

Introduction:

- Pentecost Sunday! 50 Days after Passover. Greek-pentecost, Heb - Shavuot, Harvest Feast.
- *"They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other."* (Acts 2:7-12, NLT)
- *"Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah."* (Acts 3:19-20, NLT)
- This past week, T-Th, we spent Three Days In The Presence of A Jealous God. Day one was focused on repentance. Day Two was focused on consecration (we anointed and laid hands on everyone). Day Three was a night of celebration, travail, and decrees.
 - Ex 34:14 - "my name is Jealous"
 - These three days were unto something. What?
 - They were unto a spiritual reset. Not because of covid but because of the condition of our hearts.
 - They were unto a preparation. The Bible is pretty clear on the vessels that God desires to use for glory. Pure, consecrated, holy, and set apart to Him.
 - They were unto a positioning. Because of preparation we are more likely to be positioned to be used by God.
- I want to demonstrate the movement of God through history to position us to participate with Him in harvest and anticipate His return. God has always had our hearts in view and moves to love us.

I. Pentecost of the Past

A. Babel vs. Pentecost

1. God sent his Spirit to confuse their language and cause them to be divided. But from the heart of God in Eden, the plan of redemption was being unfolded for all humanity/who so ever will believe.
2. The church is born on Pentecost to reverse the action taken at Babel.
3. At the tower of Babel people gathered to make a name for themselves Gn 11:4. At Pentecost people gathered to bring glory to God.
4. At Babel God uses language to break up a united people. At Pentecost God uses language to unite a people. Acts 2:11 "everyone heard them declaring the wonderful things of God."
5. After Babel people spread out all over the earth, alienate from one another and also enemies. After Pentecost people spread out all over the world to serve God and walk in love with all other peoples.
6. It is significant when God begins uniting people into community. When we live in a spirit of repentance consecrated to God all things become possible once again!

7. When the Holy Spirit came in Egyptian, Asian, Arab went out. There was now a new global community (common unity) in which the people of God gathered around Jesus, who is the very center of their lives. Acts 2:44 *"they held everything in common."* The world divided us in race, gender, and age, etc. But Jesus becomes the common unifier at Pentecost.
 - a) When we are centered in God, we are able to enjoy our diversity, with out being defined or divided by it.
 - b) The Holy Spirit unites different cultural, ethnic, and sociological backgrounds. Joel said the Holy Spirit would be poured out on all flesh - sons & daughters, poor, old men & young men etc. *"For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.... There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus ..."* (Galatians 3:26-29, NLT) Many hearts One Son! One new man, (Eph 2:15)
 - c) The Holy Spirit is barrier buster and the Ultimate Unifier!!! Pentecost undoes the Babel effect!
- B. First Pentecost Sinai vs. Second Pentecost Jerusalem.
 1. Gave the law to empower the people in the ways of God vs. Gave the Spirit to empower the people with authority to implement the Kingdom of God. Both were power revelations of God.
 2. God is now an internal experience and not just external experience.
 3. The first pentecost was for Israel the second pentecost was for the whole world.
 4. Sinai signaled the beginning of a new era or the people of God. Pentecost signals the beginning of a new 'last days' era, the second coming of Christ and the global mission to the world. A kingdom expression with global kingdom expansion. A Kingdom with global reach!
 5. Language once confused now is unified with revelatory power to preach/proclaim Jesus!
 6. In the first pentecost tongues brought division in the second, tongues becomes the global unifier!
 7. In the first Pentecost there was fire, thunder, and shaking. In the second Pentecost there is a release of wind and fire...Mt 3 *"He will baptize you with Holy Spirit and power."*
 - a) Wind - Nicodemus - breath of God, do not know where it is going or where it comes from. God's breath is the breath that gives life! Gave man life in Gen. and gives church life in Acts!
 - b) Fire - speaks of purity and presence. Again JTB -
 - (1) Burning bush Ex 3. Moses you are on holy ground.
 - (2) Pillar of fire - leads Israel throu the desert. Fiery presence leads the people of God.
 - (3) Elijah on Mt Carmel. God answers with fire and consumes sacrifice.
 - (4) Hebrews - my servants are flames of fire. Heb 1:7
 - (5) Jesus as seen by John with fire in His eyes. Rev 1:14.

