

# PENTECOST





Acts chapter 2 is the inauguration of the Christian Church.

3,000 people were converted in one day. Thanks to the power of the Holy Spirit, the Church “went out conquering and to conquer.” (Revelation 6:2)

**1. Acts 2:1-3.**

🔥 The early rain.

**2. Acts 2:4-13.**

🔥 The gift of tongues.

**3. Acts 2:14-32.**

🔥 The first sermon.

**4. Acts 2:33-36.**

🔥 The exaltation of Jesus.

**5. Acts 2:37-41.**

🔥 The firstfruits.



# THE EARLY RAIN

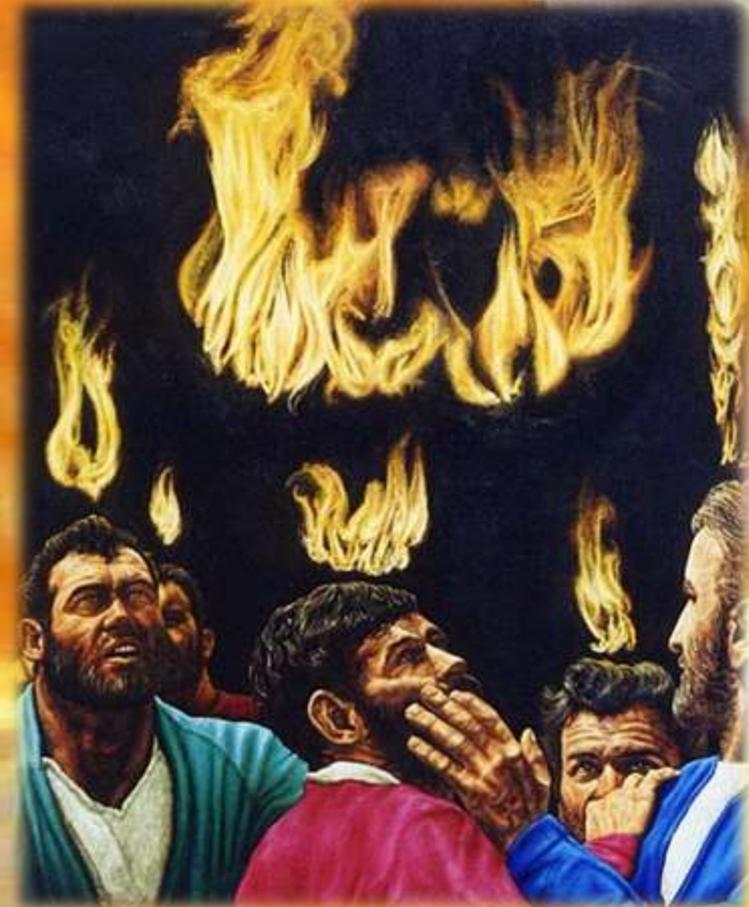
**“And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.” (Acts 2:2-3)**



The disciples were united in repentance, worship and prayer.

They were ready to receive the promise of the Holy Spirit, also known as “the early rain” (Joel 2:23). This happened along with extraordinary phenomena.

The Spirit always had been at work, but it hadn't been poured out in its fullness until that moment. It was the answer to Jesus' first intercession before the Father (John 14:16). This event happened some other times, and it will happen again, before the Second Coming, with the same power (“the latter rain”)



# THE GIFT OF TONGUES

Acts 2:4-13

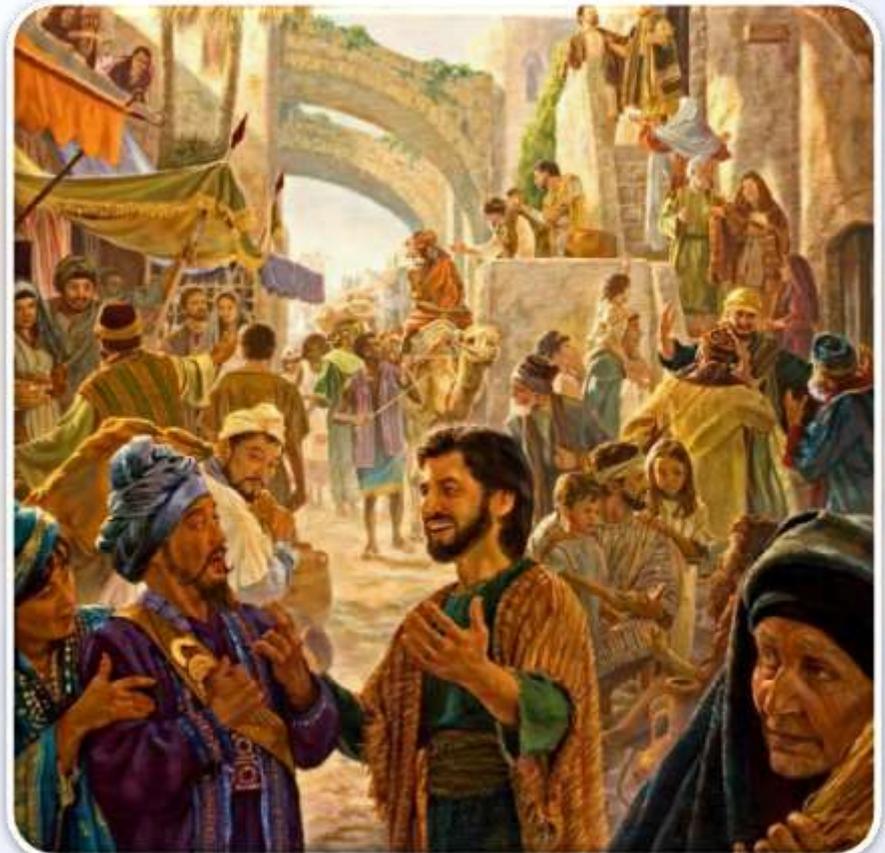
The Holy Spirit gives diverse gifts (1 Corinthians 12:4-11). These gifts are available to enable the Church to preach the Gospel effectively.

