

Pentecost I

Acts 2:1-4; 14-18 Joel 2:28-29

5-31-2020

Introduction – In describing the Holy Spirit’s coming, Jesus specifically said, "Rivers of living water shall flow from the inner being of all those who believe me" (John 7:37-38). On Pentecost, what Joel had prophesied, Peter preached: "God has poured out His Spirit; a stream of restoring, healing power is released to mankind!"

I. The Pentecostal movement.

1. The first "Pentecostals" in the modern sense appeared on the scene in 1901 in the city of Topeka, Kansas in a Bible school conducted by Charles Fox Parham, a holiness teacher and former Methodist pastor.
2. The first person to receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit was Agnes Ozman; she received when hands were laid on her. It was said that Ozman spoke in Chinese for three days, unable to speak English.
3. William Seymour and the Azusa Street revival.
4. The largest church in the world is a Pentecostal church in Korea. 240,000 attend weekly worship. Two Pentecostal churches in Buenos Aires attract together 150,000 each week.
5. Pentecostalism has become the fastest growing family of world Christianity. It is growing at a rate of 13 million a year, or 35,000 a day. Today there are approximately 170 different denominations that identify themselves as Pentecostal; there are over 600 million Pentecostals in the world.

II. The Holy Spirit baptism

1. Salvation and the Baptism two distinct experiences (John 1:29, 33).
2. A *gift* of God for *all* believers (Acts 2:38-39).
3. Received by asking and through obedience; Must “receive” (Luke 11:9-13; Acts 5:32). Act in faith.

III. With the overflowing power of the Holy Spirit, there is a:

1. New power to serve/witness – “You shall be witnesses.” (Acts 1:8)
2. New pursuit for growth in the Word – “The Comforter will show you...” (John 14:26) “Spirit of wisdom and revelation.” (Ephesians 1:17-18)
3. New potency in prayer- “Praying in the Spirit.” (Ephesians 6:18) “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us.” (Romans 8:26)
4. New passion for worship – Desire to worship from inner being. “pray with the spirit, sing with the spirit” refers to intimacy and release in worship. *Jack Hayford* 1 Cor. 14:15;

IV. You can receive the Baptism today by taking these three simple “faith steps.”

1. Ask in faith (Luke 11:9-13).
2. Receive by faith (Mark 11:24).
3. Speak by faith. Speaking in tongues is not involuntary (Acts 2:4; 19:6).