

The Day of Pentecost

Sermon Road Map

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Acts 2:1-21

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The Spirit came to flood the world with God's Word.

It's fun to tell the account of Pentecost to children. Sounds, sights, crowds gathered, disciples speaking other languages like they were their native tongues. Wow! It easily catches the attention of adults wondering: *What does this mean?*

Like Luther's answer to *What does this mean?* for 8 of the 10 Commandments - Peter offers what it is **not** before revealing **what it is**. It's **not** about drunks babbling sounds you don't recognize. **Nor** is it about the sound like a violent wind and fire looking things. It's **not** even about instant linguist proficiency.

What is it all about? The Word of God. That's the Spirit's work: the Word.

The Spirit came to flood the world with God's Word.

- ❖ The Word of God fulfilled
 - *This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel...*
 - ♦ The Spirit revealed to Joel to record God's Word 900 years earlier!
 - ♦ God planned, revealed, and kept his promise
 - *In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.*
 - ♦ God chose a special day - a Festival with people from all the world
 - ♦ Devout Jews - people who cared about God's Word
 - ♦ The Spirit was active since Eden working faith/new life in people
 - From time to time the Spirit came to individuals in extra measures
 - ♦ *pour out my Spirit* - impressive - **on all people** - shocking
- ❖ The Word of God for the whole world
 - Look at God's emphasis in this prophecy: **all people - sons and daughters - young men - old men - my servants, both men and women**
 - ♦ If the wind sound, flame look, "instant *Rosette Stone* lessons" are mentioned - it's in *I will show ... signs on the earth below...*
 - Read the prophecy in **Old Testament terms** (recorded around 870 BC)
 - ♦ **prophecy** = proclaim **God's Word** - herald, announce with his authority
 - ♦ **visions/dreams** = revealing **God's Word** - God's OT method
 - ♦ This is all about **God's Word - the Spirit's chief work**
 - At Pentecost - God opened the floodgates for the Spirit to flood the world
 - ♦ The Christ's work of redemption, resurrection & revelation - completed
 - ♦ Jesus promised the Spirit to teach them & bring to mind all he said Jn 14:26
 - ♦ Jesus commissioned his disciples to *Go into all the world and preach (proclaim) the Word - once they received the Holy Spirit*

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- ❖ Not an isolated single event - the start of the final era of all history
 - *In the last days... I will pour out my Spirit*
 - ♦ **The last days** - *Old Testament language: age ushered in by the Messiah*
 - ♦ The Messiah ascended to send the Holy Spirit to advance the gospel
 - 2:19-20 seems to be describing the last moments of the last days
 - It's a mistake to think of Pentecost as an isolated event.
 - ♦ Just as it is a mistake to expect the Spirit to show himself this way
 - All wonders/miracles/divine signs - **affirm:** the message is from God
 - Even here - **about the Word:** gather people - clearly proclaim...
 - ♦ The Spirit is still poured out on you in the Word - to speak his Word
 - Recognize the Bible as the Spirit's gift to us: God's Word
 - Yes, the simple plain looking Word of God
 - The Bible is for all God's people
 - Here the Spirit teaches, gives life & light, makes new
 - Here the Spirit works love, joy, hope, peace - works his fruit...
 - Here you witness the wonders of the Gospel - we're his witnesses
 - Put the Word on **your lips:** in prayer, sharing, teaching, encourage
 - Approach your devotions and Bible reading: *Come Holy Spirit*
 - Let the Word season your daily life and speech
 - Word filled = Spirit-filled
 - It's **not** the Spirit of God without the Word of God!
 - Saying, *I think... I feel with all my heart* is **not** of the Spirit
 - Pentecost continues in you when you say, **God says...**
 - Be filled with the Word, so it overflows into the world, for ...

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