

**Date:** October 11, 2026

**Title:** Pentecost: God's Promise Fulfilled

**Passage:** Acts 2:1-13

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Summary:

I. The Spirit Comes: God's Presence Revealed (vv. 1-4)

II. The Nations Hear: God's Mighty Works Declared (vv. 5-11)

III. The Crowd Responds: God's Work Questioned (vv. 12-13)

Key Truths:

- Believers, before the cross, were regenerated by the Spirit but would not dwell in them on a long-term basis. The Holy Spirit came over certain people for a certain period who were called for special tasks.
- After the Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is poured out on all God's people whose hearts are regenerated to believe in Jesus Christ.
- The Feast of the Harvest/First Fruits God sent His Spirit on Pentecost not in response to intercession of the disciples but because He wanted to fulfill the laws and celebrations that He instituted in Israel as a pointer to what will come in Christ and His followers.
- For those in Christ, to be filled with the Spirit is to consciously allow the Holy Spirit take more control over your life.

Application:

- If a person professes to be a Christian and is filled with the Spirit of God, they will talk about the mighty works of God.
- If you are a professing Christian and yearning for revival, we should be asking God to be filled with His Spirit.
- God provided His heart is to save every heart from every tribe and every nation.
- If you are not a believer, God wants you to be in relationship with Him. All you need to do is ask for it. If you go on your knees and ask God to forgive you and to give you a new heart, God will come into your life and give you a new heart.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
  - What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?
  - How can you surrender more of your life to God so as to be more subject to the Holy Spirit in your life?
  - What's a takeaway from the sermon you can apply to your life?
  - What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have heard or seen?
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**Introduction:**

In remote part of Romania, the topic of rain was important as the harvest was dependent upon it.

In the Old Testament, rain was a metaphor for God's grace. God alone provided rain for the harvest.

- In turn, the people were to celebrate the Feast of the Harvest (Pentecost) as a reminder that God alone brings rain and growth and anything productive in their lives.
- People were to bring the first fruits of the harvest as an act of worship and as a reminder that God is the provider of all things.
- Point of Clarification: each feast has a deeper spiritual meaning.

**Context of Passage:**

All of the disciples were gathered in Jerusalem as well as people all over the region to celebrate the Pentecost.

- When the Spirit was poured out on this special occasion, all the people saved (about 3,000) were the first fruits of the spiritual harvest.

**Passage:**Acts 2:1-13

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.

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. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

**EXPOSITION****Overview****I. The Spirit Comes: God's Presence Revealed (vv. 1-4)**Acts 2:1-4

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.

#### Key Points:

You cannot be a Christian without the Holy Spirit.

- Believers, before the cross, were regenerated by the Spirit but would not dwell in them on a long-term basis.
  - Holy Spirit came over certain people for a certain period who were called for special tasks.
- After the Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is poured out on all God's people.
  - Baptism of the Holy Spirit - an experience with the Holy Spirit.
  - Disciples were already believers before they experienced the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

#### Spirit-filled descriptions in Acts

- Four episodes: Acts 2, 8, 10, 19
  - These are historical descriptions of what occurred.
    - Particular points of time in the life of the church where people are filled with the Spirit.
- Acts 2: God pours out the Holy Spirit onto earth in the life of the church for the first time to dwell in believers long-term.
- Acts 8: God shows that God accepts all Samaritans
- Acts 10: God shows that people receive the Spirit apart from circumcision.
- Acts 19: God shows that all believers are bound together by the same experience (not Gentiles or Jews) and all are united by the Holy Spirit of God.

#### Titus 3:4-6

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

#### Romans 8:9

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

#### 1 Corinthians 12:13

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

- All believers have the Holy Spirit.

#### Misconceptions (extreme interpretations of charismatic movement)

- People interpret Acts such that one is only a Christian when experience additional rituals or initiation processes where they will allegedly experience an additional Holy Spirit episode of some type.
  - Truth: The books of Acts is descriptive (of what happened) and is not prescriptive (what you should do).

