

Sermon Notes

“Pentecost – the ministry of Jesus continues” from Acts Chapter 2 verses 1 to 21

A few things I need to remember from hearing today's Bible Reading and Teaching.

The Bible Reading

Acts Chapter 2 verses 1 to 21

¹ When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from

every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,^[b] ¹⁰ Phrygia and

Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions,

your old men will dream dreams.¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and billows of smoke.²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

(NIV)

An Introduction

The day they had been waiting for had arrived. The day the believers would be baptised with the Holy Spirit. It was the feast of Pentecost – fifty days after Passover. Jews had travelled from all over the region to Jerusalem to remember God's salvation in the past. They'd travelled to be there for Passover and now they were about to return to their homelands. The last feast to remember was the giving of God's Law on Mt Sinai fifty days after the first Passover. The message of the Law, now fulfilled in Christ, found its ultimate salvation in the Gospel. Just as Jesus was empowered to proclaim the message from his baptism with the Holy Spirit so now the Apostles and all believers are empowered to do the same. The ministry of Jesus having begun now continued

through the presence and empowering of the Holy Spirit in the believer. The confirmation that the Gospel was to go to Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth is that all the people present heard the Gospel in their own native language (tongue).

A prayer.

Almighty God and loving heavenly Father, guide me and teach me of yourself from your Word. Help me and others to see the wisdom and value of living life according to your word the Bible; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Read Acts Chapter 2 verses 1 to 40

The Bible Study

Question:

1. What is the Gospel message the Holy Spirit empowers Peter to proclaim?
2. What does Peter call on the people to do in response to the Gospel? (Acts 2:38,39)
3. Is this something you have done? If so, rejoice. If not what must you do to be saved? Why not do it now.

Close with prayer considering what you've learnt.