



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE  
**ACTS 2:43-47; 4:32-35**  
**LESSON: FELLOWSHIP AND SHARING**  
**AMONG BELIEVERS**—February 9, 2025

## INTRODUCTION:

### CHAPTER 2:37-42

#### 3000 NEW BELIEVERS!

**37**The people were very worried when they heard this. *'Brothers, what shall we do?'* they asked Peter and the other apostles. **38**Peter answered, *'You must be sorry for the wrong things that you have done. Choose to do good things instead of evil things. You must each receive baptism in the name of Jesus Christ. This is so that God will forgive your sins. Then you will receive God's gift. This gift is the Holy Spirit. 39This promise is for you and it is for your children. It is also for all those who are far away. It is for everyone whom the Lord our God will call to come to him.'* **40**Peter said much more. He warned them. And he tried very hard to persuade them. He said, *'Save yourselves from the punishment that is coming to these wicked people!'* **41**Many people believed his message and they received baptism. About 3000 people came to be with them on that day. (EEV)

#### THE FIRST CHURCH KEPT FOUR THINGS GOING

**42**The believers learned from the apostles all the time in **doctrine**. They met together with other believers in **fellowship**. They broke up bread together in the **Lord's Supper**, and they prayed together in **prayer**.

### LESSON: I. THE BROTHERHOOD OF BELIEVERS ACTS 2:43-47

**2:43** **And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.**

The apostles did many miracles and they did wonderful things. Everyone felt both excitement and fear. They had a godly fear, a holy sense of God's presence, a consciousness that God was working, a reverence for god and for what was happening, and a sense of awe and wonder

**2:44** **And all that believed were together, and had all things common:—** This meant that these professing believers were true believers. And they all believed together; sharing all that they had.

**2:45** **And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as to every man had need.** They sold the things that belonged to them: their possessions and goods. And with the money, they shared everything to everyone who had a need. They met the needs of the world. Remember the story of the rich young ruler whom Jesus told to sell all he had and give it to the poor, and then follow me, but he couldn't? Matt.19:16-22, also 26-30. We neglect an important truth, and that is to serve and minister our neighbor. It is the love of the world that makes us unwilling to give up the possessions we have obtained



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**2:46** And they continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart. Every day, they met as a group in the Temple. They broke up bread. And they shared it together from house to house. When they ate together, they were happy and generous.

**2:47** Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. They praised God always. *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven"* (Matt.5:16). They gained favor with the people and the Lord, and every day the Lord added people to their group. Salvation is come! Those people were people who had found Salvation.

---

## INTRODUCTION/ SYNOPSIS ACTS 4:29-31

They desired three things from God: **1)** to grant them the boldness to continue to preach His Word; **2)** for Him to stretch forth His hand to heal; **3)** and, that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. By the time they finished praying, God had answered their prayer. The place they were meeting in began to shake. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and boldly preached God's message. They went through a trial, had a prayer meeting, and came out in victory.

## II. THE BLESSINGS OF BENEVOLENCE ACTS 4:32-35

**4:32** And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither did any of them that ought of things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. There were thousands of believers with one heart and one soul walking in unity that brought about by the power of the Holy Spirit. They held nothing back from one another which meant they ALL had all things in common; no one was in want or was hungry, because if one had it, they gave to another. This was not because someone prodded them to do so, or gave them an ultimatum. Christ's physical body was not there, but they did as He had taught them.

**4:33** And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. The filling of the Holy Spirit gave the apostles great power and great favor to be witnesses to others of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, for many of the Jews did not believe in life after death. The apostles had favor. Favor was twofold: **1)** favor from the people outside the church because of the believers' unity and love. The common people were impressed. They were glad to do it. **2)** And favor with God from whom all blessings flow. One question comes to my mind: "Are you really filled with the Holy Spirit?" because most of us are not cooperating with the Spirit.

**4:34** Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,— The early church took care of all those who had a need. **Four revealing facts** show how obedient the early believers were. Can we be that obedient today? To give away what we really need? What a change in us and in the world there would be!

- 1. Fact 1: no one lacked;** no one went without. The idea is that no family, no man, no woman, no child was neglected. No one was left without the necessities of life; no one had to face a day



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

without food, clothing, or shelter that he needed to take care of himself or his family.

## 2. **Fact 2: all repented of their hoarding and they gave everything beyond their own necessities.**

Some possessed lands they did not need, and sold them and gave the money to meet the needs of others. They had to have had land, meaning estates they did not use; extra possessions. Some possessed houses that were not essential to their necessities, so they sold them, and gave the money to meet the needs of others. Who they sold them to, I do not know.

## **4:35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.**

3. **Fact 3: the needy received only what they needed;** only what their necessity was. Everyone who gave up jobs to work for God, at least had their necessities met. The money was laid at the apostles' feet and distributed by them as needed. This simple plan ensured that there would be no poverty in the church. There were three groups in these two verses. There were the rich, defined as anyone who owned anything. There were the apostles, the designated spiritual leaders. And there were the needy, defined as those too poor to own houses or land.

## **NOT APART OF THE LESSON: VERSE 36-37**

## **4:36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, –**

4. **Fact 4: one man in particular set a godly example—Barnabas.** This is the first mention of Barnabas, the Levite, having no inheritance, but undoubtedly acquired land as individuals from the Island of Cyprus. He was "*Joses who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas.*" His name means "*Son of exhortation*"; "*Son of Consolation*" and "*Son of Encouragement.*"

## **4:37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.** Barnabas was one who had sold a field he owned, and brought the money, and willingly put it at the apostles' feet to be distributed to every man according as was needed. This is truly a lesson of generosity among the people.

## **SUMMARY:**

### **Chapter 2**

43The apostles did many miracles and they did wonderful things. Everyone felt both excitement and fear. 44All the believers were together. And they shared all that they had. 45They sold the things that belonged to them. And they shared the money. They shared everything when they sold things. So, everyone had what they needed. 46Every day, they met as a group in the Temple. They broke up bread. (Look at the note.) And they shared it together in their homes. When they ate together, they were happy and generous. 47They praised God always. Everyone liked them. And every day, the Lord added people to their group. Those people were people who had found salvation. **(2:43-47)** (EEV)

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## Chapter 4

There were thousands of believers with one heart and one soul walking in unity brought about by the Holy Spirit. They held nothing back from one another which meant that they had all things in common; no one was in want or was hungry, because if one had it, they gave to another. This was not because someone prodded them to do so, or gave them an ultimatum. Christ's physical body was not there, but they did as He had taught them. The filling of the Holy Spirit gave the apostles great power and great favor to be witnesses to others of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, for many of the Jews did not believe in life after death. The apostles had favor. Favor was twofold: **1)** favor from the people outside the church because of the believers' unity and love. The common people were impressed. They were glad to do it. **2)** And favor with God from whom all blessings flow. One question comes to my mind: "*Are you really filled with the Holy Spirit?*" because most of us are not cooperating with the Spirit. There were two lessons being illustrated here: the generosity of Barnabas and the deception of Ananias and Sapphir. None of the believers lacked what they needed because they were of one heart and one mind. All who possessed houses or lands were willing to sell them for the needs of others. They began to lay all the proceeds at the apostles' feet. Distribution to others was given as each had need. **(4:32-35)**.

The example of Joses, called Barnabas, Son of Encouragement, by the apostles was a Levite of the country of Cyprus. He sold land, and laid the money at the apostles' feet **(4:36-37)**.