

(SLIDE #1) GREAT EVENTS OF THE BIBLE -- THE DAY OF PENTECOST!

Introduction:

- A. In Our Last Lesson Jesus Ascended Back Into Heaven.
 - 1. Image His INTENSE DESIRE To Go Back To Heaven, "HOME," And The Fellowship With The Father And The Spirit!!!
 - 2. At The Same Time, Image His Concern For The Apostles -- They Were Going To Feel Sad, Alone, And Probably Overwhelmed With The Task Laid Out Before Them.
 - 3. Imagine how they felt as they went back into Jerusalem!
 - a. An EMPTY hole in their hearts?
 - b. There must have been some anticipation about His promise!
 - 1. Lk. 24:46-49 "Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸And you are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."
 - 2. Ac. 1:4-8 "And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, 'which,' *He said*, 'you have heard from Me; ⁵for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' ⁶Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, 'Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷And He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.'"

B. Events IN Jerusalem:

- 1. The Eleven Apostles returned to the Upper Room where they were in fervent prayer along with the women and Mary, Jesus' mother, and with His brothers. Ac. 1:12-14
 - a. As they waited during that 10 day period, Peter stood up among the Eleven and with the 120 disciples who were convening with them and

declared that they should seek a replacement for Judas as an Apostle. Ac. 1:15-26

b. Observations:

- 1. Peter declares that David's friend who turned against him was a type or foreshadowing of what Judas would do to the Messiah! 16,17; Ps. 41:9
- 2. The betrayal money was used to buy a field, Akel Dama, or "Field of Blood" where Judas, in his excruciating shame and guilt, hung himself. After his death, his body fell headlong; he burst asunder, and his bowels gushed out of his body! 18,19
- 3. Peter also cited Ps. 109:8 where a wicked opponent of David would die young, leaving his children fatherless and his wife a widow, and another would take his place; this man was a type of the wicked opponent of the Messiah who was the spiritual "antitype" of David's opponent. Peter said it was time for another to take Judas' place! 20
- 4. Peter identified the qualifications of an Apostle: 21,22
 - a. He must have seen Jesus' baptism.
 - b. He saw Jesus' ministry -- His life, His miracles, and heard His teaching.
 - c. He had seen the resurrected Lord until the day of His Ascension -- He could attest to His Resurrection!
- 5. Two men were found who met the qualifications -- Joseph called Barsabas, and Matthias. 23
- 6. They prayed to the Lord and asked Him to select the Apostle to take Judas' place. 24,25
 - a. Who is the Lord? It is Jesus! The same one who chose the original Twelve Apostles! Mk. 3:14-19; Lk. 6:13-16
 - b. Jn. 6:70 "Jesus answered them, 'Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?""
 - c. Jesus is the "heart-knower!"
 - 1. This is the Greek word "kardiognw'sta" meaning "knower of the facts of the heart!"
 - 2. I LOVE the title!
 - 3. Jesus KNEW these men and who would make the best Apostle!
 - 4. The Apostles cast lots and Mathias was chosen by the Lord through the lots cast!
- 2. The Day of Pentecost approached.
- C. Acts 2 Reveals The AMAZING Events Of That Day.
- D. Acts 2 -- THE PIVOTAL Chapter Of The Bible -- The Promised Kingdom Arrives!