The people gathered in Jerusalem were able to understand the Good News the disciples were preaching because they were listening to them in their mother tongue.

That gift was given again at Cornelius' house (Acts 10:46; 11:15-17). There's also a different gift of tongues that nobody can understand and needs to be interpreted (1 Corinthians 14:2, 5, 13)

However, some people tried to mock this gift (Acts 2:13) and to scorn the work of the disciples.

"Utterly amazed, they asked: 'Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?'" (Acts 2:7-8 NIV)



**“The Jews had been scattered to almost every nation, and spoke various languages. They had come long distances to Jerusalem, and had temporarily taken up their abode there, to remain through the religious festivals then in progress and to observe their requirements. When assembled, they were of every known tongue. This diversity of languages was a great obstacle to the labors of God’s servants in publishing the doctrine of Christ to the uttermost parts of the earth. That God should supply the deficiency of the apostles in a miraculous manner was to the people the most perfect confirmation of the testimony of these witnesses for Christ. The Holy Spirit had done for them that which they could not have accomplished for themselves in a lifetime; they could now spread the truth of the gospel abroad, speaking with accuracy the language of those for whom they were laboring. This miraculous gift was the highest evidence they could present to the world that their commission bore the signet of Heaven.”**

E.G.W. (The Story of Redemption, cp. 32, p. 242)

# THE FIRST SERMON

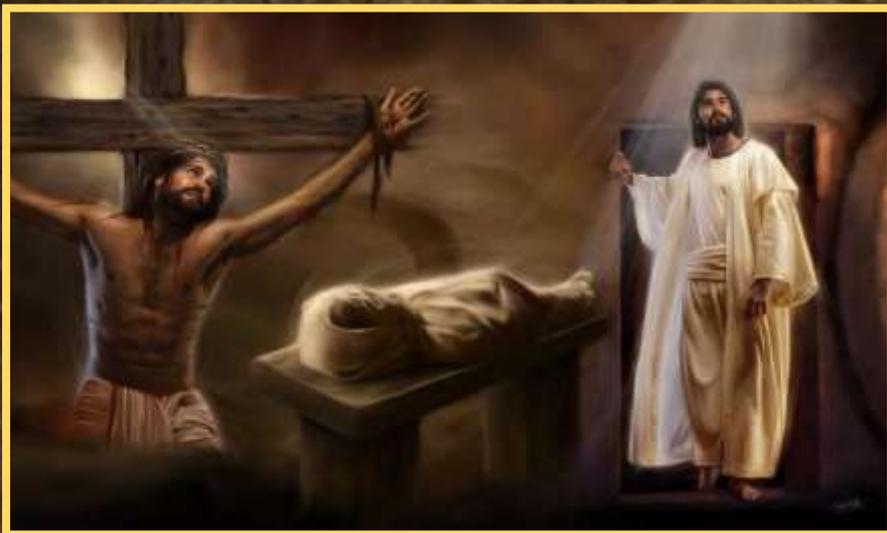
**"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses." (Acts 2:32)**

In order to counter the mockery, Peter began his sermon by using the Word of God to explain what was happening.

He quoted Joel 2:28-32 to explain that the Holy Spirit would be poured down in the last days, just like it was happening right then.

Then he explained the ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus using quotations from the Scriptures to do so (Psalm 16)

This sermon is an example on how to bring people to the Truth. We must introduce Jesus to them and be based on the Bible.



# THE EXALTATION OF JESUS



*"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."* (Acts 2:36)

In the third section of his sermon, Peter explained the exaltation of Jesus in Heaven by once again quoting the Scriptures: Psalm 110:1.

The Father ratified the sacrifice at the cross by placing Jesus at His right hand.

The Holy Spirit was poured out because of His exaltation.

That's how Peter explained that the sacrifice of Jesus at the cross is the only means to salvation.



# THE FIRSTFRUITS

*"Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them."* (Acts 2:41)

The firstfruits of the work of the Holy Spirit through the Church were 3,000 new Christians.

They were convicted of sin by the Holy Spirit, so they asked how they could be saved. Peter introduced two basic requirements:



**Repentance.** A vehement desire to move away from sin. That's a response to the calling of the Holy Spirit.



**Baptism.** A public manifestation of the change that has happened in the heart.



In addition to the forgiveness of our sins, we also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thus we're ready to fulfill the mission the Church has been called to carry out.

**“When the Spirit of God takes possession of the heart, it transforms the life. Sinful thoughts are put away, evil deeds are renounced; love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife. Joy takes the place of sadness, and the countenance reflects the light of heaven. No one sees the hand that lifts the burden, or beholds the light descend from the courts above. The blessing comes when by faith the soul surrenders itself to God. Then that power which no human eye can see creates a new being in the image of God.”**