



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- Acts Ch. 2

- This fantastic chapter records the establishment of the church of Jesus Christ upon this earth,
 - Being the long promised kingdom of God,
- And the fulfillment of a vast body of Old Testament prophecy.

- Every line here recorded by Luke reveals truth of the most extensive dimensions.
 - This is not merely the best account of the beginning of this current dispensation of the grace of God,
 - It is the only account.

- It is the keystone that ties together the Old Testament and the New Testament;
 - Regarding such question as how the church began,
 - How one becomes a member of it,
 - How one becomes a new creation in Christ,
 - This chapter provides a record of what is KNOWN.
- Not merely what is guessed at.

- Significantly, this account is **brief**,
- So condensed that almost every line of it touches **but does not elaborate** on things which tantalize human curiosity,
- And concerning which things men will always DESIRE to know **more than is revealed.**
 - However, concerning things which are revealed this chapter **blazes with eternal light.**

- **And when the day of Pentecost was now come, they were all together in one place. (Acts 2:1)**
 - Who were the "**they**"?
 - **Scholars** disagree radically about this;
 - But the only answer can be the "**twelve.**"
 - They were the only ones to whom Jesus had promised such an outpouring of the Spirit.

- **Acts 1:5**

**John baptized with water,
but in a few days
you will be baptized
with the Holy Spirit."**

- Furthermore, Peter's words that "**we are all witnesses**" of Christ's resurrection can refer **only** to the Twelve, (**Acts 2:32**)
 - A careful reading of **Acts 1 & 2** as one chapter will clear up any misunderstanding.

- Acts 2:2

- And suddenly there came from heaven a sound as the rushing of a mighty wind,
 - and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- And there appeared unto them tongues parting asunder, like as of fire;
- and it sat upon each one of them.

- The spectacular events here are suggestive of the wonders that attended the giving of the Law (Exodus 19:16f),
 - The loud trumpet,
 - The smoking mountain,
 - The terrible earthquake,
 - The thick cloud,
 - Jehovah descending upon Sinai in fire.

- Wind ... fire ...
(Acts 2:2-3)

- There was no wind,
but the sound of a mighty wind;

- And no fire,
but tongues resembling fire,

- Wind and fire are both typical and suggestive of the Holy Spirit.

- The **Spirit** is typified **by the wind in that:**
 - (1) It is **gentle**;
 - (2) It is **powerful**;
 - (3) It is **invisible**
(**John 3:8**)

**The wind blows wherever it wishes;
you hear the sound it makes,
but you do not know
where it comes from
or where it is going.**

- **Fire** typifies the Holy Spirit in that:
 - (1) It gives **light**;
 - (2) It provides **warmth**;
 - (3) It **purifies**;
- (4) It is an **emblem** of God himself
(**Hebrews 12:29**)
For our God is
a consuming fire.

- Although the tongues **so strongly resembled fire,** this may **not** be called **a baptism of fire;**
- The **context** in the Gospel suggests that the baptism of fire **is the judgment of those who reject the Messiah,** **"the burning of the chaff with unquenchable fire."**
(**Matthew 3:12**)

- **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit,**
- This has reference to the **Twelve apostles only.**
- On this Pentecost, there were **two measures of the Holy Spirit given:**
- (1) The **miraculous** outpouring previously promised the Twelve,
 - (2) the **ordinary** which is received by every Christian.

- Over the years there has been **much confusion** regarding the Holy Spirit.
 - However, confusion **that need never be.**
 - Let us notice what **the scriptures say** regarding the Spirit.
 - Almost **too** simple!

➤ 1Corinthians 3:16

Don't you know that
you are God's temple
and that God's Spirit
lives in you?

➤ 3:17

You are that holy temple!

➤ So what is the issue with the Holy Spirit?

➤ Does the Spirit of God
dwell in us any different
than the Holy Spirit?

➤ If so how?

- The following verses are also interesting:
 - Galatians 4:19
... until Christ be formed in you,
 - Colossians 1:27
Christ in you, the hope of glory:
 - Is
 - Christ in you
 - God in you
 - Holy Spirit in you
- Is each a different indwelling?
 - I think NOT!

- The question is sometime raised,
“Were the 12 apostles baptized?”

- Jesus answered that question in
Acts 1:5

**For John indeed
baptized with water;
but you shall be baptized
in the Holy Spirit
not many days hence.**

- None of those persons who had been baptized of John's baptism had any need to be baptized again;
- And it is a certainty that the Twelve had been baptized by John's baptism (John 4:1,2)

- To question the baptism of the Apostles is to question the wisdom of Jesus.
(**Luke 11:31**)

- Moreover, if they had rejected John's baptism for themselves, it would have been "rejecting the counsel of God"
(**Luke 7:30**)

- **Acts 2:14**
- **But Peter standing up**
with the eleven,
 - **but this is that**
which was spoken
through the
prophet Joel.
 - Joel lived about
900 B.C.

- Peter's taking the lead here was within full harmony with the Lord's promise that he should have **"the keys of the kingdom of heaven"** (Matthew 16:19)

- At this point the gates to the **Kingdom of Heaven** were opened for **all**.

- It was the birthday of **God's New Institution,**

- It was **the precise moment** toward which **all the prophecies** for thousands of years had pointed.

