

Comedy and Tragedy

- Comedy
 - A story with a happy ending for a likeable main character
- Tragedy
 - A story with a sad ending for an admirable main character
 - Sometimes: main character causes their own downfall
- How would you describe your story?
 - With honesty to self and to God
- How would you describe your relationship with God?

Of What Consequence?

Acts 2:1-41

Chinese: page 1764
 Spanish: page 1385
 Brown: page 1090
 Green: page 743



Peter preaching to the crowds on Pentecost
 Good News Bible

A brief history of the New Testament

- Jesus: birth – life – death by execution
– resurrection – ascension
- **THE LAST DAYS**
Holy Spirit comes on the church
 - Jerusalem: birth of church
 - Antioch: Jewish and Gentile together
 - Rome: to the ends, and beyond...
- Jesus' return **THE LAST DAY**
– His kingdom perfectly expressed

**GOSPELS: MATTHEW,
MARK, LUKE, JOHN**

ACTS

**LETTERS FROM THE
APOSTLE PAUL**

LETTERS FROM OTHERS

REVELATION

Acts 2:1-41

- 1: Waiting for the Spirit to come
- 2-4: • “On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he
- 5-12: gave them this command: ‘Do not leave Jerusalem,
- 13: but **wait for the gift** my Father promised, which
- 14-21: you have heard me speak about. For John baptized
- 22-32: with water, but in a few days **you will be baptized**
with the Holy Spirit.”” *Acts 1:4-5*
- 33-36: • Pentecost: Jews from around the world gather
- 37: in Jerusalem at the Temple
- 38-39:
- 40-41:

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Acts 2:1-41

1: Waiting for the Spirit to come

2-4: Holy Spirit poured out on all: wind, fire, languages

5-12:

13:

14-21:

22-32:

33-36:

37:

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13:

14-21:

22-32:

33-36:

37:

38-39:

40-41:



133 countries

74% from
China,
Korea,
India

14% of total
MSU
enrollment
(1 in 7)

MSU International Students Fall 2016

Afghanistan.....1	Ethiopia.....12	Luxembourg.....1	Singapore.....9
Albania.....1	France.....14	Macau.....3	Slovenia.....2
Angola.....28	Gambia, The.....4	Macedonia.....1	Somalia.....1
Antigua and Barbuda.....1	Gaza Strip.....1	Madagascar.....2	South Africa.....3
Argentina.....6	Georgia.....3	Malawi.....12	South Sudan.....1
Armenia.....4	Germany.....45	Malaysia.....89	Spain.....11
Australia.....13	Ghana.....25	Mali.....1	Sri Lanka.....10
Austria.....2	Greece.....8	Mexico.....30	Sudan.....1
Azerbaijan.....5	Guatemala.....5	Moldova.....1	Swaziland.....1
Bahamas.....6	Haiti.....1	Mongolia.....1	Sweden.....6
Bahrain.....2	Honduras.....5	Morocco.....2	Switzerland.....4
Bangladesh.....26	Hong Kong.....36	Mozambique.....2	Syria.....4
Belgium.....3	Hungary.....1	Namibia.....2	Taiwan.....167
Benin.....3	India.....375	Nepal.....14	Tanzania.....7
Bolivia.....3	Indonesia.....43	Netherlands.....4	Thailand.....57
Botswana.....5	Iran.....89	New Zealand.....5	Togo.....1
Brazil.....50	Iraq.....23	Nigeria.....26	Trinidad and Tobago.....2
Burkina Faso.....2	Ireland.....5	Norway.....1	Tunisia.....2
Cambodia.....4	Israel.....5	Oman.....2	Turkey.....58
Cameroon.....2	Italy.....9	Pakistan.....31	Turkmenistan.....1
Canada.....184	Jamaica.....2	Panama.....11	Uganda.....15
Chile.....8	Japan.....65	Papua New Guinea.....2	Ukraine.....10
China.....4527	Jordan.....8	Peru.....11	United Arab Emirates.....27
Colombia.....25	Kazakhstan.....5	Philippines.....6	United Kingdom.....16
Costa Rica.....5	Kenya.....27	Poland.....1	Uruguay.....2
Cote D'Ivoire.....1	Korea, Republic of.....440	Portugal.....4	Uzbekistan.....2
Czech Republic.....4	Kosovo.....1	Qatar.....3	Venezuela.....15
Denmark.....11	Kuwait.....6	Romania.....2	Vietnam.....41
Dominican Republic.....14	Kyrgyzstan.....2	Russia.....18	Yemen.....2
Ecuador.....8	Laos.....1	Rwanda.....17	Zambia.....8
Egypt.....16	Lebanon.....12	Saudi Arabia.....181	Zimbabwe.....13
El Salvador.....2	Lesotho.....1	Senegal.....3	
Eritrea.....3	Libya.....13	Serbia.....3	
Estonia.....1	Lithuania.....1	Sierra Leone.....4	
			TOTAL.....7264

