

Peter's Second Sermon

Acts 3:11-26



Recap – a God-prepared opportunity for them to share the good news.

While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon`s Colonnade. When Peter saw this, he said to them..



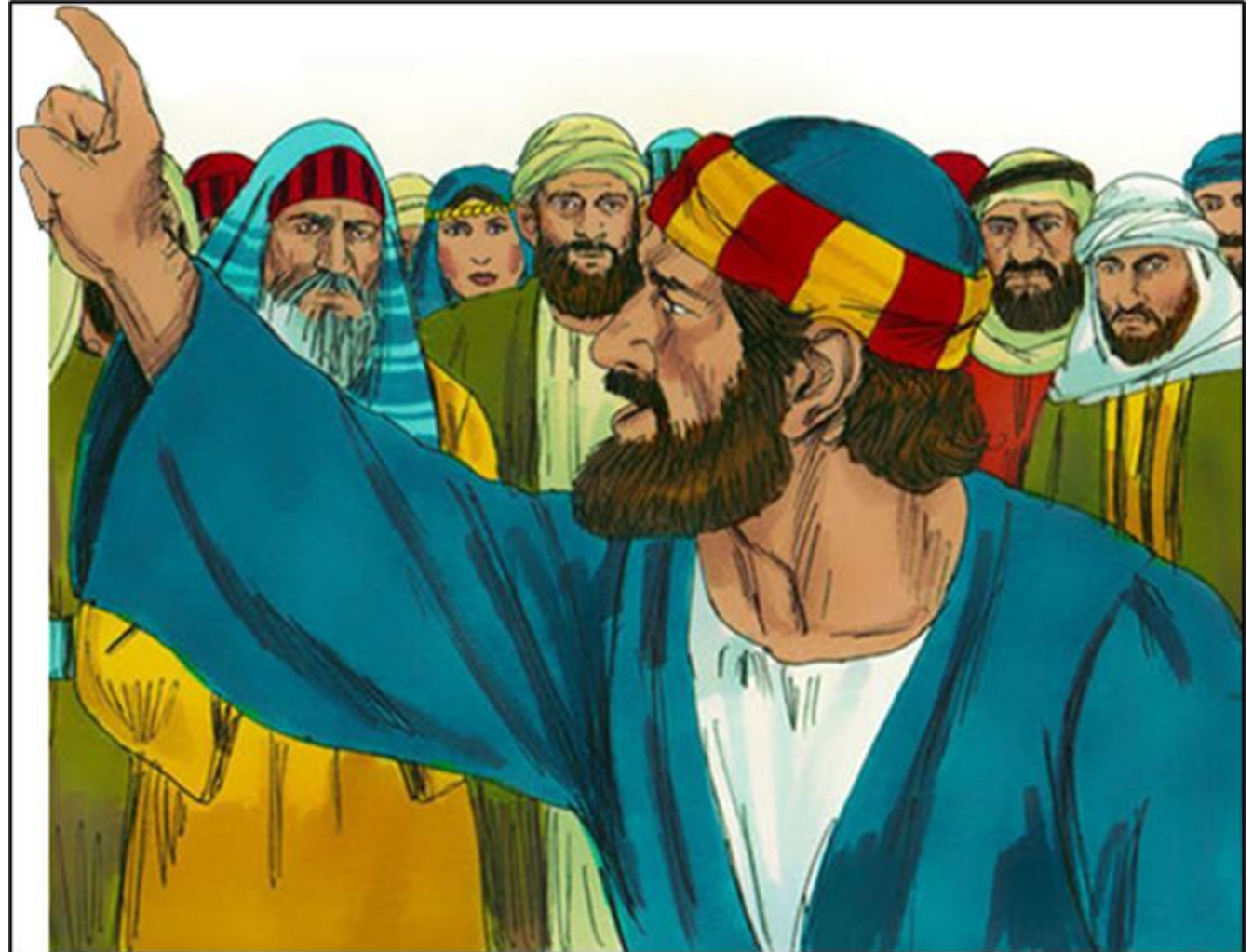
First things first – it wasn't because of us that he was healed

Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?



