

# Home Bible Studies

## *Acts*

Study #5 Acts 2:29-41

### Peter Addresses the Crowd, Part II

#### KEY:

- |                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| A. (READ)         | What does it say?        |
| B. (RE-EMPHASIZE) | What does it mean?       |
| C. (REFLECT)      | What does it mean to me? |

**29. *“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died & was buried, & his tomb is here to this day.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Peter addresses the crowd as brothers (Israelites), equally related to King David. He focuses on something they may have come many miles to see, the tomb of David. Often a speaker with similarities to the audience is more likely to be listened to by that audience.

**C. (REFLECT)** What 3 categories do you belong to? How might you use these similarities to your advantage when sharing the Gospel of Jesus?

**30. *But he was a prophet & knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Peter describes David as a prophet. However, David was actually a king. He shows that the gift of prophecy can be given by God to anyone, even somebody who is already being used by God greatly in another area. What a joy, that God told David that David's own descendant would sit on the very throne of God!

**C. (REFLECT)** In what area are you being used by God in your church? What second area do you think that God may use you in?

**31. *Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The body of Jesus did not see decay. Neither did Jesus stay in Hell.

**C. (REFLECT)** The permanency of death & Hell is a spooky thing. It has been said that to be in Hell for one second would send tremors of nightmares throughout the remainder of your life. Please describe what you think Hell is like. Imagine, that Jesus went to that terrible & vile place so that we would not have to! What love!

**32. *God has raised this Jesus to life, & we are all witnesses of it.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** When Peter says that “we are all witnesses,” he is not referring to the entire crowd, for many of them had just arrived for the Feast of Pentecost (harvest festival). Thus he is informing the crowd that Jesus’ life was witnessed by hundreds. Jewish law requires that there must be at least two witnesses to declare that something has happened. Yet Jesus had over 500 witnesses observe that He was alive.

**C. (REFLECT)** As believers, we have the privilege of knowing that Jesus is no longer dead. While the New Testament 500 saw Jesus face-to-face, we see Him through faith. If you had been there when Jesus appeared to the 500 after his resurrection, and if He came over to you, what would you ask Him?

**33. *Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit & has poured out what you now see & hear.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** After Jesus (*God the Son*) ascended into Heaven, He sat at the right side of *God the Father*. *God the Father* gave to *God the Son*, the gift of *God the Holy Spirit* to pour out on all believers. There are three distinctive branches of the Trinity (Father, Son & Holy Spirit) referred to here.

**C. (REFLECT)** Recite what the specific separate responsibilities are of each of the three branches of the Trinity in this verse.

**34. *For David did not ascend to heaven, & yet he said, "The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** King David had stated that Jesus would sit at His Heavenly Father's right hand. The right hand, as referring to a King, is the most important place in the Kingdom. Solomon had a throne for his mom Bathsheba, placed beside his, on the right side. He once stated, "I will give you up to half the Kingdom, should you request it". For King David to state that a throne was at the right side of God the Father, & also distinguishing that The Father was "THE" Lord & that the Son was "MY" Lord, he was stating that the right hand throne was a place where Jesus was to defend David, representing David at all times, each time David sinned &/or pleased God.

**C. (REFLECT)** When we sin, we feel miserable. We have displeased God, our delightful Creator & Savior. Yet as our Redeemer, Jesus reminds His Father each time we sin, that His crucifixion & resurrection paid for our sins. Do you know a song that says "Thank You" to the Lord for what He has done? Let us sing it now...

**35. *until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** God has claimed that all the enemies of Jesus will become His servants. Since we are identified with Jesus, our enemies are His enemies. That means all our enemies will become His servants.

**C. (REFLECT)** Who do you consider an enemy? What will be the responsibility of your enemies to Jesus?

**36. *"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord & Messiah."***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** God had made Jesus both Lord & Messiah. Jesus was already Lord & Messiah, from all time past through all time future. However, the designation as both “Lord & Messiah” was recognized by mankind after the resurrection. “Lord” reveals Jesus as the One who is in command of the entire planet. “Messiah” recognizes Him as the purchaser & Redeemer of the planet.

**C. (REFLECT)** The encouragement in knowing that Jesus is both our Redeemer & Owner reflects upon the concept of Jesus both purchasing us from slavery & also providing for us our freedom. The world today seeks & cries out for freedom. Freedom from hunger, freedom from unjust laws, & even freedom from our own selfish desires. Name one freedom that you have experienced since you became a Christian.

**37. *When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart & said to Peter & the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The people were immediately responsive & repentant. They sought something that they could do in response, to free themselves from the guilt cast upon them after they killed Jesus.

**C. (REFLECT)** This sense of guilt is crucial for salvation. Just as a swimmer cannot be rescued until he admits that he is drowning, likewise, a sinner cannot be rescued until he admits his sinfulness as well as his need for a Savior. What changes do you think you would see in the following people after they become Christians: a) a drug dealer, b) a thief, 3) a prostitute, 4) a homosexual, 5) a liar, 6) a cheater, 7) a gossip, 8) a murderer, 9) a pedophile, 10) a glutton.

**38. *Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** When Peter commands the people to repent & be baptized for the forgiveness of their sins, he is not telling them that baptism is necessary for salvation. We know this because the Greek word “eis” (“for”) is translated as “because of” & not “in order for”. However, in other passages it is clearly brought forth that repentance is necessary for salvation.

**C. (REFLECT)** The Trinity is seen here. Can you find all three branches of the Trinity: Father, Son & Holy Spirit? Please show where in each instance. What are the responsibilities of each Person of the Trinity in his verse?

**39. *The promise is for you & your children & for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The Promise of salvation for all of those who believe is not limited to the people in their immediate vicinity, nor their age group, as long as they are called by God.

**C. (REFLECT)** In what way could this verse be a challenge for becoming a missionary? If you were to choose one of these three groups as your main focus for evangelism, which would it be? (a) people at your job, (b) your family, & working with children, (c) people in another city or province or country.

**40. *With many other words he warned them; & he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** quoting of Peter’s sermon is cut short, but the main idea still is understood: “Get saved.”

**C. (REFLECT)** When Peter “warned & pleaded”, he was truly emotional. Warning & pleading imply great danger ahead, as when parents will warn & plead with their child to find less dangerous buddies (friends), lest they be led into doing bad things. Have you ever witnessed a person in a dangerous situation, such as swimming in deep water, or a child about to fall off a chair or about to put their tiny fingers into an electrical outlet? Please tell what you did to “warn & plead” that they not hurt themselves.

**41. *Those who accepted his message were baptized, & about three thousand were added to their number that day.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Not everyone accepted Peter’s message of salvation. But many, many (3,000 in one day!) did.

**C. (REFLECT)** Sometimes we focus on our failures instead of our successes. God never told us that we have to convert people though. He only told us to preach the Gospel & make disciples. What excuse might a person claim, who hears the Gospel (message of salvation through Jesus) and yet decide not to accept Christ's free gift of eternal life?