Date: November 1, 2026
Title: The King You Killed
Passage: Acts 2:22-36

Summary:
I. THE PROBLEM: You murdered the king (v.22-23)
II. THE SOLUTION: God resurrected the King (v.24-28)
III. THE EXPLANATION: David quoted the King (v.29-32)
IV. THE APPLICATION: Bow before the King (v.33-36)
Key Truths:

- Jesus did mighty works, people wondered in response, and the miracles (which culminated with Jesus' resurrection from the dead) each communicated a relevant truth of God.
- Jesus' crucifixion and death was real evil but God used it to pay the penalty for our sins.

Application:

- If the vilest evil ever committed was God's means for your greatest good, then what evil can overthrow God's good plans for your life?
- Jesus, who is the Anointed One (the Christ), is now King and must be feared. Bow the knee to Jesus Christ the King.
- Pledge your allegiance to Him. Turn to Him.
- Jesus is the only Savior to those who recognize Him as Sovereign. (He is not limited to merely Savior).

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- How was God in control of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection?
- How can you entrust your life more to God in light of who He is?
- What's a takeaway from the sermon you can apply to your life?
- What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have heard or seen?

Context of Passage:
Acts 2:13

But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

- charge / accusation thrown at the people

Acts 2:14-15
But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.

- "Third hour of the day" = 9am

Peter's response: points to the prophecy of Joel

- wake up you drunks (addressing the accusers)
- return to me, says God

Peter then shifts to the offense in his sermon:

EXPOSITION
I. THE PROBLEM: You murdered the king (v.22-23)
Acts 2:22-23
“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

"a man attested to you by God"

- Paul was pointing to Zechariah 3 and 6
    - "The Branch Man" = the Messiah

Zechariah 3:8
Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch.
Zechariah 6:12

And say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD.

"with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst"

- "mighty works" = works by God
- "wonders" = man's response to the miracles
- "signs" = revelation of truth those miracles communicate
    - Jesus' life reflected each of these points. Jesus did mighty works, people wondered in response, and the miracles (which culminated with Jesus' resurrection from the dead) each communicated a relevant truth of God.

that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus,

- Jesus preached and did miracles in public and in the open view of the Jewish religious leaders.
- Nothing was hidden. The religious leadership knew what Jesus did and the truths He proclaimed.
- Application: Be free to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In their hearts, they know God exists. Preach and allow God's Word to be sown.

delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God,

- Jesus time on earth was part of God's predetermined plan.
- "Foreknowledge" = prognosis = God knew of the sin of man and the need for a perfect Savior and graciously provided.

you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

- Jesus' crucifixion and death was real evil but God used it to pay the penalty for our sins.
- If the vilest evil ever committed was God's means for your greatest good, then what evil can overthrow God's good plans for your life?

- Why waste time to be distressed when our God is a God of predestination where all things are for your good?

II. THE SOLUTION: God resurrected the King (v.24-28)
God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

- In Isaiah: the Branch king became the Branch offering.
  - See Isaiah 53

Isaiah 53:11
Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous,and he shall bear their iniquities.

When Jesus died, He proclaimed the ultimate victory has been accomplished.
1 Peter 3:18-19
For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,

Why couldn't death hold Jesus in custody?

- David's prophecy about the Messiah.

For David says concerning him,
"'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

- David wrote Psalm 16 as if looking through the eyes of Jesus where Jesus' experience will be our own.

III. THE EXPLANATION: David quoted the King (v.29-32)

Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne,

- God
- 2 Samuel 7 (Davidic covenant); Psalm 89
    - Covenant: When David dies, God will raise up one of your descendants and will establish His kingdom and will remain forever.

Psalms 89:3-4
You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah

he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ,

- "he foresaw" = David spoke of the resurrection of the Anointed One (who is Jesus).

that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption.

- Compare: David lived but he also died whose bones are in a tomb.
    - But the Anointed One / Jesus would not stay dead but be resurrected.

For David says concerning him, "'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;

- See John 13 (Jesus was looking ahead to His eventual ascension and glorification)

John 13:3
Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God,

Isaiah 50:7
But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

- Jesus set his focus rightly.

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.

- Jesus would not be left in the grave. Jesus would empty Hades and bring his saints to heaven.

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

- Picture of Jesus' glorification at the right hand of God the Father.

Psalms 16:11
You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

- "we all are witnesses" = includes everyone as they all knew and saw the life of Jesus.

IV. THE APPLICATION: Bow before the King (v.33-36)
Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.
Romans 10:5-11
For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."
For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

"'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'"

Zechariah 12:10

"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

- Since Jesus ascension, God has poured out His Spirit of grace.
    - We must now turn to Jesus.

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

- Jesus, who is the Anointed One (the Christ), is now King and must be feared.
    - Bow the knee to Jesus Christ the King.
        - Pledge your allegiance to Him. Turn to Him.
        - He is the only Savior to those who recognize Him as Sovereign. (He is not limited to merely Savior).