***August 18, 2024***

**Unchangeable: Part 2**

**Acts 2:1-41**

• This is God’s Word.

• It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.

• It has God for its author,

• salvation for its end,

• and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.

• It is the supreme source of truth

• for what we believe

• and how we live.

The Birth of the Church was a Unique God Moment.

**On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Acts 2:1**

**Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.**

**Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them.**

**And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. Acts 2:2-4**

**At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem.**

**When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.**

**They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee, and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages…the wonderful things God has done!” They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other.**

**But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!” Acts 2:5-13**

The Birth of the Church Resulted in an Opportunity to Share the Message of the Gospel.

**Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. Acts 2:14**

* **Peter’s message was rooted in Scripture.**

**No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike— and they will prophesy. And I will cause wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below— blood and fire and clouds of smoke. The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before that great and glorious day of the LORD arrives. But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.’ Acts 2:16-21**

* **Peter’s message focused on Jesus.**

**“People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know. But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross and killed him. But God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip. Acts 2:22-24**

**“God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God’s right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today… So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!” Acts 2:32-36**

The Birth of the Church Led to the Greatest of All Miracles.

* The people came under conviction.

Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Acts 2:37

* The people made a commitment.

Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins, turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to show that you have received forgiveness for your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God.” Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!” Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. Acts 2:38-41