

Acts 2.1-13

Reversal of Babel

1980's Uganda for 8 years – Most of Time NOT have Running Water

2nd 4 yrs near Capital KLA - Campus Theol. College 300+ Students/Teachers

Big Water tank on Hill above Bishop Tucker Theological College

THEORY: Gravity bring Enuf Water serve All Houses, Dorms, Offices

Lots of Breakdowns! > Often DROUGHT gripped whole College!

PRAY and WAIT “working on it”/ middle Night Water trickling Pipes

Morning check w/ Neighbors > Got Water? – Some Did/Others Not!

Acts 2: Jerusalem – 50 Days after – Jesus Carried his Cross to Golgotha

Killed, Buried, Sealed in Tomb w/ Stone > FINISHED w/ Him!

Step into Acts 2 – God gonna turn Water On – from Highest Heaven

God gets Attention of City > Not Quite Finished with JESUS yet...

1. Spirit of God

Luke 3 Jesus began Ministry > Age 30 > SPIRIT Comes on Him

Luke 4 > Defining Sermon at Nazareth > Spirit of God upon Him

Acts 2 > Risen Jesus pours Spirit on Church > Explained by Sermon

Who is this SPIRIT? 3rd Person of Holy Trinity....

Over 100 X's in Scripture the Spirit is called Holy > He defines Holiness

a. Creation

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...and the *Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.* Genesis 1.1-2

Hebrew: 'ruach' / Greek: 'pneuma' = Spirit/Wind/Breath

The *Spirit of God has made me*; the breath of the Almighty gives me life. Job 33.4

The Old Testament may be likened to a chamber richly furnished but dimly lighted: the light of the New Testament brings nothing which was not in it before; but it brings out into clearer view...The mystery of the Trinity is not revealed in the Old Testament; but the mystery of the Trinity underlies the Old Testament revelation, and here and there almost comes into view. Thus the Old Testament revelation of God is not corrected by the fuller revelation of the New, but is only perfected, extended, and enlarged. B.B. Warfield

b. Consecration Servants Empowered & Equipped to Serve by Spirit

Joseph Equipped with Spirit of God to Lead Egypt: Pharaoh asked, "Can we find anyone like this man, *one in whom is the spirit of God?*" Gen 41.38

Artisans Chosen to build God's Tabernacle: The LORD said to Moses: "I have chosen Bezalel...and I have *filled him with the Spirit of God*, with skill, ability and knowledge..."
Exodus 31.2-3

Powerful JUDGE Samson...The *Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power* so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands
Judges 14.5-6

When you present the gospel to others, think of Samson tearing that lion to pieces. The same Spirit is present in you.
John Frame

Kings – Prophets – Priests of Israel... Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed (David) ... from that day on the *Spirit of the LORD came upon David* in power.
1 Samuel 16.13

c. Conversion Spirit of GOD brings people TO God

Anyone who Believes: OT or NT > Saving Work of Son and Spirit

Jesus to Teacher of Israel/Nicodemus: "Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."
John 3.5-8

1.4,5 Jesus: WAIT for this Day "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised... you will be *baptized with the Holy Spirit.*"

Baptism: Refers to INITIAL Filling of Spirit – Once and For All EVENT

Day in Salvation History: v. 1 When the day of Pentecost came

50 days after Jewish Feast Firstfruits – Gk PENTE = 50

Time was Fulfilled > Epoch-Defining Important DAY of Redemption

d. Continuous – New Aspect of New Covenant – Spirit Never Leaves

Tragic Event in life of Troubled King: Now the *Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul*, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him.
1 Samuel 16.14

1st King Saul > Lost Spirit of God > Willful Disobedience

2nd King/David learned from Saul's loss – Sins & Pleas..

Do not cast me from your presence or *take your Holy Spirit from me* Psalm 51

Xtian Church PENTECOSTAL – Spirit Never Leaves True Believer

Having believed, you were marked in him with a *seal, the promised Holy Spirit*, who is a *deposit guaranteeing our inheritance* Ephesians 1.13-14

NO COMMAND to BE BAPTIZED with SPIRIT > ONE TIME Event

COMMANDED to be CONTINUOUSLY FILLED with the SPIRIT

Baptism = Initiation/Beginning > Filling = Continuation / Receive More!

