

"Peter's Sermon"

Part 3

Acts 2

Introduction: Last week in our study of Acts we started into the content of Peter's message that he preached at the birth of the church. As he began his message, he addressed the people who were mocking those who spoke in tongues/languages. The mockers accused the Apostles of being drunk with new wine. Peter responded to this by calling a Bible study and in the study, he reached back to the Old Testament to the book of Joel, and he quoted what Joel had recorded.

I. The Content

Part 3

Notice Acts 2:14-20

Last week in our study we started to look at the two parts of Joels prophecy. Let us look at his prophecy and see the two words that help us divide it.

Joel 2:28-32

²⁸ *And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:*

²⁹ *And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.*

³⁰ *And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.*

³¹ *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come.*

³² *And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.*

"Before"

This was what we considered last week in our study. The fulfillment of Joel's words BEFORE the great and terrible day of the Lord. The great and terrible day of the Lord

here refers to the day when Jesus will return to the earth and the Battle of Armageddon takes place.

Joel 2:30-31

³⁰ *And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.*

³¹ *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come.*

These wonders and the blood, fire, smoke, darkness and the moon to blood will all find their fulfillment in the Seal, Trumpet and the Bowl Judgments and right before the coming of the Lord to the earth.

Matthew 24:29-30

²⁹ *Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:*

³⁰ *And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

Tonight we shall look at the other part of Joel's prophecy and look at how Peter used it.

"After"

Joel 2:28-29

²⁸ *And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:*

²⁹ *And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.*

The word "AFTERWARD" tells us that the events listed here will happen AFTER the great and terrible day of the Lord. Joel tells us that God will pour out His Spirit upon ALL flesh and many will prophesy, dream dreams, and see visions. What is Joel speaking of here?

Joel is speaking of what will happen to the saved of the tribulation who survive when Jesus returns. Let us notice what Matthew recorded concerning an event that will happen before the Millennial Kingdom and after the Great Tribulation.

Matthew 25:31-34, 41

³¹ *When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

³² *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

³³ *And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

³⁴ *Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

⁴¹ *Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:*

At the end of the Great Tribulation there will be saved survivors and unsaved survivors. The unsaved will be cast into hell and the saved will enter into the Millennial Kingdom with Jesus Christ. These are people who will enter the Kingdom with natural bodies just as we have now. This is one group that will enter into the Kingdom. Keep that in mind for a moment.

Revelation 20:1-6

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

² *And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,*

³ *And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*

⁴ *And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark*

upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

⁵ *But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.*

⁶ *Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*

Here is the resurrection of the Old Testament saints and the saints who were killed in the 7-year Tribulation. They too will enter into the Kingdom, and they will rule and reign with Jesus Christ for 1000 years. These will be different than the saved of Matthew 25 because these who are resurrected here will have glorified bodies. The saved in Matthew 25 will enter the Kingdom with natural bodies and they will populate the Kingdom. We also will go into the Kingdom with glorified bodies, and we will receive our when the Rapture happens before the Tribulation. Every person who enters into the Kingdom will be saved. The children born in the Kingdom will need to be saved but what I want to make clear to you is that when the Kingdom begins all the inhabitants will be saved. Now let us get back to what Joel prophesied.

Joel 2:28-29

²⁸ *And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:*

²⁹ *And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.*

This applies to those who enter the Kingdom with natural bodies. God will pour out His Spirit one everyone believer who enters with a natural body/flesh. It will be then that they will prophesy, dream dreams and see visions.

Notice Acts 2:16-20

None of the events of Joel's prophecy were fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. The Spirit was given to either the 12 or 120 disciples. Joel said it would be upon ALL flesh. No one prophesied, no one dreamed dreams, and no one had visions. So why did Peter quote Joel's prophecy? He quoted Joel's prophecy because of the similarity between what Joel said and what happened here in Acts 2.

Let us notice another situation where we see the very same thing. Let us notice a prophecy from Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 31:15

¹⁵ Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

This prophecy was completely fulfilled when the Babylonians came into Jerusalem and took the young men and marched them off to captivity. The Jewish mothers came out weeping for their children whom they would never see again. Jeremiah pictured these women as Rachel weeping for her children and refused to be comforted because they were forever gone.

Now let us notice what it is applied to in the Gospels.

Matthew 2:16-18

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

¹⁷ Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

¹⁸ In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

Here it is quoted in reference to the death of the babies in an attempt by Herod to kill Jesus. The reason it is used here is because of the similarity which is the weeping of the parents for their children. But that is the only connection. Under the Babylonians the children did not die but here they were killed. The point we need to understand is that sometimes prophecies are applied because of similarities and not fulfillment. Now let us get back to the content of Peter's sermon.

A. The Focus

Notice Acts 2:22-23

The Central Focus of Peter's message is Jesus. He begins by explaining to them that the works they witnessed Jesus do were done by God through Him. Eny They could in no way deny that His works were supernatural. Peter reminds them that Jesus was delivered by

the determinate counsel. The words "determinate counsel" means "appointed purpose." It was God Who determined that Jesus would come to this world and die for man's sin.

Revelation 13:8

⁸ *And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

1 Peter 1:18-20

¹⁸ *Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;*

¹⁹ *But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

²⁰ *Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,*

God had predetermined before the world was created and before man ever sinned that His Son would die so that we could have eternal life. God preordained every step that Jesus took. Every step he took was in the will of God for Him.

Notice Acts 2:23

While the steps and the crucifixion of Jesus were predetermined by the Father the Jews were guilty of killing Him. Peter pointed right to the Jews who were in the crowd and basically said, "You are guilty of putting God's Son to death!" This was a very important part of Peter's sermon. These people needed to see their sin and understand that they had sinned against God before they could be saved.

Conclusion:

We will come back to this next week. I just want to leave you with the reminder that if we desire to see our friends and loved ones saved that must be made to see that they are guilty of sin.

Let us remember that in Romans Paul presented with the Doctrine of Condemnation before he presented the Doctrine of Justification.