

# Speeches of Peter in Acts

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## Explanation

Seven major speeches of the apostle Peter are recorded in a total of 97 verses in the book of Acts (compare chart 15-6). Peter spoke to a wide variety of audiences, from believing Christians on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 to the leading apostles and elders of the church at the Jerusalem conference in Acts 15, and from the leading priests and elders of the Jews in Acts 4 and 5 to the general Jewish populace in Acts 3 and 11. His life-changing words to Cornelius are found in Acts 10. Peter's main themes were accepting Christ, obeying God, and the universal cleansing power of God's salvation.

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## References

- PHEME PERKINS, *Peter: Apostle for the Whole Church* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1993).
- JOHN MEYENDORFF, *The Primacy of Peter: Historical and Ecclesiological Studies* (Crestwood, N.Y.: St. Vladimir's Seminary, 1992).

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AUDIENCES	THEMES	REFERENCE
Crowd at Pentecost	God has raised up Christ	Acts 2:14–40
Jews in the temple of Jerusalem	Prepare to receive Jesus at his return	Acts 3:12–26
Leaders of the Jews	Accept Jesus as the foundation of salvation	Acts 4:8–12
High Priest and Sanhedrin	Obey God, not man	Acts 5:29–32
Cornelius, a Gentile	God welcomes all people	Acts 10:34–43
Circumcised Jews in Jerusalem	God can cleanse all people	Acts 11:5–17
Apostles and Elders	God can cleanse all people	Acts 15:7–29