

Main Text: Acts 2:1-13

Main Point: To talk about what happened on the first outpouring at Pentecost.

Main Text: Acts 2

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a **sound** like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire **appeared** to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were **all filled** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, **“What does this mean?”** ¹³ But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Verse 12 is the question that we are going to be answering over the next several weeks. They were asking the question then (even when they had a front row seat) and they are asking the question now!

Four Part Series REVIEW

TODAY: What actually happened on the Day of Pentecost?

WEEK 3: Why did it happen in that particular way? Why tongues and languages?

WEEK 4: Is the gift of tongues for us today? If so, is it for me?

WEEK 5: How can I receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Introduction: Last March I was able to visit the D.R. for 10 days. I was there to minister as well as to learn. As part of my Master's Degree I have to study Leadership in foreign cultures. While I was there I was able to preach twice on that Sunday morning. The morning service was awesome. It flowed. There was chemistry with the audience. There was a great response. You could really *feel* God moving...The evening service was in a completely different neighborhood. The neighborhood we went to was famous for its abandoned children. In the midst of this broken and poor neighborhood there as a light. A church had been planted there by a blind pastor.

(SHOW PICS)

Everything was going well. The church was packed, the worship was passionate, the kids ministered, and then...the preacher...me...it was like nothing worked. My translator was not focused. He couldn't understand English well. The flow was not there. I had totally felt like my ministry was a complete failure.

But how many of you know...where we fall short...the Holy Spirit comes in and takes us the rest of the way! There is always more going on than meets the eye...*to be continued.*

Notes on Pentecost:

It was the Pentecost Celebration. This is not accident. Pentecost was a celebration of bringing in the Harvest! (also called Feast of Harvest/First Fruits Harvest/Feast of Weeks)

This festival is known as Pentecost (*Pentekostos* in the original), which means “fiftieth”. (Takes place 50 days after Passover)

Example of the Leavened Bread: The tradition of waving loaves of leavened bread before the Lord.

John 4:35

Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

Luke 10:2

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Christ as *First Fruits*: Jesus Christ “is risen from the dead, and has become *the firstfruits* of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:20).

The Church as *First Fruits*: “Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of *firstfruits* of His creatures” (James 1:18).

The Spirit as *First Fruits*: “who have the *firstfruits of the Spirit*” (Romans 8:23).

God chose the Feast of Harvest to send forth laborers into the Spiritual Harvest Field.

Notes on Atmosphere and Attitude of the Disciples:

...they were all together in one place...

- Everyone who was there...wanted to be there.
- 120. Men and Women. Totally unified. From many backgrounds.
- They were waiting. They were determined. They were sold out for Jesus.
- The pattern of *Repentance-Then Receiving*

...and it filled the entire house where they were sitting...

- They were not in a hurry. It is difficult to be seated and be in a hurry.
- They were at a place of waiting and comfortable.
- This is the type of atmosphere that I believe is very helpful and conducive in helping people calm down and focus on the Lord.

(Example: Acts 10-gathered comfortably in a house)

The Agreement of the Disciples

There was a twofold miracle...

- **A miracle of speaking**

⁴ And they were *all filled* with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues *as* the Spirit gave them utterance.

- **A miracle of hearing**

⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?

Story Continued: We believe in participating in God's commission to reach the nations. This is why you see flags from all over the world here. One of those missionaries that we support is the Nelson family. They are the ones that I worked with while in the D.R.

I left that evening service feeling very disappointed and discouraged...primarily because of the language gap. My translator did not do a great job conveying my heart and the connection/chemistry was just not there. Sometimes it works and other times it doesn't.

About a week after I had returned home I got an email from the missionary Chad Nelson.

Hey I'm at the pastors meeting for my section. Pastor Ramon told me that the sermon you preached deeply affected the church. In fact there was a lady there that had lost her son and felt as though you were speaking to her in Spanish. She said God was speaking so clearly that she kind of knew what you were saying even before the translation.

Where my communication fell short...God spoke.

Where my skills fell short...God took it the rest of the way.

Conclusion: The primary reason for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is

- 1) To empower us to reach the world for Jesus...because we are not powerful enough in and of ourselves to get the job done!
- 2) He gave them a Heavenly/Holy Spirit Prompted/ Language. AND he gave the crowds of 1,000s the ability to hear the WONDERS OF THE LORD.
- 3) In case you are wondering if it is for today (spoiler alert)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."