

Acts 2 The Day of Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly a noise like a violent rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And tongues that looked like fire appeared to them, distributing themselves, and a tongue rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with different tongues, as the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak out.

5 Now there were Jews residing in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together and they were bewildered, because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"

8 And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? 9 Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty deeds of God." 12 And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others were jeering and saying, "They are full of sweet wine!"

Peter's Sermon

14 But Peter, taking his stand with the other eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, know this, and pay attention to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you assume, since it is only the third hour of the day; 16 but this is what has been spoken through the prophet Joel: 17 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS WILL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN WILL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN WILL HAVE DREAMS; 18 AND EVEN ON MY MALE AND FEMALE SERVANTS

I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT IN THOSE DAYS, And they will prophesy. 19 AND I WILL DISPLAY WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE. 20 THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD COMES. 21 AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'

22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a Man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— 23 this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. 24 But God raised Him from the dead, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. 25 For David says of Him, 'I SAW THE LORD CONTINUALLY BEFORE ME, BECAUSE HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN. 26 THEREFORE MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY TONGUE WAS OVERJOYED; MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL LIVE IN HOPE; 27 FOR YOU WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO HADES, NOR WILL YOU ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY. 28 YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE; YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.'

29 “Brothers, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 So because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh suffer decay. 32 It is this Jesus whom God raised up, a fact to which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore, since He has been exalted at the right hand of God, and has received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He has poured out this which you both see and hear. 34 For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: ‘THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, “SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, 35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.”’ 36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” 37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what are we to do?” 38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized 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 your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” 40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on urging them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!” 41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all the believers were together and had all things in common; 45 and they would sell their property and possessions and share them with all, to the extent that anyone had need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God’s character?

Pauls observations and insights

1. What is the day of Pentecost?

2. Being together in one place is unity of heart and it is here that the spirit of God comes upon His people.

3. The Holy Spirit fills the house they were in – the description is ‘as of tongues of fire’ – what does this mean?

4. Notice they were sitting and the Spirit rested on each of them.

5. Being filled with the Holy Spirit enabled them to speak in ‘other tongues’ – what is ‘other tongues’?

6. Notice it was the Spirit of God, Holy Spirit, that enabled them to speak in these

tongues.

7. The diversity of the people gathered heard their own native language being spoken.

8. What was being said was adoration praise directed to God about all He did.

9. What is a proselyte?

10. The crowd that gathered who heard all of these praise declarations, asked the question 'what does this mean'?

11. Others mocked and accused them of being drunk with wine!

12. Peter, with authority, spoke up an explanation regarding it only being the third hour of the day.

13. Peter makes reference to Joel's prophecy that had been spoken years before. His perspective was – these are the end times – the last days.

14. What is prophecy? What is a vision? What is it for an old man to dream dreams?

15. Men and women will receive God's Holy Spirit. What is a sign and wonder?

16. What is nature's chaos? What is it that the Lord shall come? What is it to call on God and be saved?

17. Peter expresses a synopsis of Jesus live while He was on the earth and of His death and resurrection.

18. His explanation made the crowd come under incredible conviction, they were cut to the quick.

19. Notice it was God's pre-posed plan to bring salvation to the world through the way Jesus suffered, died and rose again.

20. Death could not hold the innocent Jesus in death. David said of Jesus 'God will not abandon Him in death'.

21. The promise of David's descendant sitting on the throne for eternity is referring to Jesus Christ.

22. Peter declares, he and others were witnesses of Jesus resurrection from death, he explains where Jesus is now.

23. Peter declares, the Holy Spirit has been left on the earth to empower the people, this is as an explanation of what is going on.

24. Israel needs to know God has made Jesus Christ, Lord and Christ, Saviour and Lord.

25. Peter directs his accusation at the Jews and they are instantly convicted, pierced to the heart, an impact on their spirit - they realised what Peter was saying to them.

26. Convicted sinners, entering in sincere repentance, will always cry out 'what must we do to be saved'?

27. That is what happens when it is God who brings the conviction on the people and not the conviction of men!

28. He instructs them to be baptised, which is to wash away all of the past, in preparation to step into your new future.

29. Forgiveness of sins is to have your old sin, shame and guilt, covered by the blood of Jesus Christ, He paid so you don't have to!

30. Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit is to receive all you need to become a child of God, empowered to walk in the right way.

31. Peter used many words to fully persuade the people to listen to the revelation that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

32. He presses them to reach out and take this opportunity to receive forgiveness and the power of the Holy Spirit to follow God.

33. The receivers of Peter's words were baptised and converted – approximately three thousand souls – but many went away unsaved.

34. Those that were saved were being disciplined by Peter and the apostles who taught them grace, truth, fellowship, prayer and communion.

35. Grace signs and wonders were taking place by the apostles and everyone was in awe.

36. They became a gathered community who looked out for each other so no one had need, and God was adding to them daily.