

PENTECOST SUNDAY JUNE 5, 2022





SCAN ME

SUDDENLY

THE OUTPOUR OF THE HOLY GHOST | ACTS 2:1-13

BIBLE BASIS

Acts 2:1-13

BIBLE TRUTH

The power of the Holy Ghost is essential for living a purpose-filled and Christ-centered life.

MEMORY VERSE

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. (Acts 2:2,3 KJV)

LESSON AIM

After partaking in the lesson, the learner will be equipped to: DESCRIBE the role and impact of the Holy Spirit portrayed in the Old Testament; EXPLAIN the momentous events surrounding the initial experience of the filling of the Holy Ghost; and DETERMINE to live a life grounded in the fruit resulting from the Day of Pentecost.

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE

Acts1-Prayerfully research and incorporate the discernments gained from the background scriptures into your analysis of the lesson.

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS



The Institution of the Feast Leviticus 23:15-21



The Trinitarian Preview Isaiah 11:1-5



The Predicted Outpour Joel 2:28-32



The Plea For The Spirit Psalms 51:11



The Pre-Ascension Instructions



The Upper Room Gathering Acts 1:12-15



The Rushing Mighty Wind Acts 2:1-13

HOW TO PRONOUNCE IT

SHAVUOT

(SHƏ-VÜ-ŌT)

MESOPOTAMIA

(MEH-SUH-PUH-TAY-MEE-UH)

CAPPADOCIA

(KAP-UH-OHM-SHUH)

PHRYGIA

(FRIJ-EE-UH)

PAMPHYLIA

(PAM-FIL-EE-UH)

PROSELYTE

(PROS-UH-LAHYT)

DEVOTIONAL READING ACTS 2:1-13 BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: ACTS 1:1-26

ACTS 2:1-13

- 1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.
- 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

- 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?
- 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?
- 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,
- 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,
- 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.
- 12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?
- 13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

BEFORE WE

In the process of salvation, in what order of importance would you list these potential five steps: Which steps are at the core of Sunday School? Be ready to explain and defend your response!

BAPTIZED, REPENT, CONFESS, BELIEVE, HEAR

1.	2.	3 .	4.
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LIGHT ON THE WORD

According to the Torah, the Feast of Weeks/Pentecost/Shavuot is one of the three occasions in the year when all Jews were required to gather before God in the Temple in Jerusalem, along with the Feasts of Passover and Booths (Exodus 23:14-17). The Jewish feast of Pentecost (Shavuot) was primarily a thanksgiving for the first-fruits of the wheat harvest, but it was later associated with a remembrance of the Law given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. The Writings of Moses (Leviticus 23:15-22, Deuteronomy 16:9,10, Numbers 28:26) gives the original instructions for and a picture of the celebration of Pentecost. It says that two loaves of leavened bread were to be waved before the Lord by the priest as part of the commemoration. Why were there two loaves? Renowned theologian Charles Spurgeon believes that this says, "not only shall Israel be saved, but the multitude of the Gentiles shall be turned unto the Lord Jesus Christ." The multicultural crowd in Jerusalem is by no means coincidental: Because of the Cross and Pentecost, we are all enabled personally to be reborn as children of God and sharers of divine life.

LIFE NEED FOR TODAY'S LESSON

AIM: Students will understand that the Holy Ghost has empowered us to be a witness of God, accompanied by signs and wonders.



INTRODUCTION

Before He left this world and soared into heaven, Jesus told the apostles to wait in Jerusalem. They were to wait there for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, which would happen soon. Jesus told them that the Holy Spirit would grant them power and, once that transpired, the apostles were to begin teaching the story of Jesus—the gospel. They were to begin in Jerusalem, then in the surrounding lands and finally to all the earth. After Jesus had ascended, the apostles stayed together and persisted in prayer and worship, and this brings us to the beginning of Acts.

Flavius Josephus tells us that the Upper Room was located on an upper floor of King David's Tomb, the Room of the Last Supper, also called the Cenacle. It is considered one of the holiest sites for Christianity in Jerusalem, since according to the tradition, it was the place where the last supper took place. The disciples and other believers were in the upper room, tarrying. Imagine the anticipation, the excitement, awaiting the manifestation of both the Old Testament and the words of their Savior... Then, suddenly...



I. THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY CHOST

ACTS 2:1-2

2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

There is no way to overlook the providence of timing. Jewish tradition taught that Pentecost marked the day when the Law was given to Israel. The Jews sometimes called Pentecost shimchath torah, or "Joy of the Law." On the Old Testament Day of Pentecost Israel received the Law; on the New Testament Day of Pentecost the Church received the Spirit of Grace in fullness. It was the best-attended of the great feasts because traveling circumstances were at their best. There was never a more multicultural gathering in Jerusalem than this. The stage is set!

The Greek word for "Pentecost" means fiftieth, and it was celebrated the fiftieth day from the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. They waited until the Day of Pentecost had fully come, but they did not know ahead of time how long they would have to wait. This was divine timing! It would be easy for them to think it would come the same afternoon Jesus ascended to heaven; or after 3 days, or 7 days. But they had to wait a full 10 days, until the Day of Pentecost had fully come. The only possible Scriptural precedent for this might be Jeremiah 42:7: Ten days later the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah. But who would have believed that? God used this time to break them down and then to build them up. The coming of the Holy Spirit was as much a part of the redemptive plan as was the incarnation, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. It would be worth the wait!

Imagine the discussion and anticipation as the time passed. Consider how much they had grown in those 10 days. We can imagine how their perseverance, humanity and kindness was evaluated during this time, yet they all stayed together. Together. Unity, a key to moving Heaven. Oh, that we may with one voice, glorify God! (Romans 15:6), standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, (Philippians 1:27). They were gathered sharing the same spirit, the same passion for God, the same confidence in His promise, and the same characteristics. Could this be a template needed for the presence of the Lord today? Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in UNITY! (Psalm 133:1)



I. THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY CHOST

ACTS 2:1-2

2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

What location it was we are not told specifically in the scripture, whether in the temple, where they appeared at public times (Lu. 24:53), or whether in their own upper room as we mentioned earlier was stated by Josephus, where they met at other times. But it was at Jerusalem, because this had been the place which God chose, to put his name there, and the prophecy was that thence the word of the Lord should go forth to all nations, (Isa. 2:3). We often read in the Old Testament of God's coming down in a cloud; as when he took control first of the tabernacle, followed by the temple; But the Holy Ghost did not come down in a cloud; for how can light travel that slow?

According to our COGIC Understanding Bible Doctrine book, the six symbols of the Holy Ghost are wind, wine, water, dove, oil, and fire. The Greek language has but one word for "wind" and "spirit," and they mean the same thing in that language. In Ezekiel 37, we have the prophet's vision of the valley of dry bones, a prophecy which must do primarily with Israel. where he says, "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life" (Job 33:4). In the Greek, the wind is a symbol of power, of life. It is not static. It stands for the Holy Spirit, the mightiest of all powers, apart from which no sinner, dead in trespasses and in sins, can ever be born again into the family of God. He is the energizing power that quickens men today.

THE PENTECOSTAL PRESENCE

Luke does not attempt a description of the Holy Spirit, but he does deal in greater length with the effects of His presence on that day. There are some pertinent facts which must be considered or highlighted." The coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost was the coming of a Person. The term, "the Holy Spirit," is the name or title of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity and is used to distinguish Him from both the First Person, who is the Father, and from the Second Person, who is the Son. There are many names used in Scripture to describe and designate the nature and work of the Third Person, and in every instance, they refer to one, the same Person, the Holy Spirit.

...INTRODUCE HIM TO MAN IN A NEW WAY.

