

The Pentecost

Acts 2:1-12

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Text: Acts 2:1–12

*When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.
And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:1–4, ESV)*

1) THE WIND: THE BREATH OF GOD (v. 2)

Genesis 2:7 – Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Ezekiel 37:9–10 – Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

“At Pentecost this wind symbolized the Spirit's life-giving presence, breathing new life into the Church.

This was not the invention of man, but the invasion of God.”

2) THE FIRE: THE PURIFYING AND EMPOWERING PRESENCE OF GOD (v. 3)

Exodus 3:2 – And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.

Exodus 13:21 – And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.

Isaiah 6:6–7 – Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

“Fire rested on each believer—not just the prophets, priests, or kings. This marked a new era of access: God’s presence now indwells every believer through the Spirit.”

3) THE TONGUES: A REVERSAL OF BABEL (vv. 4–12)

Genesis 11:7–9 – Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech. So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Acts 2:5–6 – Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language.

“This signaled the universal mission of the Church—the Gospel is for every tribe, tongue, and nation.

This is not chaos but clarity. The Spirit never produces confusion but illumination.”

4) THE PEOPLE’S RESPONSE: AMAZEMENT AND MOCKERY (vv. 12–13)

Acts 2:12–13 – And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

“Some were amazed and perplexed; others mocked, saying they were drunk.

Whenever God moves, there is both wonder and rejection.

The Spirit’s work is not judged by human opinion but by divine truth.”

CONCLUSION

Pentecost was the outpouring of God’s Spirit, fulfilling Jesus’ promise in Acts 1:8.

The Wind gives life.

The Fire purifies and empowers.

The Tongues proclaim the Gospel to the nations.

The same Spirit who came at Pentecost dwells in every believer today.