

The Life of the Apostle Peter

Study # 24

The Sermon at Pentecost

(Part I: The Prophecy of Joel)

(Acts 2:14-21)

OPEN: Some comments on Pentecost!

I. Peter Defends the Speakers (14-15)

A. The Preacher (14A)

B. The People (14B)

1. The Apostles

2. The Audience

C. The Plea (15)

1. Listen to the Message

2. Listen to the Messengers

II. Peter Directs them to the Scriptures (16-21)

A. The Prophet (16)

B. The Prophecy (17-21)

1. Concerning the Spirit of God (16-18)

a. The Coming of the Spirit (17A)

1) The Time

2) The Extent

b. The Consequences of the Spirit (17B-18)

2. Concerning the Signs of God (2:19-20)

a. Blood, Fire and Smoke (19)

b. The Darkening of the Sun and Moon (20)

3. Concerning the Salvation of God (21)

CONCLUSION:

CROSS REFERENCES

Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

Psalms 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

1 Timothy 4:1-2 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

2 Tim. 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Jer.23:29 Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

2 Peter 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Revelation 19:10 ... for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Hebrews 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Revelation 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

Isaiah 13:10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

Ezekiel 32:7 And when I shall put thee out, I will cover the heaven, and make the stars thereof dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give her light.

Matthew 24:29 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:

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Preaching Produces Repentance and Faith

It has often been claimed that a tree may be recognized by its fruit; the same may be said of a preacher. A comedian is expected to produce laughs; a politician, speeches and changes in social order; a businessman, profits; but a true emissary of Christ may be recognized by the effect his message has upon hearers. Laughter is good and contagious, but no one ever mentioned that Christ made people laugh. Money raising is an art and often beneficial to religious and philanthropic institutions, but the Bible never describes how Jesus made emotional, desperate appeals for financial assistance. Attractive entertainments are sometimes helpful propaganda for an espoused cause, but it is impossible to find an occasion when Jesus arranged a special show in order to attract an audience. Maybe the fact that churches now resort to these methods is evidence they no longer possess the power He enjoyed. The early disciples who turned the world upside down were filled with the Holy Spirit; obviously, some of their descendants are not. (Ivor Powell)