Referring to the Holy Spirit as the Third Person does not imply that He is less important than the Father and the Son, but that He is the last-revealed personality of the three. Pentecost introduced the dispensation of the Holy Spirit, and from the Book of Acts to The Revelation, the Holy Spirit functions as the direct agent between God and man. The purpose of Pentecost was to introduce Him to man in a new way. – Dr. Bob Deffinbaugh, Dallas Theological Seminary

II. THE SIGN OF SIGHT

ACTS 2:3-4

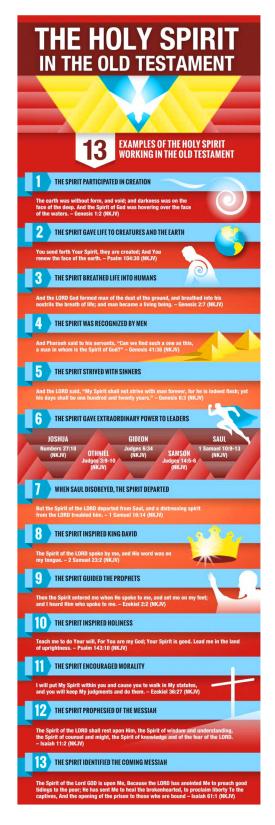
2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

To the Jew, fire had always been an emblem of the divine presence and it is a magnificent expression and illustration of the person and work of the Holy Spirit. The Scripture says, "Our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29). He is called, "the Spirit of burning" (Isaiah 4:4). He is compared to the consuming fire which purges the wheat from the chaff (Matthew 3:11, 12). Fire is used to describe the illuminating power of the Spirit, for the seven lamps of fire blazing before the throne of our Lord are called, "the seven Spirits of God" (Revelation 4:5). They were now, in Pentecost, marking the memorial of the giving of the law upon mount Sinai; and as that was given in fire, so is the gospel. This is that fire which Christ came to send upon the earth. (Luke 12:49) It probably should be connected with John the Baptist's prophecy that Jesus would baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Matthew 3:11).

This is an outstanding illustration of the principle that the filling of the Holy Spirit is not just for theoretical power, but for integrity. The experience of the followers of Jesus on Pentecost is another example of God sending fire from heaven to show His pleasure and power, but this time, it descended upon living sacrifices (Romans 12:1). Under the Old Covenant, the Holy Spirit rested on God's people more as a nation, that is, Israel. But under the New Covenant, the Spirit rests upon God's people as individuals – the tongues of fire sat on each of them.

An interesting study would be to examine Luke 3 in comparison to Acts 2. The baptism of our Lord in Luke 3 is essential and foundational to our understanding Pentecost. The coming of the Spirit upon Jesus in Luke 3 is the event that preceded the commencement of our Lord's ministry, a ministry which was marked by manifestations of power. In Acts 2, Pentecost is the event that preceded the going forth of the apostles in power, as they proclaimed the gospel. The Bible is simply AMAZING!



LET'S DIVE DEEPER

Research all the mentions to the Holy Spirit, and then seek to categorize in each the work which He is said to accomplish. Mark a diagram with two columns, the left being for those categories of work which are described in the Old Testament; the right being those categories illustrated in the New Testament. Compare and see if there is not a great resemblance between the two.

III. A SENSASATIONAL SOUND

ACTS 2:5-8

2:5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven

2:6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

2:7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans?

2:8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

In response to the filling of the Holy Spirit, those present (not only the twelve apostles) began to speak with other tongues. These were languages that they were never taught, and they spoke these languages, speaking as the Spirit gave them utterance. Does not the reading of the text suggest that the 120 in the Upper Room spoke in other tongues before the foreigners assembled? It is intimated (v.6) that the spreading of the report of this abroad was that which brought the multitude together, especially those of diverse countries, who seem to have been more affected with this work of wonder than the inhabitants of Jerusalem themselves.

The multitude from many nations gathered in Jerusalem because of the Feast of Pentecost. We know that many did make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feasts, especially the three mandatory feasts (Exodus 34:23-24) You have to wonder if some of the same people who gathered in Jerusalem were at the last feast, Passover, when an indignant mob demanded the slaying of Jesus. A crowd quickly gathered, being drawn by this sound, which was either the sound of the rushing mighty wind or the sound of speaking in other tongues. What sound attracts those to the church today? (John 12:32). When the crowd came, they heard the Christians speaking in their own foreign languages. The Christians could be understood from the windows of the upper room, or they went out onto some type of balcony or into the temple courts. Regardless, word spread quickly in the city!





