

The Spirit Poured Out: The Sermon on Pentecost (God Made Him both Lord and Christ--This Jesus Whom You Crucified)

10 Days

1. They were commanded not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what the Father had promised (Acts 1.4). During the intervening ten or so days they must have been eager to find out what exactly would happen next.
2. Acts 1.12-14: They likely spent much time in prayer and in meditating on what Jesus had taught them during the last 40 days. Notice that the women were there also along with the brothers of Jesus (who were previously not believers).
3. Acts 1.15-26: Also, during these interim days between the ascension and Pentecost, the disciples choose someone to replace Judas. Note that the qualification for the position was that he must have been with them from the baptism of John until the day of the ascension (and most importantly he must be a witness of the resurrection). In order to make this decision they drew lots and Mathias was chosen instead of Barsabbas.

Spirit Poured Out (Pentecost)

1. **the phenomena** (Acts 2.1-11)
 - A. Acts 2.1-11: the phenomena include (1) noise like a violent, rushing wind (2) tongues of fire resting on each of them (3) speaking in tongues
 - i. It is not clear whether the tongues or the other supernatural sound is what drew the crowd (Acts 2.6), but the tongues were singled out as an incredible miracle because the hearers knew that the speakers did not know the language they were speaking.
2. **two responses** (Acts 2.12-13)
 - A. Acts 2.12: the question is "What does this mean?" This question is of utmost importance. What does it mean that these men are miraculously speaking these foreign languages? How does Peter answer this question?
 - B. Acts 2.13: others dismissed the miracle as drunkenness (why being full of sweet wine would enable someone speak a language they don't know is a mystery to me but it just goes to show the absurdities that the resistant will go to just to avoid the supernatural).
3. **Peter explains the tongues** (Acts 2.14-21)
 - A. Acts 2.14-15: We are not drunk, it's too early in the day for that accusation to have any grounding whatsoever
 - B. Acts 2.16-21: These tongues you have heard are the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy (Joel 2.28-32). What has changed? What is different about the spirit at work within the disciples? Didn't they cast out demons and heal the sick before? So what's being made available here in Joel's prophecy that wasn't yet there?

4. **Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah because God raised him from the dead** (Acts 2.22–32)
 - A. Acts 2.22–23: Jesus was publicly active through his miracles. His death was no accident; it was predetermined according to the foreknowledge of God. Even so, the audience bears responsibility for this evil.
 - B. Acts 2.24–32: Jesus is resurrected
 - i. Acts 2.24: it was impossible for Jesus to be held in death's power (i.e. because he was innocent)
 - ii. Acts 2.25–28: Scripture Quote: Psalm 16.8–11
 - iii. Acts 2.29: This Scripture cannot refer to David because he is dead and buried
 - iv. Acts 2.30–31: David knew that his descendant would rule on his throne (Scripture Quote: Psalm 132.11, see also 2 Samuel 7.12 and Psalm 89.3–4) he was prophesying about the Messiah that he would be resurrected.
 - v. Acts 2.32: We are eye witnesses that God raised this Jesus up again from the dead.
5. **ascension/exaltation and the outpouring of the spirit**
 - A. Acts 2.33: Jesus has been exalted to the right hand of God and has poured out this spirit which you have witnessed
 - B. Acts 2.34–35: Scripture Quote: Psalm 110.1
 - i. Other places that Psalm 110.1 is alluded to include Matthew 22.44; 26.64; Mark 12.36; 14.62; 16.19; Luke 20.42–43; 22.69; Acts 2.33, 34–35; 5.31; 7.55–56; Romans 8.34; 1 Corinthians 15.25; Ephesians 1.20; Colossians 3.1; Hebrews 1.3, 13; 8.1; 10.12–13; 12.2; 1 Peter 3.22; Revelation 3.21
6. **the climax: God has now made the one who you crucified both Lord and Messiah**
 - A. Acts 2.36: now that the groundwork has been done the question from v12 may be answered climactically in a way that not only gives information but also demands a response.
 - i. *Let all Israel know*—this is a public declaration, meant to be heard by all of Israel.
 - ii. *For certain*—there is no doubt that Jesus has now been made both Lord and Christ.
 - iii. *That God has made him both Lord*—refers to v34 in which Jesus is the second lord, or in other words, Jesus is the exalted one at God's right hand (read all of Psalm 110).
 - iv. *and Christ*—That Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, to us is not controversial or even require very much faith, but for them, to believe that a crucified man was in fact the Messiah, was a serious challenge, but what could they do? They had seen the miraculous right before them. The chain of reasoning was airtight and inescapable
 - a. Tongues=>Jesus poured out the spirit=>he is at the right hand of God *a la* Psalm 110.1=>he was raised from the dead (a fact to which they were eye witnesses)=>God has made Jesus both Lord & Christ
 - v. *this Jesus whom you crucified*—now for the second time (cf. v23) the crowd is challenged with bearing the responsibility for the crucifixion of Jesus
7. **the people respond**

- A. Acts 2.37: They were pierced to the heart. How does that feel? They want to know what they can do.
- B. Acts 2.38: The response of Peter immediately gives hope to the convicted crowd.
 - i. The commands: (1) repent (2) each of you be baptized
 - ii. The results (1) forgiveness of sins and (2) receiving the gift of the holy spirit
- C. Acts 2.39: the promise is open to all (remember Joel prophecy?). This is what is new about Pentecost—the disciples already had the spirit working in their lives in miraculous ways—now the people (as many as our God will call) have the opportunity to receive this gift of the holy spirit as the crucified, resurrected, ascended, exalted Jesus pours it out.
- D. Acts 2.40: don't you wish Luke had written the "many other words" Peter spoke to solemnly testify and exhort the people to be saved from their perverse generation?
- E. Acts 2.41: that day 3,000 people were baptized and presumably received the spirit
- F. Acts 2.42: Notice that after their conversion, the people **continue** in (1) the apostles' teaching (2) fellowship (3) breaking of bread (communion?) and (4) prayer.

Eye Witnesses of the Resurrection

1. Acts 1.22; 2.32; 3.15; 4.33; 5.30–32; 10.39–41; 13.29–31; 26.22–23
2. To witness in the book of Acts means to testify (like in a court of law) that Jesus was raised from the dead. This the apostles all did including Paul who had seen Jesus on the road to Damascus.
3. Why is it so important to testify that Jesus was raised from the dead? How does that tie into the gospel Jesus preached about the kingdom of God?

Worldview Notes

1. resurrection proves Jesus is the Christ
2. Jesus is exalted to the right hand of God until...which means he is Lord
3. faith, repentance, and baptism are required in light of the crucifixion, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus
4. spirit is now being poured out (before the kingdom comes) not just on those who knew Jesus personally but also those who respond to the message
5. the mission is clear, the movement is now global (not just to those who were willing to sell all and follow Jesus on his itinerant preaching journeys) but for all the Jews willing to listen