

I. PETER PRAISED GOD

- A. God had opened to the door to preach Jesus to unsaved multitudes
 - 1. Thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, heard the Gospel that day
 - a. First on Pentecost, now in the Temple, the door was open
 - i. Be THANKFUL for opened doors
 - ii. Look for them, don’t pass them by
 - iii. Give out a tact, ask someone if you can pray for them
 - b. People heard the Gospel and got Saved
 - i. Their Salvation put them into the Kingdom of God
 - ii. They got immediately Baptized to join that church
 - iii. Mankind cannot do these things
 - c. It is error to praise Mankind for the things only God can do!
 - i. We have laws against plagiarism
 - ii. We have laws against patent infringement
 - iii. It is wrong to steal glory from someone else
 - iv. GIVE GOD the Glory for the great things He has done!
 - 2. A missionary is called to the field by God and FOR God
 - a. We have faithful missionaries serving God in other fields
 - i. We vet them, pray about them, question them
 - ii. Bring them before the church to understand their burden
 - iii. They don’t go to a foreign land because they think it’s fun
 - iv. They don’t uproot their family and move on a whim
 - b. God calls them there!
 - i. When a man builds a house, we don’t praise the hammer
 - ii. When God builds His Kingdom, we don’t praise the servant
 - c. Give honor and glory and praise to Jesus
 - 3. There are many wicked hirelings today that seek men’s praise
 - a. I’m not against honoring a fellow servant
 - i. Some pastor who served God with a life well-lived
 - ii. And we better take care of preachers’ widows!
 - iii. We OUGHT to remember those that came before
 - b. If only to help us check those ancient landmarks
 - c. Usually, those types of servants have no DESIRE for praise
- B. Peter gave God the glory for this miracle (vs. 12-13)
 - 1. He tells the people EXACTLY who was responsible for the healing
 - a. He didn’t worry that people might think he was weird
 - b. He didn’t false praise – “I’m sure glad God had me to help”
 - c. Why are you looking at US?!?!?
 - 2. The carpenter’s hammer could say the same thing!

- a. There's a beautiful new home, well-built, perfectly detailed
 - b. "Oh, what a wonderful hammer!"
 - 3. It is just as silly when we take credit for God's work in our lives
 - a. Give God the praise. Give Him GLORY for working in your life
 - b. If you're Saved, you didn't just get that way by accident
 - c. If He has delivered you from a trial, it isn't just by happenstance
 - i. Being lame is at least understandable as a problem
 - ii. Some of our problems are not even comprehensible
 - iii. And yet God comes through! Let's be GRATEFUL!
- C. God used the apostles for many signs and wonders
 - 1. ACTS 2:43 – "And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles."
 - a. Would God have used them if they hadn't praised Him?
 - b. There's a lesson we can learn!
 - c. Do not forget to give God praise
 - 2. Do not selfishly pat ourselves on the back
 - 3. Peter used the opportunity to Praise God
 - a. But then he presented Jesus, and Pointed to Prophecy
 - b. Peter prescribed PENITENCE and preached PUNISHMENT
 - c. But GOD provides a PLAN.

II. PETER PRESENTED JESUS

- A. Peter gave them the Gospel
 - 1. 1 COR. 15:3-4 – "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; (4) And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:"
 - 2. Peter used this in his message
 - a. He spoke about the trial of Jesus (vs. 13b)
 - b. He reminded them about their denial of Jesus (vs. 14)
 - c. He told them of the Death, Burial, and Resurrection (vs. 15)
 - 3. That is the Gospel, plus nothing, minus nothing
 - a. It is so simple that a child can understand it
 - b. Yet so profound that scholars ponder it in countless books
 - c. It isn't good works, it isn't baptism, it isn't moral living
 - i. It is the FINISHED work that Jesus has done
 - ii. EPH. 2:8-9 – "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast."
- B. Peter preached Salvation through faith (vs. 16-17)
 - 1. ROM. 3:27-28 – "Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. (28) Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

2. It isn't works, it is faith!
 3. HEB. 11:1 – "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
- C. He alone can save!

III. PETER POINTED TO PROPHECY

- A. Jesus is the Messiah the Old Testament prophets proclaimed
 1. ISA 9:6 – "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."
 2. ISA. 53:5 – "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."
- B. These religious Jews knew the Old Testament (remember where he was)
 1. It is possible that some of these same men cried CRUCIFY HIM!
 2. Peter recounts to them what the Bible says (vs. 18)
 3. Peter repeats to them what Moses said (vs. 22)
 4. Peter reminds them of what Samuel said (vs. 24)
 5. Peter restates to them what Abraham did (vs. 25)
- C. This Bible is one story throughout
 1. The story of Jesus Christ – He is the main character
 2. His righteousness is the theme
 3. His blood is the only way of Salvation
 4. Peter preached the Old Testament and the Second Coming of Christ
 - a. Jesus is in Heaven now (vs. 20-21)
 - b. He intercedes for the Saved
 - c. But He is coming back to setup up His millennial kingdom

IV. PETER PRESCRIBED PENITENCE

- A. So, what's the answer? Repent! (vs. 19)
 1. We don't take our car to the shop to better understand the problem
 - a. We want to get it FIXED!
 - b. Peter doesn't just tell them they have a problem
 - c. He gives them a BIBLICAL solution!
 2. Repent – TURN AWAY from sin with godly sorrow
 - a. 2 COR. 7:10 – "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."
 - b. The sorrow of the world is "I'm sorry I got caught."
 - c. Godly sorrow recognizes a thrice-holy God
 - d. And my own sinful nature

3. ROM. 3:23 – “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
- B. Peter is only preaching what John the Baptist preached
 1. MATT. 3:1-2 – “In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, (2) And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
 2. Turn, prepare, make his paths STRAIGHT (narrow)
- C. Peter is only preaching what Jesus Himself preached
 1. MARK 1:14-15 – “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, (15) And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.”
 2. LUKE 13:3 – “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”

V. PETER PREACHED PUNISHMENT

- A. Every SOUL (vs. 23)
 1. It is a personal matter – nothing to do with family or nationality
 2. Which WILL not hear – it is a matter of free will
 3. Shall be destroyed – punishment is certain
- B. People today do not like to hear about punishment
 1. There are preachers that won’t preach about Hell
 2. But Heaven is real, and HELL is real
 3. Jesus preached more on Hell than He did on Heaven
- C. Truly, a better term is PAYMENT rather than punishment
 1. ROM. 3:23 – “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
 2. Someone must pay for sin
 3. ROM. 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

VI. GOD PROVIDES A PLAN

- A. God sent His only begotten Son (vs. 26)
 1. To the Jew first, and also to the Greek
 2. ROM. 1:16 – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
- B. It is only through the blood of Jesus Christ that sins can be forgiven
- C. Be Saved Today!