

## Pentecost Realized – Acts 2:14-41

Can you imagine seeing 3000 people added to the church in 1 day?

What was it about this sermon/day/crowd that led to such a response?

- **The Sermon** -What made this sermon a “great” sermon was not based on... who gave it, or it’s style, or even its length.

What made this a great sermon was simply that it was...

- 1) **Biblical** – Peter used the Scriptures to bring truth & understanding to their current day and situation! **Every great sermon has God’s voice as the primary communicator!**
- 2) **Christ-focused** –Peter’s message was all about Christ & what He has accomplished through His life, death, resurrection & ascension! **If Christ is not the main point of the sermon then it will never be great**
- 3) **Bold** – Peter spoke with great boldness, no matter the cost to himself! **Great preaching is found in a preacher who boldly speaks the truth and does not shrink back from it!**
- 4) **Reasonable** – Peter reasoned with the people he was preaching to. **Great preaching does not just communicate God’s Word, it also points to how one can/must apply that Word to their lives!**

Peter’s sermon was a great sermon, but great sermons can be, and are preached today as well. *The question is what effect are they having?*

A great sermon does not guarantee a great response!

- **The Day** – Pentecost was a special day. This was a day filled with signs and wonders. It was a day when a great sermon was given. **It was the day the promised Holy Spirit came.**

What did all these things, on this day, have in common? They all testified to the reality of who Jesus was/is! Read Acts 2:36

This was a day of great revelation & inauguration! **The day of salvation had come, and it came through the one in whom the people crucified!**

What’s important to remember is that today is still the day of salvation, the same Holy Spirit is still at work piercing the hearts of man (Vs. 37).

*So what is keeping us from having the same outcome today as they did on the day of Pentecost recorded here in Acts 2?*

*Do we believe that the Holy Spirit can do this good work in our day as well?*

Just as we are in need of great sermons today, so too are we in great need of God’s Spirit to be at work in our world saving the lost!

**Today is the day of salvation, so let’s trust that the days of seeing 3000 souls saved at a time are not behind us, but still a present & future possibility!**

Preaching/sermons are important! The giving of the Holy Spirit is important! But so to, is our response to them!

Acts 2 tells us that the people who heard Peter preach, & those who received the Holy Spirit, **they responded with repentance & faith!**

The purpose of preaching, and the purpose of the coming of the Holy Spirit was to point people to Christ, the hope of salvation! It is no different today!

- **The Crowd** – Peter had an audience that day, & so do we! He preached & so am I. The Holy Spirit was present, and He is present here now.

**The people of Acts 2 responded positively on the day of Pentecost!**  
*What about on this Pentecost day? What about us?*

*What kind of crowd/audience will we be? Jesus laid out 4 different options in His parable of the Sower! What kind of soil are you?*

The rest of the book of Acts shows what happens when the gospel is preached, when the Holy Spirit is present, and when the people respond!

**Pentecost is a day for bringing to God the first fruits of a coming harvest!**  
Let us respond today with the bringing of ourselves before God as the first fruits of a coming harvest – believing that exponential growth is coming!

If we want to see BRC grow, if we want to see our city transformed, if we want to see people come to saving faith in Jesus, then let’s proclaim the gospel, be filled with the Holy Spirit & be people of repentance & faith!

## 5-20-18 Pentecost Realized – Acts 2:14-41

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