Scripture: Acts 1 v 4, 8, 14. 2 v 1

Chapter 1 v 4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me."

Verse 8 *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Verse 14 "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren."

Chapter 2 v 1 "And when the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."

Subject: The Day of Pentecost

Today is a special day in the calendar of the church, we celebrate it as the day when the advent of the Holy Spirit happened, which resulted in the 120 disciples of Jesus receiving the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.

It was a unique experience the disciples had which impacted many people who were in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost. Most believe that this day marked the birth of the Church. The Church that Jesus said he was building.

As we look at these verses from Acts 1 & 2 we will see the value of following the Acts 1 & 2 pattern for church growth and development. There are essential prerequisites to a move of God in revival power and the verses we are going to look into help us in our preparation in readiness for a move of God.

There are some points for us to consider as we proceed that I believe help us. Let's observe.

The One Promise verse 8. *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Jesus made other promises during his ministry on earth, He promised to build his church, he also, promised to come back again. This promise in Acts 1 v 8 is the last promise Jesus made before ascending to heaven. It's this one promise that the Holy Spirit would be poured out on the disciples that I want to speak about. Jesus had told them to wait in Jerusalem until they receive the promised Holy Spirit. The key to receiving the Holy Spirit was obedience. The condition imposed by Jesus was that they were to wait.

Some of the disciples were not prepared to wait, when Jesus said to wait in Jerusalem, it is believed he was speaking to about 500, 1Corinthians 15 v 6 says, *"After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep."*

On the Day of Pentecost 380 missed out, they were not in the upper room when the Holy Spirit came.

When Jesus told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem, they had no idea how long they would have to be there until the Holy Spirit came. To wait a few hours is hard, to wait, day after day must have seemed endless. But wait they did because it was important if they were to be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

The 120 had no idea what would happen when the Holy Spirit descended, they knew the Holy Spirit was coming, so they just had to wait and wait they did. The Holy Spirit came in an unexpected way as they waited. It was day ten, which was 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus. 50 Days after the Passover was followed by the Feast of Pentecost.

Pentecost coincides with the Jewish festival of **Shavuot**, which celebrates the giving of the Law (Torah) at Mount Sinai. For Christians, Pentecost is seen as the giving of the Holy Spirit, paralleling the giving of the Law.

Jesus had briefed disciples about the Holy Spirit who he called the comforter, he said when he has come, he will guide you into all truth, for he will take what he knows about me and reveal it unto you.

This promise Jesus made to the disciples concerned the advent of the Holy Spirit, and what the Holy Spirit would make them. He would make them witnesses, or the evidence that he is alive. The next thing to notice is.

2. The One People. Verse 14 *"These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren*." Chapter 2 v 1 *"They were all in one accord in one place."*

How vital it is for Gods people to be in one accord, in full unity. When Jesus was accused by the Pharisees of casting out a demon by Beelzebub the prince of demons, Jesus says something very profound he says Mark 3 v 23 to 25 *"And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan? And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand."*

These words of Jesus express an undeniable truth. Any home, group of people political party or any organization or church that is not unified will not last, clear divisions amongst people will cause a collapse and eventually their cessation.

We need therefore to take note of the words of Jesus and make sure we all sing from the same hymn sheet, making sure that we believe the same truths, that we love each other, and kill off any divisions which spoil, and are the ruination of any church.

In my many years in ministry, I have witnessed divisions that have resulted in the collapse of a church and its closure, I have seen what Jesus says is true.

On the day of Pentecost, the 120 disciples of Jesus were all in one accord; to spend nine days together in an upper room waiting for the fulfilment of the promise Jesus made, they must have waited in unity.

The Apostle Paul also emphasizes the importance of unity, writing to the Ephesians in chapter 4 v 3 he says, *"Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*" The ESV translation says, "Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Each of us has the responsibility of making sure we walk together, work together, worship together and talk together. Then we have next.

3. The One Power. Acts 2 v 2 to 4. *"And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."*

The Holy Spirit empowered the 120 to speak in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. This was the fulfilment of the promise Jesus made when he said you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you.

The power of the Holy Spirit gives the disciples of Jesus the ability to live holy lives, to be the evidence in the world that Jesus is alive. The Holy Spirit opens the eyes of our understanding and unveils to us the beauty and glory of the Lord Jesus. We have a new appreciation of who Jesus is and gives us a passion for him"

On the day of Pentecost there are several things we notice; we see there is a **manifestation of the Spirits Power.** *There was a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, which filled all the house where the disciples were sitting.*

Then there was a demonstration of the Spirits Power. *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.*
And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

There was an audible expression of the Spirits Power, they spoke in languages understood by people of some 15 different nations. The people displayed something supernatural, they spoke in a language they had never learnt.

Further we have an **explanation of the Spirits Power**. "*But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy."*

The disciples that were filled with Holy Spirit appeared to be drunk, but they weren't, everyone had their faculties and in control of what was taking place. They always retained their sanity.
Peters' explanation is very clear, this was God pouring out the Holy Spirit, it was the advent of the Holy Spirit.

Time has gone so we don't have time to consider the final Points regarding the Day Pentecost, from Acts 1 & 2 so I will just mention them. We have.
The exposition. Peters' sermon.
The multiplication. *Three thousand believed and added to the church.*
The consolidation. *They continued in the Apostles doctrine, in fellowship, in breaking of bread, and in prayer.* They continued daily in one accord in the temple,