

WIND AND FIRE

Acts 2:1-4

Following the ascension, as the 120 prayed in the Upper Room, their sense of _____ must have grown
Faithful Jews gathered 3 times each year in Jerusalem: Passover, Pentecost and the Feast of _____
Pentecost was 50 days after Passover; Jews gave thanks for the harvest by sacrificing a _____ offering

I. WHAT HAPPENED

- A. Jews counted 7 weeks from the Passover Sabbath: the following day was Pentecost—on a _____
“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come” indicates after full _____ when the sun was fully up
- B. The 120 were gathered in “one place”—most likely in the _____ for united prayer
- C. They suddenly heard the sound of a mighty, rushing wind—like a wind storm or even a _____
There was no wind or storm, only the _____ of a mighty wind; not a hair stirred or breath was felt
- D. The sound was replaced by a sight—“as of fire”—but it was not _____ fire; not a hair was singed
 - 1) One mass of fire _____ itself and distributed a tongue of fire to each person in the room
 - 2) The “tongues” of fire most likely had nothing to do with the fact that the 120 later spoke in _____
- E. Vv. 5-11 indicate that the 120 _____ the Upper Room after these overwhelming events took place
- F. How did the 120 know they were filled with the Holy Spirit? They spoke in other _____ (2:9-11)

II. WHAT IT MEANT

Why would the outpouring the Holy Spirit be symbolized by wind and fire? These symbols had been used previously in the Scriptures; they already had meaning to Jews who knew the _____ and knew Jesus

A. The Symbol in _____ : WIND

- 1) Ezekiel 37:1-14 is about the Spirit of God, the breath of God, the wind of God: it gives _____
 - a) The 120 disciples understood that God was pouring out on them His mighty _____ Spirit
 - b) The wind was rushing: within 50 years these disciples had spread the _____ to the known world
 - c) This mighty Wind of God impels US out of the doors of this church to share the life-giving _____
- 2) In John 3:1-8, as Jesus spoke to Nicodemus, He compared the Holy Spirit to _____ in 3 ways:
 - a) Wind is uncontrollable and the Holy Spirit is a _____ Person: we cannot manipulate Him
 - b) Wind is invisible and the Holy Spirit is _____ ; He does not call attention to His work
 - c) Wind is powerful and the Holy Spirit is _____ --to change us, help us and use us

B. The Symbol in _____ : FIRE

- 1) Several stories from the OT are summarized in Hebrews 12:29: Our God is a _____ fire
 - a) The 120 would have associated the fire with the _____ of God: He is called the Holy Spirit
 - b) The Holy Spirit is a consuming fire: He indwells us to consume the dross of _____ from our lives
 - c) This work can be unpleasant but the result is to make of us someone more precious than _____
- 2) The action of the fire in _____ its flame to all communicated the truth found in 1 Cor. 12:11-14
 - a) _____ in diversity: Paul used the metaphor of the human body to teach the same truth
 - b) We are all one—united to Jesus in the body, but each has his or her own _____ in the body