP

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:22-24;**

**v22 God showed His approval of Jesus by miracles that none could deny, YET they pronounced the death sentence.**

**v23 The Jews by lawless hands had crucified and killed Jesus.**

**v24; But God reversed that unjustified sentence of death. God again showed His divine approval of His beloved Son by raising Him from the dead.**

**In doing this God "loosed the pains of death."**



**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24;**

**v24; "loosed"** The opposite of being bound or tied up with a rope or cord. **It means to untie, liberate or make free.**

**Thus, in raising Jesus from the dead and the grave, God liberated or freed Jesus from the death which He experienced for every man.**

**(Heb 2:9;)**

**The resurrection is the main theme of Peter's sermon. It is the main theme of nearly every sermon preached in the book of Acts.**

**Why is this?**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24;**

**The resurrection is central because it served as the motivation for the apostles.**

**A month earlier they had been hiding in the upper room, fearful for their lives.**

**Now they were boldly proclaiming the risen Lord in the presence of the very ones who had crucified Him.**

**Once you have come to terms with the truth of the resurrection, it is easy to stand up against opposition, even if it means to the death.**

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-25;**

**After all, where is the fear of death  
if you are standing for the One  
who has the power to raise the dead?**

**The resurrection is central  
because this is the primary evidence  
upon which Christianity is based.**

**Peter will also give fulfilled prophecy  
as evidence, but the specific prophecy  
which he gives will be one  
that points to the resurrection.**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-25;**

**The resurrection is central because it is very the substance of the gospel which must be believed.**

**Peter is not preaching the teachings of Jesus.**

**He is preaching the PERSON of Jesus and the fact of His death, burial and resurrection.**

**“26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope.”**

**SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:23-24;**

**“27; because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.”**

**27; “You will not abandon my soul in Hades.”  
(The correct translation.)**

**“28; You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.”**

**Psalm 16; It is a Psalm of prayer in which David prays for deliverance. In the midst of that Psalm, he thanks the Lord and announces the source of his confidence.**

**For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol;  
Neither will you allow your Holy  
One to undergo decay. (Psalm 16:10;)**

<b>Psalm 16:10;</b>	<b>Sheol</b>	<b>Realm of the Dead</b>
<b>Acts 2:27;</b>	<b>Hades</b>	<b>Either the Grave of Hell</b>

**Peter was not using this text to suggest that Jesus had been in hell. He was showing that the Old Testament had promised that Jesus would not remain in the grave.**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:23-24;**

## **Sixth Point**

**Peter said Jesus was raised from the dead  
Because it was NOT possible for Him to be  
held captive by death after the three days  
appointed by God. (cf. Lk 24:46;)**

**These Jews had all probably heard  
about the claim of Jesus' disciples  
that He had risen from the dead.**

**If they or their leaders could have produced  
the body of Jesus, they certainly would have  
“the proof” He had not risen from the dead.**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:23-24;**

**They** knew the story  
of the Roman guards, the sealed tomb  
and **could not prove Jesus was still dead.**

**Hades was the prison for all souls before  
Jesus died on the cross. Jesus went into  
Hades but its gates could not hold Him in.**

When He came forth from Hades  
and His undecayed body came out  
of the tomb **He could never die again**

**He opened the gates of Hades** for the saved  
of all ages now forgiven through  
the Perfect Sacrifice. (Matthew 16:18;)



**Artist's concept – Gates of Hades.**

DLA

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-28;**

**When He ascended** He led those who had been **imprisoned in Hades** to heaven with Him. (Ephesians 4:8-10;).

**His Body Did not Decay.** When Jesus arose from the dead He came forth from the tomb with what appeared to be the same body He had before His death, but without the blood.

The nail holes were still in His hands and feet.  
The spear gash was still in His side.

## **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-28;**

**He ate and drank with His disciples, suddenly appeared in a locked room and had the same miraculous powers He had before.**

## **The IMPORTANCE of the Resurrection of Christ.**

**If Christ is NOT risen our faith is vain  
we are still in our sins. 1 Cor 15:1-4;**

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-28;**

**Rom 4:25;** “given up for OUR offences  
and RAISED for our JUSTIFICATION.”

**TO BE JUSTIFIED means**  
**to be made INNOCENT from GUILT**  
**to be FREED from GUILT.**

**TO BE JUSTIFIED:-** Jesus was raised to  
present Himself as a sacrifice on our behalf  
that we might have forgiveness of our sins.

# **SIMON PETER USES THE KEYS. 2:24-25;**

**Rom 1:4; “He was DECLARED to be  
the SON of GOD WITH POWER  
by His RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD.”**

**Because of the IMPORTANCE of the  
Resurrection of Christ. Peter spends the next  
ELEVEN VERSES dealing with the subject  
of RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD.**

# Summary of 2:22-24;

**JESUS:-**

**Attested by God.**

**Killed by Jews.**

**Raised by the Father.**

**Peter's Sermon!**  
**Acts 2:14; to 2:24;**

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**Next in the series:- Acts 2:25;**  
**King David.**