#### Pentecost

- "Pentecost" = "fiftieth",
  - fifty days after the feast of the Passover
- The Feast of the Harvest/First Fruits God sent His Spirit on Pentecost not in response to intercession of the disciples but because He wanted to fulfill the laws and celebrations that He instituted in Israel as a pointer to what will come in Christ and His followers.

#### "Mighty rushing wind"

- Meaning: A sign of God's power
- See Genesis 1
- Ezekiel 37 (Ezekiel preaching to a valley of dead bones but come alive)

#### Ezekiel 37:4-5

Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.

- wind = sign that only God can bring about spiritual life.
- Implications: when we share the Gospel, it is not about our words or messaging. We need not be overly-cautious or conscientious about what we say.
  - Truth: Ultimately, only God provides the Spirit of God to regenerate hearts and dwell within people.

#### "Divided tongues as of fire"

- Meaning: A sign of God's presence
- See burning bush, pillar of fire in Exodus)

- Now God's presence is over each believer with the Holy Spirit within them.

### "Filled with the Spirit"

- Meaning: a fulfillment of God's promise
- Before Acts 2: term is found 5 times in the Old Testament and 4 times in the Gospel of Luke
  - Given always for special tasks.
    - Zechariah, Elizabeth, John the Baptist, and Jesus.
- Timeline
  - Acts 1:5: Jesus promised that people would be baptized by the Holy Spirit.
  - Acts 2: Holy Spirit is poured out.
  - Acts 11: Peter recalls Spirit falling on Gentiles just as it fell on the disciples earlier.
    - Pentecost was fulfillment of Jesus' promise of Spirit baptism.
- Note: The episodes in Acts are unique where it is baptism and filled by the Holy Spirit. There is no other reference where there is a baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Jewish and Gentile believers have all been filled and baptized by the Holy Spirit.
- Thereafter, anyone who becomes a Christian is by being baptized by the Holy Spirit where dwelt within from the point of regeneration and conversation.
  - What does it then mean to "be filled with the Spirit"?
    - To be filled with the Spirit is to consciously allow the Holy Spirit to take more control over your life.

### Ephesians 5:18-21

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

- Being filled by the Spirit means being governed and being empowered by the Holy Spirit. Putting off the flesh and putting on Christ.

### "They spoke in tongues"

- Meaning: an expression of God's enabling.
  - "Glossa" = known human languages
    - This was not gibberish but people could understand the languages spoken.
- "The mighty works of God" (v.11)
  - Meaning = the Gospel and the miracles and teachings of Jesus.

## **II. The Nations Hear: God's Mighty Works Declared (vv. 5-11)**

### Acts 2:5-11

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. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

- Meaning: God is for all the nations (why all different languages were spoken rather than all speaking one particular language).
  - List of descendants listed here are the same from Noah (Genesis 10).
    - Picture of the whole world.
- This is a reversal of the Tower of Babel (people had wanted to be united). But now God is bringing all people together.

## **III. The Crowd Responds: God's Work Questioned (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."

### **APPLICATION POINTS**

If a person professes to be a Christian and is filled with the Spirit of God, they will talk about the mighty works of God

- They will talk about Jesus and what He has done.
  - But if you only talk about edifying yourself, then maybe you don't know Christ.
- Talking about Jesus is natural because you love Him.

If you are a professing Christian and yearning for revival, we should be asking God to be filled with His Spirit.

- How? Be in community with others. Submitting to one another. Obeying His Word.
- Colossians 3 (be filled with the Word)

God provided his heart is to save every heart from every tribe and every nation.

- God doesn't have cousins or grandchildren. He only has direct children.
- We must share the Gospel with whoever is around us no matter race or status.
- The church is to be the least racist place in the world. Everyone is welcome here. We are all level and same at the foot of the cross.
- While we come from different backgrounds, we are ultimately united by the culture of Christ.

If you are not a believer, God wants you to experience His love. All you need to do is ask for it. Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- If you go on your knees and ask God to forgive you and to give you a new heart, God will come into your life and give you a new heart.