II. Pentecost of the Present

- A. *"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."* (Acts 1:8, ESV)
1. You will receive the gift from God - Holy Spirit - and you will receive power. Dunamis - power as in dynamite.
 - a) The fact that He comes as a gift indicates that this is an act of God's grace! Therefore, He is a gift to be received!
 - b) Thus when the word 'received' is used with Holy Spirit, it refers to the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - c) *"Paul said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.""* (Acts 19:2, NKJV)
I want to tell you today that there is a Holy Spirit! And the Holy Spirit is a Gift given to us by the Father through Jesus Christ!
 2. Power to be witnesses.
 - a) Power to produce miracles.
 - b) Power to testify with revelatory strength to cause Jesus to be seen from the heart. IE. 3K saved at Peters preaching. That was a miracle in itself. Philip preaching to the Samaritans. They heard his message, saw the miracles and believed on the Lord Jesus Christ!
 - c) Paul changes the city of Ephesus in two years. (Acts 19:10).
 3. Works any where in the world. In Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria uttermost parts of the earth.
- B. The Holy Spirit changed the lives of the those who received Him.
1. The 12 were terrified to come out of the upper room. Scattered when Jesus was crucified. But they all died a martyrs death preaching the resurrected Christ. Something has to happen in you to do that.
 2. He guided them into all truth! (Jn 16:13) He reminded them what they had been taught. He convicts in regards to sin so that we live righteously. We need the Holy Spirit.
 3. He changes the character by growing His fruit in us. Gal 5:22
 4. The Holy Spirit comes from Jesus, points to Jesus, surrounds Jesus all to reveal Jesus to all humanity.
- C. The entire book of Acts is the story of the birth of the church empowered by the Holy Spirit to reach lost people. That has not changed!
1. I believe God lead us to do three days in the presence of a jealous God so that we would be clean, consecrate and filled to do the works of God.
 2. That we would not be waiting on an experience but that we would be creating experiences for others as we are led but he Spirit of God.

III. Pentecost of the Future

- A. *"Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,"* (Acts 3:19-20, ESV)

1. Along with the resetting that comes with repentance and consecration, comes the promise of refreshing!
 - a) times - kairos - appointed times. A decisive moment in time. (Refers to a divinely appointed time/divinely ordained time.)
 - b) Refreshing - Greek 'anapsychis' - refreshing, cooling, drying out. Picture of one no longer sweating but cooling off. IE. Like getting in front of a fan (breath/wind) when you have been working hard. Many work hard to find favor with God. When God is saying "Be still!" Cease working and sink into my presence.
 - c) If we do not repent we will be working to earn Gods favor. But in repentance we rest on Him alone and we discover appointed times of refreshing, when the breath of God blows over us. This is what we experience Tuesday and Wednesday last week. This is what God is calling us to live in 24/7!!
 - d) It is a refreshing that comes from the **Presence** of God. Stay in the presence!
2. Luke is writing that there is an appointed time yet in the future in which God will send Jesus back, His second coming. Messiah had come but was ignored by the Jews therefore the call to repent that they might experience the joy and salvation the prophets spoke of.
 - a) Many in the church, right now, are believing for an outpouring of the Spirit of God. IE. Prophet Bob Jones, prophesied a billion soul harvest! A harvest of harvesters!
 - b) That would be an unprecedented time of refreshing!
- B. It takes people to start a move of God. Open your mouth and God will fill it!
 1. The 120 were the only ones waiting of the 500 who saw Jesus.
 2. Peter had to start speaking at Pentecost to see 3k saved.
 3. Philip had to go to Samaria to see the Samaritians saved and filled with the Holy Spirit.
- C. The Holy Spirit positions us to be useful to the Master. He fill us in order that we be effective ministers. He empowers the message within us that we carry. When we speak the name of Jesus the testimony of Jesus resonate in the heart of the hearer.

Conclusion:

- What Does this mean? It means God is for us! Is coming back for us! And wants us to partner with Him to reach the world to the glory of Jesus name.
- It means we are ready to do ministry to whosoever we are sent too!
- Who would like to receive the Holy Spirit this morning?