

The Acts of the Apostles

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Title: **“The Day of Pentecost”**

Acts 2:1-13

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵ And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. ⁷ Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? ⁸ And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs – we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." ¹² So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"

¹³ Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

NKJV

The Lord Jesus had prophesied about this day.

John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

NKJV

Before Jesus went to the cross to die as the Substitute for sinners; as the Lamb of God; for the sins of His people; to be buried in a borrowed tomb; to rise from the grave on the third day according to the Scriptures; and to ascend into heaven, He told His disciples that it was necessary for Him to leave them.

John 16:1-15

"These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. ² They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. ³ And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. ⁴ But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them.

"And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.

⁵ "But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you. NKJV

Any preaching that glorifies the Holy Spirit over Jesus Christ is not of God!

How would the disciples know what Jesus meant? It would be virtually impossible for the disciples to understand that after the Holy Spirit came to live in them that they would have a better relationship with Jesus than they had with Him in His physical person.

Another thing of great wonder to me is that every believer in every generation since the sending of the Holy Spirit has the same relationship with Jesus. Now it would have never occurred to me that a spiritual relationship with Jesus would be better than a physical one but that is what Jesus said.

But we still live in the expectant hope that one day we will be in the presence of our King; Jesus Christ!

1 John 3:1-3

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. NKJV

Before the Holy Spirit came to indwell {live in} the disciples they had understood very little of who Jesus is and what He came to do. The two on the Road to Emmaus are typical of how little the believers understood about a suffering Messiah before the Holy Spirit was sent into the world by Jesus.

Just ten days before Pentecost the disciples were still confused about the nature of the Kingdom of God {Acts 1:6-7}.

Acts 1:6-8

⁶ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

And many people in our day are just as confused in that they too are looking for a geopolitical kingdom instead of understanding that the Kingdom of God is already here.

Luke 17:20-21

²⁰ Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; ²¹ nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Jesus ascended into heaven; He left the disciples in His body and He came back in His Spirit and only then did the Gospel message begin to be preached to the "end of the earth."

In order to appreciate the Day of Pentecost it will help to quickly review the three most important celebrations in the Hebrew system of worship.

Under the Mosaic Law, Jewish men were required to come to Jerusalem three times each year to attend festivals: viz. Passover, Tabernacles, and Pentecost.

Passover: {See Leviticus 23}

The Passover was the first of the three great festivals of the Hebrew people. It referred to the sacrifice of a lamb in Egypt when the people of Israel were slaves. The Hebrews smeared the blood of the lamb on their doorposts as a signal to God that He should "pass over" their houses when He destroyed all the firstborn of Egypt to persuade Pharaoh to let His people go.

Passover was observed on the 14th day of the first month, Abib, with the service beginning in the evening. It was on the evening of this day that Israel left Egypt. Passover commemorated this departure from Egypt in haste. Unleavened bread was used in the celebration because this showed that the people had no time to put leaven in their bread as they ate their final meal as slaves in Egypt.

Tabernacles:

The Feast of Tabernacles was observed on the 15th day of the seventh month to commemorate the wandering of Israel in the wilderness. Features of the celebration included a holy convocation on the first and eighth days, and the offering of many animal sacrifices. The Israelites were also commanded to live in booths made of palm and willow trees during the festival to commemorate their period of wilderness wandering when they lived in temporary shelters. This feast is also known as the Feast of Booths.

As an added benefit at no extra cost to you I will give you two specific instances of fulfillment of OT prophecy from Zechariah 14 by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Many preachers go astray by making Zech 14 about the Second Coming of Christ and not His First Coming.

The first instance has to do with the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zech 14:16-19

¹⁶ And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁷ And it shall be *that* whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.

¹⁸ If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they *shall have no rain*; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁹ This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

In this eight-day long celebration there was the pouring of many gallons of water symbolizing the blessing of rain. Then in John 7 Jesus speaks about rivers of living water. Jesus Himself fulfills this prophecy. “Are you thirsty?”