The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers,
has glorified his servant Jesus.

It was proof of God's work
through his Son
– the Servant- Messiah



Is this Good News?

You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go.

People need to know the truth

We are all guilty sinners

The amazing courage of Peter!



Guilty

You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go.

You are guilty of killing Jesus.

You rejected him before the gentile ruler.

He found him not guilty of all the charges.
(Pilate's selfish weakness contributed too)



On the wrong side

You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you.

They had rejected the Messiah - the righteous for the unrighteous Barabbas.

Here is the gospel mystery illustrated by events -Substitutionary Atonement
The righteous One pays the penalty for the unrighteous to be set free.



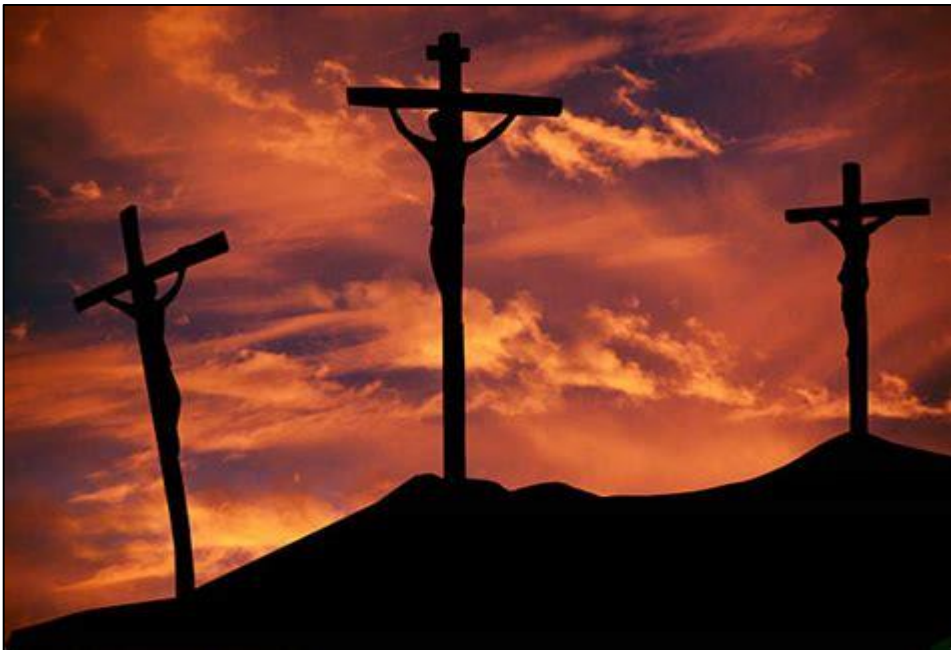
BUT GOD ...

You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead.

The evil of such an evil act is seen by the contrast
You put the life-giver to death.

