



V E R Y

BOLD

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12

BE BOLD, STAND UP, & STAY FOCUSED

A STUDY OF ACTS 2 (NKJV) / Elder Michelle Smith

# ACTS 2:1 – 47 (NKJV)

## Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

- Pentecost was one of the **3 major annual Jewish feasts days** established and commanded by God to be celebrated in Jerusalem in His Old Testament Law for the Jews.
  - **Passover,**
  - Shavuot (**Pentecost**) and
  - Sukkot (**Feast of Tabernacles**).
- “Pentecost” is the Greek name for the feast and it means “fifty”. and refers to the fifty days that have elapsed since the wave offering of Passover.
- Pentecost signals the beginning of the church age.

# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Beginning the Sabbath after the Passover Feast, the Jews were instructed to count off 50 days. The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) was celebrated on the 50th day. It is the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Sunday. This year it is Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Leviticus 23:15-16

“You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering. You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering of new grain to the LORD.



# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

## Pentecost

Pentecost means the 50<sup>th</sup> day

It was on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Sunday that the Church as we know it began.

The risen Jesus had been with his disciples for 40 days before the ascension.



# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

By the first century, some of the Jews used Pentecost as a day to memorialize Moses receiving the Law of God on Mount Sinai. Others, kept it as a day to celebrate the covenant God made with Noah after the global flood.

# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

## What happened on this Day of Pentecost?

- **God sent the Holy Spirit to His Apostles in Jerusalem** to enable them to preach about the Kingdom of Heaven and to work miracles.
- The Holy Spirit gave them insights into God's global work, gave them the ability to heal the sick, to speak in multiple languages, and to witness to Jesus' resurrection.
- These events were significant because they launched the disciples of Jesus into their new work as servants in the Church (the Kingdom of God).

## The Crowd's Response

<sup>5</sup> And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup> Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? <sup>9</sup> Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." <sup>12</sup> So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"

<sup>13</sup> Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."



# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Gathered at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost were devout Jews from every nation. “Devout” means “strong religious Jews” or someone who is “deeply devoted to their religion or to another belief, cause, or way of life”.

Another important aspect of the Day of Pentecost is the miraculous speaking in foreign tongues which enabled people from various language groups to understand the message of the apostles and to hear them speaking of the wonders of God in their own language.



# THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Jews were gathered in Jerusalem from

- Parthians,
- Medes,
- Elamites,
- those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene,
- visitors from Rome,
- both Jews and proselytes,
- Cretans and Arabs

There were different responses to hearing about the wonderful works of God. Some were shocked, amazed, confused, perplexed, and some said that they were drunk.



## Peter's Sermon

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. <sup>15</sup> For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *only* the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup> But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,  
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;  
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
Your young men shall see visions,  
Your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> And on My menservants and on My maidservants  
I will pour out My Spirit in those days;  
And they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> I will show wonders in heaven above  
And signs in the earth beneath:

Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned into darkness,  
And the moon into blood,

Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

<sup>21</sup> And it shall come to pass

That whoever calls on the name of the LORD  
Shall be saved.

<sup>22</sup> “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by  
God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through  
Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know— <sup>23</sup> Him, being  
delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of  
God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to  
death; <sup>24</sup> whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death,  
because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

<sup>25</sup> For David says concerning Him:

‘I foresaw the LORD always before my face,  
For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup> Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad;  
Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For You will not leave my soul in Hades,  
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
You will make me full of joy in Your presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David,  
that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this  
day. <sup>30</sup> Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn  
with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh,  
He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he, foreseeing this,  
spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not  
left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

<sup>32</sup> This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. <sup>33</sup> Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

<sup>34</sup> “For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

‘The LORD said to my Lord,  
“Sit at My right hand,  
and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>35</sup> Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” ’

<sup>36</sup> “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?”

<sup>38</sup> Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is to you and to your children,

# PETER'S RESPONSE

- First Peter answered the multitudes response that the men were drunk. No Jew would eat or drink anything before 9:00am on a Sabbath or feast day, and it was then the third hour, or 9:00am.
- Throughout this sermon, Peter addresses Jews only (vv. 14, 22, 29, 36). Pentecost was a Jewish feast, and there were no Gentiles involved.
- Peter's sermon addressed the Jewish nation and proved to them that their Messiah had been raised from the dead. In vv. 16–21, Peter referred the men to Joel 2:28–32.
- Peter did not say that this was a fulfillment of the prophecy, for Joel's words will not be fulfilled until the end of the Tribulation when Christ returns to earth. **Peter does say that this is that same Spirit spoken of by Joel.** Verses 17 and 18 took place at Pentecost, but vv. 19–21 did not, and will not until the end times. Between vv. 18 and 19 would unfold the entire church age.





Peter used five very convincing arguments to prove that Jesus was alive:

1. Christ's Person and life demand that He be raised from the dead (22–24). See John 10:17–18. He who raised others could not remain dead himself!

<sup>22</sup> “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—  
<sup>23</sup> Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; <sup>24</sup> whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

**Peter used five very convincing arguments to prove that Jesus was alive:**

**2. He quoted David's words in Psalm 16:8–11 that predicted the resurrection (vv. 25–31).**

<sup>25</sup> For David says concerning Him:

‘I foresaw the LORD always before my face,  
For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup> Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad;  
Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For You will not leave my soul in Hades,  
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
You will make me full of joy in Your presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

**3. The apostles themselves were witnesses and had seen the risen Christ (v. 32).**

<sup>32</sup> This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

# PETER'S RESPONSE

## 4. The coming of the Spirit is proof Jesus is alive (v. 33).

<sup>33</sup> Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

### Luke 24:47 – 49 (NKJV)

<sup>46</sup> Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> And you are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

**5. Quoted David in Psalm 110:1 which promised His resurrection (vv. 33–35).**

<sup>33</sup> Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

<sup>34</sup> “For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

‘The LORD said to my Lord,

“Sit at My right hand,

and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>35</sup> Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” ’

## A Vital Church Grows

<sup>40</sup> And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” <sup>41</sup> Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. <sup>42</sup> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. <sup>43</sup> Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, <sup>45</sup> and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

<sup>46</sup> So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

# FOLLOW PETER'S EXAMPLE

- Peter knew that God had appointed him to speak up as a leader. He took full advantage of his opportunity to explain Christ.
- Peter was confident in what He knew about the seriousness in which these devout Jews had kept the Sabbath.
- Peter was bold in his explanation about what the multitude had seen and used the word of God to justify it.
- Peter showed them their wrong doing and explained how they could have the same experience.
- Peter understood that God had given him the opportunity to expand the church by leading them to salvation.

**What opportunity has God given you?**

**What will you do with your next opportunity to explain what someone doesn't understand?**

**BE BOLD, STAND UP, & STAY FOCUSED!  
THE RESULTS ARE WORTH IT!**

