

What is This?

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Acts 2:5-21.

B. Setting: Pentecost.

II. The tongues were intended for a certain group of people.

A. The multitude came together at the sound of a rushing wind.

B. The sound referred to the blast of wind that brought in all people from the entire city.

C. The people heard the disciples speak languages they would have been otherwise unable to speak.

D. The people gathered from the countries could hear them speaking in their native languages from the east, north, west and south.

E. They were speaking in different languages but speaking the same thing—they were praising God.

III. The reaction of the people.

A. The people were amazed (they blew their minds), they wondered (they sought for a solution), and they were perplexed (they had various thoughts running through their minds).

B. Some inquired as to what it meant representing those with open minds.

C. Others claimed that the group of disciples was drunk.

IV. Peter's message.

A. It was a simple explanation of reality.

B. An explanation concerning the event.

1. The disciples were not drunk on wine but the Holy Spirit. (Joel 2)

2. Paul says to be filled with the Holy Spirit instead of being drunk on wine.

3. The reason they could not be drunk is that it was early in the morning.

4. The key to Joel's prophesy is that the Spirit would be poured out on all flesh.

5. The emphasis of this section was that the good news would now go out to the Gentiles.

6. Joel's prophesy has yet to be fulfilled in a greater way when Jesus returns—prophesy will be given instead of tongues and the moon will be blot out. (Matthew 24)

7. The Spirit is given from the day of Pentecost on.

8. The marks of the biblical gift of tongues.

- a. The gift of tongues is known languages.
- b. They are addressed to God as praise.
- c. The gift of tongues is intended to be manifest privately. (I Corinthians 12)
- d. The biblical gift is a sign to unbelievers, not believers.

9. The modern day expression of tongues does not meet the qualifications for biblical tongues. It often results in spiritual derailment and divisiveness.

C. A declaration concerning Jesus.

D. An application concerning the crowds.

Application questions:

1. In what ways was the prophesy of Joel 2 fulfilled in Acts 2? In what ways was it not?

2. How would you respond to someone who says that tongues are a modern day miracle that needs to be exercised?

3. What is the significance of Pentecost for the believer today? How was this event important for fulfilling the historical mission of the church?
