



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."**

•

(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.

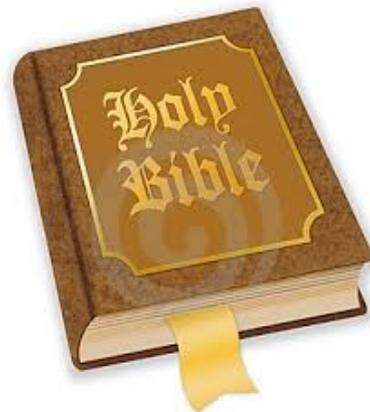
- Sadly that warning has materialized.

- 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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