



Pentecost Realized - Acts 2:1-13

The birth of a first child is a wonderfully, wild, scary time

- Months are spent getting ready
- There is a sense of expectation mixed with some fear
- You are not really sure when it will happen, just an approximate time
- Then bam the water breaks and all sorts of emotions and actions take hold

That's the way the church was born

- **Genesis 9:1 NIV** Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth.”

That's the way the church was born

- **Genesis 11:3-4 NIV** 3 They said to each other, “Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

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- **Genesis 11:5-9 NIV** 5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. 6 The Lord said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.”

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- **Genesis 11:5-9 NIV** 8 So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

That's the way the church was born

- **Deuteronomy 7:6-8 NIV** 6 For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. 7 The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples.

That's the way the church was born

- **Deuteronomy 7:6-8 NIV** 8 But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.
- **Psalms 86:9 NIV** All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.

That's the way the church was born

- **Isaiah 60:1-3 NIV** 1 "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. 2 See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. 3 Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn."
- That day began on a Jewish feast day call Pentecost

Pentecost Realized

- **Acts 2:1-13 NIV** When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Pentecost Realized

- **Acts 2:1-13 NIV** 5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?”

Pentecost Realized

- **Acts 2:1-13 NIV** 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”

Pentecost Realized

- **Acts 2:1-13 NIV** 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” 13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”
- The question for today is, “What does this mean today, to me personally?”

Pentecost – the day the church was born

- God has been telling Israel what to expect through the feasts He commanded
- The Feast of Unleavened Bread
 - The 10th of the month, the Passover lamb was selected and kept and watched for 4 days
 - Passover feast 14th day of the month
 - Feast of Firstfruit 16th day of the month
 - Waving of the first fruit of the barley

Pentecost – the day the church was born

- The feast of Pentecost was 49 days + 1 following the Feast of Firstfruit
 - They would bake two loaves of bread from the wheat harvest and offer them to God as a thanksgiving offering for the harvest
 - They were baked with leaven or yeast in them

Pentecost – the day the church was born

- Jesus was sacrificed on the 14th day which was the Passover Feast
- Jesus was raised on the 16th day of the Feast of Firstfruit
- The church was born 49 days +1 following the Feast of Firstfruit
- Why were two loaves of bread with leaven/yeast baked into them offered to God?

Pentecost – the day the church was born

- God is showing He is bringing the Jews and Gentiles into one family we call the church
- The leaven indicates there they were still sinners but saved by grace with the promise of eternal redemption
- God provided signs that first day of His work within the church and within each person in it

The church will be filled with power

- Who is the church?
- The believers were all in one location, probably not an actual house but somewhere in the temple, probably Solomon's Portico
- There was the sound of a violent wind and it filled the temple area

The church will be filled with power

- **Acts 2:2 NIV** Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.
 - Notice it filled the whole house and not the individuals

The church will be filled with power

- **John 3:8 NIV** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”
 - You can't see the wind, but the effects
 - You can't control or subdue the wind
 - God is filling His church with the power of creation, and nothing can control it, prevent it but we can yield to it

The church will be filled with power

- **Matthew 16:17-18 NIV** 7 Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

The church will be purified and passionate for Jesus Christ

- **Act 2:3 NIV** They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.
 - A single source of fire that separated into individual parts that rested on each believer
- Fire in scripture often refers to purification and passion

The church will be purified and passionate for Jesus Christ

- Purification
 - **Zechariah 13:9 ESV** And I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested. They will call upon my name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘They are my people’; and they will say, ‘The Lord is my God.’”

The church will be purified and passionate for Jesus Christ

- Purification
 - **Isaiah 48:10 NIV** See, I have refined you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

The church will be purified and passionate for Jesus Christ

- Passion
 - **Psalms 39:3 NIV** While I meditated, the fire burned (within me)
 - **Jeremiah 20:9 NIV** But if I say, “I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name,” his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones.

The church will be purified and passionate for Jesus Christ

- Passion
 - **Luke 24:32 NIV** They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”
- God is telling us that he will purify us with His blood and he will fill us with a passion for Himself, Jesus Christ and His people, that we may be His witnesses on earth

There is a place in His church for every single person who is born-again by the power of Jesus Christ

- **Acts 2:4 NIV** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (languages) as the Spirit enabled them.
- Where God separated the people at Babel through language, He brings them together in the church

There is a place in His church for every single person who is born-again by the power of Jesus Christ

- Notice all received the same power, passion, witness
 - The social rebel and the tax collector
 - The former harlot and the unbelieving family of Jesus
 - The freed demon possessed and the religious

There is a place in His church for every single person who is born-again by the power of Jesus Christ

- Notice all received the same power, passion, witness
 - Those close to the religious leaders and those who despised them
 - The failure and successful
 - The quiet and the boisterous

There is a place in His church for every single person who is born-again by the power of Jesus Christ

- The first loaf of bread was waved on this day was for Jews and the second at the home of Cornelius for Gentiles
- We live in a time much like the Jews, keep to ourselves and those we know and exclude all others
 - We put up fences that hinder the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - Whereas God broke all the fences/barriers down

The Holy Spirit still does this today as we allow Him access to every area of our lives

- Pentecost or the Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred only once
 - It occurs on the life of every born-again child of God when they receive Jesus as their personal Savior
 - The power, purity, passion occurs at salvation just as it did every believer on the day of Pentecost

The Holy Spirit still does this today as we allow Him access to every area of our lives

- Notice vs. 4 They were filled with the Holy Spirit
- Vs. 2-3 puts them into the body of Christ, the church
 - Adopts them into the family of God
 - Gives their lives meaning, purpose and direction
- Vs. 4 fills this purified, passionate earthly body with the power to be God's witnesses here on earth as the Spirit enabled them

The Holy Spirit still does this today as we allow Him access to every area of our lives

- We don't need another baptism, but we do need to be continually filled or empowered
- **Ephesians 5:18 NIV** Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit

The early church was filled with the passion and love for Jesus Christ and they wanted everyone to know about Him

- They still had lives to live, jobs to work, kids to feed
- They still had hardships and trials
- They still were hated in the world, looked down upon and mistreated
- But they had what the world could not take away, Jesus Christ in their lives

The early church was filled with the passion and love for Jesus Christ and they wanted everyone to know about Him

- Have you lost your power, passion, peace?
- Have you lost your true purpose, meaning, path?
- Have you given up because of your failures, unmet expectation, disappointed with yourself and God?
- Have you gotten comfortable with life?

The early church was filled with the passion and love for Jesus Christ and they wanted everyone to know about Him

- Just like these early Christians, it is found only in the passion and love of Jesus Christ, allowing Him to fill you with power and peace to simply be His witness on earth
 - Come to Him today in faith for Salvation
 - Return to Him today in faith for healing and restoration



Pentecost Realized In Me