BUT God - such amazing words

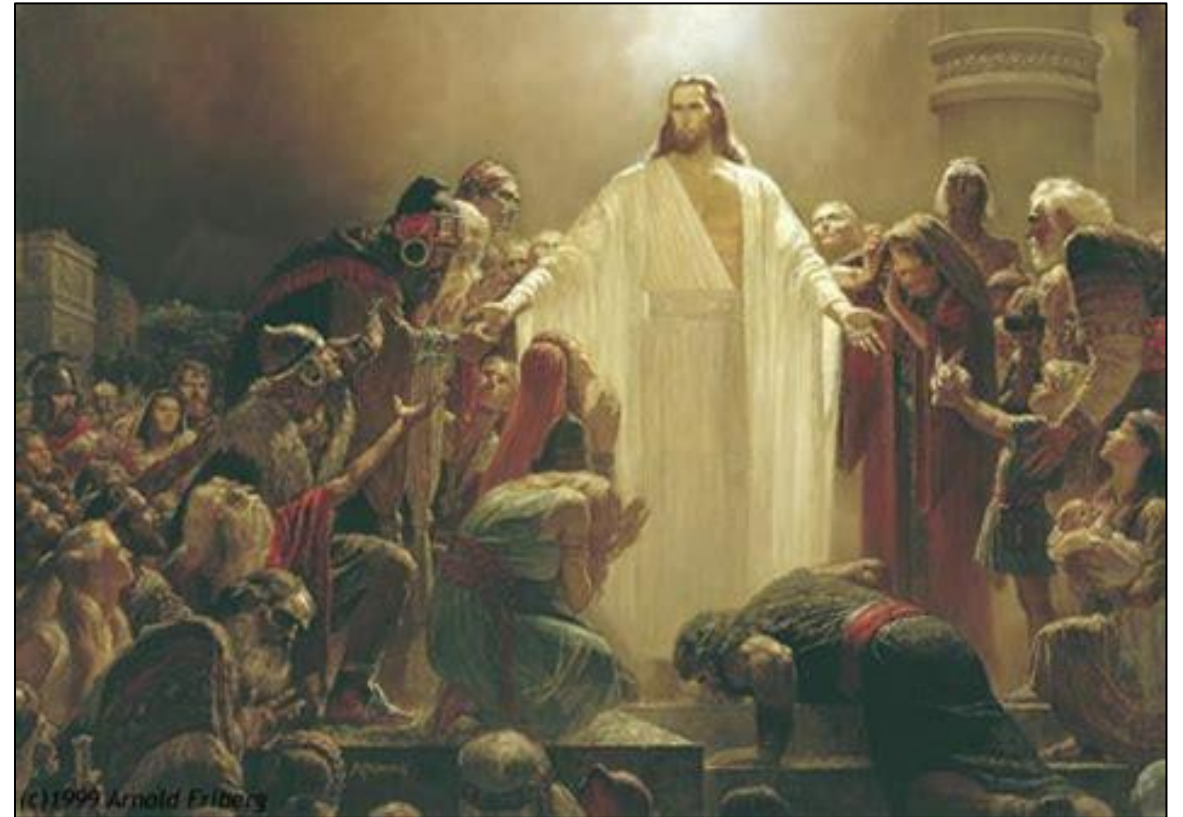
Jesus is alive



Multiple witnesses

We are witnesses of this.

It's true – we have seen him
He really, physically rose from the dead
Multiple witnesses fully confirm the
evidence.



This is what really happened

By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong.

His trust (and ours) in the PERSON (name) of Jesus healed this man you know and can see.



The focus is completely on Jesus

It is Jesus` name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

Responding to him brings faith through him

The result is for all to see -
The lame man
is completely healed



Ignorance can make people do some stupid things

Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders.

It is NOT an excuse but an explanation
(sins committed in ignorance are still sins)

We see this in Jesus' words :—
“Father forgive them (they have sinned)
for they don't know (realise) what they are
doing.” (ignorance)

Luke 23:34



BUT God – again!!

But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer.

It was part of the Salvation plan.

Scriptures were given by God through the prophets.

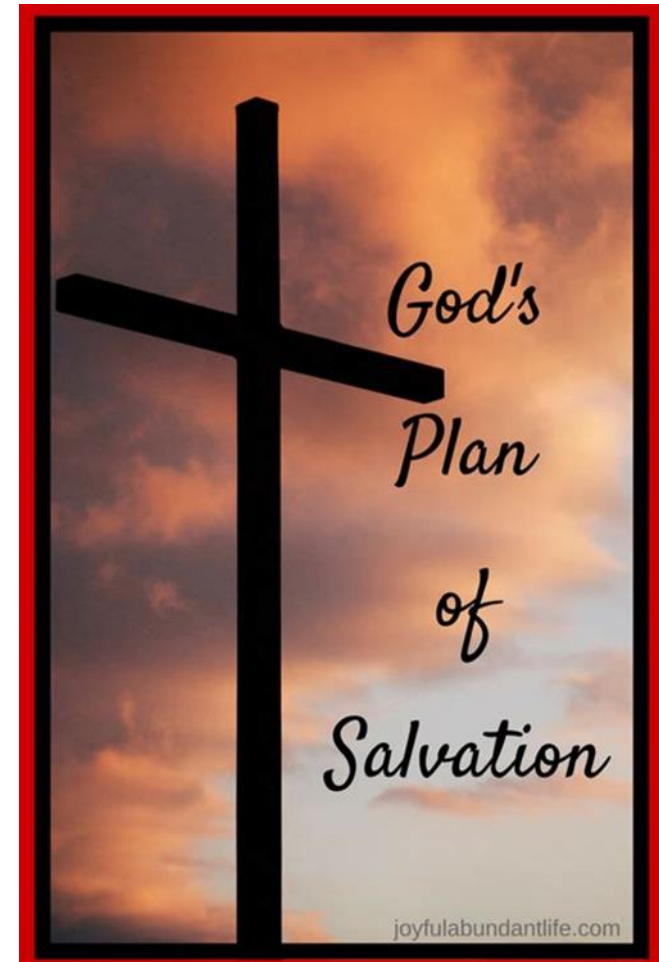
Messiah must suffer first before the glory.

