**First Gospel Sermon Preached**

**Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday October 8th, 2017**

**Text: Acts 2**

**Intro**

1. The answer to the darkness of sin in the world is what it has always been: the word of God!
   1. To the Jews: The Law of Moses set them apart from the world! *(Deut. 26:17-19; 33:29)*
   2. To the Jews/Gentiles/World: The gospel is to be preached! *(Rom. 1:16; James 1:21)*
2. Jesus Christ as Savior is central to God’s Word! *(Gen. 3:15; 12:3; Acts 5:31; 13:23; Gal. 3:26-29)* – Light is the answer to darkness! (Jn. 1:4-5; II Cor. 4:6)
3. ***Acts 2***iscentral to the promised day of salvation
   1. All previous promises point forward to Acts 2 *(Is. 2:1-3; Mk. 9:1; Acts 1:8)*
   2. All references to present reality of salvation point back to Acts 2! *(Acts 3:24-26; 11:17-18)*
4. Last work of Christ on earth was to prepare Apostles for the events of Acts 2!
   1. **Mk. 16:15-20:** The Great Commission
   2. **Acts 1:8:** Begin at Jerusalem *(Is. 2:1-3)*
5. Let us learn the valuable lessons found in the 1st gospel sermon!

1. **Acts 2:1-13: Proof of Divine Origin of the Gospel** 
   1. **2:1-4:** Miraculous Signs Heard & Seen
      1. Evidence to ears: sound of stormy wind
      2. Evidence to eyes: appearance of fire
      3. Evidence to mind: spoke in foreign languages
      4. Clear evidence of divine power! *(II Pet. 1:19-21)*
   2. **2:5-13:** Amazed: Preaching in All Languages *(II Pet. 1:19-21)*
      1. “Tongue” (Acts 2:4, 8, 11) = “language” (vs. 6)
      2. Galileans preaching in 15 languages!
      3. What is the meaning & purpose of this miracle? *Proves divine origin of message!* **(Heb. 2:1-4)**
   3. Not Like Modern Claims of Miracles & Tongues (“Spiritual Experiences”)
      1. No sound of storm, only confused shouting
      2. No appearance of fire, only banners & pictures
      3. No preaching in foreign languages known by audience but not by speakers, only unintelligible babble
      4. False claims expose false message(s)!
   4. The Holy Spirit filling the apostles confirmed the word as from God and not men!
2. **Acts 2:14-21: New Age of Revelation & Salvation** 
   1. **2:14-15:** Peter refutes charge that they were drunk!
   2. **2:16-21:** God’s Promise Fulfilled: New Age of Revelation & Salvation
      1. **2:16:** Prophecy in Joel 2:28-32
      2. **2:17-18:** New revelations given
      3. **2:19-20:** Old order to be replaced
         1. A new covenant & a new Israel replace old order as when God replaced Babylon (Is. 13:1, 9-11; Jer. 31:31-34; Lk. 22:20)
      4. **2:21:** The day of salvation has come!
   3. In Contrast to False Theories Today
      1. Not teaching continuance of Law of Moses but the end of this old order which cannot save *(Hebrews 9-10; esp. 9:13-23; 10:1-4)*
      2. Not teaching “one covenant” theory
         1. Theory denies “old” & “new” covenants
         2. Theory claims one moral law in all ages
   4. Peter confirms that the new covenant foretold of by the prophets was fulfilled in Christ!
3. **Acts 2:22-36: Death & Resurrection of Christ** 
   1. **2:22-24:** Jesus Christ Crucified & Risen (According to the Scriptures – I Cor. 15:3-4)
   2. **2:25-28:** David Prophesied the Savior’s Resurrection *(Ps. 16:8-11)*
      1. **2:27:** Soul not remain in hades *(receptacle of the dead – Lk. 16:19-31)*
      2. **2:27: Bo**dy not decay
   3. **2:29-36:** David’s Prophecy Fulfilled by Christ Not by David
      1. Proof that Jesus Christ and Not David Raised!
         1. **2:29-31:** David still in tomb, Christ raised to sit on his throne
         2. **2:32:** Apostles were eye-witnesses *(Lk. 1:2; Jn. 1:14; Acts 1:8; II Pet. 1:16; I Jn. 1:3)*
         3. **2:33:** Christ sent the Holy Spirit and caused the Pentecost miracles! (Acts 1:8)
         4. **2:34-36:** David’s soul in hades, Jesus raised as Lord & Christ!
   4. Not Teaching Human Theories
      1. Theory of materialism denies soul
         1. **Acts 2:26-27, 31, 34:** Body in grave, soul in hades
      2. Theory of reincarnation denies resurrection
         1. **Acts 2:24, 30-32:** Raised up, resurrection-affirmed & proven
      3. Theory of modernism denies miracles as historical events, claims pious legends
         1. **Acts 2:1-4, 22-24:** Events witnessed as real (*Lk. 1:2; Acts 1:8; I Cor. 15:3-8; II Pet. 1:16; I Jn. 1:3)*
         2. **Acts 2:29-36:** One tomb occupied, the other empty!
      4. Theory of premillennialism denies Christ is now ruling in his kingdom
         1. **Acts 2:30, 36:** Raised to reign on His throne
         2. If promised kingdom failed 1st time, why believe Him again?
   5. Jesus lived, died for sins, was buried, and was resurrected, and now reigns in Heaven!
4. **Acts 2:37-40: Conditions of Pardon** 
   1. **2:37:** Many Convinced, But Do Not Know How to Receive Salvation
      1. Must “call” (ask in proper way, 2:21):  ***How?***
