

Outline: "The Command of the Holy Spirit"

Acts 2:1–13 | Pentecost Sunday – June 8, 2025

Introduction:

Pentecost as the "start signal" of mission

- Pentecost = The day the Holy Spirit was given to the church
- Just as a good start in a race can change the outcome (0.5 seconds = 3m difference),
- The church's mission began with the "command" of the Holy Spirit
- Today we'll consider the event of Pentecost in terms of "when," "how," and "what happened"

1) When → On the Day of Pentecost, when they were all together (v.1)

- "Pentecost (Shavuot)" = Harvest festival 50 days after Passover (Leviticus 23:15–16)
- For Jews, it also commemorated the giving of the Law (cf. Exodus 19:1)
- Old Covenant: Law written on stone → Pentecost: Law written on hearts (2 Corinthians 3:3)
- Pentecost marks the start of a spiritual harvest and the giving of the Spirit-written law

2) How → They were filled with the Holy Spirit (vv.2–4)

- "House" likely refers to the Temple, considering the crowd and the 3,000 baptisms
- "Sound like a violent wind" → Hebrew *Ruach* / Greek *Pnoē* = Spirit, breath, life
- OT examples: Genesis 2:7; Ezekiel 37:9 – Breath brings life
- "Tongues like fire" = God's presence and power; "tongues (glōssa)" = speech, language
- The Spirit gave life and enabled them to speak in foreign tongues

3) What → They spoke as the Spirit enabled them (vv.4,11)

- They proclaimed “the mighty deeds of God” (v.11)
- Role of the Holy Spirit:
 - Teaches about God
 - Reminds of Christ’s words (John 14:26)
 - Enables cross-cultural and cross-linguistic witness
- People from many regions (v.9–11: Parthia to Arabia to Rome) had gathered in Jerusalem
- The Spirit empowered them to overcome language and cultural barriers for the Gospel

Conclusion: The “command” of the Holy Spirit still echoes today

- Pentecost is not just a day of strange events, but the launch of the Great Commission
- The Holy Spirit is:
 - The Giver of life
 - The Presence of the Lord
 - The Giver of words for testimony
 - The One who empowers us to overcome obstacles in mission
- Let us pray boldly:
“Holy Spirit, fill me and give me the words I should speak.”

Luke 11:9,13

- The Lord gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask

★ Time for Response

- What kind of ministry is the Lord leading you into?
- What encouragement has the Spirit given you?
- What are the walls you face in sharing the Gospel?