

## DAY OF PENTECOST – MAY 31, 2020

### ACTS 2: 1-21

Verse 1 – “When the day of Pentecost had come” – God’s timing is always perfect

Birth of Jesus –

Galatians 4: 4 – “When the fullness of time had come – when the time had fully come – at just the right time God sent His Son” – cf. Bethel Series New Testament lesson # 1

Luke 2: 1 – “A decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered”

Death of Jesus –

Mark 14: 12 – “On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed”

Sending of the Holy Spirit –

On a great Jewish feast day/festival when Jerusalem would be filled with people

On a harvest festival day there would be a great harvest of souls

Verse 2 – “Suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind”

Several of the disciples had been fishermen – and all of the disciples had been caught by storms on the Sea of Galilee – they knew the sound of the rush of a violent wind

Verse 3 – “Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them”

What does it mean for the Holy Spirit to be like a dove? Like fire? Like a violent wind?

When have you experienced the Holy Spirit being like a dove? Like fire? Like a violent wind?

Verses 5-6 – “Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem”  
“Each one heard them speaking in the native language of each”

Verse 11 – “In our own languages we hear them speaking of God’s deeds of power”

Hearing the Gospel proclaimed in their own native language, they knew that its message was also for them

“When I hear the Gospel in English, it speaks to my head; when I hear it in my native language, it speaks to my heart”

Speaking in tongues in Acts (for outreach) vs. speaking in tongues in 1 Corinthians (for worship)

Acts 8: 17 – Samaritans - “Then Peter and John laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit”

Acts 10: 45 – Gentiles – “The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles”

Verses 9-11 - “Parthians, Medes” – a lector’s worst nightmare

Verse 14 – “But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed him”

One of the strongest evidences of the reality of the resurrection of Jesus is the change that took place in the life of Peter

Is your life strong evidence of the reality of the resurrection of Jesus?

Verse 17-18 – “Your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams”  
How does the Holy Spirit enable/empower you to see visions and dream dreams?

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## **1 CORINTHIANS 12: 3b-13**

1 Corinthians 12: 3 – “No one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit”  
Cf. Luther’s explanation to the Third Article in his Small Catechism

Verse 4 – “There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit”

Verse 7 – “To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good”  
“To each – is given – for the common good”

Verse 8-10 – examples of gifts, not an exhaustive list of gifts  
Examples of gifts can also be found in Romans 12, Ephesians 4, and 1 Peter 4  
Wisdom – knowledge – faith – healing – miracles – prophecy – discernment of spirits – tongues  
– interpretation of tongues

Verses 28-30 –

Apostles – prophets – teachers – deeds of power – healing – assistance – leadership – tongues

Romans 12: 6 – “We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us”

Prophecy – faith – ministry – teaching – exhortation – giving/generosity – leadership –  
compassion

Verse 11 – “All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one  
individually just as the Spirit chooses”

I think Paul’s image of the church as like a body is absolutely brilliant

Verse 12 – “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body,  
though many, are one body, so it is with Christ”

Verse 15 – “If the foot would say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ that  
would not make it any less a part of the body”

Verse 21 – “The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’”

Verse 26 – “If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all  
rejoice together with it”