

# Bethany Bible Study & Discussion:

## The Acts of the Apostles



WEEK 2

Acts 2: Part One



## Bethany Bible Study & Discussion: The Acts of the Apostles

Wednesdays  
7.30-8.30PM

*Some questions to guide your thoughts as you meditate on Acts 2 ... read before Wednesday*

- 1. The wait is over (1-4)** (a) How did the gift arrive? (b) Is this a personal or universal gift? (c) What are some images for holy spirit in the scriptures? (d) what is the difference in the holy spirit of OT and NT? (e) Why are we told to be filled with the holy spirit? (Ephesians 5:18)
- 2. Speaking in Tongues (5-13)**... what is the source, purpose, message, and reaction?
  - **Speaking in Tongues** (dig a bit deeper) ... Is it a gift given to all believers? Is it to be used publicly or privately? Is it still relevant? (I Corinthians 14:21-22, I Corinthians 14:2, 13-15, I Corinthians 14:27-28, I Corinthians 12:30)

Chapter 2

# 1. The wait is over (1-4)

(a) How did the gift of the holy spirit arrive?

(b) Is this a personal or universal gift?

(c) What are some images for holy spirit in the scriptures?

(d) what is the difference in the Holy Spirit of OT and NT?

(e) Why/How are we told to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

## 1. The wait is over ... The Gift of the Holy Spirit

The Gift of Holy Spirit fulfills Promise made by Jesus (John 14:16)  
supposed to arrive after Jesus leaves (John 16:7)

**(a) How did the gift arrive?** after waiting (Acts 1:7), when gathered in "one accord" (v.1) suddenly (v.2) Sat upon them (v.3);

**(b) Is this a personal or universal gift?** Came to all (v.4) but it is a personal gift (v.3)

**(c) Some images for Holy Spirit** wind (v.2, John 3:8) fire (v.3) water (John 7:37-39)  
Dove (Luke 3:22), oil (Mathew 25:1-13) pledge (Ephesians 1:14)

## 1. The wait is over

### **(d) what is the difference in the Holy Spirit of OT and NT?**

**OT** – Temporary, not universal (I Samuel 16:13/14, Psalms 51:11)

**NT** – resides within us, permanent (John 14:16/17, Ephesians 4:30)

### **(e) How can we be ‘continually’ filled with the Holy Spirit?**

Mathew 5:6 **Desire**

AW Tozer ... Luke 11:13 **Ask**, Acts 5:32 **Obey**, Galatians 3:2 **Believe**

Romans 12:1-2 **Surrender**

## 1. The wait is over

# Spirit existed before the Pentecost

- Work of Spirit seen in Creation
  - Many Kings, leaders and prophets were filled with the Spirit such as Joseph/David/Saul/Samson/Gideon
  - Role of Spirit in regeneration (Ezekiel 36:27))
- ❖ Did the Holy Spirit have a role in the life of Jesus?

# Holy Spirit and Jesus

- At Conception: Luke 1:35
- At Baptism: Luke 3:22
- Filled & led by spirit: Luke 4:1
- At Resurrection: Romans 8:11
  
- Witness: John 15:26 (Spirit ... shall testify of me)

## 2. Speaking in Tongues (verses 5-13)...

- What is the source, purpose, message, and reaction?



## 2. Speaking in Tongues/Languages (5-13)

- **Source:** Holy Spirit

v.4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak

- **Purpose:** Communicate to foreign nations (v.6)

- **Message** – wonderful works of God (v.11)

- **Reaction** – Amazed, Mocked (v. 13)

## 2. Speaking in Tongues (dig a bit deeper)

- Is the gift given to all believers? Did Paul have the gift of tongues?
- Is it to be used publicly or privately?
- Is it still relevant?

(I Corinthians 14:18,21-22, I Corinthians 14:2, 13-15,  
I Corinthians 14:27-28, I Corinthians 12:30)

## 2. Speaking in Tongues (dig a bit deeper)

- **Is the gift given to all believers?** No (I Corinthians 12:30) although believers may receive one-time/temporary gift of tongues to witness.
  - Paul had the gift (I Corinthians 14:18)
- **Is it to be used publicly or privately? Value of Interpretation**
  - I Corinthians 14:2, 13-17 (**private**, Communication to God) (to pray, to sing, to bless, to give thanks)
  - I Corinthians 14:27-28 (**in public**, must be interpreted)
  - “if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for the battle” (I Cor 14:8)
- **Is it still relevant?**
  - I Corinthians 14:21-22<sup>22</sup> Wherefore **tongues are for a sign**, not to them that believe, but **to them that believe not**: but **prophesying** serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.
  - Prophecy edifies, exhorts, and comforts (I Corinthians 14:3) Prophecy more important than tongues. Love & order in church most important in the operation of the gifts.



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- 3. Peter's sermon (14-36)** (a) who is it addressed to? (14) (b) What are the 'last days'? Was the vision of Joel 2:28-32 fully fulfilled? (15-20) (d) The work and life of Christ summarized (v. 22-24) (e) Prophecy of David (Psalms 16:8-11, Psalms 110:1 (25-36) (e) Why does Peter use OT passages? (f) What is the main point of his sermon?
- 4. Response to Peter's Sermon (37-41):** (a) What must we do? (b) When is the Holy Spirit given to believers? Is there an order? (c) Is the gift transferable to children (v.39)
- 5. Birth of Church (42-47):** (a) who were 'added' to church? (b) what were some essential practices and characteristics of first church? (c) How could a 'physical' church building be a hinderance to God's work?

Chapter 2