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### Simon Peter's Sermon on the Day of Pentecost, part 2

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SIMON PETER'S SERMON ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST  
(PART II)

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ACTS  
NUMBER 8  
ACTS 2:14-21

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It is good to always begin your speech with common sense. This is the way Simon Peter began on the day of Pentecost. Many of the people present that early morning at Pentecost accused the disciples of being drunk. Simon Peter said that they were not drunk, seeing that it is just nine o'clock in the morning. In other words, if people were going to get drunk, they wouldn't do it at that time of day.

The loud noise that was heard over Jerusalem that morning caused all the people to throng out into the streets and move toward the upper room. The coming of the Holy Spirit was accompanied by a great noise. (I personally think it was something very much like a sonic boom.)

Pentecost was a warning to the Jews that their day was about over, that they would go under discipline during the Church Age. This was 32 A.D. They would go under that discipline in 70 A.D. (This discipline is outlined in Leviticus 26.) The only way a Jew can get out from under this discipline is to believe in Christ and become a member of the body of Christ.

THE QUOTATION FROM JOEL 2:28-32

Peter quotes from Joel, not to say that that prophesy in Joel is being fulfilled here at Pentecost, but to use it as an illustration to show that Joel has prophesied something that would happen at the 2nd Advent of Christ which was very similar to what was happening here at Pentecost. In other words, these are parallel happenings. What was happening at Pentecost was similar to what would happen at the second coming of Christ, which was what Joel prophesied in Joel 2:28-32.

ACTS 2:15 "For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day." The word translated "suppose" comes from hupo-lambano and means "to be taken up by a notion" or "to make a snap judgment". In other words, Simon Peter says that your impression that these people are drunk is quite erroneous. In other words, you are wrong. The explanation is that this thing that is happening here is parallel to that which Joel prophesied will happen at the second coming of Christ.

ACTS 2:17-21 "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

HERE ARE SOME POINTS ON HOW JOEL 2:28-32 IS USED

Verse 17 is a picture of millennium spirituality. Things will be different then for Christ will be present.

Verse 18 is a picture of what will happen after the 2nd Advent of Christ.

Verse 19 is a picture of what will happen just before the 2nd Advent of Christ.

Verse 20 is a picture of what happens on the very day of the 2nd Advent of Christ. It will be a day of total darkness. It will be the same kind of darkness that surrounded Jesus the last three hours on the cross when he bore our sins. (While sins were being judged, no one saw Christ. God shielded him with total darkness. This means that sin is no longer the issue in salvation, but the person of Christ is the issue.)

On that day of the 2nd Advent, the only light will be Christ, the Light of the World.

REVELATIONS 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." To understand these things we need to get some principles firmly set in our minds.

1. Dispensations are the divine interpretation of history. There are four dispensations, and only four.
  - a. The Age of the Gentiles. Genesis 1-11.  
 We begin with Adam in innocence.  
 We see Adam and Eve in negative and positive volition.  
 Four divine institutions - Volition, Marriage, the Family, and the Nation.  
 Characteristics of this age - one language and one race. No written Bible.  
 Satan attacks the four divine institutions.
  - b. The Age of the Jews. Genesis 12 to Pentecost  
 This consists of - The period of the Patriarchs  
                             From Moses to Christ  
                             The period of the Tribulation  
 Characteristics of this period - Many languages -  
 Many races.  
 Here we see four covenants - Abrahamic - Palestinian -  
 Davidic - and New Covenant
  - c. The Age of the Church
  - d. The Millennium

In this outline, we have come to the day when the church began. The Age of Israel was over, and the Age of the Church was just beginning.

2. Some characteristics of this Dispensation of the Church.
  - a. For the first time believers are in union with Christ. Of the thirty-four things God does for us when we are saved, one is to place us in union with Christ. This was never true before.
  - b. In this age all believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit.
  - c. Every believer is now his own priest.
  - d. This is the first age when the cannon of Scripture was completed. Men no longer get information from God in dreams, trances, visions. God reveals himself entirely through Scripture. There are no private conversations, dialogues, trances. This is the first time in history that the way of life is supernatural. No unbeliever can duplicate the Christian way of life.
  - e. No part-time believers, but everyone who believes in Christ is in full time Christian service.

So here at Pentecost, we are embarking on the Church Age. Pentecost is the first day of the Church Age. All 120 were entered into union with Christ for the first time. For the first time, all were filled and indwelt with the Holy Spirit and were given the gift of speaking in languages other than their own native tongue.