I. Events On The Day Of Pentecost.

- A. "Pentecost"
 - 1. There were three major Jewish feasts each year.
 - a. Passover -- this feast as a memorial of Israel's escape from Egyptian bondage.
 - b. Pentecost -- this feast was 50 days after Passover; it occurred at the beginning of the harvest. Israel gave the firstfruits of their harvest to the Lord.
 - c. Tabernacles (Ingatherings) -- this feast was at the end of the yearly harvest; they thanked God for all His blessings. During this feast the all-important Day of Atonement occurred.
 - 2. Pentecost is also known as the "Feast of Harvest," and "Feast of Weeks," and "Feast of First-fruits."
 - 3. It was on the first day of the week, 7 weeks after Passover.
- B. (Slide #2) The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit Upon The Apostles. 1-4
 - 1. There was a sound like a strong wind that filled the whole house! 2
 - 2. Tongues like fire rested upon each of the Apostles. 3
 - a. These "tongues like as of fire" rested upon the Apostles -- the others who were there witnessed this miraculous event!
 - b. The Greek word simply means "being distributed." It is used when the garments of Jesus were "parted" or "distributed" among the soldiers. Mt. 27:35
 - 3. They were "filled with the Holy Spirit." 4
 - a. This is the baptism of the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit provided an overwhelming or immersion of power to the Apostles. They received all 9 of the miraculous gifts simultaneously.
 - b. ONLY THE APOSTLES (NOT THE 120 as many espouse) received this "Baptism of the Holy Spirit."
 - 1. Jesus had promised the Apostles this blessing during the "Last Supper." **Jn. 14:26**; 15:26; **16:13**
 - 2. Remember, THE APOSTLES were given the promise of "power from on high" by the Lord just 10 days earlier! 1:4,5; Lk. 24:46-49
 - 3. The Apostles explained what had happened to them. 14 "But Peter, standing up with the eleven,"
 - 4. Verse 43 gives more insight: "Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles."
 - 4. The impact of the baptism of the Holy Spirit:
 - a. (Slide #3) They began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 4
 - 1. A better explanation would be "languages."

- 2. Unfortunately all kinds of fanciful idea have been espoused because of translations and ideas that people have propagated.
 - a. Translations:
 - 1. "other tongues" -- (NKJV, KJV, ASV, NASV, ESV, NIV, RSV, Darby Translation, Common English Bible, Young's Literal Translation, Tyndale
 - 2. "different languages" -- (Holman Christian Standard Bible, Complete Jewish Bible,
 - 3. "other languages" -- (NRV, Lexham English Bible, Good News Translation, New Living Translation, World English Bible, The Webster Bible
 - 4. "languages they had not known before" -- New International Readers Version
 - 5. "divers tongues" -- Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible
 - 6. "diverse languages" -- Wycliffe
 - b. The KJV translation, "unknown tongues", in I Cor. 14:2,4,13,14,19,27 lends credence in some people's minds to the idea of a "language of ecstasy." That was not what was meant at all! The translators meant "a language they did not know and could not speak.
- 3. The context explains the "other tongues."
 - a. They spoke in languages that those from other countries understood.
 - b. Everyone heard them speak in his own language -- "How *is it that* we hear, each in our own language [dialect] in which we were born?" 2:6
 - c. This enormous multitude included "Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs." 9-11
- 4. The Spirit "gave them utterance" is in the imperfect Greek tense -- He continued to give it to them.
- 5. What was the baptism of the Holy Spirit?
 - a. It was a PROMISE; NOT A COMMAND!
 - b. It was an overwhelming of miraculous power; they received all 9 gifts instantaneously!
 - c. It only occurred twice in Scripture.
 - 1. The Apostles at Pentecost. Ac. 2
 - 2. On Gentiles at the house of Cornelius. Ac. 10; 11:15
 - 3. WHY is it called "baptism of the Holy Spirit?"
 - a. They were given a "baptism" or overwhelming by the Spirit.
 - b. They were immersed in supernatural power and authority.
 - c. They received all nine of the supernatural gifts instantaneously.

4. Holy Spirit baptism was received as a gift directly from Heaven; those who received a gift or perhaps two of the gifts received them when the Apostles laid their hands on them. Ac. 8:17,18

