

The Present Joy of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-13

September 10, 2023 | Jason Elvington, College Minister

Context: Acts 1:8 | But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 2:1-13 | 1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, 11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” 12 And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Big Idea: Rejoice in God's Work at Pentecost

I. The Spirit indwells all believers, equipping us for His mission (vv. 1-4)

- i. Ask the Spirit to remind you of His work
- ii. Ask the Spirit for boldness to share the Gospel
- iii. Repent and believe

II. God is making a people for Himself, diverse and unified (vv. 5-13; Genesis 10, 11, 12)

- i. Recognize and repent of prejudice**
- ii. Embrace diversity in the church**

“The Jews may have expected a purification of the languages into Hebrews, but the Spirit affirms the pluralization of the languages and also unites them. Multiple languages and cultures remain intact, but the Spirit breaks down barriers of comprehension. The inauguration of the new age does not force uniformity. It glories in its diversity – but destitute of misperception and antagonism (Rev. 5:9; 7:9). In the unity of the kingdom of God, diversity is not lost but all the more sharply defined.” – **Patrick Schreiner**

- iii. Declare God's mighty works**

Benediction

Psalm 100:1-2 | 1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! 2 Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!