

Intro:

Acts 1 establishes THAT the mission of the church flows from the reign of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. King Jesus has a kingdom and it is advancing!

The Danger of "Buffet-Style" Bible Study

- **The Charismatic Trap:**
Isolating verses 1–13
- **The Intellectualist Trap:**
Isolating verses 14–36
- **The Pragmatic Trap:**
Isolating verses 42–47

The Indissoluble Chain of Acts 2:

- **The Phenomenon (vv. 1–13):** The visible/audible demonstration of the Holy Spirit *demands* an explanation.
- **The Proclamation (vv. 14–36):** The Holy Spirit inspired scriptural explanation *produces* deep covenant conviction.
- **The Preservation (vv. 37–47):** The Holy Spirit *sustains and embodies* the gospel through the local church community.

The Phenomenon and Reaction: (2:1-13)

- **Pentecost**
 - **The Feast of Weeks**
Celebrated fifty days after Passover.
 - **The Giving of the Law**
- **The Signs (v. 2-4)**
 - **The Sound of a Mighty Rushing Wind**
 - **Genesis 2:7** (God breathing life into man) and
 - **Ezekiel 37:9-14** (the breath of God resurrecting a valley of dry bones).
 - **Divided Tongues as of Fire:**
 - **Exodus 19:16-18** (God descending upon Sinai in fire to establish the Old Covenant law).
 - **Resting Fire** In Christ the fire of God's wrath has been satisfied and those in Christ now possess through the Holy Spirit the fire of holiness for every part of their lives
 - **Speaking in Other Tongues as the Spirit Gave Utterance:**
 - **Gen 11:1-9:**
 - At Babel, pride led to the confusion of speech and global scattering.
 - At Pentecost, grace leads to clear, multilingual proclamation and global gathering.

- **Intelligibility vs Unrestrained Speech:** What ears does your heart have?

The Proclamation of Scripture (v. 14–32)

- **Joel 2 (v. 14–21)**
 - **"In the Last Days:** Signals that the coming of the Spirit marks the definitive launch of the final epoch of redemptive history before the final judgment.
 - **"Pour Out My Spirit on All Flesh":** Destroys the walls of nationality, race, gender, age, and socioeconomic status
 - **The Definitive Climax:** *"Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (v. 21). The ultimate design of the Spirit's power is the broad, unhindered proclamation and application of salvific grace.
- **Peter's Explanation (v. 22–24)**
 - **The Reality:**
 - "lawless men"
 - "definite plan and foreknowledge of God"
 - **Primary vs. Secondary Causality**
- **Scriptural Necessity of the Resurrection (v. 24–32)**

- *"It was not possible for him to be held by it" (v. 24). Death cannot hold infinite righteousness.*
- **Psalm 16:** Peter points to David's words: *"You will not let your Holy One see corruption."*
- **Exaltation of Christ (v. 33-36)**
- *"Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain..."*
- **The Confrontation:** *"God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."*

The Preservation: The Gathered Church (2:37-47)

- **Conversion (vv. 37-41)**
- **The Internal Application:** The audience is *"cut to the heart"* This is the explicit work of the Holy Spirit using the sharp blade of the proclaimed Word to pierce human rebellion.
- **The Command to Repent:** Peter demands a wholesale change of mind, a renunciation of personal autonomy, and submission to Christ through baptism.
- **The Effectual Call:** *"Everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself" (v. 39).* The limits of church growth are ultimately bounded by the sovereign, effectual call of God.

- **The Ecclesial Fruit of the Holy Spirit (vv. 42–47)**

- The 3,000 converts do not scatter; they are immediately knit into a visible, highly organized, and disciplined lifestyle.
- The Apostles' Teaching: Submission to scriptural instruction.
- Fellowship Deep, interdependent sharing of life and resources.
- The Breaking of Bread: Regular communion and shared meals celebrating the gospel covenant.
- The Prayers: dependence upon God.

Conclusion

- **The Sovereign Acts of Acts 2:**
 - The Spirit who **pours out** power in verse 1...
 - Is the God who **decrees** the substitutionary cross in verse 23...
 - Is the Lord who **ascends** the throne in verse 33...
 - Is the Savior who **adds** to the church in verse 47.

- **The Rest of Grace:** Our confidence for the future of our families, our church, our local mission and global missions does not depend on our human performance, but on the unshakeable, sovereign grip of the exalted King Jesus as He pours out His Spirit.