C. (Slide #4) The Confusion Of The Multitude. 2:5-13

- 1. This sound, a continual sound, was not only heard in the house where the Apostles were; it was heard by the multitude!
- 2. The multitude was confounded because they heard the Apostles, Galileans, speak in their own "languages" (Greek word "dialevktw/" -- "dialect" -- not just a specific language but even the different forms from a specific region or from an ethnic or social group!
 - a. Many of these people spoke different dialects of the same language!
 - 1. We can understand that in our culture where English is spoken.
 - 2. In the South people say, "Y'all!" When I lived in Michigan people said, "You guys!"
 - 3. My uncle, a farm boy from Kentucky attended MIT in Cambridge, MA; he went to a restaurant and asked for a "chocolate milk shake." He got chocolate milk! He asked, "Where is the ice cream?"
 - 4. When I was a teenage we had a preacher and his wife move from Mississippi to Kentucky. The wife said they were going to "carry" their dog to Kentucky. I told my parents, "She will get awfully tired carrying that dog from Mississippi to Kentucky!"
 - 5. You can just tell if someone is from the Northeast or from Kentucky just by their dialect!!!
 - b. For example, Phrygians and Pamphylians spoke Greek; yet, they spoke different dialects of Greek.
 - c. Parthians, Medes, and Elamites spoke Persian; yet they spoke different dialects of Persian.
 - d. (Slide #5) The broad scope of the hearers nationally!
 - 1. East
 - a. Parthians -- southeast of Caspian Sea
 - b. Medes -- southwest of Caspian Sea
 - c. Elamites -- east of Babylon
 - d People dwelling in Mesopotamia -- area of Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.
 - e. Arabs -- directly east of Palestine.
 - 2. Immediate Jerusalem vicinity -- People dwelling in Judea
 - 3. North
 - a. People dwelling in Cappadocia -- just north of eastern end of Mediterranean Sea.
 - b. People dwelling in Pontus -- just north of Cappadocia.
 - c. People dwelling in Asia -- western part of Asia Minor.
 - d. People dwelling in Phrygia -- just east of Asia; in the middle of Asia Minor.

e. People dwelling in Pamphylia -- south of Phrygia; west of Cilicia.

4. South

- a. People dwelling in Egypt -- in northern Africa, on the east of the Mediterranean Sea.
- b. People dwelling in Libya -- just west of Egypt.
- c. People dwelling in Cyrene -- northern tip of Africa; just north of Libya.

5. **(Slide #6)** West

- a. Cretans -- island in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea.
- b. People dwelling in Rome -- in the north west of the Mediterranean Sea.
- e. There was also a broad scope ethnically -- both Jews and proselytes.

3. (**Slide #7**) The reaction of the multitude:

- a. They continued to be astonished and perplexed!
- b. They were confused and were asking: "What could this be?"
- c. Others jeered and joked -- they accused the Apostles of being drunk with sweet wine.

D. (Slide #8) Peter Explained These Events: 14-21

- 1. We are not drunk as you suppose; it is only 9 AM! You do not typically see many drunks interacting in public at 9 AM!
- 2. Peter declared that these events were what Joel had prophesied about around 830 B.C.! 16-21
 - a. "THIS IS THAT spoken by the prophet Joel!"

Joel 2:28-32

²⁸And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;

Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.

²⁹And also on *My* menservants and on *My* maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

30And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

³¹The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

³²And it shall come to pass *That* whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.

Acts 2:17-21

¹⁷ 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. ¹⁹I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. ²⁰The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. ²¹And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.'

- b. Observations about Joel's prophecy:
 - 1. It would come to pass in the "last days!"
 - 2. This is NOT the last few literal days before the end of the world!
 - a. These are the days of the Messiah and His Law!
 - b. Heb. 1:1,2 "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;"
 - 3. God would pour out His Spirit upon ALL FLESH!
 - a. This is not the ideas that many suggest:
 - 1. It was just on the Apostles on Pentecost.
 - 2. It would be for all people.
 - 3. It would be for all who become Christians until the end of the world.
 - b. When the Bible is allowed to be its own commentary, we realize that "all flesh" refers to "Jews and Gentiles."
 - 1. Ac. 2:39 "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."
 - 2. Eph. 2:11-18 "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." 13
 - 3. This prophecy BEGAN to be fulfilled here on Pentecost; it was extended to the Gentiles at the house of Cornelius; it concluded when the last Christians who received the miraculous gifts by the Apostles hands died (This could have been into the middle of the Second Century for some young Christians upon whom the old Apostle John laid his hands.)
 - c. The Holy Spirit made the determination which gift each Christian would receive when an Apostle laid his hands on that Christian.
 - 1. Without distinction of sex -- male or female.
 - a. Women had the same right to be Christians. Gal. 3:28
 - b. Women DID prophecy!
 - c. Philip's 4 daughters. Ac. 21:9
 - d. I Cor. 11:5 "But every woman who prays or prophesies with *her* head uncovered dishonors her head, for that is one and the same as if her head were shaved."
 - e. However, this did not remove or negate God's command for male leadership! I Tim. 2:12
 - 2. Without distinction of age -- young men and old men.
 - 3. Without distinction of social position -- free men; men and women slaves!

