

“tongues of fire”

Acts Chapter 2

“tongues of fire”

Acts 2:1-4

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. **2** Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

“tongues of fire”

“Breath or wind is a symbol of the Spirit of God. The coming of the Spirit is marked by audible (wind) and visible (fire) signs.”

NIV 2011 Study Bible

“tongues of fire”

“In contrast to the baptism with the Spirit, which is the one time act by which God places believers in His body, the filling is a repeated reality of Spirit-controlled behavior that God commands believers to maintain...The fullness of the Spirit affects all areas of life...”

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“tongues of fire”

Acts 2:5-11

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. **6** When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. **7** Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?”

8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome **11** (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs —we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”

“tongues of fire”

“Not a miracle of hearing but of speaking. The believers were declaring God’s wonders in the native language of the various visiting Jews.”

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Acts 2:12-13

12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” **13** Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

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Acts 2:14-21

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. **15** These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! **16** No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 “ ‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. **18** Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

19 I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. **20** The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. **21** And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

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Romans 10:9-13

9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

11 As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” **12** For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile — the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, **13** for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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Acts 2:22-28

22 “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.

23 This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. **24** But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

25 David said about him: “ ‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope,

27 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. **28** You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

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Psalm 16:9-10

9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, **10** because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

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Acts 2:29-36

29 “Men of Israel, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. **30** But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.

31 Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **32** God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. **33** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

34 For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “ ‘The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand **35** until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

’ **36** “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

“tongues of fire”

Psalm 110:1

**1 The LORD says to my lord:
“Sit at my right hand until I
make your enemies a
footstool for your feet.”**

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Acts 2:37-41

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” **38** Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call.” **40** With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” **41** Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

“tongues of fire”

“Peter directly tells them to repent and to express their commitment to Christ through baptism. He assures them that Christ would forgive them with the promised Holy Spirit. The response to this Spirit-inspired message is astonishing.”

Three thousand Jews from all over the Mediterranean world received Christ. They are immediately baptized and become the first converts in the beginning of a movement that would spread rapidly throughout the extent of the Roman Empire and ultimately all over the world.”

**Zondervan Illustrated Bible Background
Commentary**

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Acts 2:42-47

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **43** Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. **44** All the believers were together and had everything in common.

45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. **46** Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, **47** praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

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- **“the apostles’ teaching”**
- **“fellowship”**
- **“the breaking of bread”: The Lord’s Supper**
- **“prayer”**

Application

We are empowered by the same Holy Spirit given on the day of Pentecost to the apostles.

Final Thoughts

“Being filled with the Spirit is living in the conscious presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, letting His mind, through his Word, dominate everything that is thought and done.”

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Final Thoughts

Romans 8:9-11

9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

10 But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. **11** And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Final Thoughts

Galatians 5:22-26

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.