



## Repentance Tabernacle Church

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### The Sights and Sounds of Pentecost!

**Focus Verses:** Acts 2:1-4 - <sup>1</sup>And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

**Lesson Text:** Acts 2:1-11, 38-39

**Truth About God:** God offers salvation to all who obey.

**Truth For My Life:** I will obey God's plan of salvation.

Pentecost is a promise for the whole human race, which comprises a diversity of languages, customs, colors, and sounds. It disempowers those who might wish to control God's kingdom, and it empowers the faithful to live as witnesses of what God is doing in the world.

The Spirit poured out at Pentecost marks the dawning of a new day of collective Spirit-empowerment in which "*as many as the Lord our God shall call*" (Acts 2:39) receive power to come together, organize, and testify of the resurrected Christ. Moses descended with a Law etched in stone, but at Pentecost, Jesus returned in the Spirit and wrote a new law "*in their hearts*" (Jeremiah 31:33). Approximately 120 of Jesus' followers gathered "*with one accord in one place*" (Acts 2:1). Many of them had made the long trek with Jesus to Jerusalem and witnessed His death, resurrection, and ascension. At Pentecost, there was an appearance of flames shaped like tongues and the sound of a violent wind.

The New Testament also uses fire and wind in relation to baptism in the Holy Spirit. Luke cited John the Baptist's prophecy that the Messiah would baptize "*with the Holy Ghost and with fire*" (Luke 3:16). Also, Hebrews 12:29 teaches us our God is a consuming fire, it makes sense that the sights and sounds of Pentecost included fire and the sound of a rushing mighty wind (Acts 2:2).

The Spirit descended on ***all*** the people who had gathered together in "*one accord in one place*" (Acts 2:1). "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). **God does not discriminate based on position, age, experience, or gender.** The gift of the Holy Ghost is for all and God has an outpouring ready for churches today that recognize the same.

Jesus promised the gift of the Spirit would empower us as witnesses (Acts 1:8). A Spirit-filled life means much more than speaking in tongues and enjoying personal communion with God. In addition to those blessings, living a Spirit-filled life means living as witnesses of God's kingdom in all we say and do. It means showing the world what God's kingdom looks like by how we live.

Peter's Spirit-empowered sermon (Acts 2:14-36) convinced the hearers of their sin. God had come in flesh as their Messiah and they crucified Him. The power they felt, saw, and heard was the very Spirit of the resurrected Christ. This caused them to ask, "*Men and brethren, what shall we do?*" (Acts 2:37). "*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost*" (Acts 2:38). Water baptism brings us into God's covenant community through the invocation of the name of Jesus. Spirit baptism seals us as His people and empowers us for a life on mission (Ephesians 1:13-14; Acts 1:8).

Repentance, baptism in Jesus' name, and Holy Spirit infilling with the initial sign of tongues bring us into the right relationship with Jesus Christ. Paul beautifully wrote: "*If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*" (2 Corinthians 5:17). God forgives our past and gives us a new family and a new future. **What amazing grace!**

In song and dance, cadence and tradition, people all over the world see the wonders of God and hear of His mighty works in their native tongues while being united across all borders by the supernatural power of Pentecost.