

Acts 2:1-13 - “The Holy Spirit Comes”

Outline, Notes, and Scripture

Outline for “The Holy Spirit Comes”

- 1. Greet one another, begin with prayer, and read Acts 2:1-13.**
- 2. Review very briefly Acts 1:5,8 about the promise of the Spirit.**
- 3. Discuss the coming of the Spirit in Acts 2:1-4. [10 minutes]**
 - Pentecost one of the great festivals of Judaism; primarily a harvest celebration
 - “All together” in a room waiting upon Jesus’ promise
 - From heaven comes: 1) a sound like a mighty wind; 2) “divided tongues as of fire”
 - Then a third event: Known languages, not unknown tongues as in other settings
 - How are wind, fire, and languages connected? What does each event communicate about who the Spirit is and what He does?
 - What does the need to speak in other languages imply about God’s mission? About grace? About the mission of Jesus Christ’s followers?
- 4. Discuss the importance of the nations represented in Acts 2:5-11.**
 - Jews from many other nations present in Jerusalem for Pentecost
 - Review the list of nations represented; its characteristics and importance
 - How does the use of national languages draw upon what happened at Babel (Genesis 11)? Upon the promise made to Abraham (Genesis 12)?
 - What claims do such allusions make about the gospel? About our focus today?
- 5. Discuss the two responses of the crowd in Acts 2:12-13.**
 - First group: astonished, amazed, wanting to find out what’s happening
 - Second group: mocking, dismissive, “They’re just drunk, that’s all” (2:13 NLT)
 - Why are both responses not entirely unexpected? What other Scripture passages speak to each response?
 - What parallels do you find from both responses with contemporary reactions to the Christian message in our time?
- 6. Close in prayer.**

Scripture (ESV)

1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3** And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested^[a] on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. **7** And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? **9** Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, **11** both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” **12** And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” **13** But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Footnotes

Acts 2:3 Or *And tongues as of fire appeared to them, distributed among them, and rested*