

INTRODUCTION

We've come to what is called Pentecost. What happened here has elicited many questions. Even the ones who witnessed it asked "what does this mean?" in verse 12. This question remains throughout church history and it is for a very good reason. Heaven placed it like a stake in the ground for all of us to look at and have it teach us. Not only about then but also about now.

PENTECOST

The word means "fifty" in Greek and speaks of the Feast of Weeks. Look to **Exodus 23:16**. This feast brought focus to the Lord so that He gets the first thought and attention. We bring Him our best. Then in Acts 2:2, we hear about the wind. Don't think of wind. Think of a sound of wind coming vertically from heaven. It's interesting that a mighty sound from heaven ushers in the church age. A sound from heaven will end it too. See **1 Corinthians 12-14**. At this point the gift of tongues was evidenced throughout the room. This gift now a days, if it's legit, will pass the test in verse 11. Whatever is spoken and heard, God wants "the wonderful works of God" to be glorified. Addictions removed, anxieties put to ease, bitterness erased, relationships restored: an outlook for the future that is known, certain, and wonderful!

CONSIDER

There are three typical responses to these situations. What does this mean? Mocking, asking if they're drunk. This is the 2nd time being full of the Holy Spirit is contrasted against the influence of alcohol. Read **Ephesians 5:18**, does this convict you? In light of this lets ask ourselves, do you have a coping mechanism? Are there areas of your life where you lean on "things" to help you deal? If this is you, take a moment to admit that before the Lord. The third response we see here is from Peter, he references Joel in verses 17-21. He is saying don't be surprised! We were told of these signs and wonders. We want everyone to know, what we have discovered. That the Bible and its history explains so much and can interpret life for you! What will be your response to miracles? To the Gospel? Will you bring the Lord your first fruits? Let's take this time to re-align our thinking, focus our hearts and minds on things above, instead of trying to "cope" with the troubles of today. Our Lord wants to reveal himself to us in miraculous ways. Will we let him?

PRAY...

*For the power of the Holy Spirit to fill us to overflowing.

*For our country, and the lost of this world who use substances to cope when things get tough.

*And the power to live a Christian life, filled with the Love of Jesus.