



# 奧克蘭華人長老會 AUCKLAND CHINESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Sermon Summary - 21 February 2021

Promises Fulfilled - John 14: 15-17, 25-27, Acts 2: 1-13 (John Probert)

*(Missing words at the end)*

### What is Pentecost?

Pentecost is the Greek word 'Pentekoste' and the Hebrew, 'Shavout', meaning fifty. It is a \_\_\_(1)\_\_\_ festival" which Jews celebrate \_\_ (2)\_\_\_ days after the first grain is harvested.

In 1:4-8, the Risen Lord instructs His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father, the \_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Just as the ministry of Jesus depended on the \_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ descending on Him at His baptism, so the ministry of the disciples depended on them receiving the \_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and relying on His \_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

Pentecost signals the dawning of the age of the Holy Spirit, where God equips His church with power so that He will be glorified among the \_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The purpose is \_\_\_ (6)\_\_\_\_, and the goal of \_\_\_ (6)\_\_\_\_ is that "the earth will be filled with the \_\_\_ (7)\_\_\_\_\_ of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14).

### Waiting

After Jesus' ascension, the disciples waited \_\_ (8)\_\_\_ more days for the gift that Jesus had promised. What \_\_ (8)\_\_\_ days these must have been! Days of anticipation, of uncertainty, of growing belief that God would do something special that would provide for them direction and empowerment moving forward with the truth they had embraced in respect to Jesus' death and resurrection.

### Break Through

Then on the tenth day, the feast of Pentecost/Harvest Festival, the Sovereign God breaks through dramatically and an \_\_\_ (9)\_\_\_\_\_ of each one with The Holy Spirit takes place. Then the second miracle takes place. Suddenly people who had gathered in Jerusalem from a number of regions, who spoke their own \_\_\_ (10)\_\_\_\_\_, "heard the wonders of God in our own tongues." (2:11). Here is the ultimate fulfilment of Jesus' ministry: the Gospel message of Salvation through faith would be \_\_\_ (11)\_\_\_\_\_ and all-encompassing (Revelation 5:9)!

### Application

So let us individually and collectively re-commit ourselves to the daily \_\_\_ (12)\_\_\_ and \_\_\_ (13)\_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit:

1. Is my focus on God's glory in all things? How does this impact upon our daily lives and interactions with others?
2. Is my passion that the Church would grow worldwide? If my heart is not on world missions, it is not in tune with God's heart.
3. Is my daily life consciously dependent on the Holy Spirit?

4. Is my daily desire to bear witness to Christ to those who do not know the wonder of the Salvation offered by God's grace?

*They shall come from the east,  
they shall come from the west,  
And sit down in the Kingdom of God;  
Both the rich and the poor,  
the despised, the distressed,  
They'll sit down in the Kingdom of God.  
And none will ask what they have been  
Provided that their robes are clean;  
They shall come from the east,  
they shall come from the west,  
And sit down in the Kingdom of God.*

- John Gowans

## Questions

1. What parts of the world have you travelled where you wish you knew the native tongue?
2. Read Acts 2:1-3. Why did God wait until Pentecost (a celebrative harvest festival, Deuteronomy 16:9-10) to give the Holy Spirit?
3. Read 4-13. What did the Spirit enable the believers to do? What effect did it have? Speaking in tongues has been a point of controversy and debate between different groups of Christians. Is it something we should expect today? Why / why not?
4. How far have these pilgrims come? What attracts them to the disciples? How does being filled with the Spirit relate to bearing witness to Jesus?
5. When have you experienced an empowering from God to witness about Christ? What will you do this week to be better prepared for God's use?

*Questions from the Serendipity Bible for Study Groups and the Explore app: "Acts", by Graham Beynon*

## Missing words

harvest (2) 50 (3) Holy Spirit (4) power (5) nations (6) mission (7) knowledge (8) ten (9) anointing (10) languages (11) universal (12) leading (13) guiding