John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

In John 7 Jesus Himself is the fulfillment of Zech 14; He is the Feast of Tabernacles.

The other instance has to do with the casting out of the Canaanite. In Hebrew “Canaanite” is merchandiser.

Zech 14:20-21

²⁰ In that day “HOLINESS TO THE LORD” shall be *engraved* on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD's house shall be like the bowls before the altar. ²¹ Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

When Jesus threw out the money changers who were cheating the people as they sold oxen, sheep, and doves to be used as sacrifices He fulfilled Zech 14:20-21.

John 2:13-17

¹³ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. ¹⁵ When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.

¹⁶ And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" ¹⁷ Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "*Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.*"

This is another First Coming fulfillment of Zech 14.

Pentecost {The Feast of Weeks} Acts 2:1

This feast was observed early in the third month on the 50th day after the offering of the barley sheaf at the Feast of Unleavened Bread {Passover}. It included a holy convocation with the usual restriction on manual labor.

Pentecost means "fiftieth" because it comes fifty days after Passover.

Due to the hardship of travel in those days it was common for families to remain in Jerusalem from Passover until Pentecost and so the population doubled or tripled during the seven week interval.

"When the Day of Pentecost was fully come...." is a sure statement that the many hundreds of Feast of Weeks {Pentecost} all looked forward to a single event that is now being realized viz. the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Just to remind you, or if you have not heard the earlier messages, Pentecost does not record the beginning of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and He has been from eternity past just as the Father and the Son are eternal. What is new is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in believers as the Spirit of Christ as Jesus promised in John 16.

The references to the Feast of Weeks in the Old Testament:

Ex 34:22

"And you shall observe the Feast of Weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end.

Deut 16:9-12

⁹ "You shall count seven weeks for yourself; begin to count the seven weeks from *the time* you begin *to put* the sickle to the grain. ¹⁰ Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you. ¹¹ You shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who *is* within your gates, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who *are* among you, at the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide. ¹² And you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and you shall be careful to observe these statutes.

Ex 23:14-16

¹⁴ "Three times you shall keep a feast to Me in the year: ¹⁵ You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread (you shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt; none shall appear before Me empty); ¹⁶ and the Feast of Harvest, the firstfruits of your labors which you have sown in the field; and the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you have gathered in *the fruit of* your labors from the field.

Num 28:26-31

²⁶ 'Also on the day of the firstfruits, when you bring a new grain offering to the LORD at your *Feast of Weeks*, you shall have a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work. ²⁷ You shall present a burnt offering as a sweet aroma to the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, and seven lambs in their first year, ²⁸ with their grain offering of fine flour mixed with oil: three-tenths *of an ephah* for each bull, two-tenths for the one ram, ²⁹ and one-tenth for each of the seven lambs; ³⁰ *also* one kid of the goats, to make atonement for you. ³¹ Be sure they are without blemish. You shall present *them* with their drink offerings, besides the regular burnt offering with its grain offering.

The name of the feast was changed from Weeks to Pentecost {fiftieth} in the time between the Old and New Testament.

As we read from the OT references Pentecost was a worship service to:

- 1) Celebrate the goodness of God in providing the harvest;
- 2) Remember the covenants God made with man.

A Loaf of Bread

There is symbolism with the bread used in the OT Feast of Weeks and when the Day of Pentecost was fully come in the NT. In the other festivals unleavened bread was used. Yeast is leavening and is almost always typical of sin. The way that a small pinch of yeast will spread throughout the whole lump of bread dough is the way sin spreads in our body of sin.

It only takes a "pinch" of sin to spoil the soul of man.

But for the Feast of Weeks the bread was leavened; but there were lambs sacrificed to cover the presence of the yeast {sin}.

Lev 23:15-18

¹⁵ And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. ¹⁶ Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD. ¹⁷ You shall bring from your dwellings two wave *loaves* of two-tenths of an *ephah*.

They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. *They are* the firstfruits to the LORD. ¹⁸ And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be *as* a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD.

