

WHY DID GOD CHOOSE TONGUES?

Pastor's Bible Hour – August 16, 2009

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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.

Isa 28:11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

Isa 28:12 To whom he said, This *is* the rest *wherewith* ye may cause the weary to rest; and this *is* the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

WHY DID GOD CHOOSE TONGUES?

1. **God is Sovereign**, God is not accountable to man for what He chooses.

Isa 40:13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counselor hath taught him?

Isa 40:14 With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?

2. **In studying the Word of God**, any one with a hungry heart and an open mind will realize that there is a definite connection between speaking with tongues and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. A close study of , Acts 2:4; Acts 10:46; Acts 19: 1-6 Romans 8:15; and Gal. 4:6, will give you an understanding of New Testament Infilling of God's Spirit.
3. **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 a divine purpose and reason behind each choice.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man **receiveth not** the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Receiveth not - does not “embrace” or “comprehend” them. That is, he rejects them as folly; he does not perceive their beauty, or their wisdom; he despises them. He loves other things better. A man of intemperance

Isa 55:8 For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isa 55:9 For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1Co 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

EXTERNAL EVIDENCE OF GOD’S DWELLING PLACE

1. There has always been an external sign of God’s presence dwelling among His people. Or a visible sign for a reminder of His covenant with His people, such as the visible rainbow in the clouds to remind us that there would never be another flood to destroy the whole earth.
 - a. **The Cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night** that was a visible sign of God’s dwelling place.
 - b. **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.”
 - c. **It was the visible sign** of a voice from heaven to John the Baptist in John 1:33; that verified to John that Jesus was the one that would be the baptizer of the Holy Ghost and fire. “Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.”
 - d. **On the Day of Pentecost**, 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.”

- e. **It was the visible sign in Acts 10:45-46** that confirmed to the Jews that the Gentiles had received the Holy Ghost.

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,”

UNIFORMITY IN THE EVIDENCE OF RECEIVING THE HOLY GHOST

1. **Throughout the New Testament** there is a uniformity of those who receive the Holy Ghost. Speaking in tongues was evident when people receive the Holy Ghost.
 - a. **First out pouring of the Holy Ghost (Jews)**; Acts 2:1-4. “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.”
 - b. **Outpouring of the Holy Ghost in Samaria**:

Act 8:15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:
Act 8:16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)
Act 8:17 Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.
Act 8:18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,
Act 8:19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.
 - c. **The outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the Gentiles**:

Act 10:46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

d. **The Converted disciple of John the Baptist:**

Act 19:5 When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Act 19:6 And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Act 19:7 And all the men were about twelve.

COMPLETE CONTROL

1. **Speaking in tongues symbolizes God's complete control of the believer:** Perhaps this is one of the best explainable reasons why God choose speaking in tongues as the initial evidenced of a person receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
2. **In the book of James we read that the tongue is the most uncontrollable member of our bodies** and is capable of defiling the whole body.
 - a. If our tongue by the human spirit, is capable of defiling the whole body, and that by receiving God's Spirit by speaking in tongues is also **capable of sanctifying the whole body**.
3. **The tongue is the smallest member of the body, yet man cannot tame it.** It makes since 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 IS THOUGH HIS TONGUE

1. **The tongue is man's greatest expression of his spirit.** Man is a spiritual creature which means that he is emotional, and he gives 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, which 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.

2. **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 your attitudes.
3. **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 receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost, God's Spirit and your spirit become one. He uses your tongue and voice to express this wonderful experience. Tongues are a choice 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 WOULD FOLLOWED BELIEVERS

Mar 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH THEY ALL SPOKE IN TONGUES UPON RECEIVING THE HOLY GHOST

(The book of acts is an historical book, and in this book we read the accounts of those who received the Holy Ghost and how they received it. In all instances they spoke with tongues as a sign of the infilling of God's Spirit)

1. **The Jews on the Day of Pentecost:** (Acts 2:1-4)
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.

2. The Gentiles in Caesarea in Acts 10:48

Act 10:46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

- a. In the record given here we read that the Jews, who accompanied Peter to Caesarea were astonished that the gift of the Holy Ghost was also poured out upon the Gentiles. How did they know that the Holy Ghost had been poured out on the Gentiles? The answer given in the Word of God says, “For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.” Speaking in tongues in the tenth chapter of Acts is conclusive that the Holy Ghost had been poured out.

3. The Ephesians in Acts 19:6:

Act 19:6 And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

- a. The Apostle Paul asked the Ephesians Disciples: “Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed.
- b. If just believing would have saved them, why did Paul ask them if they had received the Holy Ghost since ye believed”?

Joh 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

Heb 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- c. He will reward you with the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking with other tongues.