

A PROPER RESPONSE TO A PROPER SERMON

ACTS 2:37-41

Introduction:

A. The people in Jerusalem have witnessed a strange event

- 1) They heard a sound from heaven Vs. 2
- 2) They heard strangers speak in their own tongues, even in their unique idioms Vs. 8
- 3) They had heard the wonderful works of God Vs. 11

B. Peter had given them an explanation

- 1) "What meaneth this?"
- 2) He had cited scripture from Joel
- 3) He had quoted from the Psalms
- 4) He had preached the gospel Vs. 22, 23, 24

C. How did these people respond?

- 1) Some were open-minded
- 2) Some were close-minded

I. The Convicting Power of the Holy Spirit Vs. 37

A. "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the Apostles",

- 1) "heard" = akouo = "to hear", "perceive with the ears", "to listen", "to learn by hearing"
- 2) "pricked" = katanusso = "to pierce through", hence, "to be greatly pained", "when they heard who Jesus was and what they had done, they were pierced through in their hearts"

B. "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

- 1) "Men and fellow Jews, what shall we do now?"
- 2) "What are we to do friends and brothers"
- 3) Do they want to be saved?

II. The Straight Answer of Peter Vs. 38

A. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."

- 1) "repent" = metanoeo = "to change one's mind and purpose", "not merely to repent of and forsake sin, but to change one's mind and apprehensions regarding it"
- 2) "baptized" = baptsttheto = "let be immersed"
- 3) = epi to onamati = "on the name of"
- 4) "for" = ecs = "with reference to"
- 5) "remission" = aphasis = "setting free"

B. "and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost"

- 1) "receive" = lambano = "to take from another"
- 2) "gift" = dorae = "a free-gift", "a present"
- 3) "Holy Ghost" = "the gifts that the Spirit gives"

C. "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

- 1) "promise" = epaggelia = "a proclamation", "a declaration made on the account of something."
- 2) The promise of the Holy Spirit is in the declaration of Joel. It is for all. 2:16-18

III. Instruction Before Baptism Vs. 40

A. "And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying,

- 1) "And with other words many"
- 2) "many" = pleion = "more", "in magnitude"
- 3) "testify" = diamarturomai = "to witness throughout", "to bear witness through and through"
- 4) "exhort" = parakaleo = "every kind of speaking to which is meant to produce a particular effect", "comfort", "encouragement"

B. "Save yourselves from this untoward generation"

- 1) "save" = sozo = "to make sound", "to save", "to preserve safe from danger; loss or destruction"
- 2) "untoward" = skolois = "crooked", "bent from dryness"
- 3) "generation" = genea = "race", "descent", "offspring", It is an age or generation.

C. Additional information I Peter 3:18-22 Vs. 20

- 1) There were souls saved during the preaching of Noah. They were "sometime disobedient"
 - a. "sometime" = pote = when, whenever; at sometime; once, formerly
 - b. "disobedient" = apeitheo = "not suffer one's self to be persuaded", "to refuse belief"

2) The longsuffering of God waited

3) What did Noah do that the others would not do?

Heb. 11:7 "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

IV. The Act of Christian Baptism Vs. 41

A. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized:

- 1) "receive gladly" = apo = "from" + dechomai, "to take to ones self what is presented or brought by another", "to accept, embrace, receive hospitably. It implies a subjective reception showing that a decision of the will has taken place with respect to the object presented, and that the acceptance manifests it." (Bullinger)
- 2) "word" = logos
- 3) = ebaptisthesan = "were immersed"

B. "and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."

- 1) "added" = prostithemi = "to set", "place or lay" towards or in addition to; "to put one thing to another"
- 2) They had more the next service!

V. Is Scriptural Baptism Important?

A. What does baptism do?

- 1) It portrays the gospel.
- 2) It identifies us with God's people.
- 3) It is the answer of a good conscience.
- 4) It is an act of obedience to God's word.
- 5) It separates us from the world.