

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

- 14a Peter, by now used to his name, standing up with the eleven, (for lo! They had drafted Matthias,) lifted up his voice, and after an whistle said unto them, Oi!
36. Then saith Peter, What happened? I just lost twenty-one and an half verses! Where was I? Are you still here? Right! Let those who have ears, pierced and unpierced, listen! Let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have treated supernaughtily and exceedingly crucified, both Lord and Christ.
37. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, which is not what you think, and their knees did tremble and some did loose themselves, and they said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? And how shall we treat the drunken sailors? We have neither barrel nor hosepipe, so that's out of the question. What about the captain's daughter? Way hay!
38. Then Peter saith unto them, Rend thy garments - except the ones without seam - and cover yourselves with ashes and repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, and the dust shall be washed from your hair and your lips, verily, and thy head and shoulders shall shine in the sun, for it will turn out nice again.
39. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, your sisters and your cousins and your aunts – or so say they - even though they be numbered in their dozens, and to all that are afar off, even those residing amongst a people of an strange tongue such as in Wales. Yea, look you, indeed, it shall be for as many as the Lord our God shall call.
40. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Keep your wicks trimmed and your lamps ready. Euphemism? Possibly. Store thy root vegetables in dry sand and your wines in new skins. (Or was it the other way round? Levitical Hebrew is unclear.) Save yourselves from this untoward generation that seeketh ready meals that hath little sustenance but much salt and which causeth sundry winds.
41. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized, and there was much splashing of water and lighting of small candles and the gifting of numerous silver spoons and beakers and necklaces as remembrances so that the temple traders were mightily pleased: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And many were the godparents who did grin and present unto them calf-bound copies of the Septuagint with fine silk ribbon markers, and some copies did include the Psalter.