

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is the true effect of Pentecost?
2. Of what specific sins did Peter accuse the people?
Are people today guilty of these same sins?
3. To whom is the Holy Spirit promised? [SoF:7]
4. How do we know when we have the Holy Spirit? [SoF:9]
5. Why do we seldom see today such great harvests of converted souls as on the day of Pentecost?
6. In what practical ways did the early church function after Pentecost and compare with today?

SUMMARY:

On the great and notable day of Pentecost, after the Holy Spirit had come, Peter preached a powerful sermon covering the prophecies of their Jewish hero David and their fulfillment, Jesus' life, death and resurrection, and on repentance. The sermon bore much fruit and about 3,000 souls were added to the church through baptism. The church continued to grow as the Spirit worked in the lives of these early believers.

NOTES:

[SoF:7] We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.

[SoF:8] We believe that a saving faith results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, without which there is no salvation. [SoF:9] We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #4

October 23, 2016

Fourth Quarter

THE EFFECTS OF PENTECOST

LESSON TEXT: *Acts 2:22-47*

LESSON SETTING: Jerusalem

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D. - shortly after Christ ascended to heaven.

I. A GREAT REPORT. Acts 2:22-36

- A. Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection. Psalm 16:10; Matthew 16:21; Luke 23:33; John 19:23-24; Acts 17:2-3
- B. Prophecies of Christ. Genesis 3:15; Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 9:2, 7; 11:10; Micah 5:2; Zechariah 9:9
- C. Witness for Christ. John 1:15; Acts 4:33; Acts 26:22

II. GREAT REPENTANCE. [SoF:7] Acts 2:37-41

- A. Sorrow for Sins. 2 Samuel 24:10; Psalm 38:4; Psalm 51:3; Matthew 26:75
- B. Repentance for Sins. 2 Chronicles 7:14; Job 42:6; Psalm 34:18; Isaiah 55:7; Matthew 5:4
- B. Save from Sins. Matthew 13:23; Luke 15:7; 1 Thessalonians 2:13

III. GREAT RESULTS. [SoF:8,9] Acts 2:42-47

- A. Steadfastness and Growth. 2 Kings 22:2; Acts 4:19-20; 20:24; 1 Corinthians 15:58
- B. Unity and Giving. Exodus 35:22; 36:5; Ezra 1:6; Luke 21:1-4; Romans 12:5
- C. Praising God and Growing in Number. Psalm 9:11; Acts 4:4; 5:14; 6:7; 11:21

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH DAILY SUCH AS SHOULD BE SAVED.*
Acts 2:47

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Acts 3:1-26
SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 35:1-10

QUARTERLY THEME: The Early Church

TOPIC: THE FIRST APOSTOLIC MIRACLE

INTRODUCTION:

The presence of the Holy Spirit within a believer's heart is so tremendously effective that mere words cannot express it. Each heart must experience the power of His Presence to realize what it means. How did Peter know or have the courage to say to the lame man, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk?" (Acts 3:6) Peter knew without a doubt that Christ was living in his heart and using Peter as a channel, could do anything. The man was made whole, not by Peter's power, but by the Holy Spirit's dwelling within Peter.

We also can experience the power of the Holy Spirit within if we are open channels to Him and live completely submissive to Him. He is just as powerful today as He was then. Are ~~we~~ just as yielded to Him as Peter and John were?

CENTRAL TRUTH: The power of a resurrected Christ makes itself known through the lives of believers.

GOLDEN TEXT: *SILVER AND GOLD HAVE I NONE, BUT SUCH AS I HAVE GIVE I THEE.*
Acts 3:6

Peter and John when they walked with Christ during His ministry were also such who looked and yearned for temporal gifts. They hoped Jesus would establish His earthly Kingdom and give them places of honor. Peter earned a sharp rebuke when Jesus told him, "Get thee behind me Satan; thou art an offense to me; for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men." (Matthew 16:23)

What a change the Holy Spirit had made in the hearts of these two apostles. They now thought, taught, and divided the gifts of God as their Lord, Himself, had done. Instead of earthly gifts that perish, they helped the lame man to perfect health, both in body and soul.

When God withholds our hearts' desire, He sometimes wants to change the desire of our hearts for better things.

Nothing can the riches measure
That in Jesus come to me;
All that earth can give of treasure
But a paltry gain will be.
Jesus, Treasure of my soul,
Makes the spirit glad and whole.
Z.H. 261, vs. 3

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Oct. 24 – 30

- M. The Bringing of Happiness. Psalm 5:1-12
- T. Happiness Promised. Isaiah 35:1-10
- W. Following Instructions. Luke 10:1-10
- T. *A Surprising Gift. Acts 3:1-7
- F. *A Stirring Testimony. Acts 3:8-16
- S. *A Plea for Repentance. Acts 3:17-21
- S. *A Prophet Like Moses. Acts 3:22-26

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