

THE PATH TO PENTECOST

“Angst and Anticipation Around the Announcement of the Anointing”

(Acts 1:1-14)

“In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, ‘you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’ 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?’ 7 He said to them, ‘It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 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.’ 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’ 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.”

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. 29 Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.” (Joel 2:28-29)

❖ **The Pronouncement of the Savior**

- A Call to Observe Accountability
 - Waiting means that we give God the benefit of the doubt that He knows what He is doing.

- Waiting on God reminds us that God is in control.

Sometimes people ask, "*But what do I do while I'm waiting?*"

"I wait for the Lord, my soul waits," declared the Psalmist, "I wait for Yahweh; I wait and put my hope in His word. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning - more than watchmen for the morning" (Ps. 130:5-6)

- Waiting reminds me that I am not in charge.
 - Waiting reminds me that I am not God.
- The Call to One Accord

- Call Us to One Accord

"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift." (Ephesians 4:1-7)

"When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place." (Acts 2:1)

❖ The Promise of the Spirit

- Covers Us with Anointing

“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.” (Acts 2:2-4)

- Suddenly there came a Sound
- Divided Tongues as of Fire Appeared

- Chooses Us for Activity

❖ The Persistence of the Saints

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:42-47)

- The Focal Points for Assimilation

Assimilation means to 'fully take in information, ideas or culture with full understanding and absorption.'

- Devotion to Apostles Teaching
- Devotion to 'the' Fellowship

The phrase here is properly interpreted as 'the fellowship' not fellowship.

- Devotion to the Breaking of Bread

Unity is forged in the deep connection made between those of like mind and like heart.

- Devotion to Prayers

- The Fruitful Product of Assimilation

- Unity and Devotion Contribute to Anointed Leadership

"And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles." (Acts 2:43)

- Unity and Devotion Contribute to Amazing Servants

“And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.” (vs. 44-45)

- ▶ Unity and Devotion Contribute to Attending Church

“And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people.” (Acts 2:46-47a)

- ▶ Unity and Devotion Contribute to Added Growth

“And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:47b)