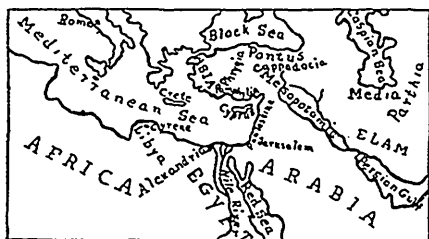


Holy Spirit is for all (see Joel 2: 28), and warns them to save themselves from this untoward (literally, "crooked") generation; that is, from the guilt and doom of those who had so far turned aside from the right way that they crucified the Holy Son of God. The result of Peter's sermon was that three thousand professed their faith in Jesus by being baptized.

III. THE BELIEVERS BUILT UP.—42. Continued steadfastly; allowing nothing to interfere with their receiving further training from the apostles. Doctrine; Rev. Ver., "teaching". Fellowship; one helping the other, as need arose. Breaking of bread; the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Prayers; meetings for prayer held by the disciples.

Those who did not believe were filled with fear; many miracles were wrought by the apostles; the believers had all things in common; their religious services were full of fervor and joy; and their numbers increased daily, vs. 43-47.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



At the great feasts of the Jews, Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles, Jerusalem was crowded with visitors. Along with the Jews of Palestine, these immense numbers of visitors from foreign countries swelled the throngs that crowded the holy city. The people of the city opened their guest chambers for the accommodation of the visitors, but multitudes of them must have slept in tents or in the open air. Probably the valleys and mountains round the city were covered with tents. The trade of the city was largely increased during these feasts, owing to the requirements of so large a company. At the feast of Pentecost the people were urged to remember the claims of the needy (see Deut. 16: 11, 12). In later times, especially in the early Christian centuries, Pentecost came to be regarded as the commemoration of the giving of the law on Mount Sinai, though there

is no authority for this belief in the Old Testament references to the feast.

LESSON QUESTIONS

32, 33 What did Peter proclaim concerning Jesus? Who were witnesses to His resurrection? By whose power had He been raised up? Whither had He gone? What word spoken to His disciples was now made good? What signs of the Spirit's presence could probably be seen on the disciples? What other sign was there?

34-36 Show that Ps. 16: 8-10 was not uttered by David of himself. To whom did it point? What other Psalm is here quoted as referring to Christ?

37-41 How were Peter's hearers affected by his words? What did they ask? What inward change did Peter say they needed? What was the outward profession of this change? What is it to be baptized in the name of Jesus? How many persons were converted as the result of Peter's sermon?

42 Describe the conduct of the new converts.

What further results of the descent of the Spirit are noted in the Lesson chapter?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Carrying out God's purposes unknowingly.
2. How to be saved.

A LESSON FOR LIFE

The Jews crucified Jesus. That is true, but not the whole truth. *We crucified Jesus.* It was our sins, the sins of all mankind that drove the cruel nails into His blessed hands and feet. But more than this is true. God the Father sent Jesus to the cross, and Jesus went willingly, that we might be saved from our sins. How we should hate sin, and how, with all our hearts, we should love and trust the Saviour!

Prove from Scripture—That God's Word is powerful.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 3. *What do the Scriptures principally teach?* A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

The Question on Missions—3. Have the Chinese hospitals of their own? No, not even for contagious diseases, as smallpox, scarlet fever and the like. The sick and lame and blind are very often turned out on the street to beg for a living. The insane are chained at home like wild beasts.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. With what crime did Peter charge the Jews?

2. What was the effect of his words on the multitudes?

3. How did he tell them they might be saved?