

Pentecost, Part III
The Spirit gives a Sign of Foreign Tongues to Israel
Acts 2:5-21

The mighty Spirit, the Living God, pours forth the miracle of foreign language in the hearing of Israel on the day of Pentecost. Was this a moment of happy excitement and a pattern for worship practice in our churches, or was this something that contained an Old Testament prophesy and a dire warning for Israel about the Last Days, along with a glimmer of hope?

V2:5, A massive gathering of Jews, both native and those gathered from the diaspora around the empire, were in Jerusalem for the feast of First-fruits (or Feast of Weeks) – Pentecost.

V6a, “this sound”... multitude: The group (and camera) has now moved from the house where they'd been gathered and where the Spirit first poured out on them, to the temple courts where many thousands of Jewish men (and gentile proselytes) were gathered on command in the morning of the feast to worship. (Every Jewish man within 20 miles of Jerusalem was required to be at the temple in the morning).

V6b-11 – The languages spoken by the believing men on whom the Spirit came were from all points of the gentile compass.

- V8 - “our own language” - *dialectos* – not only languages, but specific regional dialects!
- V11 - “tongues” - *glossa* – the greek word for tongue.

V12-13 – a continual state of stunned bewilderment, confusion, and anxiety

- *What does this mean – the smart question!*
- *They're drunk - the stupid answer! (see v15)*

V14, Peter, *taking his stand... with the eleven* (so Peter is the representatives for the truth of all the disciples as one body energized by the One Holy Spirit of truth.)

v16, *This is what was spoken through the prophet Joel...*

- Isaiah 28:11 (see 7-14 for context)
 - See 1 Cor 14:20-23
- Joel 2:1-2,11 – the warning!
 - 11-17 – the call for Israel to repent, mourn and turn to the Lord!
 - 28-32 – The promise of repentant and believing Israel's future deliverance from the horror of the Day of the Lord.
- The Jews in Jerusalem ***should have recognized the languages speaking to them as the work of the Spirit, and not the result of drunkenness.*** (Matt 12:22-32!)
- Peter's sermon that follows goes right to their hearts and convicts and converts!