- The subject matter that day was human salvation.
 - How to get it.
 - Available in the “blood bought church” for which Jesus died.
 - Where was ever a more nobler theme?

- And the results: **three thousand** souls believed in the Lord,
 - **Repented** of their sins,
 - **Baptized** into Christ in a single day!
 - Let all study this sermon and like those who first heard it **be amazed and marvel.**

- **This is that which hath been spoken through the prophet Joel ...**

- **Not Joel!**

- But **God** was the speaker in that prophet's writings.

- **This is that ...**

- Identifies the events initiated at Pentecost **as fulfilling the prophecy quoted from Joel.**

- **Acts 2:17**

**And it shall come to pass
in the last days, saith God,**

- **I will pour forth of my Spirit
upon all flesh:**
- **And your sons and your daughters
shall prophesy,**
 - **And your young men
shall see visions,**
 - **And your old men
shall dream dreams:**

- In the last days ...
 - This refers to the Christian dispensation then beginning.
- The same thought occurs often in the New Testament.
(Hebrews 1:2, 1 Peter 1:20, 1 John 2:18.)
 - The day of Pentecost ushered in the "last days"; but the meaning is compound.

- (1) Those were the last days

in the sense of this being the final dispensation of God's grace to men, the same thought appearing in Mark 12:6.

- (2) Those were **the last days** in the sense that **Israel's day of grace was running short.**
- Their repeated rebellions against God were soon to culminate and become final **in their rejection of Christ.**

- (3) Those were the last days in the sense that Jerusalem, the temple, and the Jewish state would be utterly destroyed before that generation died (**in 70 A.D.**).

- (4) Those were the last days in the sense that the prophecies of Jeremiah and others were fulfilled in the preaching of the gospel. (Jeremiah 31:31-35)

- The baptism of the Twelve in the Holy Spirit was the enabling act that was for the benefit of "all flesh" that this gift to the apostles was given.

- Acts 2:17

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

- Refers to the gifts of miracles which, through the laying on of the apostles' hands would impart miraculous gifts during the apostolic period.
 - As evidenced in Acts 8.

- Acts 2:18

And on my servants
and on my handmaidens
in those days will I
pour forth of my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

- Showing that in Christ Jesus
"there can be neither bond nor
free, there can be
no male and female"
(Galatians 3:28).

- And through obedience to the gospel both Jew and Gentile received, as a gift from God, the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38-39).
- Thus could it be said that “all flesh” received the Holy Spirit through what occurred on Pentecost.

- **Acts 2:19**

**And I will show wonders
in the heaven above,**

- **And signs on the earth beneath;**
- **Blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke:**
 - **The sun shall be turned into
darkness,**
 - **And the moon into blood,**
- **Before the day of the Lord come,**
 - **That great and notable day.**

- Several of the most spectacular wonders ever seen on earth had occurred in Jerusalem the day Jesus was crucified
- Only fifty-three days before Peter spoke.
- The sun's light failed;
 - And, as it was the full moon, it appeared as blood.

- And how do we know that?

- Pontius Pilate wrote to the Emperor Tiberius that

- **"The moon, being like blood, did not shine the whole night, and yet she happened to be at the full."**

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(Tertullian, The Ante-Nicene Fathers, Pilate to Tiberius (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, Publishers, 1957), Vol. 3p. 463.)

- The sun and the moon were "wonders in heaven";
 - The earthquake,
 - The rending of the veil of the temple,
 - The resurrection of many of the dead, were signs on the earth beneath.

- **Matthew 27:51**

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

- **27:52** The tombs also were opened.

And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised,

- **27:53** and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

(ESV)

- **The blood and fire and vapor of smoke ...**
 - Were spectacularly associated with every great Jewish feast, such as **Passover** or **Pentecost**.
 - It is difficult for us to envision **the sacrifice of a quarter of a million lambs** and all of the blood, "**vapor of smoke**" that accompanied such an event.

- The awful events prophesied by Joel and here announced by Peter as fulfilled (that is, beginning to be fulfilled) were omens of fearful judgments about to fall upon the chosen people;
- But in concert with this, Peter also extended the hope of grace and forgiveness,

- **Acts 2:21**

**And it shall be, that
whosoever shall call
upon the name of the Lord
shall be saved.**

- In the midst of these
alarming events and wonders
and awful judgments,
opportunity would be given
to all who would
"call upon the name of the Lord"
to be saved.

- To “Call upon ...”

- These words

denote far more

than merely pronouncing
the Lord's name

(Matthew 7:21,22; Luke 6:46).

- Who can argue that the people in Matthew 7 had not called on the name of Jesus?
- Let's take a look at it.

- Matthew 7:21

- Not every one that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven;
- but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven.
- 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name?
- and in your name have cast out devils?
and in your name done many wonderful works?

- **Matthew 7:23**

**And then will I
profess unto them,
I never knew you:
depart from me,
you that work iniquity.**

- Let us be aware that Jesus only built **ONE** church.
- The apostle warned of the dangers facing this glorious institution.
 - **Acts 20:29**

For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

- Sadly that warning has materialized.

- On Pentecost over 2020 years ago our Lord built His church.
- It has always existed and continues to exist to this very day.
- It is our objective to be a part of that church,
- Which we will continue to study in the following weeks.

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



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