



## Revival Through Pentecostal Preaching

Acts 2:14-41

In the first chapter of Paul's epistle to the Romans, we see a frightening picture of Rome. We read words of doom—"God gave them up", or "God gave them over."

When men and women are left to the consequences of their own freely chosen course of action they will go from bad to worse unless that tendency is reversed by divine grace. We need Pentecostal preaching that informs the mind and ignites the heart.

We need to preach and teach messages that **inform** the mind and ignite the heart. We need to desire the revival fire God is kindling. Fire is a symbol of God's **presence**, God's **power**, and God's **purity**.

Let us be careful that we do not mistake **unction** and **noise** for **anointing**. Let us be careful that we do not mistake **pushiness** for **power**.

Before we preach a real **hard** sermon, we need to **weep** over it. Ask yourself why you feel you need to preach that strong message. Is it because of a burden you have received from the Lord, or is it because you are crabby?

How can we know? By spending time in the God's presence. By weeping before the Lord.

Yes, we need to preach against sin. There has never been a spiritual revival which did not begin with an acute sense of sin. Let us be doubly careful that we do not preach hard because we are hiding sin in our hearts.

That is why some preach with a hard and cross spirit. They are fighting their own guilty conscience. If we are not living above sin, we need to sit down until we win victory in our own lives.

Let's look at great preachers in New Testament times. How, and what did they preach? They preached the Gospel. They preached Christ. They preached the fullness of the blessings of the Gospel. What does that imply?

Let's look at their preaching.

### **PENTECOSTAL PREACHING EXALTS CHRIST**

1. They preached with demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit. Their message was what Jesus began to do and teach.

*The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Acts 1:1*

There must be **works** of **power** as well as **words** of instruction in our preaching.

*[12] And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.*

*[13] And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them.*

*[14] And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)*

*[15] Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.*

*[16] There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. Acts 5:12-16*

2. They preached the blessings of salvation. Salvation from sin, and a holiness of heart and life was preached as a definite experience wrought by the power of the Holy Spirit which everyone must have to

be a true believer.

*Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;* **Acts 3:19**

*Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.* **Acts 3:26**

### **PENTECOSTAL PREACHING EMPHASIZES REPENTANCE**

3. They preached the blessings of repentance. To truly believe the Gospel means to obey it. The first step of obedience was **water baptism**, and everywhere in the book of Acts believers were prompt to urge new converts to be baptized. Our preaching must result in people willing to be committed.

*Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.* **Acts 2:41**

*But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.* **Acts 8:12**

*And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.* **Acts 8:38**

*And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.* **Acts 9:18**

### **PENTECOSTAL PREACHING ENCOURAGES COMMITMENT**

4. They preached with **signs** and **wonders**. There were supernatural manifestations backing the preachers of the early church. We need those supernatural manifestations today.

[5] *Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.*

[6] *And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.*

[7] *For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.* **Acts 8:5-7**

### **PENTECOSTAL PREACHING IS EVIDENCE-PRODUCING**

5. They preached the blessing of **spiritual power**. Baptism in the Holy Spirit was a normal, natural experience of believers in the early church. The believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

[38] *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

[39] *For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.* **Acts 2:38-39**

*And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.* **Acts 9:17**

### **PENTECOSTAL PREACHING EMPOWERS THE BELIEVERS**

6. They preached the **rapture**, and **second coming** of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let's look at 1 Corinthians 15:51-58, and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

The summary of Pentecostal preaching is Christ: Christ crucified, Christ risen, Christ ascended, Christ coming again.

### **PENTECOSTAL PREACHING ENLIVENS THE HOPE OF HIS COMING**

Do we preach the Gospel in its fullness?

*For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.* **Acts 20:27**