   2. **2:38-39:** How to Receive Salvation
      1. “Whosoever” (vs. 21): all men invited (vs. 39)
      2. “Call” (vs. 21; *Joel 2:32):* repent & immersed (vs. 38; 22:16; Rom. 10:12-13)
      3. “Name of the Lord *[YHWH]” (vs. 21: “Kurios”):* “Jesus Christ” *(Phil. 2:5, 9)*
      4. “Saved” (vs. 21): “forgiveness of sins” (vs. 38)
      5. “Gift of the Holy Spirit:” (vs. 38):
         1. Restored to fellowship with God (II Cor. 13:14)
         2. All spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3)
         3. “The promise of the Spirit” given to Abraham: “In you shall all nations be blessed” (Gen. 12:3; Gal. 3:8, 14, 26-29)
         4. “The promise” to all who obey the gospel (Acts 2:39; Gal. 3:26-29)
   3. **2:40:** Gospel Invitation Urgent! *(Mt. 25:34, 41, 46; Rev. 20:11-15; 21:3-7)*
      1. Many other words warning, pleading!
      2. Souls valuable! *(Mk. 8:36)*
      3. Hell eternal: torment, anguish, regret!
      4. Heaven eternal: unbroken fellowship with God, no sin, sickness, or death!
   4. Not Preaching Doctrines of Men
      1. Not baby baptism:
         1. **2:21:** Must call on the Lord’s name to be saved
         2. **2:36-38:** Must believe, repent, & be immersed to ask pardon
      2. Not salvation by faith only:
         1. **2:21:** Must call on the Lord’s name to be saved—How call?
         2. **2:36-38:** Must believe, repent, & be immersed to ask pardon (22:16)
   5. **The first gospel sermon preached called upon men to repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins, and thus calling on the name of the Lord for salvation!**
5. **Acts 2:41-47: Response & Results** 
   1. **2:41:** Many Received Salvation (3,000 souls)
      1. Baptized immediately, no delay
      2. All baptized to receive salvation
         1. No leading the crowd into a prayer for salvation!
         2. No direct operation of the Holy Spirit on the sinner’s soul
         3. Not accept Jesus before & without water baptism
      3. How to Receive Salvation: Contrast Peter & Religious World’s Sinner’s Prayer
         * 1. Peter: “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38).
           2. Sinner’s Prayer: Repent and pray to Jesus asking for forgiveness and invite Him into your heart and you will be saved!
      4. God added them all together as one body in Christ - not separated into denominational bodies!
   2. **2:42:** United and devoted to the apostles’ teaching!
      1. Apostles of Christ inspired by the Holy Spirit to teach them *(II Pet. 1:19-21)*
         1. Infallible, inerrant, preserved in the Scriptures
         2. Teaching imperative (Mt. 28:20)
   3. **2:43:** Apostles Teaching Confirmed by Signs
      1. As Jesus promised *(Mk. 16:15-20)*
      2. Gospel message fully revealed & confirmed  in New Testament–nothing can be added – Heb. 2:1-4; Jude 3 *(Gal. 1:6-9)*
   4. **2:44-45:** Use of Church Treasury
      1. Kept by Apostles, used as they instructed by inspiration *(Acts 4:35, 37; 5:2)*
      2. “In common” = fellowship with God expressed in fellowship with needy saints
      3. Treasury not used to entertain or for sinners in the world *(Acts 3:1-8: Lame man)*
   5. **2:46-47:** Spirit of Unity in Christ
      1. Daily meetings in the temple: teaching, teaching, & more teaching!
      2. Hospitality: social gatherings in homes (Heb. 13:1-2)
      3. Their godly lives distinctive, admired by unbelievers (Mt. 5:16; I Pet. 2:12)
      4. Constant evangelism: sinners baptized, added by Christ to His church (NKJ)
   6. The response and results of the 1st gospel sermon was many souls were saved and they were united in faith and practice as the church of Christ!

**Conclusion**

1. Valuable lessons in the 1st gospel sermon:
   1. **One true church established by Christ, NOT diverse bodies with earthly headquarters, boards, powerful executives, & human names**
   2. **Guided strictly by the Apostles’ doctrine, NOT diverse doctrines of men (Catholic, Lutheran, Calvinism, Methodist, Baptist, etc. or compromise with worldliness, false doctrine, evolution, & unbelief)**
   3. **Pattern of worship revealed by Apostles, NOT diverse forms of worship (ritualism, shouting, instrumental music, choirs, concerts, dramas, dancing, all-life-is-worship, etc.)**
   4. **United work of evangelism, edification, & benevolence NOT fragmented in factions by human leaders, competition, jealousy, obsessive opinionated bickering, grudges, bitterness, etc.**
2. The first gospel sermon preached saved souls from the inspiration of the word of God, NOT through entertainment or human wisdom and doctrines of men!
3. To answer the need of souls lost in sin around us, let us simply preach the gospel!
4. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
5. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
6. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!