- 4. The impact of the outpouring of the Spirit. 19,20
 - a. Ideas that do not fit the context:
 - 1. Some try to refer these to the events 7 weeks earlier with the darkness and earthquake that accompanied Jesus' death. That is a HUGE stretch and is certainly not contextual!
 - 2. Some think this refers just to the Day of Pentecost.
 - 3. Some apply it to the Fall of Jerusalem.
 - a. They claim these gifts only lasted until the Fall of Jerusalem.
 - b. They try to FORCE all Bible books to be written before A.D. 70.
 - 4. And some think this refers to the End of the world!
 - a. Pentecostals in particular use this interpretation.
 - b. They affirm that these miraculous gifts were promised to last from Pentecost until the end of the world!
 - b. This prophecy refers to the end of the Law of Moses!
 - 1. These verses are "Apocalyptic literature." The express the cataclysmic end of a mighty nation, city, or law; it SHOOK the foundations of society and the thinking of the people.
 - 2. There are MANY O.T. examples of this literature.
 - a. Is. 13:1,6,10,13 Refers to the fall of **Babylon**.
 - b. Is. 19:1 Refers to the fall of **Egypt**.
 - c. Is. 23:17,18; 24:19-23 Refers to the fall of **Tyre**.
 - d. Is. 34:4,5 Refers to the fall of Israel's enemies.
 - e. Ezek. 32:2,6-8 Refers to the fall of **Egypt**.
 - f. Joel 2:1,10,31 God's judgment coming upon **Judah**.
 - g. Daniel 7:11-13 Fall of the four beast representing four empires: **Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome**.
 - h. Amos 8:9 Refers to the fall of **Israel**.
 - c. When this occurred, EVERYONE would have to call upon the name of the Lord to be saved!
 - 1. The Old Law had not provided salvation in the past.
 - 2. Now It had been done away. It ceased when Christ died on the Cross! WHAT A CATACLYSMIC EVENT for Jewish culture!
 - 3. All people, Jews and Gentiles must now call upon Christ or appeal to Him, His atoning sacrifice and Blood, and to His authority for salvation!

- E. (Slide #9) The Apostles Preached "JESUS!" 22-40
 - 1. (Slide #10) Jesus was approved to be the Messiah! He had been approved and He still is approved (This is a perfect tense verb in Greek)! 22-24
 - a. God proved to the world that Jesus was the Messiah by Jesus': 22
 - 1. Miracles -- powerful mighty supernatural deeds.
 - 2. Wonders -- the reaction of the observers to the amazing supernatural deeds.
 - 3. Signs -- the supernatural actions pointed to a GREATER truth -- JESUS IS THE MESSIAH!
 - 4. These actions had been done in their midst.
 - 5. They KNEW these truths -- they understood what they really meant!
 - 6. Yet they rejected and turned their backs upon all those evidences.
 - b. Why then was Jesus delivered? 23
 - 1. By the fixed decree and design of God!
 - 2. God planned that coming and Death of Christ before the world began!
 - 3. The Jews had delivered Him and by wicked hands had crucified and slain Him!
 - c. However, God RAISED Him from the dead! 24
 - 1. He was delivered from the "pains of death."
 - a. This word suggests the idea of labor pains
 - b. His death was the most vicious known to man -- SO inhumanely vicious!
 - 2. This is THE SIGNIFICANT point of the sermon on Pentecost!
 - 3. Christ Jesus HAS BEEN RAISED!!!!!
 - 4. This is THE THEME of the rest of the sermon!
 - 2. (▶) David Prophesied That The Messiah Would Be Raised! 25-28

Psalms 16:8-11

⁸I have set the LORD always before me; Because *He is* at my right hand I shall not be moved.

