

ACTS: I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH (PART 4)

In Acts 1, we see Jesus leaving his disciples and going to Heaven; in Acts 2, we see Jesus returning to his disciples through the Holy Ghost!
GOSPELS = CHRIST WITH THEM // ACTS = CHRIST IN THEM!

AND WHEN THE DAY OF PENTECOST WAS FULLY COME (2:1)

The phrase “was fully come” literally means “was being fulfilled.” This Day of Pentecost would be different than every past Day of Pentecost!

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

WHAT IS THE HOLY GHOST?

- **It is called the Spirit of Christ.**

Romans 8:10-13 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

- **It is called a baptism.**

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

- **It is called a birth.**

John 3:5-8 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

- **It is called living water.**

John 4:13-14 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 7:38-39 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they

that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

- **It is called the comforter.**

John 14:15-18 If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

- **It is called the spirit of adoption.**

Romans 8:14-16 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

- **It is called a seal, and the earnest of our inheritance.**

Ephesians 1:13-14 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

- **It is called power from on high.**

Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

WHY DID GOD CHOOSE SPEAKING IN TONGUES?

- God is sovereign and can do what He wants to do (Isaiah 40:13-14)
- The Bible says “from the heart the mouth speaketh” (Matthew 12:34)
- Our speech is our chief means of expression (Proverbs 18:20-21)
- Tongue is the most difficult part of the body to control (James 3:2-8)
- Speaking in tongues is a universal, external sign (Acts 11:15-17)
- God uses things that are “foolish” to do His will (1 Corinthians 1:25-29)
- Speaking in tongues reverses the confusion of the Tower of Babel.
- Speaking in tongues shows Gods love for people of all nations.

- God regularly used outward signs to accompany His covenants.
- Speaking in tongues provides “certainty” at a definite point in time! It is critical to note that EVERY believer in the book of Acts received the Holy Ghost with the EVIDENCE of speaking in other tongues. There were NO EXCEPTIONS. There is no such thing in your Bible as a Christian who does not speak with tongues. There is no such thing in your Bible as a church that is not Spirit filled. We see this proved EVERYWHERE in Acts!

Later on in the Epistles, as the church matures and Paul gives them teaching on the GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT, he will speak of something called “**Divers Kinds of Tongues**” which is one of nine supernatural gifts given to the church. And in that teaching, he will say things like “**Do all speak with tongues?**” (1 Corinthians 12:30) Don’t let anyone confuse you on this point – the “Gift of Tongues” is an utterance in an unknown language in a church meeting that must be interpreted into the language of the hearers by another Gift of the Spirit called “**Interpretation of Tongues.**” Not every member of the Body receives these supernatural gifts to use in the church – BUT EVERY BIBLE BELIEVER SPEAKS IN TONGUES!

1 Corinthians 12:10-11 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another **divers kinds of tongues**; to another the **interpretation of tongues**: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

1 Corinthians 14:27 If any man speak in an unknown **tongue**, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one **interpret**.

The SIGN of tongues is EVIDENCE that believers are filled w/ Holy Ghost. The GIFT of tongues (w/ interpretation) is for EDIFICATION of the church.

Acts 2:5-13 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, **What meaneth this?** Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

When the Holy Ghost was poured out, some observers were amazed,

some doubted, and some mocked – JUST LIKE TODAY!

Their question to the Apostles was “WHAT MEANETH THIS?” (What is “this”? Obviously, it is the speaking in tongues that they are observing.) Peter then stands up to preach the very first sermon in church history – and he answers their question “WHAT MEANETH THIS?” with the words, “THIS IS THAT!” (What is “that”? Obviously, it is the outpouring of God’s Spirit that the prophet Joel said would happen in the last days!) Joel never even mentioned speaking in tongues, but Peter connected the dots!

Since the early church had no “New Testament” yet, Peter appeals to the Old Testament – **his sermon starts with JOEL and ends with JESUS.**

Acts 2:14-21 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But **this is that** which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

JOEL WASN’T THE ONLY OLD TESTAMENT PROPHET TO SEE IT!

Jeremiah 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Hebrews 10:16-17 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

Isaiah 28:11-12 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

1 Corinthians 14:21 In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

Pentecost was always in Jewish **history**, but now it was an **experience!**