People from Galilee were understood to be uncivilized and weak speakers. This was more reason to be impressed with their ability to speak eloquently in other languages. Christ was thought to be a Galilean, and his disciples really were so, unlearned and illiterate men. God chose the weak and foolish things of the world to confound the wise and mighty (I Corinthians 1:27). In Matthew 26:73, Peter's Galilean accent identified him as one of Jesus' disciple.. Now, imagine what speaking in other languages did! In both Luke and Acts, we see that our Lord promised power through the coming of the Holy Spirit, with the result that the gospel would be proclaimed to all the earth (Matthew 28:18), beginning at Jerusalem. By providence, our Lord has orchestrated Pentecost in such a way that (so to speak) all the nations of the earth are represented by those who were dwelling in Jerusalem when the Spirit was bestowed on the church. God has seen to it

DISCUSSION STARTER

Later in Acts 2, Peter preached such a powerful message that 3000 souls were added to the church. Do not forget to trace the divine triumph of this sermon on the day of Pentecost to the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Considering our education, the availability of research, and the influx of rich commentary, is the Holy Ghost still necessary for effective preaching?

IV. THE INTERNATIONAL CONVOCATION

ACTS 2:9-11

2:9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

2:10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

2:11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

Luke's list begins with three countries east of the Roman Empire — Parthia, Media and Elam, in the area of modern Iran. Luke then moves westward to Mesopotamia (modern Iraq) and Judea. He then mentions various provinces in Asia Minor (modern Turkey) — Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia. Next, Luke skips to North Africa — to Egypt, Libya and Cyrene. In Jerusalem, the group communicated to was uniquely multi-national and multi-lingual; at feast time (Pentecost), Jews of the dispersion from all over the world were in the city. Therefore, the likelihood that foreign ears would hear a tongue spoken in their language was much greater. The Parthians heard one of them speak their language, the Medes heard another of them speak theirs; and so of the rest. Look at the Gospel!

The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ estimates that over 100,000 people attended Passover in Jesus' day. Josephus wrote of the large crowds in Jerusalem for this feast. Whatever the situation, Luke's point is clear. The miraculous outpour of the Holy Spirit was witnessed in Jerusalem by Jews from all over the world. Many of these individuals from far-flung international areas believed the gospel and received the Spirit. According to Matthew Henry, the things they heard the Apostles' discourse of were the wonderful works of God, megaleia tou Theou—Magnalia Dei, the great things of God! When the disciples leave the house, those visitors they encounter on the streets of Jerusalem are astonished, for the disciples can speak to them! The Paraclete has come (John 14:15-21). We can know the Lord as Ruach Elohim (Psalm 18:15, Genesis 1:2)!

What a magnificent picture of the gospel! As the church expanded beyond its Jewish roots, it was the Holy Spirit who brought each people group into the church, replicating in them what had happened at Pentecost. First in Jerusalem, then in Samaria (Acts 8:14-17), and then to the Gentiles (Acts 10:44-46). The Holy Spirit escorted each of them into the body of Christ. What a Heavenly depiction!

V. THESE ARE NOT DRUNK AS YE SUPPOSE

ACTS 2:12-13

2:12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

2:13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

If the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? (I Cor. 14:23). The scorn which some made of it who were natives of Judea and Jerusalem, probably the scribes and Pharisees, and chief priests, who always resisted the Holy Ghost; For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part.. (I Cor. 11:18)

However, we should not suppose those who were not immediately understood by human ears spoke "nonsense," as the modern gift of tongues is sometimes called with derision. They may have praised God in a language completely unknown, yet completely human. What would the language of the Aztecs sound like to Roman ears? Or some may have spoke in a completely unique language given by God and understood by Him and Him alone. After all, communication with God, not man, is the purpose of the gift of tongues (1 Cor. 14:2).

