

another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? (8) And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?"

-The Gospel would be available not to one nation but to every creature.

John 14:12 NKJV – Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Mark 16:17 NKJV – And these signs will follow those who believe. In My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues...

D. The Miracle of Harvest

Acts 2:14-42 NKJV –... (40) And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." (41) Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

-The final miracle of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost is the birth of the Church – a new entity with a new identity.

-On the Day of Pentecost 2 loaves of bread made of fine flour were waved before the Lord. Even though there were 2 loaves they were considered one offering.

-In the same way, the church is composed of two separate groups of people – Jews and Gentiles – joined together to make one new identity.

Ephesians 2:13-18 NKJV – (13) But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (14) For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, (15) having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, (16) and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. (17) And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. (18) For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Galatians 3:28 NKJV – There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

-Those who became believers on the Day of Pentecost were the firstfruits of a harvest of millions of souls. Today we are a part of the miracle of Pentecost.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT

Debby Baril – May 23, 2010

www.destinychurch.ca 450 676 6944

I. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PENTECOST

Leviticus 23:15-17 NKJV – (15) 'And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. (16) Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord. (17) You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. They are the firstfruits to the Lord.

-Its purpose was to bring a portion of the harvest – the firstfruits into the Temple as an act of dedication to God in recognition of His provision.

-The feast does not look back to any historical event related to the nation of Israel. The Rabbis feared the festival would lose meaning and importance so they attached events to it. They say it was the day that God gave the Law at Mt. Sinai and on that day God offered the Law to all nations and spoke it out in the languages of the 70 nations, but only Israel accepted.

-The Passover signified the crucifixion of Jesus whereas the Firstfruits is about His resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:20 NKJV - But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Acts 2:1-6 NKJV – (1) When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. (2) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. (3) Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. (4) And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (5) And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. (6) And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.

II. THE FULLNESS OF PENTECOST

God waited for the fullness of time before releasing the promise of the Holy Spirit...waiting until the greatest possible number of Jews would be present in Jerusalem.

III. THE ONENESS OF PENTECOST

-The word accord comes from “homou” meaning together – at the same place or time...not “homophon” meaning like-minded or harmonious or of one mind.
-They were together in one place out of obedience to the command of Christ to tarry until they received the Promise of the Father.

Acts 1:4-8 NKJV – (4) And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me..." (8) But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

IV. THE “SUDDENLY” OF PENTECOST

When the fullness of God’s time comes there are “suddenlies” to be had.

V. THE MIRACLES OF PENTECOST

A. The Miracle of Sound

Acts 2:2 NKJV – there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

-It was LIKE the sound of a mighty tempest wind. The emphasis is on the sound not the wind.
-Struck with awe at the suddenness and strength of the sound they were attentive and ready to receive the heavenly gift.

B. The Miracle of Fire

Acts 2:3 NKJV – Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

-It looked like a mass of flames that appeared over the whole group and then it broke up and a single tongue that looked like a flame rested on each individual.
-The fire here signified God’s acceptance of individual believers (and the corporate body) as being temples of the Spirit. (I Corinthians 3:16)

-The unique appearance, that of tongues, was a sign/symbol of the diversity of languages which they were about to be able to utter.

C. The Miracle of Tongues

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

-The filling symbolized their empowerment for the great work that they were called to and the special gift given to fulfill the work – the ability to speak with new tongues.
-The diversity of tongues brings to mind the division and confusion that took place at the Tower of Babel – which brought the rise of different nations and religions.

Genesis 11:1, 4, 7-9 NKJV - (1) Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. (4) And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." (7) Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." (8) So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. (9) Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

-When these people lost the language in which God was spoken of and preached, they also lost the knowledge of God and fell into idolatry.
-God would now use various tongues to spread the Gospel and settle the true religion...He would use tongues to gather the scattered nations.

Acts 2:11b NKJV - ...we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.

-It would catch the attention of those familiar with the rabbinic legend of God giving the Torah in the languages of the seventy nations of the world.

Acts 2:5-8 NKJV – (5) And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. (6) And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. (7) Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one