

THE BOOK OF ACTS

December 9, 2018

Acts 2:14-21

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. Why is Peter the spokesman for the twelve (c.f., Matthew 16:16)? What is so important about keys to the kingdom of heaven? How does Peter use those keys?
2. Review Peter's actions from just a few weeks earlier (John 18:15-18, 25-27). What factors may have contributed to his denials of the Lord? How is Peter able to take his stand at this time? What makes the difference now?
 - Acts 2:14a
 - Acts 2:4aWhat does each contribute to Peter's newfound boldness? What difference does each make in your own life?
3. What are the two responses of the crowd to what they have seen & heard (2:12, 13)? What do these responses say about the respective groups? How are both groups represented today? What is it that mockers hope to accomplish with their mocking?
4. What is Peter's explanation for what the crowd has witnessed (vv. 15, 16-17)?
5. What time stamp does the fulfillment of this prophecy bear? What time is it (v. 17)? Does it surprise you to find that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit kicks off the last days?
6. The last days are moving toward what? To what else does this prophecy point (v. 20b)? Which parts of the prophecy are associated with this particular day?

7. We must resolve to fight complacency (2 Peter 3:3-4) with a last days mentality. How can we cultivate such a mindset?
 - Luke 21:28
 - 2 Peter 3:9-12
 - Ephesians 6:13
 - 2 Timothy 3:14-17

8. How is Peter able to quote from the Prophet Joel? Are you giving the Holy Spirit anything to work with in your own life?
 - Psalm 1:1-2
 - 1 Peter 2:2
 - Psalm 119:11
 - Ephesians 6:17

9. The statement that God will pour forth of His Spirit on all mankind (v. 17) is revolutionary to this Jewish audience. How is this possible (v. 21)? How does this differ from their previous conception of salvation? (Salvation—for this Jewish crowd, many of whom are Gentile converts to Judaism—was based upon what? Salvation, going forward, is now based upon what?)

10. Identify the urgency expressed in this prophecy. What are the implications of the coming day of the Lord (v. 20b)?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1. I will be more like Peter this week by . . .

2. I will stand up and speak up this week by . . .

3. I will cultivate a last days mindset this week by . . .