

ACTS CHAPTER 2:14-47

PART I: PETER ADDRESSES THE CROWD

1. PETER STANDING WITH THE ELEVEN (2:14)

- Peter (2:38; 3:4; 3:6; 3:12; 4:8; 4:19; 5:3; 5:8; 5:9; 5:15)
- Peter and the rest (2:37)
- Peter and the apostles (5:29)
- Peter and John (3:1; 3:3; 3:11; 4:13; 4:19;)

2. PROPHECY OF JOEL (2:28-32)

- **“The Last Days”**... is a term used throughout the OT in prophecy
 - And now, behold, I am going to my people; come, I will let you know what this people will do to your people **in the latter days.**” And he took up his discourse, and said, “The oracle of Balaam the son of Be’or, the oracle of the man whose eye is opened, the oracle of him who hears the words of God, and knows the knowledge of the Most High, who sees the vision of the Almighty, falling down, but having his eyes uncovered: I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not nigh: a star shall come forth out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; **(Num 24:14-17)**
 - It shall come to pass **in the latter days** that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains **(Is 2:2)**
 - but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be **in the latter days.** (Dan 2:28)
 - Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and they shall come in fear to the LORD and to his goodness **in the latter days.** (Hos 3:5)
- The term now means the days of the New Covenant
 - In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; **but in these last days** he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. **(Heb 1:1-2)**
- **I will pour out...**
 - For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.(Is 44:3)
 - And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.(Zech 12:10)
 - If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.(Prov 1:23)
 - until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. (Is 32:15)

- And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD.”(Ez 29:39)
- And I will show wonders...
 - “Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs which God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know...

3. **PROPHECY OF KING DAVID (PS 16:8-11)**

- What of the promise to King David?
 - When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom **forever**... And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established **forever**. (2 Samuel 7:12-16)
 - Brethren, I may say to you confidently of the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.
 - ***Josephus confirms he was buried in Jerusalem***
 - Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne,
 - he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. (Acts 2:29-31)

This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you see and hear. (Acts 2:32-33)

God Made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified (Acts 2:36)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, **of the house of David**; and the virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; **and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.**”

IN SUMMARY

1. We are now living in the “Last days” of the OT prophecies
2. What you are seeing is the outpouring of the Spirit promised by the prophets
3. Why? Because Jesus is the fulfillment of the promise to David of an everlasting Kingdom... He is the Lord and Christ and he now sits at the right hand of the Father.

PART II: THE FIRST CONVERTS

BRETHEREN WHAT SHALL WE DO?

1. Repent,
 - Jesus calls to conversion. This call is an essential part of the proclamation of the kingdom: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel." In the Church's preaching this call is addressed first to those who do not yet know Christ and his Gospel. Also, Baptism is the principal place for the first and fundamental conversion. It is by faith in the Gospel and by Baptism that one renounces evil and gains salvation, that is, the forgiveness of all sins and the gift of new life. (CCC 1427)
2. and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins;
 - From the very day of Pentecost the Church has celebrated and administered holy Baptism. Indeed St. Peter declares to the crowd astounded by his preaching: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." The apostles and their collaborators offer Baptism to anyone who believed in Jesus: Jews, the God-fearing, pagans. Always, Baptism is seen as connected with faith: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household," St. Paul declared to his jailer in Philippi. And the narrative continues, the jailer "was baptized at once, with all his family. (CCC 1226)
3. and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - Thus the two principal effects (of baptism) are:
 - i. purification from sins and
 - ii. New birth in the Holy Spirit. (CCC1262)
 - The Council of Trent (1547) describes Baptism as the instrumental cause of our justification, i.e. the means used by Christ to cleanse us of guilt, fill us with the grace of divine life and adopt us as children of God.

For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him. (Acts 2:39)

- Peace, peace, to the far and to the near, says the LORD; and I will heal him. (Is 57:19)
- Baptism of Infants:
 - And when she was baptized, with her household (Acts 16:15)
 - And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. (Acts 16:33)

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:41)

- See Exodus 32:25-29
- The New Pentecost = The first fruits of the New Covenant in the Church

PART III: LIFE AMONG THE BELIEVERS

- And they devoted themselves to:
 - o The Apostles Teaching
 - o Fellowship
 - o The Breaking of the Bread
 - o Prayers
- This sequence is characteristic of the Church's prayer: founded on the apostolic faith; authenticated by charity; nourished in the Eucharist. (CCC2624)

- BREAKING OF THE BREAD
 - o On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread (Acts 20:7)
 - o And when Paul had gone up and had broken bread and eaten, (20:11)
 - o The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? (1Cor 10:16)
 - o For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (1Cor 11: 23-24)
 - o The *Breaking of Bread*, because Jesus used this rite, part of a Jewish meal, when as master of the table he blessed and distributed the bread, above all at the Last Supper. It is by this action that his disciples will recognize him after his Resurrection, and it is this expression that the first Christians will use to designate their Eucharistic assemblies; by doing so they signified that all who eat the one broken bread, Christ, enter into communion with him and form but one body in him.(CCC 1329)