

**Introduction: *God had a plan.*****I. God's Person – Jesus the Nazarene (vv. 21-22)****A. Calling on the name of the Lord (v. 21)**

1. God's Plan of Creation (Genesis 1:1, 27-28; 2:15-17)
  - a) God gave man volition and a choice as the representative of humanity
  - b) Man has an obligation to worship God (Psalm 96:7-9; 97:1; Rom 3:23; 9:20-21)
  - c) **What was man's response?** (1 Cor 15:21-22)
2. The Fall (Genesis 3)
  - a) Satan's sin (Isa 14:14)
  - b) Adam's sin (Gen 3:5-6; Rom 6:23)
  - c) **But God had a plan** (Gen 3:15)

**B. "Men of Israel, listen to these words" (v. 22) – Peter's proclamation at Pentecost**

1. Jesus the Nazarene (Luke 18:37; Acts 3:6; 4:10; 6:14; 10:38; 22:8; 26:9)
  - a) People were often identified by their father's name (Simon Barjona = "*son of Jonah,*" Matt 16:17) or their place of residence (Simon of Cyrene, Luke 23:26).
  - b) While Jesus was born in Bethlehem, He was raised in Nazareth (Matt 2:1, 13-15).
    - (1) Nazareth was a small, out of the way town 55 miles north of Jerusalem that is not specifically mentioned by name in the O.T.
    - (2) Jesus the Nazarene was despised (Psalm 22:6; Isa 49:7; 53:3; Matt 2:23; John 1:45-46)
2. Attested to you by God
  - a) By miracles, wonders, and signs – to authenticate a messenger and his message (2 Cor 12:12)
  - b) God's plan *in these miracles* was to give undeniable evidence of Jesus' deity and authority (Isa 35:5-6; 61:1; Matt 11:4-5; Luke 4:18-19).
  - c) **What was man's response?** (Matt 12:10-15, 22-24)

**II. God's Predetermination – The Crucifixion (v. 23)**

- A. **God's sovereign plan** – predetermined with foreknowledge" (Eph 1:3-5; Titus 1:1-2)
- B. Man's responsibility – **What was man's response?** They put *Him* to death
  1. You nailed to a cross (Jews)
  2. By the hands of lawless men (Romans)
  3. Our sin (all humanity) – 1 Pet 2:24-25

**III. God's Power – The Resurrection (v. 24)**

- A. God raised Him up again (**God's plan**)
  1. "putting an end to the agony of death" (1 Cor 15:20-22, 54-57)
  2. "it was impossible for Him to be held in its power" (John 11:25; Rom 1:16; Heb 2:14)
- B. **What is your response?**

**Conclusion:** Because He lives . . . I can worship Him through a pleasing life of obedience to God in Christ!