

Acts 2

v.1 the Day of Pentecost had fully come- or had been fulfilled

- the Feast of Pentecost or First Fruits speaks of the coming of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the church

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 conditions were at their best. There was never a more cosmopolitan gathering in Jerusalem than this one

they waited until **the Day of Pentecost had fully come**, but they didn't know ahead of time how long they would have to wait. 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**.

What this passage tells us about the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- The gift of the Holy Spirit is promised to us.
- The gift of the Holy Spirit is worth waiting for.
- The gift of the Holy Spirit comes as He wills, often not according to our expectation.
- The gift of the Holy Spirit can come upon not only individuals, but also upon groups (see also [Acts 2:4,4:31, 10:44](#)).
- The gift of the Holy Spirit is often given as God deals with the flesh and there is a dying to self.

What this passage does *not* tell us about the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- The gift of the Holy Spirit is given according to formula.
- We earn the gift of the Holy Spirit by our seeking.

v.2 mighty rushing wind

- mighty- strong , violent

- rushing- carrying along something, rushing river

- wind- pneô *pno-ay'* ; *respiration, a breeze:—breath, wind. —same word as breathe in Hebrew, Greek and Latin*

- compare to Isaiah Chapter 6

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](#)).

- The idea behind the picture of **fire** is usually purification, as a refiner uses fire to make pure gold; or fire can burn away what is temporary, leaving only what will last. This is an excellent illustration of the principle that the filling of the Holy Spirit is not just for abstract power, but for *purity*.

- In certain places in the Old Testament, God showed His special pleasure with a sacrifice by lighting the fire for it Himself – that is, fire from heaven came down and consumed the sacrifice. 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](#)).

READ 2 CHRONICLES 26 for background on Uzziah

v.1 I saw the Lord when all else is taken away

- probably our biggest hindrance to serving the Lord and being sold out to Him is that we have never had a vision of Him, never realized Who He is, His holiness

v.3 Holiness and glory- His glory is in His holiness

- first mention of glory- (*Exo 15:11 NKJV*) "*Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?*

- in Deut. 23 there is a description of what they were to do with waste materials- when they had to go to the bathroom, they went outside the camp, He is holy so take waste outside and get rid of it

v.5 the effect of beholding God and His holiness is the realization of our unworthiness

- (*Job 42:5-6 NKJV*) "*I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. {6} Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes.*"

- (Luke 5:3-8 NKJV) Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. {4} When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." {5} But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." {6} And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. {7} So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. {8} When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

v.6 the coal from the altar

- there is forgiveness and cleansing- but be aware as we seek His holiness, - the coal burns- the circumcision knife hurts

v.8 The Lord's heart is to send and tell until there is no more chance of repentance

people harden their hearts to the message- we are faced with a choice today, either to harden our hearts to what He is telling us or to see Him as HE is and become like Isaiah

God is still calling consecrated men and women to do His work.

Back to Acts

v.4 they were filled with the Holy Spirit- empowered for service

So therefore we see that the disciples were in one place, with one heart, allowing the Lord to put the pieces into place. Then they allowed themselves to be filled, to be taken control of, yielded to the power of the Holy Spirit.

Do we want that today?

Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? People from Galilee (**Galileans**) were known to be uncultured and poor speakers. This was all the more reason to be impressed with their ability to speak eloquently in other languages.

