

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

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Acts 2:1-4 (...And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues) after tarrying and waiting for approximately 7-10 days, they were filled as promised. The number in the upper room numbered about 120, this crowd included “the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and His disciples...”

1. Why did God choose Tongues:

God is Sovereign, God Is not accountable to us for what He chooses, “Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord or being his counselor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding” (Isaiah 40:13-14).

Any one with an hungry heart and open mind will realize that there is a definite connection between speaking with tongues and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.” After studying these scriptures, Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:1-6; Romans 8:15 and Gal. 4:6.

Why did God choose blood for atonement?

Why did God choose water as the element in baptism? Why did God choose gold as the overlaying metal for the Ark of the Covenant? Why did God choose stone as the material upon which to record the Law of Moses? Why did God choose dust to form man? There is divine purpose and reason behind each of these choices.

NEW BIRTH

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Joh 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Joh 3:8 The **wind bloweth** where it listeth, and thou **hearest the sound** thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

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

Act 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

THREE SUPERNATURAL SIGNS

1. The Mighty Rushing Wind
2. The Cloven Tongues like as fire
3. The Speaking in Tongues

(**Wind** and **Fire** were Old Testament Symbols of the Spirit)

Tongues of Fire. The lighting of the lamps upon the Golden Candlestick in the Old Testament is now the light of man's spirit in the Church to be the light of the world.

VISIBLE SIGNS OF SONSHIP

1. **Jesus at Baptism:** "Spirit descended like a dove"
2. **Day of Pentecost:** "Tongues like as fire sat upon each of them"

3. **The Gentiles**: “When the Circumcision saw the manifestation of speaking with tongues on the Gentiles, they were astonished.

1Jo 5:9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

WHAT THE FIRE BAPTISM PRODUCES

Out of the Burning Bush Experience Moses Received:

1. A Voice
2. A Mission
3. A name and Authority
4. A Holiness (take of your shoes)

Out of the Baptism of Fire of the Holy Ghost in the Church

1. A voice and anointing
2. A mission
3. A name that is above every name
4. A Holiness (The righteousness of God in you).

(Out of the fire came a purging, purifying, a cleansing, warming, and a revealing of the Glory of the Risen Saviour in your heart and soul).

A TONGUE FOR EVERY NATION

1. **The Tower of Babel**: Origin of Tongues (Gen 11:1-10) The origin of all languages, of all nations. The languages here were a sign of judgment on mankind for disobedience to the Word of God.
2. **Pentecost**: Is Babel in reverse. God gave the sign of tongues as a sign of His indwelling of His Spirit. Here through His Spirit, God gathers all nations back to himself. The hearers were Jews out of every nation under heaven, who has gathered for the Feasts of Passover and Pentecost, who had their own Jewish Language, plus the language or tongue of the nation wherein they were born. The 17 places named covered the four corners of the then-known world.

Act 2:6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

Act 2:7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

Act 2:8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

EXTERNAL EVIDENCE OF GOD'S DWELLING PLACE:

1. **There is always an external sign of God presence finding a dwelling place.** It was the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night that was the visible sign of God's dwelling place. It was the cloud that filled Solomon's Temple that "the priest could not minister by reason of the cloud for the Glory of the Lord had filled the temple." It was the visible sign to John the Baptist in John 1:33 that verified to John that Jesus was the one the baptized with the Holy Ghost. "*Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending*, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. On the Day of Pentecost, "Tongues like as fire sat upon each of them", In Acts 10:45-46; "And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.

UNIFORM EVIDENCE:

1. Everyone in the New Testament in the Book of Acts, which is the history of the New Testament Church, received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues.
2. At Caesarea all who heard the word were filled with the Holy Ghost (Acts 10: 44-48). All the twelve men mentioned in Acts 19:6 had a uniform experience. As well as we today, when a person receives the Holy Ghost, they will speak in tongues as they did on the Day of Pentecost. Act 10:45, and they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. Act 10:46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

COMPLETE CONTROL

1. **Speaking in tongues symbolizes God's complete control of the believer:** perhaps this is one of the most outstanding reasons why God chose speaking in tongues as the initial evidence of the Holy Ghost baptism.
2. **In the Book of James we read that the tongue is capable of defiling the whole body.** If this is so, and it is, this also means that when a person receives the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues that it is also **capable of sanctifying the whole body.**
3. **The tongue is the smallest member of the body, yet man cannot tame it.** Would it also make sense that in order for God to have complete control over an individual He would have to tame the tongue before the whole body can be consecrated to the Lord.

MAN'S GREATEST EXPRESSION

1. **The tongue is man's greatest expression of his spirit.** Man is a spiritual creature; he is emotional. Because he is emotional, he must give expression to these emotions. The ability and power to co-ordinate thought and tongue into intelligent speech is one of the highest prerogatives of man. This elevates him above the beast of the field. This makes him superior to any of God's creation. This is the most distinguishing feature of his being. The tongue becomes the vehicle of expression for the spirit. All of the emotions, such as love, hate, anger, sorrow, joy, happiness, relief, and serenity are communicated through the tongue. It is the gateway to your heart, your feelings, your spirit and attitudes.
2. **All these things being true,** it is not difficult to see why God would use the speaking in tongues to express the greatest, most wonderful experience that mortal man could receive. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost, His Spirit and yours become one. He uses your tongue and voice to express it. It is a wonder of wonders, chosen not by man, but by God, the sovereign ruler of the universe.

Pro 18:21 Death and life [are] in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

1Co 14:21 In the law it is written, With [*men of*] other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

JESUS SAID THAT TONGUES WOULD BE A SIGN THAT FOLLOWED BELIEVERS:

Mark 16:17 states: “And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; and they shall speak with new tongues.”

- 1. Here Jesus declared that speaking in tongues is a sign that will follow believers. There have been some that have challenged the inspiration of this passage of Scripture but early in this century there were discovered ancient Greek manuscripts, which have proven without question the inspiration of the sixteenth chapter of Mark.**