

## ACTS 2:42-47

Remember, Pentecost is when the Holy Spirit came down to earth to emppower the 12, the 120, and others who would come to faith, repent, be baptized (a Jewish rite) for the remission of sins, then they'd receive the Holy Ghost for power to fulfill their ministry in preaching the Kingdom gospel.

### Pentecostal Movement

A.

Acts 2:42 - And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

1. We will begin to see these saved Jews (Christ is the Messiah) start to live out the Millennial lifestyle spontaneously among these believers who are filled with the Holy Spirit at that time.
2. Remember Peter's Kingdom message, teaching was a continuation of John the Baptist's, Christ's earthly teaching to the Nation of Israel and His 40 day seminar just before He ascended. Christ had opened their eyes to scriptures and now they had the author empowering, illuminating them (Mt. 3:1-2, 6; Mk. 1:4-5; Mk. 1:14-15).
3. They were faithful to meet, learn, fellowship, and pray together.  
  
\* The apostles doctrine was none which included any of Paul's revelation of the Body truth. Paul wasn't saved yet!
4. Since these believers had separated from the religious leaders of Israel (Pharisees-Scribes-Rabbis), it was vital for them to fellowship together. In their own group was the only place they could truthfully-safely talk about Christ the true Messiah. In doing this, they had many meals together while learning and praying as a means to encourage one another.

B.

Acts 2:43 - And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

1. Turning their back on their nation's rejection of Messiah, they knew what their religious leaders could do to them, their families, business, and synagogues, so they are somewhat afraid.
2. The apostles didn't have Jesus present nor the New Testament. To have credibility, God gave them great power to perform signs and wonders that would confirm their message. (Mk 16:20)

C.

Acts 2:44-45 - And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men as every man had need.

1. What we are about to see here is a shadow of Israel's Millennial Kingdom lifestyle. Here it is a spontaneous response by the people who are filled with the Holy Spirit at that time.
2. This is not as some say "Christian Communism". Communism is godless, atheistic materialism, led by dictators. The state reigns supreme. The state distributes the wealth of the people back to the people as to what the state thinks is fair and equal. This is while the leaders live extravagantly. To maintain this, the state becomes the enforcer and, as history (even today) teaches, multiple millions have been killed who objected to the state's cruelty.

3. This is a fore**taste** of the promised New Covenant where all true Jewish believers at the end of the Tribulation will be filled with and controlled by the Holy Spirit. (Ezekiel 36:26-27)
4. Peter is preaching that Christ would soon return **if** Israel would repent, be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit. Upon receiving the Holy Spirit's endowment of power, they could join the Little Flock's performing of miracles and **Kingdom** living (Isaiah 8:18).

\* The Apostles were actually carrying out "The Sermon on the **Mount**" and the **future** Kingdom program. (Matt. 10:7-10; Luke 12:22, 29, 31, 33)

5. The promise of the kingdom would be that no poor, or anyone, would ever **lack** for food. The Kingdom will be a utopia, a **perfect** environment, as a paradise.

\* These believers in Acts 2 sold most everything, believing it would only be a **short** period of time (7+ years) and then Christ would return to set up the Kingdom. They had just seen 3000 come to Christ-Messiah. Why wouldn't they **believe** in the possibility of the Kingdom happening?

Note: Christendom only brings upon itself **heartache** to its Christian life when it tries to take these things here at Pentecost and join them in for **today!** Today we are not living in the Pentecostal Church. The Body of Christ did not **begin** here in Acts 2.

6. Understand that the program at Pentecost is not for today, and yet it is a program for **that** day and the **future** day. It is fascinating to study Acts 2, and if we leave it where it **fits** in the Bible - in the Kingdom program, it is amazing how it blends together with Israel's prophetic scripture. Then, rather than being a problem to us, Acts 2 can become a blessing to us, and the Bible becomes a **new** book to us - we can truly understand it then!

7. Verses 44-45, to see it wasn't some fluke note: Acts 4:31-35 - [ And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any *of them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. Acts 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. Acts 4:34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, Acts 4:35 And laid *them* down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.]

\*Remember: At this moment, these believing Jews believed they were preparing to go into the Tribulation and lose **every**thing. In the Tribulation, they will not be able to work or buy food for not taking the mark of the Antichrist. They will be on the **run**.

D.

1. What a scene! Each day they fellowshipped, went to the temple, wanted **more** concerning Scripture truth, so they went from house to house.