This has been a stumbling block to so many

– we only want a victorious Messiah

Cf. the disciples on the Emmaus road:-

Luke 24:26 Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?



Action!

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out,

A response is necessary – not just hearing information



Repentance and Faith

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out,

Repent – turn from sin (recognising it as wrong and being sorry because of it)

Faith – turn to God (the only source of hope)



Forgiveness

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out,

Sins wiped out !
Forgiven – a clean start

The 2 are connected

It's a promise



Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you--even Jesus.

God sent blessings – refreshing from the Lord’s working.

Peace, joy, access to God
Useful service, purpose, a future



The King is coming

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you--even Jesus.

The Lord Jesus Christ is coming
back – as victor
You are included in the invitation
Jesus is your Messiah (Christ)



Jesus is now in heaven

He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

UNTIL - God's time to establish his kingdom on earth.



God has promised

He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

He will restore everything - ultimately in a new heaven and earth



It was a long time ago he spoke but it is coming !

the Messiah-prophet

For Moses said, `The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people;

Right at the beginning of the nation's existence Moses wrote about the Messiah-prophet in Deuteronomy 18:18



Like Moses ?

For Moses said, `The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people;

He would be like Moses :—
a great leader, prophet,
a fellow Israelite



listen

For Moses said, `The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you.

You must listen to ALL he says
(listening means 'doing').

'Listen to all he says' means he speaks
with authority – God's words



Mark 1:22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

John 14:10 The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

Terrible consequences to refusing the good news

For Moses said, `The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from among his people.`



Into the dark

It's in the Special Book

Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days.

Luke 24:44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.



You are living in the times of their fulfilment

It's for you

And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant
God made with your fathers.

God made the covenant promises to Israel's fathers = ancestors



The classic promise

He said to Abraham,
`Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.`

Offspring = people
But first through THE offspring
– the Messiah

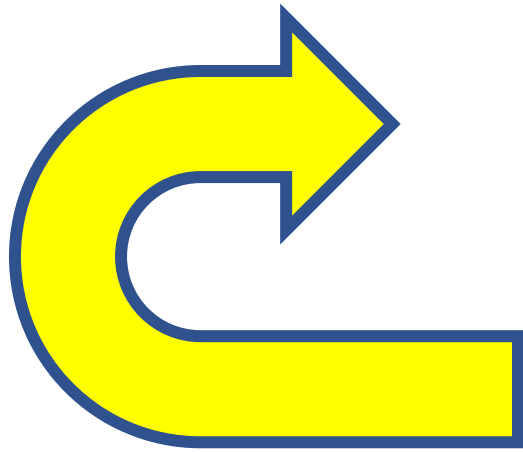
Genesis 22:18



Children of Abraham -> take the blessing to all peoples

God's first message from Jesus is for you

When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.



Blessing first consists of his turning us from our sin and its practices
Then the blessing of living to please him as our grateful response.

This gracious offer has now come to us.

The result – Peter and John get arrested!



Warning:

Believing and sharing the gospel could get you into trouble.