

## Acts 2:1-40

### The Birth of the Early Church

**Births are awesome! – Highlight in my life – like most dads – the birth of my three children.**

A) Such a surreal experience - Have to say – Holding my grandson – Josiah in the Hospital – while looking at my daughter Amy – unbelievable

B) That happened so fast – seems like we were just here with you and now you are having your own baby – CRAZY

C) The birth of a baby is a very special moment in the life of a parent

Three soon to be Dads in Minnesota – waiting room – days before – dads could be in the delivery room -

- Twins – Minnesota twins –
- triplets – 3 M company
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Guy gets up and starts to walk out – the other two where are you going.....7-up

**Tonight we are going back 2,000 yrs to the delivery room so to speak when the Church of Jesus Christ was born – Day of Pentecost**

A) Not 2 or 3 or even 7 – try 3,000 souls were born into the family of God

B) Acts Chapter 2 verse 1

**V.1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.**

A) This is where we left the early Church last week in the upper room – one accord – praying – waiting

B) **The Day of Pentecost** was a Jewish feast held fifty days after Passover. 10's of thousands people packed Jerusalem

1) It was a time to celebrate the first fruits of the harvest.

C) At Passover, the first sheaf reaped from the barley harvest was presented to God.

D) But at Pentecost, the first fruits of the wheat harvest were given to God; therefore, Pentecost is called *the day of first fruits* (Numbers 28:26).

**E) Pentecost was one of the three yearly feast that the Jewish men were required to attend**

1) So there are hundreds of thousands of Jewish people who have traveled from all over the middle east to be here.

**2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**

**This is the account when the apostles were Baptized in the Spirit.**

A) Incredible event in the Life of the Church. Point out some unique aspects of this.

B) 1<sup>st</sup> Sound of a mighty rushing wind.  
Not a wind but a sound of wind

**C) 2<sup>nd</sup> Divided tongues as of Fire. – Not fire**

1) Their heads were not on fire – but hovering above their heads was something that looked like a tongue on fire

D) 3<sup>rd</sup> - v. 4 All filled – All spoke with tongues.

**Things happening here – symbolic significance**

A) Wind – John 3 Spirit is like the wind – can't see wind – see affects – feel it

B) Holy Spirit – is that way – **Can't see the Spirit but you feel the spirit – see the affects of the Spirit.**

C) **Fire – Purifying aspect** – Holy Spirit – purifies us

1) **Convicts us of Sin.**

D) **Comment on the tongues in a minute**

**Note this: Every believer in Jesus needs to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.**

A) But this was a Unique event. Singular occurrence {

**Never repeated - People want to repeat this –**

**B) Like Red Sea – Part waters walk to Catalina – Repeat Jericho – March around city hall**

### C) Reason for Uniqueness – 2 fold

- 1) Make a clear to disciples what was happening
- 2) To Draw a crowd –

5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, “Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? **The reason this is surprising to them is – Galileans – Hicks – Like Bonsall – Fallbrook – J/K**

They were considered to be uneducated simple minded folks

“Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?”

9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.” 12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean?”

13 Others mocking said, “They are full of new wine.”

#### Note: V.8 Tongues speaking in their own Language –

- A) People from all over the region

Parthians – Iran  
Medes - Turkey  
Elamites- Another part of Iran  
Mesopotamia - Iraq  
Judea – Southern Israel  
Cappadocia- Turkey  
Pontus – Also Turkey  
Asia – Turkey  
Phrygia – Turkey  
Pamphylia - Turkey  
Egypt – same as today  
Libya- Northern Africa  
Cyrene- Northern Africa  
Rome- Italy -  
Cretans – Crete  
Arabs- Saudi Arabia

### B) Quite a dispersion of People –

- 1) These simple Galileans { Hick folk} were speaking the languages of all these people.

C) What were they saying: Were they Preaching a message?

- 1) Some think – but misconception – 2 reasons –

#### #1 Look at v.11

**we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”**

**They were speaking or declaring in these other languages the wonderful works of God.**

- A) Now that is consistent with what Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 14 about tongues –

B) Personal prayer language – Speak not to men but to God.

- 1) So tongues isn’t going to be a Thus says the Lord!

C) We hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”

- 1) **Praise – and that is what this was !**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> reason why they were not preaching the gospel – is because if they were there would not have been a reason for Peter to preach which we will see that is exactly what he ends up doing

#### So sound of a wind – Tongues – crowd: Asking what is going on how are they doing that? – Drunk

- A) Peter responds { **Read v. 14-15**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. <sup>15</sup> For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *only* the third hour of the day.

