

# Acts – so far Chapter 1



## Pentecost came - Acts 2:1-13

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 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.

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.



Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked.. "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs--we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

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

When the day of Pentecost came,

God's programme timing  
- the first harvest 50 days after Passover.



You shall observe the Feast of Weeks, the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end.  
Exodus 34:22



God had planned this 1400 years before!

they were all together in one place.

They were united and the Lord was going to make them a concentrated attraction.



A good way to prepare for God's blessing.



Suddenly



**SUDDENLY**

The God of the unexpected.

# Something Audible

Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven



The Violent Wind has Spirit associations and speaks of power (not under our control)

The direction of the sound was above them. The Spirit came down from heaven.

Was this unique to that day?

(some things are unique and some things could happen again)

**Seated - It had started as just another day**

and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

The building is surrounded, engulfed,  
immersed (baptism)

The Presence in the whole building  
The Lord is BIG





# Something Visible

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire

Flames without fuel ...  
cf the burning bush in Exodus 3

Energy – cf John's prophecy

Luke 3:16 "He will baptize you with  
the Holy Spirit and fire."

Purity - cleansing



## Each was personally involved

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

The flames divided among them equally



Repeatable or unique ?

All of them were **filled** with the Holy Spirit

Something completely new for each one!

John 14:16-17 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, **for he dwells with you and will be in you.**



What was their capacity for filling?

What did they experience? Was this repeatable for them and for us?

# No language lessons were needed

and *they* began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

This was a supernatural equipping



Different individuals each spoke a 'foreign' language

and *they* began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

**The Spirit's intention in this appears to be two things**

1, A personal blessing to them - joy, assurance, overflowing praise

2, Words for others to hear  
and understand

A reversal of Babel



Was it different in Corinth? - (There is was mostly number 1)



And *they* began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Is this repeatable for believers today?

The cessationist view teaches

The gifts ceased with the completion of the NT .

Quoting for example :-



1 Corinthians 13:10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

The 'perfect' that Paul is referring to hasn't arrived yet

Also, did all who were filled at Corinth speak in tongues?

In 1 Corinthians 12:30 the assumed answer is 'No'.



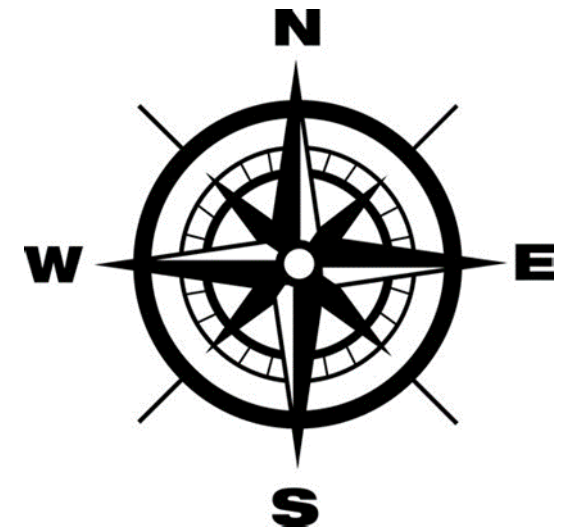
Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

This is hyperbole – but gives you an idea of the vast area over which the Jewish people had been scattered.

The context is the Passover holiday assembly.  
There were many thousands of visitors plus the locals

They are described as spiritually receptive people  
(God-fearing)

On this occasion only Jews were present, since it was to celebrate a special Jewish feast.



When they heard this sound,

What did they hear?

The violent wind?

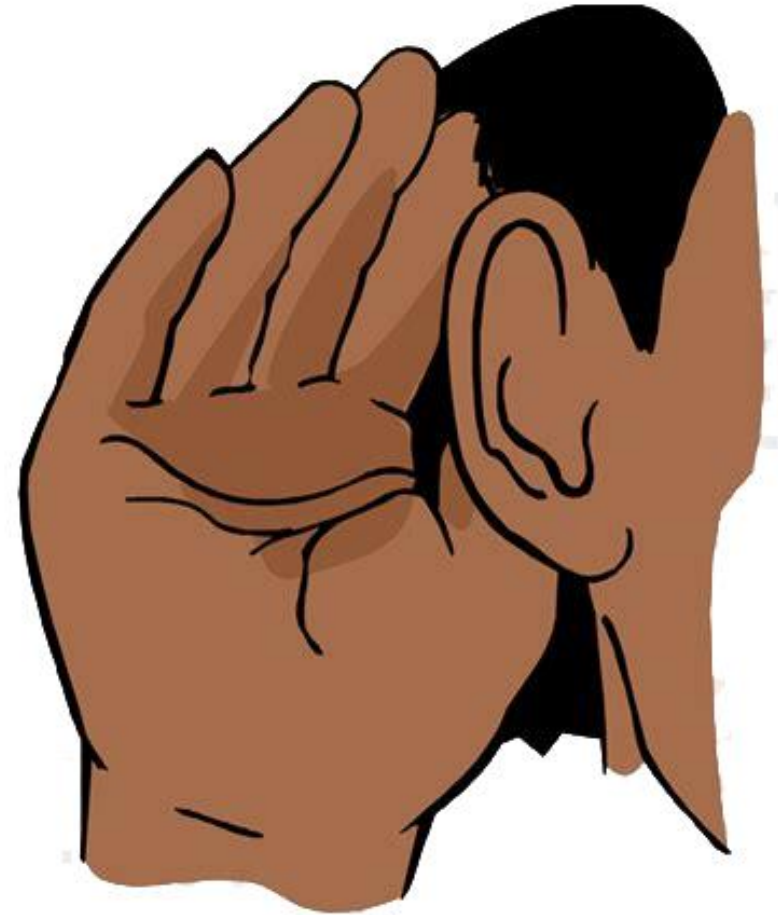
All the believers speaking in tongues?

