

SERMON NOTES

David A. Renwick, August 29, 2010

Founding Fathers and Mothers: III. "Been There, Done That"

Acts 2:22-42; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

CRUCIFIXION & RESURRECTION TEXTS IN ACTS

Acts Introduction

Acts 1:3 After his (Jesus') suffering **he presented himself alive** to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

Preaching of Simon Peter

Acts 2:23 this man (Jesus), handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, **YOU crucified and killed** by the hands of those outside the law.

Acts 2:24 But God **raised** him up, having **freed him from death**, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

Acts 2:32 This Jesus God **raised** up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Acts 2:36 Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom **YOU crucified.**"

Acts 3:15 and **YOU killed** the Author of life, whom God **raised** from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

Acts 3:26 When God **raised** up his servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

Acts 4:10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom **YOU crucified**, whom God **raised** from the dead.

Acts 5:30 The God of our ancestors **raised** up Jesus, whom **YOU had killed by hanging him on a tree.**

Acts 10:40,41 but God **raised** him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him **after he rose** from the dead.

Preaching of the Apostle Paul

Acts 13:30 But God **raised** him from the dead;

Acts 13:37 he whom God **raised** up experienced no corruption.

Acts 25:19 [At Paul's trial, his opponents] had certain points of disagreement with him about their own religion and about a certain Jesus, **who had died**, but **whom Paul asserted to be alive.**

1. Principles of Healthy Communities

Communities are healthy when they are bound together by a **common constitution (principles) and stories**

- i. True for our nation
- ii. True for the Church

2. Four Initial Principles of the Church Founding Fathers/Mothers

- i. Resurrection** (Acts 1:3) – brought scared followers back
- ii. Mission** (Ministry) (Acts 1:8b) – Jesus' ministry is continuing today; but now it is through US!
- iii. Powerlessness** (Acts 1:4,14) – Wait! Pray! for God's Power. It is not our Christian character that unites us as Jesus' followers, but our common powerlessness and weakness.
- iv. Power** (Acts 1:8a; 2:1-11). God's Presence (Spirit) poured out lavishly into every friend of Jesus

3. The First Evidence of God's Power (Acts 2:1-21)

- i. Extraordinary Vision** – God speaks through ordinary people to people from all over the world (Acts 2:9-12)
- ii. Extraordinary Abilities** – God equips his people to 'translate' Jesus' message into the languages (cultures, and sub-cultures) of people from all over the world (Acts 2:11)

4. The First Message of our Founding Fathers (Peter/Paul)

- i. Not** the stories or life of Jesus (later remembered, shared, collected, written), but they became important because of . .
- ii. The Resurrection**
God's Declaration of WHO Jesus was: Messiah, Son, our King, Lord and Master
- iii. The Crucifixion**
God's Declaration of our sin and alienation from our selves, God's purpose, and from God (Yes, WE were there, and did it!)
God's Declaration of his passion to forgive, (Acts 2:38) to bring us back into the relationship with Him for which we were created.
- iv. Repent!** = Turn Around! i.e., Make this message the foundation of your life! (Acts 2:38)

FURTHER READING:

Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church. By N.T. (Tom) Wright. Harper, 2008.