

Title: Church Alive - Power from on High June 30, 2019

Text: Acts 2 1 - 4

Walk-in: Someone has said that an appropriate title for the Book of Acts would be *The Acts of the Holy Spirit*. Nowhere is that point better made than Acts 2. Everything that has occurred in Luke's Gospel and the first chapter of Acts is preparatory to the events recorded in Acts 2. So we continue our look at this amazing book of the Bible and discover the real secret to the success of the disciples and the emerging church.

First, there is a C _____ to understand.

"When the day of Pentecost came..." Acts 2:1a

What in the world is Pentecost?

The Jews called it the Feast of Harvest or the Feast of Weeks.

It is mentioned five places in the first five books—in Exodus 23, Exodus 24, Leviticus 16, Numbers 28 and Deuteronomy 16.

Pentecost in the time of the Apostles was a great and grand harvest celebration. The streets of Jerusalem were clogged with thousands of pilgrims who had come from every point of the compass to celebrate the goodness of God and the bringing in of the wheat harvest.

Then, there is a M _____ to behold!

"...they were all together in one place." Acts 2:1b

Remember the reminder to **W** _____ ? *Acts 1:14*

Luke explains that unity in Acts 2:44-46.

Further, there was an E _____ that amazed.

"Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them." - Acts 2:2,3

What they heard... Sound like

What they saw... Seemed to be tongues of fire

These were **S** _____ of the coming Spirit

Tongues are incidental but the coming of the Holy Spirit is essential.

Finally, there was an E _____ that transformed. *"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."*

Acts 2:4

This was the **E** _____ of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Cf. Acts 2:16 - 21 Prophecy of Joel

This transformed them into **H** _____.

Wrap-up: This account explains the changes that were made in the lives of Christ followers transforming them from cowardly, fearful, doubting, hesitant disciples into flaming evangelists for Jesus Christ who were ready to lay down their lives for him. This same power (the person of the Holy Spirit) is not only *available* to us today, but is *essential* for the accomplishment of living the life of obedience as a Christ follower.