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The Outpouring on Pentecost

he Day of Pentecost is a term that references the outpouring of the gift of holy spirit to the Christian Church. Pentecost means '50th', referring to fifty days after Jesus' crucifixion.

Pentecost has Old Testament meanings as well. Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest. In Old Testament times, several observances took place prior to Pentecost including Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the Feast of Firstfruits. During the fifty days leading up to Pentecost during the time before Pentecost, these difcelebrations ferent took place as if Jesus hadn't died or ascended at all. Let's read the beginning account of the Day of Pentecost which took place just ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven. Pay special attention to the pronouns as they relate to their closest preceding nouns.

(Acts 2:1-4 KJV) And



when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. {2} And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. {3} And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. {4} And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

To understand who a pronoun refers to, you'll have to ignore the improperly placed chapter break and read the last two verses of chapter one.

(Acts 1:24-25 KJV) And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all *men*, show whether of these two thou hast chosen, *{25}* That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

Who is the subject in these two verses? The answer is simple; the apostles are the subject. So, in chapter two, verse one and following, when you read 'they,' you know it refers to 12 apostles, not to about 120 people. Verse one tells us that all 12 men were with one accord in one place. Always pay attention to your pronouns.

God's Word uses itself as a primary reference.

(Acts 2:13-14 KJV)



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Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. {14} But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

Peter stood up with the eleven. Peter and 11 equals 12, not about 120.

(Acts 2:37 KJV) Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Again, Peter is with the rest of the apostles. Never are about 120 apostles mentioned. Peter and the apostles received the gift at the dedicated time on the Day of Pentecost.

Where did the Outpouring take place?

The next question that receives much inquiry is, "where were they?" and is generally answered by the false Christian narrative as the upper room. But this can't be. We already learned that the upper room was the apostles' sleeping quarters.

They were in 'one place.' (Acts 2:1 KJV) And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

They were in 'the house.' (Acts 2:2 KJV) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

If verse two would have said 'a' house, we'd have a place where people lived. But, it says, 'the' house, which means, 'the Temple.' 'The' house is the Temple, a public place for the outpouring.

(Luke 24:51-53 KJV) And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. {52} And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: {53} And were continually in the temple, praising

and blessing God. Amen.

Verse 53 says that they were continually in the Temple. They couldn't be two places—the upper room and the temple—at once. 'Continually' refers to time, when they were supposed to be there. Well, when were they supposed to be there? The answer is, at the hours of prayer. There were five hours of prayer.

Where did the outpouring occur—in the Temple or in the upper room?

The outpouring took place in the Temple. It's almost impossible to believe that so many of us have missed this wonderful truth for so many years. The outpouring of holy spirit was one of God's greatest gifts to man!

At what time did the outpouring take place?

Three verses help us document the time of the outpouring.

The third hour of the day: (Acts 2:15 KJV) For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the

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day.

We learned that they went to Temple to pray at each hour of prayer. They couldn't have been in the upper room; they were praying in the Temple. The outpouring occurred sometime between the 1st and 3rd hours of prayer.

The multitude came together: (Acts 2:6 KJV) Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

Where in the world could even the most wealthy afford a house large enough for a 'multitude?' How large was this multitude? At least large enough to provide about three thousand souls. Read the next verse.

About three thousand souls: (Acts 2:41 KJV) Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

At the close of Peter's sermon, about 3000 souls were saved. If the proportion of

those who get saved compared to those who don't approximates what happens in our time, then we're talking about a huge multitude. We've learned that this place had to be a public place, the Temple. Verse 2:2 says it filled the house, the Temple where they went for the hours of prayer. They were where they were supposed to be.

Was it the Temple or the upper room? The upper room is where the Apostles abode. The Temple is where they prayed. The 3rd hour is early in the day. These hours of prayer are practiced even today by Muslims and orthodox Jews. This link takes you to Bullinger's Companion Bible 165 Appendix where you can view how prayer hours correspond to clock hours.

The 12 Apostles were sitting in the posture of prayer in one place, the Temple. God did not pour out His gift of holy spirit in a little dark room or in a back alley. He did it where all could see and hear. It was the feast of Pentecost and thousands were there. The outpouring took place publically where a multitude could witness. You never need to be embar-

rassed for God. He stands behind everything that He does. He'll work whether you are embarrassed or not. We need to realize just who we have working for us!

Three great truths we have learned.

- 1. The gift of holy spirit was given on the day of Pentecost.
- 2. The 12 Apostles, all Galileans, received the original outpouring.
- 3. The Temple, not some upper room, was where the outpouring took place.

Much love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown