

# The Apostles—Acts 2

## The Day of Pentecost

### I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

**2:13...** NEW WINE—“**With new wine** (*gleukous*). Sweet wine, but intoxicating. Sweet wine kept a year was very intoxicating. Genitive case here after *memesto menoí eisín* (periphrastic perfect passive indicative), old verb *mestoo* , only here in the N.T. Tanked up with new wine, state of fullness” [*Robertson’s Word Pictures*].

**2:38...** TO OBTAIN or BECAUSE OF???”—“The term *eis* is employed some 1,773 times in the New Testament (Smith, 109), and never is it translated ‘because of.’ Furthermore, it is obvious that ‘repent’ and ‘be immersed’ have the same goal, inasmuch as these verbs are joined by the conjunction ‘and.’ Therefore, ‘because of’ could not possibly be the meaning of *eis* in this passage. Shall it be argued that one repents ‘because of’ forgiveness already received? Some, however, attempt to separate the verbs so as to divorce immersion from ‘remission of sins.’ Stanley Troussaint of the Dallas Theological Seminary has argued that because ‘repent ye’ is a plural form, and ‘remission of your sins’ is plural, these phrases must go together, and since ‘be immersed each of you’ is singular, this phrase must be separated from the others. The net result of this fanciful interpretation is that it drives a wedge between baptism and the remission of sins, thus satisfying the professor’s Baptist theology. The grammatical theory is pure invention with no basis in sound scholarship. As a matter of fact, the argument is not new. N.B. Hardeman dealt with this quibble in his debate with Ben N. Bogard in 1938—‘...’, I wrote a letter to F.W. Gingrich, co-translator of the famous *Arndt-Gingrich Greek English Lexicon of the New Testament and other Early Christian Literature*. ... Dear Professor Gingrich: Is it grammatically possible that the phrase *for the remission of sins* in Acts 2:38, expresses the force of both verbs, *repent ye*, and *be baptized each of you* even though these verbs differ in both person and number? ...’, Gingrich replied: Yes, The difference between *metanoesate* (repent) and *baptistheto* (be baptized) is simply that the first, the people are viewed together in the plural, while in the second the emphasis is on each individual’ ” [Wayne Jackson, *The Acts of the Apostles—From Jerusalem to Rome*, pp. 27-28]. Of course, a look at Matthew 26:28 is also instructive. The identical phrase, both in Greek and English is used here.

**2:38...** THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST—“All who believe and are immersed as commanded by Jesus Christ, are to receive the Holy Spirit’s gift, eternal life. ... The phrase, ‘the Holy Spirit’ is in the genitive case - the case used to show possession and/or ownership, among other uses. The gift is something belonging to the Holy Spirit in some way or manner. A different word for ‘gift’ is used in Romans 6:23, but the construction is the same as here in Acts 2:38. There we find ‘The gift of God is eternal life...’ The gift belongs to God. He gives the gift. God is not the gift. Eternal life is the gift, both in Acts 2:38 and Romans 6:23. The Son also gives eternal life (Jn 17:2). In Romans 6:23 ‘God’ is the Godhead - a.. of God - Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit” [Harold Littrell, *A Commentary on the Book of Acts*, p. 29].

### II. Chronology.

**BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Church.**

**III. Summary.**

J.D. Bales labeled this chapter, “The Hub of the Bible.” It is indeed a very important chapter of the Bible. The event recorded here by Luke is the beginning of the kingdom/church. Jesus had promised some that stood before Him that they would see this day come before they tasted death (Mk 9:1). Before Acts 2 the kingdom is spoken of as being in the future (Dan 2:44; Mt 16:16-18); after this chapter, the church is spoken of as a present reality (Col 1:13; Rev 1:9). In Acts 1:8 Jesus told the apostles that the POWER would come after the Holy Spirit came upon them. The first four verses of this chapter tell of the Holy Spirit baptism of the apostles. The day was the first Pentecost following the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. This baptism in the Spirit was accompanied with visible and audible manifestations which drew together a crowd of the Jews from many different countries (they were in Jerusalem for Pentecost). The crowd was amazed and wondered what it all meant. Some explained the phenomena they were witnessing as some men that were full of new wine (v. 13). Peter stood up with the eleven and began to give the true explanation for what was happening. It was the fulfillment of Joel’s prophecy (Joel 2:28-32). In verses 22 and 23, Peter charges these Jews with crucifying Jesus. In verses 24-36 he shows how the events of the cross relate to Jesus’ reign on David’s throne. The people are cut to the heart and ask: “What shall we do?” Peter answers. More information is given about the beginning of the church in verses 39-47.

**IV. Outline.**

*[One of the finest and simplest outlines I’ve ever seen of this great chapter was written by my friend, B.J. Clarke, of the Southaven church of Christ, near Memphis. I am listing the main points of that outline below—DRL].*

1. Infilling (Acts 2:1-4).
2. Inspiration (Acts 2:5-21).
3. Indictment (Acts 2:22-23).
4. Interpretation (Acts 2:24-36).
5. Inquiry (Acts 2:37).
6. Invitation (Acts 2:38-41).
7. Increase (Acts 2:42-47).

**V. Questions.****True or False**

01. \_\_\_\_\_ We can be sure that Acts 2 does not contain ALL of that first gospel sermon.
02. \_\_\_\_\_ Peter calls David a PROPHET.
03. \_\_\_\_\_ Peter calls David a PATRIARCH.
04. \_\_\_\_\_ Peter simply ignored the charges of the mockers.
05. \_\_\_\_\_ The events of Acts 2 took place on the first day of the week.

**Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)**

06. \_\_\_\_\_ The UNITY of those first Christians in Jerusalem is described by the words: (a) with one accord; (b) each according to his own; (c) singleness of heart; (d) A & c; (e) a, b, & c.
07. \_\_\_\_\_ God made Jesus both: (a) King and Servant; (b) Lord and Christ; (c) Wise and Unwise.
08. \_\_\_\_\_ Which of the following were NOT included as ways God showed approval of Jesus: (a) tongues; (b) signs; (c) wonders; (d) miracles.
09. \_\_\_\_\_ When Peter stood up to speak, what part of the day was it: (a) morning; (b) afternoon; (c) evening.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Other than WHAT SHALL WE DO, was there another question asked by the crowd? (a) YES; (b) NO.

**Fill in the Blanks**

11. "... the \_\_\_\_\_ came together and were \_\_\_\_\_ because every man heard them \_\_\_\_\_ in his own \_\_\_\_\_."
12. I can be sure that the events which happened on Pentecost of Acts 2 are the fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32 because Peter says \_\_\_\_\_.
13. "And it shall come to pass that \_\_\_\_\_ shall call upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_\_."
14. By the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ is the position Peter claimed was occupied by Jesus as he was speaking to the assembled crowd.
15. "\_\_\_\_\_ came upon \_\_\_\_\_; and many \_\_\_\_\_ and signs were done by the \_\_\_\_\_."

*Each Question is worth 7 Points*

**My Score is:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers will be found on next week's handout*

**ANSWERS to Lesson 02-113...** [01—True, Mk 16:20; 02—True, Lk 24:50; 03—False, Lk 24:52; 04—False, Acts 1:9; 05—True, Acts 1:12; 06—c, Acts 1:12; 07—c, Acts 1:10-11; 08—b, Lk 24:53; 09—a, Lk 24:49; 10—b, Mk 16:20; 11—had, spoken, up, right, hand, Mk 16:19; 12—Amen, Mk 16:20; 13—worshipped, great, joy, Lk 24:52; 14—steadfastly, Acts 1:10; 15—like, manner, Acts 1:11.]

## VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...they were all with one accord in one place** (Acts 2:1). The THEY of this verse (and verse 4) find their antecedent in Acts 1:26: APOSTLES. It was the APOSTLES and only the apostles who were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. This is just as our Lord told them it would be in Acts 1:8. In verse 14 we find Peter standing with the ELEVEN; in verse 37 the Jews spoke to Peter and the rest of the APOSTLES. It does not refer to the 120 disciples of Acts 1:15!
2. **...began to SPEAK with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance** (Acts 2:4). The wording of this verse seems, to me at least, to rule out the possibility that this miracle was a miracle of HEARING. The word is, *APOPHTHENGOMAI* and is also found in Acts 2:14 and Acts 26:25.
3. **But this is that...** (Acts 2:16). The TRUE explanation of what was happening was that it was the fulfilling of Joel's prophecy. We need have no doubt about whether or not this refers to Joel 2:28ff when we have an inspired apostle stating that THIS IS THAT!
4. **...ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain** (Acts 2:23). Here is some pretty PLAIN preaching being done. Try to imagine how you would feel if you were a Jew in that assembly on that Pentecost Day. Later (vv. 33, 36) Peter tells the assembled Jews that God has now exalted Jesus to reign at His right hand. They had called for His crucifixion, whereas God had exalted Him. They now find themselves fighting against God or opposing God's will. Is it any wonder that the honest ones among this crowd were PRICKED in their hearts and desirous of knowing what they should do to correct the wrong (v. 37)?
5. **Praising God and having favor with all the people...** (Acts 2:47). Generally speaking, the behavior of the early church was of such fashion, that they were appreciated by those outside. This was not universally, so, because we read in the next

chapters about persecution coming upon the brethren. However, following the system of ethics contained in the doctrine of Christ will lead to a good influence in whatever community we find ourselves with the exception of among those who are so steeped in the various and sundry doctrines of Satan that they cannot recognize goodness!

**VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.**

P O I U Y T R E W Q L K J H G F D S A M  
 N B V C C X Z K F E L L O W S H I P B L  
 K J H O G F D S A N P O I U Y T R R R E  
 W Q M N N B V C X I Z P I H Y T R A E Q  
 A D Z T X S W E D R C V F R T G B Y A D  
 B L N I H Y U J M T Y O P R F V C E K A  
 D O Q N A Z X S W C E D C V D G F R I E  
 B S G U T Y H N M O J U I N O L P S N R  
 E D C E V F R T G D B N A H Y A U I G B  
 S T E D F A S T L Y W S S X C D D E R W  
 R F V B G T Y H N M U E D C X L Q A Z O  
 X S W E D C V F R O T G B N H Y Y U J R  
 B G T R F N V C H E W B R E C E I V E D  
 Z A Q W O S X T C D A E R F V B G T Y H  
 N H Y M U J E N H P V F R W S X C V N H  
 Y T M E D E C V T B G T Y H N S I G N S  
 C O D B R N H I Y H N B G T R F V C D E  
 C X S H W E Z D C V F R T F E A R B G T  
 Y H T N B E G W O N D E R S E D C X S W  
 A Z A D D E D C D E R F V B G T Y D R L

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

**Acts 2:41-45...** <sup>41</sup>Then they that **gladly received** his **word** were **baptized**: and the same day there were **added** unto them about **three thousand** souls. <sup>42</sup>And they **continued steadfastly** in the apostles' **doctrine** and **fellowship**, and in **breaking** of **bread**, and in **prayers**. <sup>43</sup>And **fear** came upon every soul: and many **wonders** and **signs** were done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>And all that believed were together, and had all things **common**; <sup>45</sup>And **sold** their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need.