

SCRIPTURE: Ten Commandments (Ex. 20) and Acts 2:14-41

SINGING: 394 – 141:1 – 391 – 254:3-5 – 30

Intro: The Pentecost Sermon: *what made it so memorable?*

PETER'S EXPLANATION OF PENTECOST

- I. It is the fulfilment of God's promise II. It is the secret for changing hearts
III. It is the forerunner of Jesus' return

I. PETER EXPLAINED THAT PENTECOST IS GOD FULFILLING HIS ANCIENT PROMISE

A. God's ancient promise in Joel began to be fulfilled in Acts 2:1

1. How many OT prayers pleaded this promise of God? (Heb. 11:13)

B. Pentecost is God pouring out His Spirit in 'the last days'

1. What are the 'last days'? (vs. 20; Heb. 1:2; 2 Peter 3:3)

2. What is special about the 'last days?' (1 Cor. 2:11-16)

3. Pentecost began God's outpouring (Acts 2:38b-39)

C. Though 'revival' is a sovereign work, God connects us to our obedience

1. Acts 1:4-5; 7-8 – 14: *prayer*

2. Acts 2:38-39 (Prov. 1:23; Gal. 3:1-3): *repent and faith*

II. The Spirit's coming is the secret of changing hearts (vs. 17-18)

A. No amount of preaching will change hearts for the better

1. That privilege and power is reserved for the Holy Spirit: Ezek. 37:1-14

B. Tribute to blessed Holy Spirit of God

1. He alone changes hearts & lives: Acts 2:17-18

2. Spirit filled people will 'prophesy'

3. Ministry of Spirit is not limited: *upon all flesh (all kinds of people)*

C. Ultimate fruit of Spirit's work is vs. 21: *to bring us to faith in Jesus Christ*

1. The Holy Spirit is THE Friend of Bridegroom

a. not only does HE exalt Jesus Christ

b. He also makes us willing to surrender and trust Jesus only (Rom. 10:3)

III. The coming of the Holy Spirit is the forerunner of Jesus' return

A. Some parts of Joel's prophecy were not yet fulfilled at Pentecost: vs. 19-20

1. The description speaks of *intense and severe judgments*

2. Yet what is most to be feared are not 'those days': Acts 2:33-36

B. Jesus' return will be a day heaven and earth has never witnessed

1. Hear God: Joel 3:16-17; Luke 17:22-24; 1 Thess. 4:16, 5:2; 2 Thess. 5:7-10

2. Jesus' return day will be a day of *deepening trouble for those not prepared to meet the Almighty Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

a. how to be prepared: vs. 38-39

3. Jesus' return day will a day of *an everlasting journey of abundant life*

a. we will share in Jesus' glory as Peter spoke in vs. 26-28

Jesus' Second Coming

It will surprise many, but nobody will be mistaken

That day lies hid that every day we be on the watch. (Augustine)

The fact that Jesus coming again is the reason for working in the power of the Holy Ghost. (Spurgeon)