**Notice:**

The flames had disappeared

The disciples 'burst' outside the building

They weren't sitting anymore.



# Curiosity

a crowd came together in bewilderment,



God gets their attention

a crowd came together in bewilderment,  
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

WHAT'S  
HAPPENING

Did they have perfect accents?  
What did they hear? Was it a message?

**“This is for you in your language”**

Utterly amazed, they asked..  
"Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans?"

Was it by their accent or their appearance  
that they were recognised as Galileans?

**We know  
who you  
are**



## Something odd?

Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?



They are interested now

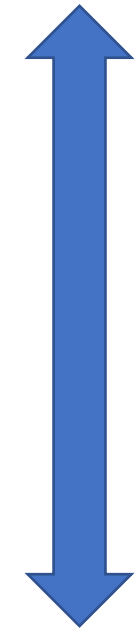


# Jewish visitors and locals

Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, **Judea** and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene;



North



South

# World wide evangelism in one go!

visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism);  
Cretans and Arabs (*west & east*)-

God shows it is possible.

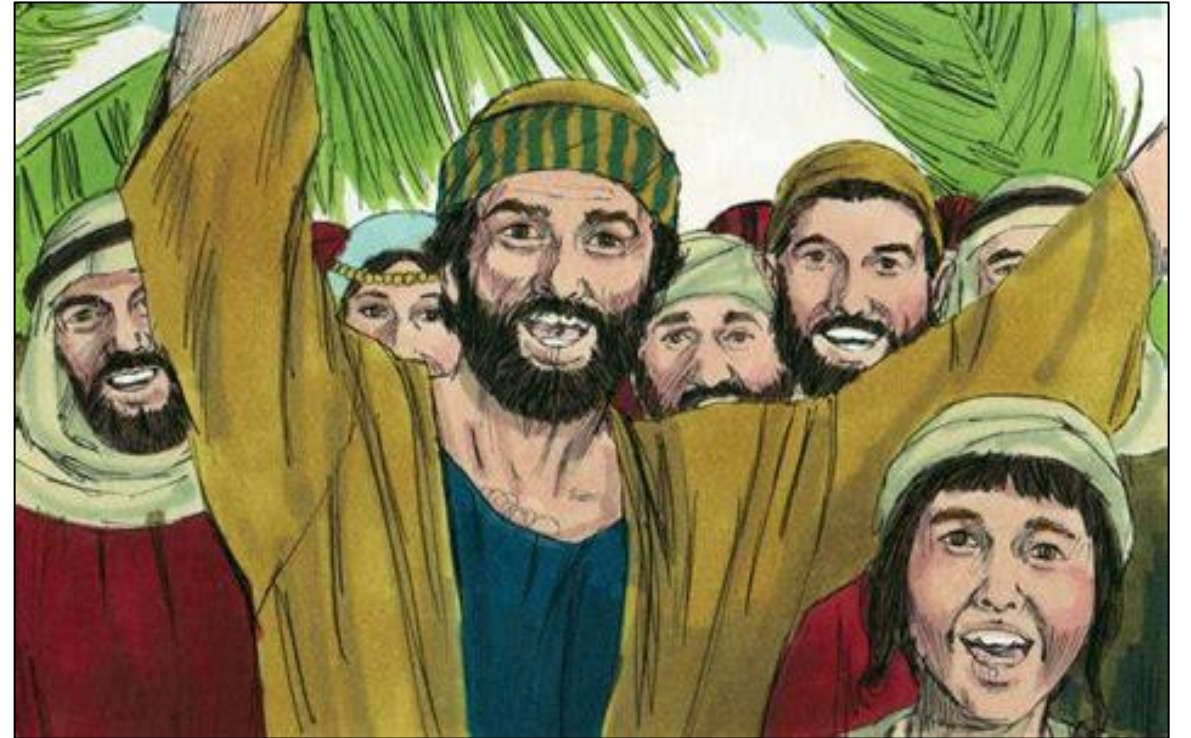


People have come from different ethnic back grounds.  
Is this a hint of future gentile developments?

we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

They didn't get a message.  
What they heard was individuals  
praising God in enthusiastic worship.

