

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-13

Introduction: This story is the first of four such events in the book of Acts (Acts 2:1-13; 8:4-25; 10:39b-45; 18:24-19:7; three public and one private.

Day of Pentecost - Acts 2:1 - A Jewish festival between the Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles.

Divided tongues as of fire - Acts 2:3

Filled with the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:4 - We learn in Acts 2:38 that from this point on in Acts this is the common experience of new believers; they believed and were filled with the Holy Spirit; and sometimes this is described as being "baptized in the Spirit".

Speak in other tongues - Acts 2:4b .

Hearing them speak in his own language (Acts 2:9-10) - Acts 2:6

The mighty works of God - Acts 2:11b

The Holy Trinity

Conclusion: The ancient world of Acts 1-2 was a world of four basic languages: Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic and Latin with a litany of dialects represented in the list of nations that took part at Pentecost. The manifestation of tongues would have been God's miracle to get past these barriers. .

The Old Testament feast of Pentecost celebrated the harvest of firstfruits from the farmers fields and this event that we now call "Pentecost" celebrates the spiritual harvest from earthly people groups that are ready for the harvest of men and women, boys and girls. In both cases harvesters are needed (Matthew 10:16-23).

At Mount Sinai we learn about God's holiness. At Mount Calvary we learn about God's love. At Pentecost we learn about the Holy Spirit's efforts to conform God's people to His Holiness by making Jesus the Lord of all and equipping them to serve the Kingdom of God.

This story launches the mission of the Church to carry the gospel, the good news to all peoples by overcoming cultural and language barriers. Who God is has not changed, what God can do is enlarged and expanded, the nature of God is fully revealed and Pentecost reveals the Holy Spirit in full view as He turns to elevate Jesus Christ as the good news; which is really about what God the Father, through His Son, has done for lost sinners.

Acts as a whole tells us that God uses his people to call others to Jesus Christ crucified and upon coming to Jesus they will be gifted with the Holy Spirit that they might become like Christ.