

# Studies in the Acts of the Apostles

## NT Survey Lesson 52--Acts 2

**Introduction:** Acts two has been called the "hub of the Bible". It tells the story that serves as the focal point of all O.T. prophesy. In it Peter declares Jesus for the first time to be the Messiah on the throne of David. Looking back upon this day the apostles referred to the events of the day of Pentecost as "the beginning".

### **The Holy Spirit comes to the apostles--Ac. 2:1-13**

1. On what day did the Holy Spirit come? What were the audible and visible signs that the Holy Spirit had come? What did the Holy Spirit cause the disciples to do?
2. From this section determine whether the Holy Spirit descended only upon the twelve or upon the whole 120 disciples mentioned in 1:15. Give reasons for your answer.
3. What can we learn about the nature of tongues from this passage? How does this differ from the "Pentecostal" conception?
4. Why was this a perfect time for the gospel to be preached?
5. What purpose did the miracles of the Holy Spirit's coming serve? How did the multitudes react to the tongues of the apostles?

### **Peter addresses the multitudes concerning Christ--Ac. 2:13-36**

1. How did Peter answer the charge that the apostles were drunk?
2. Of what did Peter say the tongues were a fulfillment? What did the prophesy of Joel actually predict? Is Pentecost the entire fulfillment of Joel's prophecy?
3. What other event did Joel's prophesy mention? Who did God say would be spared from it?
4. What did Peter affirm about Jesus?
5. What proof from Scripture did Peter give that the Christ would die and be raised from the dead?

6. Of whom was David speaking in Ps. 110 when he said, "The Lord said to my Lord..."?
7. What other proof of Jesus' resurrection did Peter mention? What role did the apostles play in all of this?
8. What might we say then is the main point of Peter's sermon?

### **The response to Peter's sermon--Ac. 2:37-41**

1. How did some of the multitudes react to Peter's sermon? What prophecy of Jesus did this fulfill?
2. What did Peter say they should do?
3. What promise did Peter offer? What does it mean?
4. Did Peter only speak the words recorded in this sermon?
5. What was the reaction of the people to Peter's message?

### **The circumstances of the first Christians--Ac. 2:42-47**

1. Describe the worship activities of the first disciples. Define each of the terms in v. 42.
2. How did the disciple continue to confirm that their words were from God? What was the reaction of the people?
3. How did these Christians meet the needs of the poor among them?
4. Were the early Christians associated with each other for social purposes? Was there a distinct in where their social activities took place and where their spiritual activities took place?
5. How did the community around the first Christians view them? Why do you think so?
6. How can we account for the phenomenal growth of the early church? To what were the saved added day by day?