

April 4, 2021 – Easter Service
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Acts 2:14-47

“Church: The Right Response to the Resurrection”

Why do we have churches?

- 1. The Setting – 2:1-13**

- 2. The Sermon– 2:14-40**
 - a. Refutation – v. 14-15**

 - b. Explanation – v. 16-21 (cf. Joel 2:28-32a)**

 - c. Presentation – 2:22-36**
 - 1) His Life – v. 22**

 - 2) His Death – v. 23**

 - 3) His Resurrection – v. 24-32 (cf. Ps. 16:8-11)**

 - 4) His Exaltation – v. 33-36**
 - a) Promised Spirit – v. 33**

 - b) Promised Judgment – v. 34-36 (Ps. 110:1)**

 - c. Exhortation – 2:37-40**

- 3. The Start of the Church – 2:41-47**
 - a. Reception – 2:41**

 - b. Identification – 2:41**

 - c. Dedication – 2:42-47**

So What?

Discussion & Application:

1. A growing number of self-identified “spiritual” people in America claim no affiliation with a particular religious group or denomination. What are some reasons they give for that? How would you biblically respond to their position?
2. What did Jesus say about His involvement in the church in Matthew 16:18? How do you see this develop in the book of Acts? (See Acts 1:8; 2:42-47; 4:32-37; 5:14; 8:1-4; 9:31; 11:19-30; 14:21-28; 15:1-4, 36; 16:1-5; 18:22)
3. What impact did the resurrection of Jesus have on the life of Peter? Give specific examples of how his life changed.
4. How do we know that the death and resurrection of Jesus were planned by God long before the actual events (Acts 2:23)? What biblical prophecies are related to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus? (See Gen. 3:15; Ps. 22; Is. 53 to get started)
5. Peter told the Jewish people that they nailed Jesus to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death (Acts 2:23). In what sense did we join with them in nailing Jesus to the cross? What was the response of Jesus to those who nailed Him to the cross? (See Lk. 23:33-34)
6. What does it mean that Jesus is both “Lord and Christ”? (Acts 2:36) What implications does that have for our lives?
7. In Acts 2:38, what does it mean to “repent and be baptized”? What does this have to do with the forgiveness of sins? Have you repented of sin and been baptized as a believer in Jesus? If not, what is keeping you from doing so in obedience to the resurrected Lord?
8. For the 3,000 people who responded favorably to Peter’s sermon, what were they saved FROM and what were they saved TO?
9. What commitments did they make to the local church in Acts 2:42-47? Do you share those commitments? If so, to what degree? (Be specific) If not, why not?
10. Jesus is building His Church all over the world. He has commanded us to identify with a local church, submit to its leadership (Heb. 13:17), join together in prayer and the study of His Word, give of our time and finances, employ our spiritual gifts to the mutual edification of the body, and actively practice the “one another” commands of Scripture. On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the highest), how would Jesus rate your commitment to His church right now? What can you do, starting this week, to more fully participate in what the Lord is doing through this local church?