THE REASON FOR TONGUES WAS TWO-FOLD--

- a. To give a warning to the Jews that discipline was coming to them.  
 They had been made custodians of the Gospel and they had failed.
- b. To speak in all those various languages and give the Gospel to the whole world.

All of these things were occurring at one time. Most of the languages of the world were being spoken by Galileans and the spiritual life of man took a giant leap forward.

They are all controlled by the Spirit, and the only thing you can compare it to is what will happen when Christ returns to this earth. All the promises and covenants God has made will be fulfilled at that time. There will be perfect environment on the earth. The Lamb and Lion will lie down together. Swords will be beaten into plowshares. Man will learn war no more. World peace, and a chicken in every pot, and a gold pot at that. No religion on the earth. Religion is the ace trump of the devil. You see human good is religion, and men try to substitute that for Christ. Man can improve his environment but he cannot bring perfection to man with perfect environment. An example of this is when Christ returns and brings perfect environment and rules 1000 years. Then at the end of the Millennium, Satan will be loosed again and some men will rebel against perfect environment. Now to understand what Simon Peter is saying in the sermon, we need to go back to some Bible history.

#### THE TWO ADVENTS OF SATAN

Satan made his first advent in the age of innocence when he approached man and got man to do exactly what he had previously done to God. (As told in Isaiah 14:12-14 when Satan said I will....I will....I will) Satan went on negative signals and he wanted man to do just what he had done. Romans 5:12 describes this.

This led to the First Advent of Christ to supply salvation to fallen man. Then when Christ ascended, the First Advent of the Holy Spirit took place. So Christ is in heaven during the Church Age, and man needs someone to sustain him while Christ is in heaven, and God gives the Holy Spirit to every believer for this purpose. The Holy Spirit indwells every believer and under certain conditions fills the believer. At the end of the Church Age, we will have the 2nd Advent of Jesus Christ and this is for the purpose of restoring the Jews, saving them, and restoring perfect environment on the earth. So this leads to the 2nd Advent of the Holy Spirit, and all are to be filled with the Holy Spirit. At the end of the 1000 year reign of Christ, Satan makes his 2nd Advent and leads a revolt against Christ. Satan came the first time and found perfect environment in the Garden of Eden and led a revolt against it. Satan will come the second time and find perfect environment and lead a revolt against it.

Actually our study today resolves itself into the First and Second Advent of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost is the First Advent of the Holy Spirit  
The Joel passage ushers in the Second Advent of the Holy Spirit.

All believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. But each believer has an old sin nature. If he is controlled by this old sin nature, then the work he does is not acceptable to God. But if the believer is controlled by the Spirit, then his work is acceptable to God. The only way to please God is to keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit and being controlled by the Holy Spirit are two entirely different things. By sin we grieve or quench the Holy Spirit within.

At the cross you are saved from the guilt of sin.  
As the Spirit controls your life, you are saved from the power of sin.  
At the cross Christ took all the sins of all the men of the world and judged them.  
Now under the law of double jeopardy, sins can't be judged twice. When you confess your sins, it simply means you look up there on the cross and see the sins Christ paid for, and you identify yourself with those sins--but those are sins Christ has already forgiven.

THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE FILLING OF THE SPIRIT IS TO PRODUCE THE CHARACTER OF CHRIST.

GALATIANS 4:19 "My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you"

GALATIANS 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." These characteristics were complete in Christ. Now during his absence, while he is not on earth in person, the Holy Spirit fills us so we will produce those same characteristics he had while here. THE FILLING OF THE SPIRIT IS NEVER CHARACTERIZED BY ECSTATICS AND EMOTION. Ecstatics and emotion is not the criterion of spirituality. You can't be spiritual that way. Let us never appeal to people to become Christians on the basis of ecstatics or emotion. How you feel emotionally has absolutely nothing to do with your being a Christian. Now in the Millennium, when Christ is present, the filling of the spirit will be characterized by ecstatics and emotion--but it will be safe then. Christ will be present. Satan will be chained, Christ will be present, the Spirit will fill every believer and there will be no danger from emotion or ecstatics. (This is just the opposite of the teaching of the holiness crowd we have on the earth today.)

Many people believe today if they can just be spiritual enough, if they can pray and cry enough, if they can just get "that certain feeling", they will be saved and they will have the Holy Spirit. But this is not so. Therefore, Simon Peter begins his message by saying that what is happening here at Pentecost has a parallel in the Joel passage--but they are not the same events. It is an illustration. It is a parallel. This that is happening at Pentecost is an illustration of that which will happen in the second coming of Christ.