B) **3<sup>rd</sup> hour was 9am** – being drunk at 9am might not seem odd in the circles you came out of  
1) But it was unheard of in the first century – Israel

#### There was a remarkable change in Peter.

A) He had courage and boldness that was a complete contrast to his denials of Jesus

- B) **Denied 3 times – fire – servant girl –**

C) Now he is going to stand up before a mob and preach a really impactful sermon – Heavy sermon – NOT HOLDING BACK

D) **RESULT OF seeing Jesus ALIVE from the dead and the Baptism of the Holy**

1) Peter is filled with a boldness

**Now He is going to preach – an incredible sermon Great message –**

A) Why He believed in Jesus and why they should too!

B) Only 22 verses – Wow! – How could he do that? You preach for 45 minutes – Look at v. 40

1) **Many other words** – { Frame work

C) Three main things he focused on – 3 Proofs Jesus was the Messiah – they crucified Him

1) why they should believe in Jesus too!

**Proof #1 - Because of fulfilled Prophecy! Rd v. 16-18**

But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:  
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.  
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants - I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.

A) Peter is quoting from Joel chapter 2 – The prophet Joel prophesied of this event several hundred years earlier

B) Joel prophesied about a day – when God was going to pour out His spirit – Radical

C) Everyone becomes a minister – Not just the Priesthood –

1) Not just the TRAINED

**On all flesh – means without distinction**

1) No matter who you are – Social background Color of your skin – Jew Gentile – rich – poor Slave or Free – religious not religious

D) Male and female – Sons and daughters – menservants and maid or female servants

E) In Christ – we are a Royal Priesthood.

**Part of the New Covenant that Jesus would establish**

A) All believers could be used by God

B) Peter is making note that – this like so much of the ministry of Jesus was the fulfillment of Bible prophecy

C) The back bone of the Bible is fulfilled Prophecy

D) 300 Prophecies concerning first coming of Jesus His birth, where- virgin- life – death – Res

1) **Bible vs Greek Methodology**

**Imagine if Christopher Columbus – when he discovered America said.**

A) 477 yrs from now the people of this new land are going to create a vessel that can send men to the moon!

B) That would be impressive right – the Bible has 2500 such predications – 2000 have already come true

C) Including **300 Prophecies about Jesus** – Take 8

**What is the Statistical probability of Jesus fulfilling 8 prophecies? Peter Stoner – Science speaks**

A) The probability that Jesus could have fulfilled even eight such prophecies would be 1 in 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power

B) That's 1 in 100, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000.

C) Did you know that the odds of your being injured by a lightning strike on any given day are 1 in 250 million, 250,000,000

D) Stoner Analogy Cover the **state of Texas in silver dollars 1 in 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power**

1) that that many silver dollars would be enough to cover the face of the entire state of Texas two feet deep.

E) TEXAS IS BIG – 2 DAYS to drive across

1)Picture Texas 2 feet deep in Silver dollars – Mark one Red -

F)Blind fold a guy and let him wander Texas –  
1)The Chance – of him ..... 1 in 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power

**Jesus didn't fulfill 8 prophecies he fulfilled 300 and He is going to fulfill more –**

A)Which Peter hints at in V.19-20

**19 I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.**

Here we see that **near and not yet aspect of Prophecy Present – this is what is happening now**

A)But there is an aspect of this that is **future.**

**B)V. 20 The great and awesome day of the Lord – speaks of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming – of Christ**

C)And the day of the Lord includes Tribulation, and Great Tribulation, and Jesus coming back,  
1)inaugurating and initiating the Millennial Kingdom.

D)You'll find that written like that in the Old Testament. That's understood in Jewish theology

**E)V.17 Last days - - they thought they were in the last days – they were wrong – NO**

**Last days started here with Jesus**

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.” – Hebrews 1:1-2

A)They were in the first of the last days –

B)We are in the last of the last days.....

**V.21 ‘And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.’**

**What do you have to do to be saved?**

A)We've got to call in the name of the Lord.

**B)That simple – Cry out to JESUS!**

**Peter's sermon: 3 Proofs that Jesus is the Messiah**

**Proof #1 Because of fulfilled prophecy**

**Proof #2 The Miracles of Jesus**

<sup>22</sup> “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

A)Miracles attested by God – you saw –

**B)Hard to argue with Lazarus raised**

**1)Widows Son**

**1)Feeding 5,000 – No trick**

C)They couldn't deny the Miracles – they admitted it

1) Nicodemus, a Sanhedrin member in Jerusalem- they had talked about it.

“Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” John 3:2

**Peter's sermon: 3 Proofs that Jesus is the Messiah**

**Proof #1 Fulfilled Prophecy**

**Proof #2 The Miracles of Jesus**

**Proof #3 The grave is empty – The resurrection**

<sup>23</sup> Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;  
<sup>24</sup> whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

<sup>25</sup> For David says concerning Him: Psalm 16:8–11  
‘I foresaw the Lord always before my face,  
For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup> Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad;

Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch **David, that he is both dead and buried,**

and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he, foreseeing this, spoke

concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. **32 This Jesus God has raised up**, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

34 "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: **Psalm 110:1,34-35** 'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at My right hand, 35Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." '- He wasn't talking about me

36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

### **Peter preaches what is the Cornerstone of Christianity – Death & Resurrection of Jesus**

**A)Died for our Sins – Redeem – Ransom**

**B)Rose to Prove who He was –**

**C)Makes our faith effective!**

**1)Without Resurrection – Vain –**

#### **Note V.23 again**

23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

**Now please notice that Peter in one sentence marries the sovereignty of God and the responsibility of man in one package.**

**A)This has been argued about for the last 1600-1700 years.**

**B)I really don't know why because all over the Bible it presents the two working together**

**1)Here is another example – Peter got it**

**C)Peter was able to see both of them working in harmony together?**

**1)God is sovereign, Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God**

**D)at the same time man is responsible. you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;**

**E)God's plan doesn't erase the culpability of mankind for killing Jesus.**

**But there was redemption, because Jesus said nobody takes My life from Me. I give it of Myself.**

**A)Both things happened. One is from the divine perspective.**

**B)The other is from the human perspective.**

**1)He puts them in one package.**

**C)Him being delivered by the determined counsel and the foreknowledge of God,**

**1)you have taken by lawless hands or sinful hands, crucified and put to death.**

**D)Verse 24, "Whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.**

**1)Proof #3, the Resurrection.**

**Note their response Acts 2:37 "Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart,**

**A)They were convicted! – The Power of the gospel**

**Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."**

#### **Power in the message:**

**A)Post man – delivers – Publishers ..... Check**

**B)Worth and weight in the Check - Just needs to be cashed –**

**1)Worth and Wait – Power to save and transform anyone who believes – THE GOSPEL**

**So they were cut to the heart -and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"**

**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. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."**

**40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."**

#### **Responding to the question, "What shall we do?"**

**A)Peter gave them something to do.**

**B) This means that we must *do* something to be saved, we must *do* something to follow Jesus; it doesn't just "happen."**

**C) Peter told them to **repent**.**

**D) Peter is repeating what He heard Jesus preach**

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Mark 1:14,15

**Wait – Someone says according to Ephesians 2:8 we are saved by faith and not by works!**

**A) Is Peter contradicting that ?**

**B) NO – Peter and Jesus – are showing us that faith is demonstrated in attitude and behavior**

**C) The word Repent does not mean to merely feel sorry, but it means to **change one's mind or direction** –**

**D) they had thought a certain way about Jesus before! (**Considered Him worthy of crucifixion**),  
1) now they must turn around their thinking, embracing Him as Lord and Messiah.**

**Repent** sounds like such a **harsh word** in the mouths of many preachers and in the ears of many listeners,

**A) Repent is a word of great hope**

**B) It says "You don't have to continue the way you've been going, you can turn to God,"**

1) He will change you!

**C) Repentance must never be thought of as something we must *do before* we can come back to God.**

1) **Repentance describes what coming to God is.**

**D) Change of mind about our sin – Turn from Sin and turn to God. Hearts -**

**The second thing Peter says they must do is be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ,**

**A) As an outward expression of their belief and complete trust in Him.**

**B) Baptism made a clear statement.**

1) In that day, Jews were not commonly baptized, only Gentiles who wanted to become Jews were baptized

**C) For these Jewish men & women to be baptized showed just how strongly they felt they needed Jesus**

<sup>41</sup> Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them*

**A) What a day! – Starts with 120 in an upper room**

**B) The Holy Spirit falls – 3,000 babies are born  
Can you imagine?**

**C) Many pools around Jerusalem – suddenly packed with People**

**What do you do with 3,000 brand new believers?**

**A) Feed them and nurture them – see exactly how they do that in the coming weeks**

**Pray**