Here we see one use of tongues that  
Paul speaks of in 1 Corinthians 13:2,4



For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God;  
for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the  
Spirit. ... The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself,

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

They are ready for an explanation.

They see that something very significant must have happened.



# There are always some jokers and cynics

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

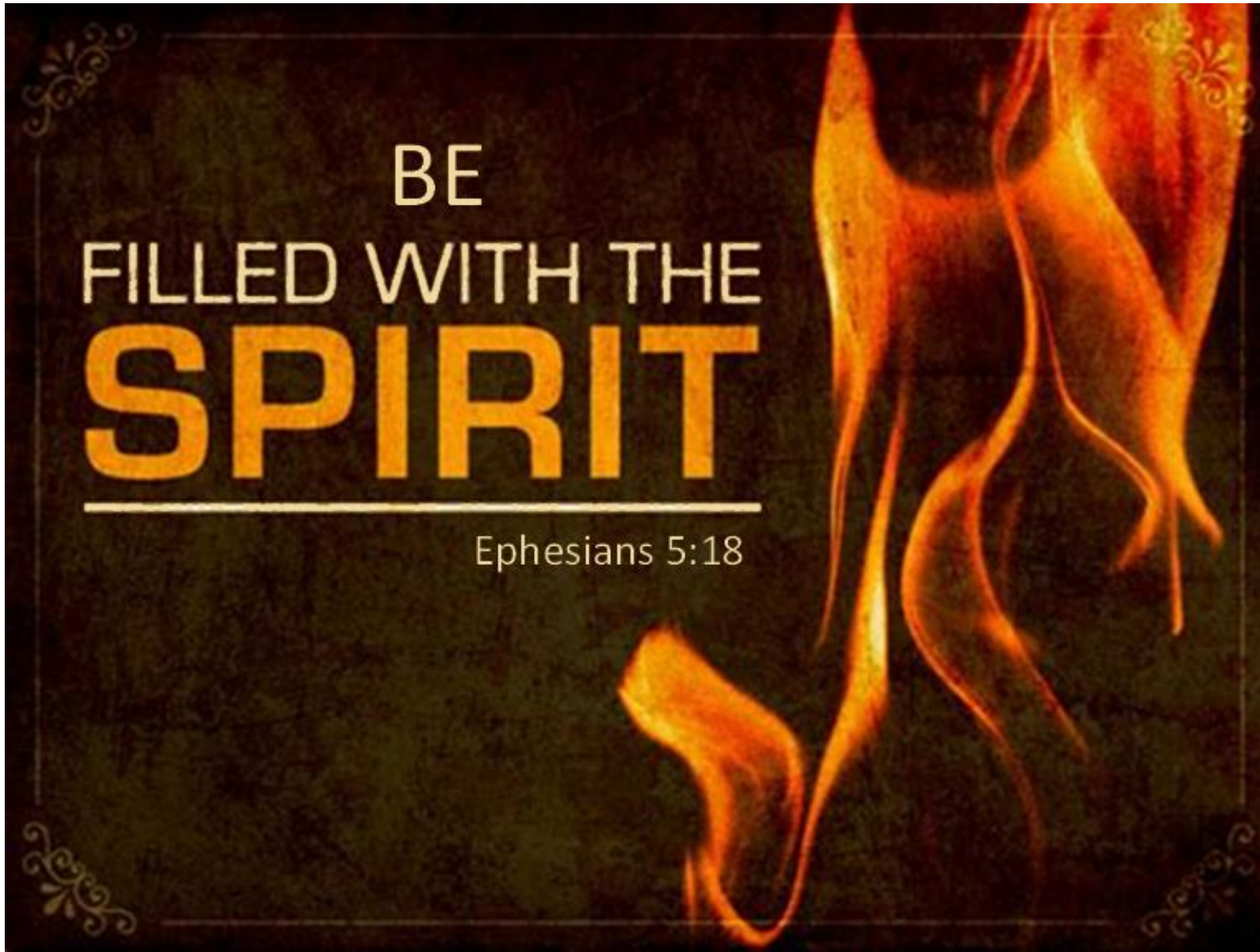
What you can't explain you can mock  
thinking that deals with it as far as you  
are concerned.

It is foolish thinking perhaps stemming  
from fear of the challenge of something  
beyond your understanding?



What was it about the disciples that made them say that?





He comes by invitation in prayer to enable us to be Jesus' witnesses