

Salvation For Whosoever Believeth

"The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)" (Acts 10:36).

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"The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:) 37 That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; 38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. 39 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: 40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; 41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. 43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. 44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, 47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days" (Acts 10:36-48).

Following the liberating perception, Peter readily preached Jesus to the congregation. The highlights and emphasis in Peter's preaching, brings out some important truths worth noting for contemporary application to have effective ministry.

- 1) Jesus "is Lord of all" (vs 36). Though He came as a Jew and started His ministry in Israel, Jesus is still the Lord of all people.
- 2) "preaching peace by Jesus Christ" (vs 36). Jehovah is the God of peace. Jesus came as the prince of peace. The preaching of Jesus introduces peace to individuals, a families and the wider society at large.
- 3) He described the character of Jesus' ministry "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the

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Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him" (vs 38).

- 4) He acknowledged being "witnesses of all things which he did" (vs 39). Talking from practical experience carries more weight than merely expounding theories. This included the sacrificial death and resurrection of Christ (vs 40-41).
- 5) He declared the resurrection of Christ and the commission "to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead" (vs 42).
- 6) "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" (vs 43). It is noteworthy that although the apostles knew that salvation and remission of sins is for "whosoever believeth", yet tradition limited their "whosoever" to the Jews only until this divine intervention that flung the door wide open to the gentiles and others.
- 7) From the above discourse, Peter's message appears to be brief, pungent and powerful. It is not the length of preaching that saves but the power of the Holy Spirit. God who knew that the hearts of these listeners were ready for God, filled them with the Holy Spirit, before Peter was done with his preaching (vs 44-46)
- 8) Based on this irrefutable evidence, Peter proceeded to baptise them in water and thereafter tarried with them for some days.

If we obey as Peter did, we will see the glory of the Lord in saving souls. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. God is no respecter of persons, and whosoever is still whosoever!

Victorious Christian Ministry, 145-149 Cardigan Road, Burley, Leeds LS6 1LJ Sunday Worship: 10.00 a.m. https://victoriouschristianministry.org