

“Like a Mighty Windstorm”

Acts 2:1-12, NLT

Current Sermon Series: Acts

Introduction: The passage in front of us this morning describes the momentous arrival of the Holy Spirit to empower the church for the continuing work of Christ.

Key Truth: The **MISSION** of the Christian church is dependent upon the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Two Sections in This Text:

- 1). The impact of the Holy Spirit on believers (v. 1-4).
- 2). The **reaction** of the **Jewish crowd** to the Spirit-filled Christians (v. 5-12).

Outline of the Text:

1. On the Day of Pentecost (v. 1).

What is Pentecost? “A Jewish feast during which, following the ascension of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was poured out in new covenant fullness and power on the disciples.” [Grudem, 1250].

2. Visible and Audible Signs of the Spirit’s Arrival (v. 2-4).

- Suddenly...notice the similes beginning with the word “like.”
- **SOUNDS** like the roaring of a mighty windstorm (v. 2).
- What **LOOKED** like flames or tongues of fire (v. 3).
- Inspired SPEECH (v. 4). [Speaking in other languages as the Holy Spirit enabled].
- These are **known languages**—showing that God’s people would come from all nations, making the transition from Israel to the church.

3. The Reaction of the Jewish Crowd to the Spirit-filled Believers (v. 5-12).

- Came **running** (v. 6). They heard the sound, too.
- **Bewildered** to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers (v. 6).
- Completely amazed- “How can this be?” (v. 7).
- **Speaking** the wonderful things of God...in their own languages (v. 11).
- They **stood** amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?”

Key Takeaways:

1. **Preparation of the heart** may very well be the key to usefulness in the Spirit’s ministry in and through believers.
2. The relationship we have with the Holy Spirit became **much more personal at Pentecost**- He lives with us and in us.
3. The **coming of the Holy Spirit** at Pentecost is presented in Acts as the church’s birthday.
4. When was the last time you stood **amazed** and **perplexed** by the wonderful things of God?