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope.

10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

11You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your

Acts 2:25-28

²⁵For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. ²⁷For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'

- a. Peter alludes to Ps. 16:8-11
 - 1. "foresaw" -- this is not the word for "foreknowledge" that is used in verse 23. The word here means "I have set."
 - 2. David in this prophecy talks about His trust in, confidence in, and reliance upon the Lord.

- 3. He knew if his enemies killed him that God would deliver him from Sheol or Hades.
- 4. This is a type of the Messiah's reliance upon the Father!
- b. Messianic implications:
 - 1. Jesus set the Father before Him; He relied up Him completely!
 - 2. This brought Him exceeding joy that was a boon to His heart in the midst of great agony!
 - 3. Christ knew that God would not abandon Him in Hades!
 - a. The word here is NOT "hell" as in the KJV and other translations!
 - b. JESUS DID NOT GO TO HELL when He died!
 - c. Lk. 23:43 "And Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.""
 - d. Where is Paradise? This is "Abraham's bosom" of Hades. Lk. 16:23
 - e. He also knew that God would deliver Him from Hades so that His Kingdom could come into existence.
 - 1. Mt. 16:18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."
 - 2. He was saying, "I WILL build My Church; My death will not stop that! I will be delivered from Hades to establish My Church!"
 - 4. God would raise Him before His Body would decay!
 - 5. He would have peace even when He faced the Crucifixion! Why? He knew that the Father would give Him life!!!!
- 3. Explanations of David's Prophecy! 29-36
 - a. David was not just speaking about himself.
 - 1. The Jews knew that David's tomb was in Jerusalem; his body was still buried there on the Day of Pentecost!
 - 2. Peter's point: David died, his tomb is here in Jerusalem TODAY! OBVIOUSLY he was not prophesying about himself!
 - a. He is still in the tomb after nearly 1,000 years!
 - b. His decayed body is STILL IN THE TOMB! Therefore OBVIOUSLY David is still in Hades and has NOT been resurrected!
 - b. God had sworn to David that one from his loins would be the Messiah. David understood this.
 - c. David foresaw this by prophecy! He KNEW that the Messiah would be resurrected!
 - 1. Now get it -- David's tomb STILL holds his body.
 - 2. However, Christ's tomb is EMPTY!
 - 3. The point -- JESUS IS THE PROMISED MESSIAH!
 - d. We Apostles are witnesses that Jesus was raised from the dead! Too, we saw Him ascend back to Heaven! 32-35
 - 1. He now has been exalted!

- 2. He is at the right hand of the Father! See Ac. 7:56 Stephen will soon see this reality!
- 3. The Baptism of the Spirit upon the Apostles is PROOF of His Resurrection!
- e. (**Slide** #11) David did not ascend to Heaven! However, Christ was raised to sit at the Father's right hand!
 - 1. How long will He sit there?
 - 2. Until His enemies become his footstool!
 - 3. I Cor. 15:25,26 explain -- "For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death."
 - 4. He will reign until the end of the world and the Judgment!
- f. (Peter's charge: "You have killed the Messiah!" 36 (He nails the point to these unbelieving Jews!)
 - 1. "Therefore" -- because Jesus IS THE RESURRECTED ONE!
 - 2. The Jews can know the convincing facts -- God has made the One that you put on the Cross both Lord and Christ!
 - a. "Lord" -- King, ruler! He rules over His angels, man, and the world!
 - b. "Christ" -- the Messiah!
- 4. (\triangleright) The RESULT of the sermon! 37-40
 - a. The Jews were stung or pierced in heart!
 - b. Their question, "What shall we do?"
 - 1. Obviously they realized they had a problem.
 - 2. The problem -- they had opposed Jesus; they had rejoiced when he was crucified! They were guilty of sin and rejection of Jesus Christ!
 - c. God's answer: "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins;" 38
 - 1. "Repent" -- aorist imperative!
 - 2. "Be baptized" --- aorist, passive, imperative.
 - a. "In the name of Jesus Christ" -- by His authority; upon His authoritative command.
 - b. "FOR the remission of sins."
 - 1. Great arguments have occurred over the meaning of the Greek word "eiv~".
 - a. Denominationalist who deny the absolute necessity of baptism for salvation claim it means "because of."
 - b. However, the word means "with a view toward;" "in order to receive."
 - 2. The BEST commentary on what this identical word and phrase mean is Mt. 26:28. "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many **for the remission of sins.**"
 - a. SO, did Jesus die because sinners ALREADY HAD forgiveness of sins?

