**Round Top Church Christian Fellowship**

**Resurrection Series**

Acts of the Holy Spirit

Pentecost: Acts 2

June 16th, In the Year of Our Lord 2024

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(All Scripture is from the New American Standard Bible, unless otherwise noted.)

Sermon Audio: roundtopchurch.org / Under Member’s tab

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We continue our Resurrection series in the Acts of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Apostles and all Believers. I have said that every sermon can be considered part of a Resurrection series because Christianity is “The Resurrection”. The God of Creation. . . who created all people incarnated Himself as one of us to specifically go to the Cross and pay the price for the sins of the world. This one act, if surrendered to. . . is designed to alleviate all penalty for sin. . . an act that no fallen human can accomplish because of their fallen nature. God’s nature is pure love and grace without blemish. Love is perfect:

4 Love is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant,

 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered*,

 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

 8 Love never fails; (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

 It is my opinion that 1 Corinthians 13 is the best description and definition of God that we have in Scripture. I draw your attention to the last two elements in God’s love-nature. . . endures all things and never fails. The God of creation, The Author of life, is the only Being who could have and did accomplish the goal of the Cross. . . The Resurrection. The Author of life has the only unique power and authority to Resurrect life. The incarnate God as Jesus was the unblemished lamb that fulfilled what the Law, God gave Moses, was never designed to do (Hebrews 10). . . to remove the penalty for sin. By no works of our own can we be saved (Ephesians 2:8).

 To launch the New Covenant ministry and teaching. . . the Holy Spirit power of God applied to His Resurrection was given to the Apostles and all Believers. Let us read the second chapter in the New Testament book of Acts. Remember, there had to be a New Covenant because the Old Covenant was only designed to be a shadow (Hebrews 10:1) and tutor leading Jews and Gentiles (all of humanity) to the Cross of Christ (Galatians 3:24-4:1).

 Remember, Jesus had directed them to stay in Jerusalem to wait for what he had promised. And remember that Jesus had already breathed His Spirit into them His Great Commission (John 20:22). So, the Apostles did not initially receive the Holy Spirit at Pentecost but received additional empowerment to be the witnesses God intended.

**Acts 2:1** When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves,

and they rested on each one of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other

 tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

This shows that even though God had already breathed His H. S. into them He gave additional power. The Disciples did not give themselves utterances, the Spirit did (God). They did not claim a spiritual power for themselves.

 5 Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem,

 devout men from every nation under heaven.

 6 And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered

because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language.

7 They were amazed and astonished, saying,

"Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?

8 "And how is it that we each hear *them* in our own language to which we were born? 9 "Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our *own* tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

12 And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, . . . **"What does this mean?"** 13 But others were mocking and saying,

 "They are full of sweet wine."

 14 But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven,

raised his voice and declared to them:

"Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem,

let this be known to you and give heed to my words.

 15 "For these men are not drunk, as you suppose,

for it is *only* the third hour of the day;

16 but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel: (Joel 2:28)

 17 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHESY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS; 18 EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT And they shall prophesy. 19 'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE. 20 'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME. 21 'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'

 22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words:

**Jesus** the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know-- 23 this *Man*, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, **you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death.**

 24 "But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death,

since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

 25 "For David says of Him, (Psalm 16:8-11)

'I SAW THE LORD ALWAYS IN MY PRESENCE; FOR HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN.

 26 'THEREFORE MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY TONGUE EXULTED; MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL LIVE IN HOPE;

 27 BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO HADES, NOR ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY.

 28 'YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE; YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.'

 29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. [But Not Jesus]

 30 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,

 (Psalm 132:11)

 31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

 (Psalm 16:10)

 32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

 33 "Therefore, having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

 34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, (Psalm 110:1)

 35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."'

 36 "Therefore, let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified."

 37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart,

 and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

 38 Peter *said* to them,

 "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.

 39 "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."

 40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

 41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common;

 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

 Acts 2 chronicles the fruit of Jesus’ instructions being followed by the disciples. They had previously received the Great Commission when Jesus breathed on them (John 20:21) and witnessed Jesus ascend to heaven then walked back to Jerusalem. Scripture tells us that there were about 120 people in the upper room, including Jesus’ mother and family. They waited in one accord. Peter led the group in selecting Judas’ replacement. Then, on the tenth day, the day of Pentecost, the day the Jews observed God gave the Law to Moses. . .it happened. By God’s indwelling spiritual gift of foreign languages that He gave to the disciples, the Gospel Message was witnessed to people from all over the Mediterranean Sea who were in Jerusalem for the holy day of Pentecost. These took their experiences back to their hometown and told others what happened to them. They became instant personal testimonies to thousands of people about the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Acts 2 is one of the best witnesses of salvation in the New Testament. Remember this statement as we read, “Your heart surrender to the conviction of the Holy Spirit leads to the ability to turn from a life opposed to God and then you will be able to keep His ways.” A person who opposes God will not be able to turn to God or keep His ways. Believers then will seek to live (practice) life in God’s ways. And they will seek forgiveness of sin with a heart that is determined not to sin.

6 **If we** say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

 7 **but if** we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

 8 **If** we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

 9 **If** we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

 10 **If** we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us. (1 John 1:6-10)

Let’s review Acts 2:36-39.

 36 "Therefore, let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified." (Holy Spirit convicts John 16:8)

 37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, (Deuteronomy 30:6. John 3)

 and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

 38 Peter *said* to them,

 "**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.**

 39 "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as

 the Lord our God will call to Himself."

 **Remember God spoke through Moses** to write. . . "Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live. (Deut. 30:6) . . ."And you shall again obey the LORD, and observe all His commandments which I command you today. (Deut. 30:8)

**And had His Prophet Ezekiel write. . .**

25 "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

 26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

 27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

 28 "You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God. . . 37 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "This also I will let the house of Israel ask Me to do for them: I will increase their men like a flock. (Ezekiel 36:25-28, 37)

 **And Jesus witnessed to Nicodemus . . .**

3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?"

 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

 6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

 7 "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' (John 3:3-7)

 Peter’s Holy Spirit directed sermon is a great section of Scripture through which to witness the way God saves people. There is no meritorious work of going through the right path of a religious church, institution or man-made system. When a person reaches the end of their road and realizes they cannot repair themselves, as the Jews who crucified Jesus had done. . . God is there, as He always has been. . . patiently wanting for us to surrender, capitulate our heart. . . our total being to Him. It is a spiritual surrender directly to Him. You do not need a priest, rabbi or anybody. . . for there is only the One Mediator between God and man (God as Jesus Christ).

(Galatians 3:19, 20; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 8:6, 9:15, 12:24)

AMEN