

Easter sermon study questions for Acts 2:21-41

1. This passage is Peter's sermon to thousands of Jews who had 6 weeks earlier rejected Jesus and asked for his execution. What is the purpose of this sermon in 2:21? What is the Lord urging His enemies to do? Considering this, what does this indicate about His heart toward them? What does this reveal about the Lord's plan for us in dealing with enemies of the gospel?
2. In 2:22, what did Jesus want the crowds to remember about Him while He was on earth?
3. Jesus' death was misinterpreted as evidence of God's disfavor with Jesus. They had mocked Him on the cross saying "If He is the Son of God, let Him come down." Jesus' death on a cross was evidence of being cursed by God. Yet in 2:23 what does God want the crowds to know about Jesus' death? How does God the father relate to Jesus' death? How do the crowds relate to it?
4. According to Isaiah 53:4-6,10, What was God's plan regarding Jesus' death and how does it contrast with what the Jews thought was happening on the cross?
5. What does Acts 2:24 tell us about the Father and Jesus? What would this tell the audience about God's view of Jesus? What would it indicate about their guilt?
6. Read Acts 2:25-32. Peter quotes Psalms 16:8-11 describing not being abandoned to death nor undergoing decay at death. Though written by David, how does Peter show that it couldn't describe David in 2:29?
7. In Acts 2:30-31, who is referred to in this Psalm of David? What do you think the crowd of Jews would have realized when they heard this about Jesus?
8. What is the main thing Peter wanted the crowd to know about Jesus according to 2:32?
9. What does 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 say about witnesses to Christ's resurrection? Considering Jews persecuting, disowning, even killing those who claimed Christ was Messiah, why do you think testimonies of Christ's resurrection are legitimate?
10. Where does Acts 2:33-34 tell us the Father has placed Jesus? What does He say He will do to the enemies of Christ in 2:35? How does this affect you knowing this?
11. According to 2:36, what implications would this have on those listening to Peter's sermon? What did they recognize about themselves in 2:37?
12. What does Peter tell them they must do to be saved in 2:38? NOTE: Baptism is the outward demonstration of repentance. What does Jesus say should be preached in

Luke 24:47? NOTE: Genuine faith always includes repentance, they are flip sides of the same coin. Repentance is admitting and turning FROM sin. Faith is turning TOWARDS Christ by receiving him. How is He to be received according to Acts 2:36?

13. What is God's promise to those who repent and believe in 2:38-39? How does Acts 3:19 describe this? Salvation is more than heaven, it is God's blessing and refreshing on earth. How does Jesus indicate this in Matthew 11:28-30 and John 14:27? How does knowing this affect the way you share Christ with non-Christians?
14. How does Peter's sermon speak to your heart? What is God showing you through this passage about Christ? Yourself? Non-Christians?
15. Pray for love and boldness to share Christ with non-Christians. Share some that you are praying for.