Acts 2:1-41

1: Waiting for the Spirit to come

2-4: Holy Spirit poured out on all: wind, fire, languages

5-12: Diverse crowd: bewildered, amazed, perplexed

13: • Gospel **goes to people** across differences

14-21: • Same Gospel, different languages & cultures

22-32: • That's why we aim for something better than
"color blindness"

33-36: • Later in Acts, the church had to work hard at crossing
cultures and languages

37: • Sometimes we sense God's mighty power at work
38-39: as we do His will.

40-41: • Sometimes it is hard, slow work

Acts 2:1-41

1: Waiting for the Spirit to come

2-4: Holy Spirit poured out on all: wind, fire, languages

5-12: Diverse crowd: bewildered, amazed, perplexed

13: • Explanation needed!

14-21: • Galilean fishermen

22-32: proclaiming God's glory
in many languages they had never encountered

33-36:

37:

38-39:

40-41:

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14-21: • Miracles generally don't change skeptics

22-32: • "Ad hominem" (attack person): the weakest argument

• Good behavior (like miracles) need explanation

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37:

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By God’s design, as well as human choice

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33-36: This Jesus, whom you crucified, is Lord and Messiah

37: • He has poured out the Holy Spirit on His people

38-39:

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- 38-39:
- 40-41:

- Encountering God always creates a crisis
 - I realize I have been turning away from God
 - I realize I am not what God wants
 - Love others before self. Love God completely.
 - I realize God’s ways are often not what I want
 - Silence, or suffering, or self-sacrifice, or waiting
 - Justice (judgment) for me, and mercy for others
 - Like the rich young ruler, when I encounter God,
my heart so often chooses to leave and go my own way
 - **Yet God is my only hope!**
- The crisis is solved only by the grace of God

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- 38-39: Call: repent, be baptized in Jesus’ name, for life
- 40-41: • All can receive forgiveness and the Holy Spirit

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- 40-41: Warnings, pleading, and acceptance: 120 + 3,000!

The Big Idea
Jesus
whom we rejected
is the only Lord and Savior

Rejecting Jesus

- Their generation called for Jesus' crucifixion
- All too often, we in our generation...
 - Are too busy with other things
 - Parables of feast. Parable of four soils.
 - Put other things before Jesus
 - Success, responsibilities, pleasures, ease, family, relationships, control, self-fulfillment, ...
 - Think Jesus is a 'nice add-on' in life
 - Use Jesus to help us handle **our** challenges and priorities
 - Judge others for not being as good in Christ as we are
 - Try to serve Jesus in our own strength

The Big Idea

Jesus

**whom we rejected
(disowned, belittled, made secondary)**

**is the only Lord and Savior
and freely gives forgiveness and the Holy Spirit
if we repent and submit to Him**

Implications

- Our lives are a tragedy
 - We are entirely dependent upon God for life
 - Yet we repeatedly choose to move away from God
 - We choose to move toward death
- But God, being rich in mercy...
 - “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”
 - Even those who called out for His death
 - “Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus”
 - Receive forgiveness and the Holy Spirit

Application

- Call on the name of the Lord
 - Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus
- Rejoice in the grace of God
- Tell everyone the wonders of God in a way that they can understand
 - In the power of the Holy Spirit

*The Big Idea***Jesus****whom we rejected****(disowned, belittled, made secondary)****is the only Lord and Savior****and freely gives forgiveness and the Holy Spirit****if we repent and submit to Him**

- How would you describe your life with respect to God?
 - Comedy: good end for likeable person
 - Tragedy: sad end for an admirable person
 - Sad justice: sad end for a shameful person
 - Grace: good end for a shameful person
 - Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved, even those who called for His death
 - No one comes to the Father except through Jesus