- b. Such an idea is TOTALLY RIDICULOUS AND PREPOSTEROUS!!!
- 3. Keep in mind that these Jews had known the Gospel -- they knew a Messiah was coming! They just rejected Jesus and did not believe that HE was the promised Messiah!
 - a. This is not an example of just presenting the Gospel message one time and people immediately being baptized!
 - b. They knew the Gospel; they were just confused about the identity of Jesus!
- d. (Slide #12) "you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."
 - 1. Carefully observe the verbiage.
 - 2. "You SHALL receive the gift."
 - 3. It is NOT promised at the second they are baptized; it is promised subsequently!!!!!
- e. The promise -- the gift of the Holy Spirit!
 - 1. (▶) What IS "the gift of the Holy Spirit?"
 - a. (▶) Ideas suggested:
 - 1. Initial salvation. (They HAVE it at baptism!)
 - 2. Perpetual salvation. (You have it if you remain faithful!)
 - 3. Eternal life in Heaven. (Where does the Bible suggest that Heaven is the gift of the Holy Spirit for the Christian?)
 - 4. Baptism of the Holy Spirit. (It only occurred twice in the history of the world.)
 - 5. A representative indwelling of the Spirit through the Word! (If the "gift of the Holy Spirit" is the Word, one repents and is baptized and has remission BEFORE the word ever dwells in him.)
 - 6. Literal indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the Christian. (It is the concept that the Holy Spirit is an "IT", NOT A PERSON!)
 - 7. Miraculous gifts of the Spirit.
 - a. This is the most contextual view:
 - b. There are 2 promises in Ac. 2:38,39 "remission of sins and later the gift of the Holy Spirit."
 - c. If you had been a Jew there on Pentecost and were promised "the gift of the Holy Spirit", what would you have expected? A NON-MIRACULOUS INDWELLING of the Holy Spirit? Or something miraculous? Everything associated with the Holy Spirit was miraculous!
 - d. This view is consistent with the context. Context, immediate and expanded, gives STRONG credence to this interpretation.
 - e. (Slide #13) Mk. 16:15-18; Ac. 2:38,39
 - 1. Go!
 - 2. Teach!
 - 3. Offer Salvation!

- 4. Offer Supernatural Gifts!
- 5. Did They Obey? (►) Yes; (►) Yes; (►) Yes;(►) ?
- b. This phrase is used ONLY ONE OTHER TIME in the N.T. Ac. 10:45 "And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because **the gift of the Holy Spirit** had been poured out on the Gentiles also."
- f. (**Slide** #14) The AMAZING and often overlooked aspect of this verse Peter prophesies how long these spiritual gifts will last.
 - 1. They were for "you and your children" -- the first 2 generations of Jews.
 - a. To you -- Jews in A.D. 33
 - 1. A Bible generation is 40 years.
 - 2. Let's given them 20 years for one half of a generation.
 - 3. **(▶)** That would be A.D. 53.
 - b. To your children -- the next generation of Jews in the First Century.
 - 1. Their generation would be 40 years.
 - 2. (\triangleright) That would be 93 A.D.
 - 3 When was revelation completed? 96 A.D.!
 - c. (►) Ah, but here is the kicker -- "and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."
 - 1. Automatically we think of all people who would become Christians in succeeding generations!
 - 2. Question: to what does "afar off" refer?
 - a. Let the Bible be its own commentary!
 - b. Eph. 2:13 "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." GENTILES!
- f. "And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, 'Be saved from this perverse generation."
 - 1. Peter's actions:
 - a. "Testify" -- gave solemn witness and charge.
 - b. "Exhort" -- charged them or encouraged tem.
 - 2. The exhortation: "Be saved!"
 - a. This is an aorist, passive, imperative.
 - b. "Be saved!"
 - c. The idea: Understand WHO saves and WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO to be saved, and DO IT!
 - 3. Be saved from the perverse generation!!!

