

SERIES: AWAKENING

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, May 27-28, 2023

SERMON: When Awakening Occurs

SCRIPTURE: Acts 22:22-41 NIV

Acts 2:22-41 NIV

[22] "Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.

[23] This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

[24] But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

[25] David said about him: "'I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

[26] Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope,

[27] because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay.

[28] You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

[29] "Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day.

[30] But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.

[31] Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay.

[32] God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

[33] Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

[34] For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, "'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand

[35] until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.'"

[36] "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

[37] When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

[38] Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

[39] The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

[40] With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

[41] Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

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1. Awakening occurs when we put _____.

- The disciples were together (v.3), filled with the Spirit (v.4), and spoke the mighty works of God (v.11).

2. Awakening occurs when we share _____ with others (vv.22-24).

- **Acts 19:8-11a** Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So, Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. This went on for two years.
- Paul taught _____ hours a day for _____ years.

3. Awakening is accompanied by _____ and _____ (vv.37-40).

- Baptism is not _____ for salvation (v.38). Acts 16:31 contains a similar question and baptism is _____ mentioned.
- **1 Peter 3:21** and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Scripture does not say that the 3,000 _____ in tongues nor were the _____ of the Apostles laid on them.
- In Acts, receiving of the Spirit _____ accompany laying on of hands or speaking in tongues. All submitted to _____. All who were baptized _____ the Spirit whether simultaneous with, after, or before baptism.

4. Awakening follows testimony about _____ and His _____ (vv.32-34).

Lagniappe

AS WE CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND – let us be ever thankful for and remember the sacrifice of those who fought and gave their life in service for our country.



CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING UPDATE:

This past Wednesday night we met for a regular congregational meeting to hear reports and to deal with four recommendations:

1. We voted to offer our Bush, Louisiana, property for sale with the proceeds going to debt retirement.
2. We added funds to our Security budget to upgrade our security measures.
3. We reiterated our plan to renovate Central Hall and to spend approximately \$1.5 million.
4. We discussed proposed changes to the by-laws.

The first three recommendations all passed and are self-explanatory. We are excited to begin the renovation of Central Hall where we met for worship from 2001-2018. This will give us a large room to serve multi-purposes.

We have increased the security budget by \$50,000 to over \$100,000/year for obvious reasons and are continually looking at ways to do this more effectively.

The fourth recommendation will be voted on **June 28, at 6:45PM in Central Hall**. This proposal allows the church to establish a Planning Advisory Team to ensure a smooth transition of future leadership. As this proposal involves a by-law change, it requires a second meeting to vote on these changes.

Our by-laws, as a whole, needs to be updated to reflect current practices. We hope to accomplish this over the next two or three years.

Waylon