So we read in the OT and then in the NT how the church is symbolized by bread. Also, Jesus said that He is the Bread of Life {John 6:48}.

What does the symbol of bread mean?

Bread is that which sustains us; “give us this day our daily bread.”

1 Cor 10:14-17

¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. ¹⁵ I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶ The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? ¹⁷ For we, *though* many, are one bread *and* one body; for we all partake of that one bread.

Rom 8:9-11

⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ *is* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin, but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

1 Peter 1:10-12

¹⁰ Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you, ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven – things which angels desire to look into.

A Mighty Wind - Acts 2:2

² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Ten days after Jesus had vanished into the cloud the 120 plus disciples were together in full agreement {one accord} in the upper room and no doubt they were praying for wisdom and guidance. Can you imagine what they must be thinking having seen the risen Lord Jesus bless them and ascend into heaven!

Suddenly a mighty wind, as though a tornado was in the room, interrupted whatever it was they were doing.

Jesus used the metaphor of the wind to teach Nicodemus {John 3} about the nature of the new birth {regeneration}. When the Holy Spirit moves upon a person it is like the movement of the wind; you don't know where it came from and you don't know where it is going but you can surely know the effects.

When a person is born again {from above} there will be a change in the way they live; they will still sin, but they will repent; they will know that salvation is by grace through faith alone. They will know that the righteousness of Jesus Christ is necessary and sufficient and that while their works accompany salvation; their works are not the cause of their salvation.

The sound of the mighty wind told them that what they had been told to wait for had arrived!

A Cleaning Fire – Acts 2:3

As the mighty wind roared something like cloven {divided} tongues appeared over each believer.

John the Baptist had predicted this concerning Christ in Luke 3:15-17:

Luke 3:15-17

¹⁵ Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ *or* not, ¹⁶ John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire."

They Spoke with Other Tongues – Acts 2:4-13

Here a number of men, whose native language was Aramaic, are filled with the Holy Spirit and begin to speak in languages they had never learned. This is what an “unknown tongue” means, not some gibberish that is unintelligible.

A careful study of 1 Corinthians 14 should silence, but it won't, the claims of the Charismatics that they have received a “second blessing” after being saved that is manifested by what they call “speaking in tongues.”

The reason that I am cynical about the Charismatics learning this truth is because in my dealings with several Charismatics I have never met a serious Bible student; only men and women seeking a subjective “feel-good” emotional “experience” that they will then trust as evidence of God's blessing them.

Their emphasis is on the Holy Spirit and not on Christ! They talk about a “Full Gospel” as though there were something better than “Christ died for sinners!”

A few years ago I spoke at another local church from John 3 - Jesus and Nicodemus.

A dear lady came to me after the service and she was in tears and said she didn't know if she was saved or not. She said a man and his wife had come to her house and told her if she wanted to know for sure that she was saved that they could teach her how to speak in tongues. If she spoke in tongues she could be certain that she was saved.

As gently as I could I told her they were very mistaken and that the only way to know if she was saved is to confess from the heart that she was a guilty sinner and to repent and put all her trust and hope in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. I told her not to trust in speaking in tongues or in any other such “experience.”

I prayed with her and she seemed to have some relief. I did not press her for a “decision” as that would just give her another “experience” that she could trust instead of Christ alone.

Now let's go back to the text and observe what actually happened on the Day of Pentecost and why it happened as it did.

Over 700 years before the Day of Pentecost was “fully come” Isaiah had prophesied that God would speak to Israel in strange languages.

The Apostle Paul quoted from Isaiah to prove that the languages spoken by these Christians were a direct fulfillment of prophecy. Paul is writing to the church in Corinth to correct the abuse of “tongues.”

Without much comment I will simply read from Isaiah and then read what Paul says Isaiah meant.

