

Pentecost
February 6, 2022
Acts 2:1-12 and Colossians 1:24-29

Mission and Vision:

Building Relationships that lead to Gospel transformation.

Rejoicing as people come to life in Christ. Catching a vision for the lost becoming saved.

What next step do I need to take? Saved, serve, repent, give, obey?

The Lord Jesus has never withdrawn the Great Commission which is to make disciples of all! In our passage today the Holy Spirit is sent so that God's people can obey Him and so His presence can be ever with them.

The Master has not changed, the message has not changed, mankind hasn't changed and while some methods have changed, Jesus remains the same.

Now let's look at our Scripture:

"Pentecost means 'fiftieth' because this feast was held fifty days after the Feast of Firstfruits (Lev. 23:15-22). The calendar of Jewish feasts in Leviticus 23 is an outline of the work of Jesus Christ. Passover pictures His death as the Lamb of God (John 1:29; 1 Cor. 5:7), and the Feast of Firstfruits pictures His resurrection from the dead (1 Cor. 15:20-23). Fifty days after Firstfruits is the Feast of Pentecost, which pictures the formation of the church. At Pentecost, the Jews celebrated the giving of the Law, but Christians celebrate it because of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. Now, if Pentecost was fifty days later—seven weeks plus one day—then Pentecost also took place on the first day of the week. Christians assemble and worship on Sunday, the first day of the week, because on that day our Lord arose from the dead, but it was also the day on which the Holy Spirit was given to the church. "The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost. God was obviously at work in the Old Testament and up until this time in history, but at this particular point, the Holy Spirit was poured out. The Holy Spirit's coming meant that God's Spirit now dwelt among followers of Jesus; it would not be temporary (John 14:16-17).¹

The phrase "with one accord" is used again.

This Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, was a one-time event, if you will.

Believers were praising God, not preaching the Gospel and that they used known languages not an unknown tongue (Acts 2:6, 8). Luke named fifteen different geographical locations and clearly stated that the citizens of those places heard Peter and the others declare God's wonderful works in languages they could understand. The Greek word translated language in Acts 2:6 and tongue in Acts 2:8 to *dialektos* and refers to a language or dialect of some country or district (Acts 21:40; 22:2; 26:14). Unless we are instructed otherwise in Scripture, we must assume that when speaking in tongues is mentioned elsewhere in Acts or in 1 Corinthians, it refers to an identical experience: believers praising God in the Spirit in languages that are known. Why did God do this? Pentecost was a reversal of the judgment at the Tower of Babel when God confused man's language (Gen. 11:1-9). God's judgment at Babel scattered the people, but God's blessing at Pentecost united the believers in the Spirit. At Babel, the people were unable to understand each other, but at Pentecost, men heard God's praises and understood what was said. The Tower of Babel was a scheme designed to praise men and make a name for men, but Pentecost brought praise to God. The building of Babel was an act of rebellion, but Pentecost was a ministry of humble submission to God. What a contrast!²

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 ^[1] 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.

1 Corinthians 14:21-25

The Holy Spirit (God with us):

1) Was extensively prophesied.

300 separate prophecies in the Old Testament over 1,500 years.

¹ Warren Wiersbe, BE Series.

² Ibid.

The prophets didn't understand all they prophesied:

That He would be born of a virgin - **Isaiah 7:14**
That he would be born in Bethlehem - **Micah 5:2**
That he would be born into the tribe of Judah - **Genesis 49:10**
That his ministry would begin in Galilee - **Isaiah 9:1**
That he would work miracles - **Isaiah 35:5, 6**
That he would teach in parables - **Psalms 78:2**
That he would enter Jerusalem on a donkey - **Zechariah 9:9**
That he would be betrayed by a friend - **Psalms 41:9**
That he would be sold for 30 pieces of silver - **Zechariah 11:12**

That he would be accused by false witnesses - **Psalms 35:11**
That he would be wounded and bruised - **Isaiah 53:5**
That his hands and feet would be pierced - **Psalms 22:16**
That he would be crucified with thieves - **Isaiah 53:12**
That his garments would be torn apart and lots cast for them - **Psalms 22:18**
That his bones would not be broken - **Psalms 34:20**
That his side would be pierced - **Zechariah 12:10**
That he would be buried in a rich man's tomb - **Isaiah 53:9**
That he would rise from the dead - **Psalms 16:10**

While God was with many in the Old Testament, it was often a coming and a going. The Holy Spirit is with us 24/7/365.

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. Acts 1:8

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. **John 16:7**

2) Is longed to be known by the angels.

Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 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. 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. **1 Peter 1:10-12**

3) Will never leave us.

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. **Psalms 139:7-8**

No matter where you and I go we are never alone. "Never once have we ever walked alone."

4) Is available to every Believer.

Do you desire Him?

Are you walking with Him?

Likewise, the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **Romans 8:26-27**

He helps in our weakness, in our sin and in our struggles!

5) Is our only hope.

6) Therefore, we need to be:

Holy Spirit Convicted

Holy Spirit Focused

Holy Spirit Directed

Are you in tune with the Spirit? My prayer as I prepared this message this week was, "God, may I be more in tune with your Spirit and be more aware of your gentle nudging."

Prayer Focus:

- Does the Holy Spirit live in you?
- Are you yielding to the Holy Spirit?
- Are you more in tune with this Spirit today than yesterday and this year more than last?
- Are you sensitive to the movement of the Spirit?