



Acts: Response to Peter's Sermon

January 18

INTRODUCTION: Acts is all about *Jesus' work, through the Apostles and disciples, by the Holy Spirit, to fulfil Acts 1:8*. Having prepared His followers they are now ready to bear witness to Him. Pentecost and Peter's sermon begin the witness at Jerusalem.

KEY POINT: witness, response, Gospel

A.M. SERMON RECAP ('Pentecost,' Acts 2:1–13)

- How was Pentecost a watershed moment, i.e. both unique but also the New Covenant source to live life in the Spirit?
- Vv. 1–4- What did the miracle signify?
- Vv. 5–13- How did the miracle enable witness?
- Why must the Christian life be one in the Spirit?

P.M. SERMON RECAP ('Peter's Pentecost Sermon,' Acts 2:14–36)

- What is a sermon and how does Acts witness to their importance in the life of the Church and evangelism?
- How does it begin to fulfil Acts 1:8.
- How is it expository? How is it Christ-centred? How is it evangelistic? Other qualities of the sermon...

READ: Acts 2:37–41

QUESTIONS:

1. Vv. 37–38- Can there be salvation without contrition [sorrow over sin] (c.f. Isa 66:2b)?
2. Why can Jesus not simply be believed, why must He be responded to?
3. *Martin Luther's sermons were all the same, they began with the Law and ended with the Gospel. How is this sermon and Peter's response an example of this? How is this a useful approach.*
4. *V. 38 is a famous Gospel text, how so?*
5. *"Ruined by sin; rescued by Christ; renewed by the Holy Spirit" (the 3 Rs of the Gospel), is an old shorthand for helping us understand*

and memorize the Gospel. How can the 3 Rs be easily found in this verse?

6. *Baptism does not save (Lk 23:43), however, it is close to salvation. How is the New Covenant ordinance and sign of baptism meant to demonstrate one's faith? (i.e. "what shall we do"). Why should we be concerned and what should we do if we meet a professing Christian who hasn't been baptized?*
7. **How might you memorize this important verse?**
8. **How might you use this in evangelism? To understand the Christian life?**
9. Is the list in v. 38 meant to be sequential, shorthand for the conversion experience or a bit of both?
10. **V. 39- What is the promise in view here?**
11. **Does "children" = infant baptism? What does the remainder of this verse mean in its context? How is this linked to Acts 1:8? How is this truly good news?**
12. *"Whom the Lord our God calls to Himself (Jn 6:44) are the Elect (Tit 1:1), who will believe the Gospel.*
13. V. 40- The sermon continued! What else do you think Peter spoke of?
14. **What was the "crooked generation"? Why did they need to save themselves from it? How does this apply today?**
15. *V. 41- there were more than 3000 people there but 3000 responded positively (c.f. Acts 2:12–13)! The Church grew from 120 to 3120!*
16. **How is it that we know they responded to v. 38? What specifically did they do and how was this demonstrated?**
17. **V. 41- We often like to speak of invisible adoption into God's family, the Church, through faith; however, how are baptism and membership the visible signs of adoption? Why must we "be added" to (become members of) the church for assurance sake? (Acts 2:38; Mt 16:19b, 18:18).**
18. **How must we be faithful Holy Spirit empowered witnesses to the Gospel in Markdale if we hope to see similar results as the Jerusalem Church?**

NEXT: No Meeting, Members' Meeting