They said, These men are full of new wine, or sweet wine; they have drunk too much this festival-time, v.13. Not that they were so absurd as to think that wine in the head would enable men to speak languages which they never learned; but these, being native Jews, knew not, as the others did, that what was spoken was really the languages of other nations, and therefore took it to be gibberish and nonsense, such as drunkards, those fools in Israel, sometimes talk. As when they resolved not to believe the finger of the Spirit in Christ's miracles, they turned it off with this, "He casteth out devils by compact with the prince of the devils;" so, when they resolved not to believe the voice of the Spirit in the apostles' preaching, they turned it off with this, These men are full of new wine. They didn't realize it, but this statement was actually true! This was new wine! Sin does not now reign in their mortal bodies, so that they obey it, (Romans 8:5); We must set ourselves intensely to mortify the deeds of the body, and to walk in newness of life. Not being desirous of vain-glory, or unduly wishing for the reverence and ovation of men, not inciting or envying one another, but seeking to bring forth more plentifully those good fruits, which are, through Jesus Christ, to the praise and glory of God. Almost all Christians want to enjoy the fruits of revival but only a few will do what's required to accomplish it.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCRATIC SEMINAR

Was this with other tongues in Acts 2 the same gift of tongues described in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14?

In Galatians 5, Paul used the plural in depicting life after the flesh (works of the flesh), but he uses the singular (fruit, not fruits, of the Spirit). Why?

QUESTIONS FROM THE LESSON	ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS
BEFORE WE BEGIN (ACTS 2:1-3)	
Which steps are at the core of Sunday School? Be Ready To Explain and Defend Your Response!	
BAPTIZED, REPENT, CONFESS, BELIEVE, HEAR	
I. THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY GHOST (ACTS 2:1-2)	
Compare I Corinthians 1:10 with Acts 2:1. Discuss its similarities.	
According to our COGIC Understanding Bible Doctrine book, the six symbols of the Holy Ghost?	
An interesting study would be to examine Luke 3 in comparison to Acts 2.	
II. The Sign Of Sight (Acts 2:3-4)	
LET'S DIVE DEEPER Old Testament and New Testament Holy Spirit comparisons	
III. A Sensational Sound (Acts 2:5-8)	
What sound attracts those to the church today?	
Is the Holy Ghost still necessary for effective preaching?	
IV. The International Convocation (Acts 2:9-11)	
The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ estimates over how many people attended Passover in Jesus' day?	
V. These Are Not Drunk As Ye Suppose (Acts 2:12-13)	
SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCRATIC SEMINAR Was this with other tongues in Acts 2 the same gift of tongues described in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14?	
In Galatians 5, Paul used the plural in depicting life after the flesh (works of the flesh), but he uses the singular (fruit, not fruits, of the Spirit). Why?	

FINAL THOUGHT

May the post-pandemic church surrender! While the Resurrection may be the key event in the life of Jesus, the coming and experience of the Spirit surrounding Pentecostal is essential for the new people of God. The true disciple in the Lord Jesus Christ will not observe this day in futile formalism nor traditional oratory; but would rather strive to use the day as an occasion and opportunity to contemplate the great Christian truths of the outpour. Can we consider Pentecost to be the Resurrection of the Church? He came out of His tomb so that the Holy Ghost could fill ours.

THE BENEDICTION

Lord of the Harvest, You gave Your disciples the mandate to be Your eyewitnesses around the world and authorized them with Your Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost to accomplish this task. Today, we ask that You help us to refocus our awareness, as we face a task unfinished. You have blessed us with the power and the gifts of Your Holy Spirit. Help us to use these for ministry and witness. Lord, we thank You for the converting work of Your Holy Spirit in our souls and through our lives toward others. We thank You that You have given us audacity to proclaim the Gospel. Remind us to use Your force to do the work You have given us. Amen.

SOURCES

HE CAME OUT OF HIS TOMB SO THAT THE HOLY GHOST COULD FILL OURS.

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RESPONSIVE READING

Supt/Teacher: Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. Psalm 133:1

School/Class: But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Hebrews 13:16

Supt/Teacher: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16

School/Class: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105

Supt/Teacher: Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also the interests of others. Philippians 2:4

School/Class: He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives bread to the poor. Proverbs 22:9

Supt/Teacher: Therfore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men". Ephesians 4:8

School/Class: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. I Peter 4:10

Supt/Teacher: For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. I Corinthians 12:12

School/Class: For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function. Romans 12:4

Supt/Teacher: By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. St. John 13:35

School/Class: For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. Galatians 5:13

ALL: But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever. AMEN. 2 Peter 3:18