



# Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

## The Festival of Pentecost: Then and Now May 18-20, 2024

*(Acts 2:1-21) 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. {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 them speaking in his own language. {7} Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? {8} Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own 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!" {12} Amazed and perplexed, v. 16-21 In what way was Joel's prophecy fulfilled on Pentecost Day and beyond? they asked one another, "What does this mean?" {13} Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine." {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 men 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 heaven 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.'*

1. How long after Jesus' resurrection did the events of Pentecost occur?

2. Why was it fitting that the Holy Spirit came with wind and fire?
3. Was this gift of the Holy Spirit different than the gift of the Holy Spirit received by every believer at his/her conversion? Why/why not?
4. Were the tongues in which the disciples spoke actual known languages? How do you know?
5. Why was Pentecost a good time for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the worldwide spread of the gospel?
6. Pentecost has been referred to as "the reverse of Babel." In what way is this true?
7. In what way was Joel's prophecy fulfilled on Pentecost Day and beyond?
8. Where in Joel's words do you find sobering warning for sinners (the law)? Where in Joel's words do you find certain comfort for sinners (the gospel)?