“In the Old Testament God meant what He said; in the New Testament God says what He meant.” John Wilmot

Isa 28:11-12

¹ For with stammering lips and another tongue
He will speak to this people,
¹² To whom He said, "This *is* the rest *with which*
You may cause the weary to rest,"
And, "This *is* the refreshing";
Yet they would not hear.

1 Cor 14:1-25

Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy. ² For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. ³ But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. ⁴ He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

⁵ I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

⁶ But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching? ⁷ Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds, how will it be known what is piped or played? ⁸ For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle? ⁹ So likewise you, unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air. ¹⁰ There are, it may be, so many kinds of languages in the world, and none of them *is* without significance. ¹¹ Therefore, if I do not know the meaning of the language, I shall be a foreigner to him who speaks, and he who speaks *will be* a foreigner to me. ¹² Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts*, *let it be* for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel.

¹³ Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. ¹⁵ What is *the conclusion* then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. ¹⁶ Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? ¹⁷ For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.

¹⁸ I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all; ¹⁹ yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

²⁰ Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature.

²¹ In the law it is written:

*"With men of other tongues and other lips
I will speak to this people;
And yet, for all that, they will not hear Me,"* says the Lord.

²² Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. ²³ Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in *those who are* uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind? ²⁴ But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. ²⁵ And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on *his* face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you.

Would that the modern-day "tongues-speakers" could be constrained by the Word of God and not puffed up in their emotionalism and experience-seeking.

Now let's point out some facts from our text.

Read along in your Bible and see what is going on at Pentecost.

- 1) The ability to speak in another language was a gift of the Holy Spirit {2:4}.
- 2) All of them spoke in other languages {2:4}.
- 3) What was spoken was recognizable by someone else {2:6-11}.

- 4) What the speakers said glorified the wonderful works of God {2:11}.
- 5) Those who heard in their own language were amazed and confused and asked what it all could mean {2:12}.
- 6) Those that heard their own language and understood what was being spoken also heard the other languages and thought those speakers were drunk {2:13}.

There were at least eleven different nationalities, each with a different language, who heard the Gospel in their own language. This is how the Gospel would be spread when they returned home.

Three signs were given on the Day of Pentecost; 1) a mighty wind, 2) tongues of fire, and 3) speaking in a language not learned.

The only sign that is repeated was the ability to speak with “other languages.”

At this time I will only read the passages where speaking with other tongues and reserve comment until we get to these passages in our exposition of Acts.

Acts 10:44-46

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

Acts 19:1-7

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

³ And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?"

So they said, "Into John's baptism."

⁴ Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."

⁵ When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. ⁷ Now the men were about twelve in all.

There are a few more observations to be made from this passage before we conclude today.

The visitors who came to Jerusalem for the Feast were at first confused and then amazed at hearing Galileans speak in their own language.

These were words about the “wonderful works of God.”

In the next lesson we will see that what the Galileans spoke was about Jesus and who He is and what He did.

Now nearly 2000 years later the same wonderful works of God are going on. Great sinners like you and me are hearing the Gospel and are being convicted of their sin and guilt and are repenting and believing and trusting in the righteousness of Jesus Christ and in Him alone.

What is it to be baptized by the Holy Spirit?

It is to be overwhelmed by the Spirit of God in the conviction of sin and guilt and resulting in being born again. This is called the new birth or regeneration.

Let’s turn to some of the passages that deal with the new birth.

Not a one of these passages is about water baptism! Water baptism is only a public confession that a person has submitted to the lordship of Jesus Christ.

John 3:3

³ Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

1 Cor 12:12-14

¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free – and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴ For in fact the body is not one member but many.

Rom 6:1-6

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? ² Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? ³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His* resurrection, ⁶ knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Gal 3:26-29

²⁶ For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Titus 3:1-8

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. ³ For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

⁸ This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

My hope is that I have given you the explanation of what happened when the Day of Pentecost was fully come. Cf. 1 Cor 14:3

Have you sincerely and publically confessed the lordship of Jesus Christ?

The elders of this church are available and able to discuss with you any concerns you may have regarding your spiritual condition.

Repent and believe in the gospel.