Acts 2:46-47 - And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Acts 2:47 - Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

2. These verses also show that the 12 had **not** made a break from the Jewish temple but **still** were connected with their Abrahamic covenant and Moses' Law. They, at this time, were still under Law and they were in total agreement with one another. Can you Imagine that?

3. Being filled with the Spirit, they demonstrated a true relationship with God. The word Church is used for the **first** time here in the book of Acts. Church means: *a called out assembly*. It is used to describe a group or multitude or **con**gregation.
  - a. **Context** always determines its explanation. It could be referring to the Church in the wilderness, the Messianic Church or the Body Church.
  - b. We do know that those saved (according to the Kingdom message) were added to the **already**-existing Church (Messianic). When they did this, they were not cut-off from their Covenant.

E.

Can we learn from this? Apply some of their truth to our Church?

1. Verse 41 - They **joined** together.

- a. 3000 were saved in one day. They became a team, being in one accord.
- b. As a church, we need to be in agreement to our **purpose**. We are to exalt our God, encourage believers to Scripture maturity (especially in Pauline truth), and help **equip** believers to share the Gospel of Grace (Acts 20:24).

I Timothy 2:4 - Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

\*Notice, they kept track of their **numbers**.

2. Verse 42 - They **learned** together.

- a. They separated themselves with others of **like** faith.

II Timothy 2:22 - Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- b. II Corinthians 6:14-17 - Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 2Cor. 6:15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 2Cor. 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 2Cor. 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,

\*Together, as a group of believers, we can make each other **account**able to go on for Christ. Together we can pray and study, helping us to move **forward** in our faith. Our **goal** is to try to learn something from God's Word each day. Then, as time goes by, we will know more than we did a few weeks earlier, and on, and on - growing/maturing.

- c. It is vital that we, as believers at GracePoint, learn the meaning of Scriptures **first**, then make **proper** application.

Examples: Hosea 4:6 - [My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.]

Hebrews 5:12-14 - For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. Heb. 5:13 For every one that useth milk *is* unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. Heb. 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

- d. A church (or believer) cannot act upon truth if it is **not** taught and not **learned**. How can we know God's will if we do not know His will for **today**?
- e. Our fellowship together helps to **stimulate** us to godliness, soundness, and faithfulness to the Scriptures. It is bad when believers isolate themselves. We need **each** other.

3. Verse 43 - They **experienced** God together.

- a. As we learn more about God, the more reverence and **awe** we have toward Him. We learn of His presence within us and are humbled by His love for us. We think, "why me?".

I Timothy 1:13-14 - Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. 1Tim. 1:14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

- b. It is when we experience an illuminating truth of Scripture and **sense** the moving of the Spirit within our hearts (in Church or individually), that **others** can also pick up on God working in us and in our midst.  
\*\*Mr. Stropes

4. Verses 44-45 - They **shared** together.

- a. God's heart is to become **our** heart (God so loved...gave). As believers, we become as generous as possible toward other **believers** in **need**.
- b. The definition of love is **giving**.

Romans 5:5 - And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

I John 4:7-9 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. 1John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. 1John 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

- c. Paul always taught that believers were to be generous to each other and help one another, **before** we help **lost** people.

Galatians 6:9-10 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Gal. 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

\*As believers - we should **see**, be **moved**, then **act** to help.

5. Verse 46 - They learned **enjoyment** together.

- a. As they worshipped in God's house, learned and ate together, they became one in **enjoying** the things of God.
- b. As we all look to Him and move toward Him in **know**ledge and experience, the more oneness we have. When that takes place, we enjoy the trip a whole lot more. Our faith is not to be like we just ate some **sour** pickles (too many grace believers are like that).

\*Knowing **Him**, dispensational truth should **over**flow our souls!

I Thessalonians 1:6 - And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

Hebrews 1:9 - Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, *even* thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

6. Verse 47 - They **shined** together.

- a. Their faith could not be **hid**. Others could not help but notice their testimony, because they were seeing something that was **real** and genuine. That attracted them to **Christ**.
- b. If GracePoint would be strong in the Word and in our faith, unified, joyous, and loving of others, no doubt we would be salt-**light** and attract others!

Philippians 2:15 - That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Romans 13:12 - The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

Ephesians 5:8 - For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

II Corinthians 4:4-6 - In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 2Cor. 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 2Cor. 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.