Do not get drunk on wine...Instead, *be filled with the Spirit*. Ephesians 5.18

Continuous 'Be ALWAYS Filled' > Controlled by Spirit not spirits

13.52 And the disciples were *filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit*.

Each One Received ALL They Needed to Fulfill their Own Calling

2. Signs from God

a. Power: Sound of Mighty Wind – faithful believers WAITING on God

vs. 1,2 they were all together in one place...Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house *where they were sitting*

BEGAN in UPPER ROOM > then WENT OUT to TEMPLE Courts

Visible Symbols of Holy Spirit > Receive Invisible, Hidden GRACE

Spirit CONSECRATING New Sanctuary > God WITH His People

SIMILAR to GOD'S OLD COVENANT COMINGS...

...the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle Exodus 40.35

...cloud filled temple of LORD...for glory of LORD filled his temple 1 Kings 8.10-11

b. Purity: Sight of Flaming Tongues v. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

Sound LIKE Wind, Tongues LIKE Fire, Languages UNUSUAL

angel of LORD *appeared to (Moses) in flames of fire* from within a bush. Exodus 3.2

fire was in the cloud by night...during all their travels Exodus 40.38

Flame set off Believers as TRUE SANCTUARIES of Living GOD

for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

1 Peter 4.14

Experience Corporate & Individual > 120 Believers gathered Waiting

Men&Women, Mother Mary, Jesus' Brothers, 12 Ap/Matthias & Barsabas

We know that we live in him and he in us, because *he has given us of his Spirit.* 1 John 4:13-14

c. Peoples: Speech of Many Nations

1.8 Jesus: Receive Spirit > Witness > to the Ends of the Earth

v. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them....

FLAMES > Visible Tongues // LANGUAGES > Audible Tongues

Supernatural Ability to speak Recognizable Languages

Dialects of Jewish Diaspora > Peoples of Far-Corners of Roman Emp

vs. 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome...Cretans and Arabs - we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

Gift of Tongues > Purpose Not Entertainment > Evangelism

Spirit-filled Words from a Simple Servants > God was Praised

REVERSAL of Tower of BABEL > Human Languages CONFUSED

3. Seekers of God

a. Taunting > TYPICAL Reaction of ORDINARY MAN

v. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment

Deafness of Unbelievers > 2 Responses to Gospel > Receive or Reject

v. 11we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!

v. 13 Some made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

NERVOUS LAUGHTER?? Make a JOKE to BREAK the TENSION??

NOT TRUE – Only 9 am – MAYBE DRINK LATER!!

Part of the challenge of this passage is the question: have our churches today got enough energy, enough spirit-driven new life, to make onlookers pass any comment at all? Has anything happened which might make people think we were drunk? If not, is it because the Spirit is simply at work in other ways, or because we have so successfully quenched the spirit that there is actually nothing happening at all?

N.T. Wright

His GLORY & PURPOSE May EXCEED Your COMFORT ZONE!

NATIVES of Jerusalem > Languages SOUNDED LIKE BABEL

Those from FAR OFF > Languages brought Sounds of BLESSING

b. Teachable NOBLE REACTION – Open, Want to KNOW MORE

v.12 Amazed & perplexed, they asked one another, *What does this mean?*

Stop trusting in man, who has but a breath in his nostrils. Of what account is he? Isaiah 2.22

Man only 1-Breath Person > Breathes IN & OUT > One Day STOP

God > Source of All Breath > Gift of ETERNAL Life

Jesus: "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. *For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself.*" John 5.24-26

Our Life on Loan > Borrowed from God > Temporary Possession

GOD is LIFE > Eternally Alive > He is the I AM > Everlasting PRESENT

THE SON also has LIFE IN HIMSELF

Without GOD > Hopelessly Dead – Spiritually, Physically, Eternally

In God > thru Wind of His Powerful Voice > MARVELOUSLY ALIVE

Dead Sinner like ME > Heard God's Life-giving Voice > NOW Alive

OK! Are you Listening to Jesus Now?

1. Spirit of God 2. Signs from God 3. Seekers of God

Man: ONE-BREATH Person > Breathes IN & OUT > One Day STOP

Will you TRUST Man's HOT AIR, or GOD'S MIGHTY WIND?

Acts 2 ¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." ¹²And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."