

Intro: What is it that changes people? How are entire people groups changed? How does an ideology not only transform individuals but how does it do so on such a grand scale that it actually breaks down the greatest empire known to man while? Then later, this same ideology is the foundation of the greatest nation ever built. How does this happen? The answer is the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is the divine work of the Spirit that continues in the area of Jerusalem through chapter 5.

I. **Explanation** of the Phenomenon

A. Not drunk

- Jewish culture did indeed drink but strictly not in the morning.
- The wine they drank was certainly alcoholic and not watered down to the point of nonalcoholic.
- Grape juice didn't really become a thing at all until prohibition in the US.
- Welch's grape juice was actually invented for the purpose of replacing communion wine.
- God Gave Wine by Kenneth Gentry

B. Fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32

- Last days of what?
 - Israel
 - Old Covenant

The "last days" are now. They were inaugurated at Pentecost (1Cor 10:11; 2Tim 3:1; Heb 1:2; James 5:3; 2Pt 3:3). Hal Lindsey "Late Great Planet Earth" or RC Sproul's "Last Days According to Jesus"?

Not the end of human history but the end of old covenant history. One of the "day(s) of the LORD was in 70 AD when God sent the Romans to destroy Jerusalem and tear down the temple.

Why this matters: If you think that this is a terminal generation and that Jesus is coming back before the end of your lifetime, you will make temporarily foolish decisions. Why get married, build a family, career or business, church, city etc. Why not just do evangelism only all the time?

-Generous gifting “pour out” (v17a & 18a) unlimited, overwhelming portion

-indiscriminate action “all mankind” (v17)

Male and female, young and old slaves and free (17-18)

-signs in the heavens (v19-20)

Figurative Language V19 “signs, blood and darkness, sun and moon etc.”

No gap in these verses. They are meant to be understood in the immediate and original context of something that was currently happening. These are not literal but figurative images that always depict **judgement**. See also

OT references: Is. Ez, Minor Prophets connected to some great collapse of a great political power. De-creation language.

Is 13:1 Babylon -same language. Egypt, Tyre & Sidon,

Political collapse in conjunction with the giving of the Spirit. The reason for this is because there is a new King and he is fulfilling the Old Covenant and instituting a new one. He is also divorcing Israel because of her unfaithfulness and expanding the covenant to include the nations. He is gathering a bride from the ends of the earth.

Jesus prediction of judgement & John also.

“This generation” Matt 24:29

Classical Reformed Understanding (Covenant Theology)

Not replacement theology but **continuation** of God’s faithfulness to His people.

age

-salvation of many (v21) see also Rom 10:13

II. The **Preaching** of the Gospel

A. V22 The **Life** of Jesus (person and work) -Jesus lived

-validation of His claims by miracles and wonders and signs

-**Divine** work “God did through Him”

-Presuppositional apologetics “you know”

B. V23 The **Death** of Jesus

-God's sovereignty "delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God."

*1st and 2nd causes.

*Genesis 50:20

-Human responsibility "you nailed to a cross"

Notice the tense change to the second person.

C. V24 The **Resurrection** of Jesus "but God raised Him up again" v24 and 32 Bracketing the section.

**"but God" Peter again in 3:15; Paul in 13:30*

-defeated death "putting an end to the agony of death"

-theological truth: Christus **Victor** "it was impossible for Him to held in its power."

This is exactly what the answer to the Westminster longer confession question 52.

-quote and fulfillment of Psalm 16:8-11 (v25-28)

-David's tomb is mentioned in Neh 3:16 According to Josephus, David's tomb was demarcated by Herod with a white marble entrance (v29)

-illusion to Ps 132:12 (v30)

-**eyewitness** testimony (v32) & connection to "you know" (v22)

**"this was not done in a corner" Acts 26:26*

D. **Response** (v33-36) V33 Trinitarian work

-Jesus' exaltation and seating at the right hand

-Pouring out (cf v17 & 18) "you see and hear" cf 2:3&2 Audio visual

-Quote Psalm 110:1 (v34-35; Rom 3:34; 1 Cor 15:25; Col 3:1; Heb 1:3 & 13)

-Jesus is **Lord** and Christ (v36a)

-"you crucified" (v36b) direct confrontation. This is not seeker sensitive, mushy, evangelically fish, anemic, watered down, crybaby Christianity.

Themes: Gospel, End Times, Trinity, 1st and 2nd Causes, Sovereignty of God, Christus Victor, Apologetics, Evangelism

The reason we've covered so many things is because the TEXT deals with all of those things. The more you read the Scriptures, the more layers and interconnectedness you'll see. There are other issues that I didn't address such as the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, where Jesus went between the crucifixion and resurrection, the timing of the second coming, the political implications of the inauguration of the last times and more.

That said, let me bottom line it for you...

Application:

Know the gospel (1 Cor 15) -Illustration: Deacon interview story.

Believe the gospel. -Truly be converted. I nailed him to the tree. My sin put him there. I need redemption and salvation. I need a new heart. I need to be redeemed and adopted. You need Him too. Repent and believe the gospel!

Preach the gospel. -Who are you evangelizing? Who are you confronting with the truth of the gospel? Who are you reaching out to? Preach the gospel.

Notes: Joel 2:28-32; Psalm 16:8-11; Psalm 110:1; Illusion to Psalm 132:10 which includes 2Sam 7:6-16

Westminster Standards:

- 2:23 WCF 3:1, WCF 5:2, WCF 5:4
- 2:23-24 WCF 8:4
- 2:24 LC 46, LC 52
- 2:24-25 LC 38
- 2:24-27 LC 50, SC 27
- 2:27 WCF 8:4, LC 52
- 2:28 LC 54
- 2:31 LC 50, SC 27
- 2:36 WCF 8:3

Acts 2:14-36 Peter's First Sermon: The Witness to Jerusalem

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 - validation of His claims by miracles and wonders and signs
 - _____ work "God did through Him"
 - Presuppositional apologetics "you know"
- B. V23 The _____ of Jesus
 - God's sovereignty

-Human responsibility

C. V24 The _____ of Jesus “but God raised Him up again”

-defeated death “putting an end to the agony of death”

-theological truth: Christus _____

-quote and fulfillment of Psalm 16:8-11 and allusion to Ps 132:12 (v25-31)

- _____ testimony & connection to “you know” (v22)

D. _____ (v33-36)

-Jesus’ exaltation and seating at the right hand

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-Quote Psalm 110:1 (v34-35)

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-“you crucified” (v36b)

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