

Peter's Gospel

Acts 2:14-41

Introduction:

Outline:

First, the arrival of the gift of God, the Holy Spirit and accompanying miracles (Acts 2:1-13).

Second, a message from Peter that challenges his crowd, and many respond (Acts 2:14-41).

Third, Luke summarizes relational changes of followers of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:42-47).

Did Peter preach the gospel? Paul can help us in Galatians.

The gospel is a story rooted in the truth of God's Word.

The gospel starts with the Creator's good Creation; the creature's choice;
the Creator's Redemptive response; the creatures individual choices;
the Creator's Perfect Recreation.

When I am saved the gospel becomes my story.

The Bible uses the noun (εὐαγγέλιον) for 'gospel' 77 times and the verb (εὐαγγελίζω) 77 times in the Old Testament Septuagint and in the New Testament.

Acts 14:15 - God created the world and is active in it today

Romans 10:15-16; Isaiah 52:7 - God rules the world as its only sovereign

Romans 1:1-3 - Jesus is the promised Messiah sent from God

Acts 1:5-8 - The promised Holy Spirit is come to gather God's people

2 Timothy 1:10 - Jesus opened the door to salvation and eternal life

Did Peter preach the gospel? He starts out defensive; (Acts 2:14-15). Then he turns to the Old Testament with three quotes; Joel 2:28-32; Psalm 16:8-11; Psalm 110:1

Conclusion: Peter knew his audience and gave them the missing pieces of truth that filled in the gaps and challenged them to choose Jesus; to see him as their promised Messiah. He preached the gospel.

The gospel is a story that has critical elements and once we know our audience all we have to do is insert the missing pieces and the Holy Spirit will happily do the rest. The Holy Spirit completes the gospel in us.

St. Francis' statement; "Preach the Word and if necessary use words" misses the point. Speaking is the primary means for preaching the gospel and if we don't live the gospel we disqualify our message. A better statement might be,

'Preach the gospel, always use words and live so that what you preach is not mocked'.