- F. (Slide #15) Response To The Preaching! 41-47
 - 1. Those who welcomed or accepted this saving message were baptized and were added to the Lord's Church that day! 41
 - a. 3,000 were baptized that day!
 - 1. A BIG argument by some is "There is NO WAY 3,000 could be baptized in one day, especially in Jerusalem!"
 - 2. But, there were MANY pools in Jerusalem.
 - a. The pool of Siloam was 50' x 16'
 - b. The upper Gihon was 316' x 218'
 - c. The lower Gihon was 592' (it was a dammed area in a stream just west of Mt. Zion.
 - 3. This would have been a very easy task for the Apostles and disciples in Jerusalem!
 - a. If it would take 3 minutes to baptize each person, the amount of time for **just** the Apostles to baptize 3,000 people would twelve and a half hours.
 - b. If you simply took the twelve Apostles and divided by the number of people baptized, then each Apostle would have baptized 250 people apiece.
 - b. The Lord added those who were being saved to the called out, those He saved!
 - 1. "Added to them?"
 - 2. To the Apostles and to those who had been baptized of John's baptism.
 - 3. They were the initial members of the Lord's Church!
 - 4. They had been baptized in view of a coming Messiah and His Kingdom -- when It came, they were immediately members!
 - 2. (▶) They continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in breaking of bread, and in prayer. 42
 - a. They were devout in their devotion!
 - b. They were devout in:
 - 1. The Apostles' doctrine -- they were loyal to the Truth.
 - 2. Fellowship -- they were united to partnership in the faith.
 - 3. Breaking of bread -- "THE" breaking" suggests a unique or specific breaking of bread -- partaking the Lord's Supper.
 - 4. Prayer -- communication with their Father.
 - 3. (▶) Great fear continually came upon the people; the apostles continued to do wonders and signs. 43
 - 4. (**Slide #16**) The believers loved being together and "had all things common." 44,45
 - a. "Common" is a derivative of the word "fellowship." They saw themselves as equals -- sinners saved by Christ; now brethren in Christ!
 - b. Does that sound like socialism or communism?
 - 1. It is nothing CLOSE to socialism or communism!!!!!
 - 2. They had a spiritual goal.

- 3. It was ONLY temporary -- it applied to the circumstances where others were in deep distress!
- 4. It was voluntary. See 5:1-11
- 5. Not all churches had to participate. I Cor. 16:1,2
- c. Those who chose to do so sold their possessions and goods to obtain money to help the needy!
- 5. (\triangleright) The harmony of these brethren. 46,47
 - a. They were together in the Temple and in their homes daily.
 - b. They had great unity in heart.
 - c. They glorified God for their salvation and had favor with each other.
 - d. Some Greek MSS have the last phrase; some do not -- "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."
 - 1. Some MSS only say, "And the Lord added the ones being saved from day to day together."
 - 2. Others say "He added them to the Church."
 - 3. Even if the Greek MSS did not use "ekklhsiva", we ask, "To what were the saved ones added?" They were added to the ones who CALLED UPON JESUS! 21
 - 4. They were added to the very Kingdom, His Church that He came here to establish! Mt. 16:18,19
 - 5. The Church IS "the home of the saved!" Eph. 5:23

Conclusion:

- A. THANK GOD For This Pivotal Event In The Bible!
- B. Christ Is The King; His Law Is The Spiritual Standard; His Kingdom Is Available; Sinners Can Be Saved And Be In It!
- C. THANK GOD For What Jesus Did And For The Blessed Church Of Which We Can Be A Part!