

Sermon Study Notes 24 April '16 Acts 2:1-13 Pentecost

Pentecost, 50 days after Jesus' resurrection, has been described as the most momentous event in history of Church. It would change the course of the disciple's lives for ever.

1. Awe & Wonder

2:2 *"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."*

When God makes his presence known, people pay attention!

Reflect: How has God made himself known to me?

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2. Filled with the Holy Spirit.

2:4 & 11 *"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them... We hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"*

Why did God send his Spirit to dwell in us?

1. Re-united Creator & creation.
2. Empowered to share good news, not simply from knowing about the good news, but embodying the good news.

Jesus is God with us, Holy Spirit is God in us.

Reflect: What is my response to the above statement?

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3. Amazed & Perplexed

2:12 *"Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?'"*

- Hearers were divided in their opinions of what was being said by the disciples. Some were genuinely not sure what all this meant. Others mocked, saying the disciples were drunk.

Today, the response to the gospel is similar. Some are genuine seekers, while others are arrogant and mocking.

"Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?'"

Reflect: What does it mean to me, that God sent indwelling Spirit to be united with me and empower me to share the good news of Jesus.

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Quote: Hudson Taylor, a missionary who spent 51 yrs in China, and was founder of Inland China Mission, said:

"We have given too much attention to methods and machinery and to resources. And too little to the Source of Power, the filling with the Holy Spirit."

Reflect: What does this mean to me?

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