



Today marks the birth of the Christian Church, known as Pentecost Sunday.

Jesus promised He would send the Holy Spirit and when the Spirit came, that event ushered in the Church Age. Last time we were together, Jesus told the disciples to meet Him in Galilee.

When they met Jesus at Galilee, on the Mount of Olives, (Mount Olivet) He prepared for His final ascension into heaven.

Acts 1:6 *So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"*

v.7 *He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;*

v.8 *but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*

V.9 *And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.*

So,

When the Spirit came, the Church was born.

I want to examine 5 aspects of the church

It was born on the Day of Pentecost in the first century.

1. When
2. Where
3. How
4. Who
5. Result

1. When: after the Ascension

Acts 1:12 *Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. (50 days after Jesus rose from the dead)*

2. Where: the upper room of a house

v.13 *When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son*

of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. (11 disciples)

V.14 *These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.*

v.15 *At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons was there together),*

That's when they chose Mathias to be the Apostle to replace Judas Iscariot.

Acts 1:26 And they drew lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

2. How: The Holy Spirit arrived

Acts 2:1 *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*

v.2 *And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

v.3 *And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.*

There appeared what looked like flames of fire in the shape of tongues, signifying the gift of tongues where they would go down into the city and preach the gospel in the languages of the visiting Jews.

4. Who: the believers

v.4 *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

"other tongues" heteros glossalia -different languages

5. Result: spread the Gospel

Acts 2:5 *Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.*

v.6 *And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language.*

This great event has now introduced a new age, the Church Age. The ways of the O.T. have been fulfilled with the coming of Christ and the N.T. Christians are now living in the dispensation of Grace.

Believers are no longer under the Law because Christ fulfilled the Law.

Mt 5:17 Jesus said of Himself:

"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

Ie.

To fill fully!

Benefits of Church Age Believers:

- I Cor 3:16 *Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?*

- Heb 4:16 Access to God

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- I Cor 12:7 Receive at least 1 spiritual gift

But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

- I Cor 12:27 Body of Christ

Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

- Col 1:26 Indwelling Christ

that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, v.27 to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

- Rev 19:6 The Bride of Christ

Then I heard *something* like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.

V.7 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."

v.8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

These are just a few of the benefits of living in the Church Age Dispensation. There are many more and that is why it is vital to continue to be faithful and grow to learn of the wonderful things God has done for us.