

HISTORY OF PENTECOST

LESSON ONE

THE SCRIPTURAL RECORD

A. IS THE PENTECOSTAL EXPERIENCE SCRIPTURAL?

In this unit we are studying the Pentecostal revival of this twentieth century. The natural and logical place to begin with is the Word of God. Is the Pentecostal experience Scriptural? Is this great Pentecostal revival according to the Word of God?

It is with much satisfaction that both of these questions can be answered with an emphatic affirmative.

There are two elements present in any true God-given revival: Spirit and Truth. This twentieth century Pentecostal revival came about because men desired the fullness of the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and they earnestly sought for an experience, which was built wholly upon Bible Truth. The Scriptures given in this lesson prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Pentecostal experience is Scriptural.

B. THE PENTECOSTAL EXPERIENCE PROPHESED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Scriptural References:

"For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people" (Isaiah 28:11).

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit" (Joel 2:28-29).

Here in the Old Testament prophecy we have two Scriptures that clearly describe the Pentecostal phenomenon.

In the prophecy of Isaiah 28:11 we read that "He" will speak with stammering lips and another tongue. Who is this one referred to as "He?" The Apostle Paul gives us the answer in his epistle to the Corinthian church. *"In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, SAITH THE LORD" (I Corinthians 14:21).* This Scripture shows us that it is the Lord Himself who is using this means of speaking with other tongues and other lips. This Scripture also states the value of stammering lips and other tongue by means of which the Lord declared He would speak. *"This is the rest...this is the refreshing" (verse 12).* It is the rest that the Lord promised to give to the weary and heavy laden.

In the second chapter of Joel there is the prophecy of a great outpouring of the Spirit of God. When the one hundred and twenty on the day of Pentecost were filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance, Peter declared, *"This is that which is spoken by the prophet Joel."*

C. JOHN THE BAPTIST PROPHESED REGARDING THE PENTECOSTAL EXPERIENCE:

Scriptural Reference:

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire" (Matthew 3:11).

Although this statement spoken by John the Baptist did not mention speaking in tongues, it does speak of a baptism of fire, a supernatural phenomenon that was manifested on the Day of Pentecost in the Upper Room. *"And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them" (Acts 2:3).*

D. JESUS SAID THAT TONGUES WOULD BE A SIGN THAT FOLLOWED BELIEVERS:

Scriptural Reference:

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues" (Mark 16:17).

Here Jesus declared that speaking in tongues is a sign, which will follow believers. Some have challenged the inspiration of this passage of Scripture but early in this century there were discovered ancient Greek manuscripts which have proven without question the inspiration of the sixteenth chapter of Mark.

E. IN THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH THEY ALL SPOKE IN TONGUES:

In the record given in the historical book of Acts, we read where those who were baptized with the Holy Ghost spoke in tongues. We have the following instances recorded.

1. JEWS ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST:

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4).

Let us note the word "all." They were ALL filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues.

2. GENTILES IN CAESAREA:

"For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God" (Acts 10:46).

In the record given here we read that the Jews, who accompanied Peter to Caesarea were astonished that the gift of the Holy Ghost was also poured out upon the Gentiles. How did they know that the Holy Ghost had been poured out on the Gentiles? Here is given the answer: *"For they heard them speak in tongues and magnify God."* The speaking in tongues was conclusive that the Holy Ghost had been poured out on the Gentiles.

3. THE EPHESIANS:

"And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied" (Acts 19:6).

The Apostle Paul asked the Ephesian disciples, *"Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?"* When they replied that they had not heard about the Holy Ghost, Paul gave them instructions, and they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Paul then laid his hands upon them and they spake with tongues and prophesied. This was all the evidence that the Apostle needed that the Holy Ghost had come to these Ephesians.

4. THE APOSTLE PAUL:

"...That thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost" (Acts 9:17).

"I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all" (I Corinthians 14:18).

Paul himself testifies that he spoke in tongues. This certainly proves the fact that tongues was evidence that Paul had been filled with the Holy Ghost.

F. THE APOSTLE PAUL TAUGHT CONCERNING SPEAKING WITH TONGUES:

The Apostle Paul gave the Corinthian church some very clear instructions concerning the phenomenon of speaking in tongues. Here are a few things taught by the Apostle Paul:

1. I Corinthians 12:28 - "Diversities of tongues" is one of the things set in the church. If we were to remove this, then we would be obliged to also eliminate teachers, miracles, governments, etc.
2. I Corinthians 12:10 - "Divers kinds of tongues" is one of the nine gifts of the Spirit.
3. I Corinthians 14:5, 37 - The Apostle speaking at the commandment of the Lord wrote, "I would that ye all spake with tongues."
4. I Corinthians 14:39 - The Apostle gave the instruction, "Forbid not to speak with tongues."

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SELF HELP TEST

- A. Give TWO Scriptures in the Old Testament which prophesy of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.
- B. Give ONE Scripture in the Gospels which prophesy of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.
- C. State FOUR examples in the New Testament when men received the Pentecostal experience with the evidence of speaking in tongues.
- D. Who is "HE" in Isaiah 28:11? Prove your answer by referring to Scripture.

If you wish to obtain your AIS Bible and Theology Certificate or work toward your B.A. Degree from Indiana Bible College, complete this Self-Help Test as completely as possible and return it to: AIS, P.O. Box 47917 Indianapolis, IN 46247 or email it to: ais@apostolic.edu or fax it to: (317) 781-7700.