

THE PROMISE of the FATHER: the Spirit of God "Poured-Out"(Acts 2)

vv.2-3 - They first heard the sound of a "mighty wind" (R&R, p.265), "violent wind" (EBC, p.270) that filled the entire house! Then they saw tongues (*glossa*) as of fire distributed and resting on them **ALL!** Thus confirming, unmistakably, that ALL the believers received this work of God's Holy Spirit! This mighty work of God came suddenly and it came from heaven!

v.4 - Verse 4 indicates that "**all**" (s. Gk. *pantes*) present were filled (see v.1 above); and the Spirit directed the utterances of tongues (*glossa*). Although all may have spoken at one time or another as directed by the Spirit, the apostolic band would have been given the official and leading role (cf. John 15:26,27) as Jesus' chosen representatives and mouthpiece.

"Filled" - "To be filled"; this "filling" of the Spirit in Acts 2 was synonymous with the Spirit's filling work in the OT. In Luke 1:42 and 67; both Mary and Zechariah are "filled with the Spirit," one to praise God, the other to prophesy. In Luke 24:49 Jesus refers to this coming work of the Spirit as being "*clothed with power*" by the Spirit. Similarly, the Gideon in the OT was "*clothed*" with power by the Spirit (Jud. 6:34). Spirit filling was for divine enablement. It was temporary and specific empowerment (could even be removed: cf Saul and Psalm 51); seldom durative or permanent in nature. Consequently, it is distinct from the NT permanent indwelling of the Spirit (i.e., everlasting, John 14:16). Both are in operation in Acts.

Cf. "**Spirit Baptism**," "Pouring out of the Spirit," "the Promise of the Father":

1:4-5: Father Promised → John the Baptist Announced → Jesus Repeated → Acts 2
(Isa. 32:15;44:3; Joel 2:28f; etc.) (Matt. 3:11; Lk. 3:16) (John 14:15-29; 10:44f) 15:26-16:11)

Note all the different ways Scripture refers to this event: Luke 24:49 ("Clothed," KJV endued); Acts 1:8 "the Spirit has come upon (epi) you"; 10:44-47; 11:15-17.

SO, the **Promise of the Father** regarding the coming of the Spirit was a "complex event." It consisted of: **1)** the baptism of the Spirit (a one time - forever - event), **2)** the filling of the Spirit (a temporary, recurring event, as the Spirit willed), **3)** a permanent indwelling - forever - work of the Spirit (a work that included the "leading of the Spirit," "sanctifying work of the Spirit," "illuminating work of the Spirit," "the gifting work of the Spirit.")

Who spoke in these many foreign languages? Galileans. And most likely, only Peter and the eleven. Why? Because the apostles were Jesus' chosen followers to represent Him after His departure. In order to officially and broadly establish their authority as Jesus Christ's apostles ("sent ones"), it is more likely their speech was miraculously empowered by the Spirit to make this initial and official declaration of the Gospel. (see John 14:15-29; 15:26-16:11)