

Series: ETERNAL!

Text: Acts 2:1-13; 1st Corinthians 12:12; John 14:16ff.

Title: “They’re Drunk!”

Introduction: WELCOME, BMZ! Glad you’re with us TODAY as we CONTINUE “ETERNAL”!

Remember ... WE are LIKE PETER and the Disciples GROWING in their FAITH ... At FIRST The RESURRECTION sounds like a MYTH or a FAIRY TALE, but IF we will CHECK IT OUT and TAKE TIME to LOOK in the EMPTY TOMB / Get the FACTS ... WE might still WONDER what IT ALL MEANS ... But, WHEN we SPEND TIME with JESUS (The Resurrected Jesus) ... OVER TIME we GET to KNOW HIM and come to the REALIZATION that The RESURRECTED JESUS is REALITY, and ALL His PROMISES, INCLUDING the ETERNAL ONES, are TRUE! NEED BOTH! Head and Heart.

TODAY ... HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH!

Have you ever seen a new car or boat sitting in the hall of the mall with a big sign that says, “WIN ME!”? I’m usually all for signing up for those things, until I read in the small print, “*Must be present at drawing to claim prize*”. No way I’ll be there, so I chuck it. That’s like what’s about to happen. The APOSTLES are WAITING in JERUSALEM as ORDERED by JESUS... Remember, Jesus will KEEP His PROMISE that His MESSAGE will be TOLD ... FORGIVENESS for ALL WHO REPENT ... the ONES who get to PROCLAIM THIS MESSAGE are WITNESSES (ONES who have REPENTED and BEEN FORGIVEN) ... and this MESSAGE of FORGIVENESS will go OUT to ALL the WORLD STARTING in JERUSALEM ... **ACTS 2:1 = *On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place.***¹

Let’s TALK about PENTECOST ...

PENTECOST: What Happened?

Remember a FEW WEEKS BACK, I REMINDED US that JESUS has been from the BEGINNING (The WORD WAS God, the WORD was WITH GOD ... NOTHING CREATED W/OUT the WORD The WORD became FLESH), THEREFORE we needed to READ EVERY VERSE with JESUS in MIND?

Some LOOK at SCRIPTURE and THINK things happened RANDOMLY, BUT Jesus had it ALL PLANNED. The SYMBOLISM of the OT LEADS us to JESUS.

In the Book of Leviticus, we find THREE FESTIVALS important to the HEBREWS:

1) PASSOVER – Celebration of God SPARING the Hebrew children (LAMB’S BLOOD), who were slaves in Egypt, while God killed the first-born of the Egyptians.

2) FIRST FRUITS – Celebration of the Hebrews ENTERING the PROMISED LAND (Israel) ... at the FIRST HARVEST, they would BRING their FIRST GRAIN to the PRIEST on the DAY AFTER SABBATH.

3) PENTECOST – 50 DAYS (Pente-) AFTER First Fruits (day after the Sabbath plus 7 weeks), Hebrews would bring an OFFERING of NEW GRAIN to the PRIEST.

WHY do we need these? They go along with the events of Jesus’ death and resurrection.

Passover = Jesus was crucified (LAMB). **First Fruits** = Jesus’ resurrection (1st resurrected).

Pentecost = the coming of the Holy Spirit (New Grain ... New Spirit / Life).

JESUS connected the OT Festivals to NEW COVENANT ON PURPOSE! It was NOT HAPHAZARD. He MADE these CONNECTIONS so people would BELIEVE in HIM!

Pentecost ... ACTS 2:2-3 = ² Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. ³ Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them.

On that SUNDAY, JESUS kept His PROMISE, and The SPIRIT CAME!

#1 = The Spirit CAME

Listen, HOLY SPIRIT stuff in the BIBLE can be CONFUSING. IF the Holy Spirit came at PENTECOST, then WHY is the SPIRIT mentioned PRIOR to THAT? Well, the SPIRIT HAD been at WORK in CREATION, in OT HISTORY and in the LIFE and MINISTRY of JESUS ... BUT TWO CHANGES at PENTECOST:

FIRST, the HOLY SPIRIT would DWELL IN people and NOT just be WITH THEM. SECOND, The HOLY SPIRIT'S PRESENCE would be PERMANENT ...

JESUS told the DISCIPLES IN ADVANCE ... JOHN 14:16-17 = ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.²

Then, going BACK to ACTS 2, there were THREE STUNNING SIGNS of the SPIRIT'S ARRIVAL ... SOUND of rushing WIND, TONGUES of FIRE, and PEOPLE PRAISING GOD!

When this HAPPENED, the people were LIKELY in The TEMPLE (House of God) ... LUKE 24:53 = ⁵³ And they spent all of their time in the Temple, praising God. ³

Then ... TONGUES of FIRE. We see those TONGUES of FIRE SETTLE on EACH of the BELIEVERS. GOD'S PLAN was THOSE SOULS were on FIRE and the FIRE of the SPIRIT IN THEM would REACH OUT to OTHERS, so THEY would REPENT and BELIEVE!

REPENT and BELIEVE! That was JESUS' MESSAGE about The KINGDOM of GOD, and it NEEDS to be THE BODY of CHRIST'S MESSAGE as WELL. We are CALLED to EVANGELIZE by the POWER / FIRE of the HOLY SPIRIT. Vance Havner = *"We are not going to move this world by criticism of it nor conformity to it, but by the combustion within it of lives ignited by the Spirit of God."*

Now, IF you have been around The CHURCH for a while, likely you have HEARD the PHRASES, *"BAPTIZED by the Holy Spirit"* and *"FILLED with the Holy Spirit."* It can be CONFUSING. Let's start with "BAPTIZED" ... JESUS forewarned ... ACTS 1:5 = ⁵ John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. ⁴

Please, write this down...

#2 = The Spirit BAPTIZED

BAPTIZED can mean *"SUBMERGED,"* but accurate TRANSLATION HERE is *"To be IDENTIFIED WITH"*. The BAPTISM of GOD'S SPIRIT is the ACT of GOD where He IDENTIFIED BELIEVERS with JESUS and FORMED CHRIST'S BODY ... The CHURCH!

HISTORICALLY, took place at PENTECOST. TODAY, it takes PLACE WHENEVER a SINNER SURRENDERS / TRUSTS JESUS for FORGIVENESS and SALVATION and is BORN AGAIN of the SPIRIT. We are IDENTIFIED with GOD as HIS ... AND we are IDENTIFIABLE as FOLLOWERS of JESUS ... *"CHRIST-LIKE"*. A NEW IDENTITY!

² Tyndale House Publishers. (2015). *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (Jn 14:16-17). Tyndale House Publishers.

³ Tyndale House Publishers. (2015). *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (Lk 24:53). Tyndale House Publishers.

⁴ Tyndale House Publishers. (2015). *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (Ac 1:5). Tyndale House Publishers.

As “CHRIST-LIKE”, TOGETHER we FORM the BODY of CHRIST ... The Church. ^{1st}
 CORINTHIANS 12:12-13 = ¹² *The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ.* ¹³ *Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.* ⁵

Therefore, The CHURCH SHOULD be IDENTIFIABLE as “CHRIST-LIKE”! Are we? ONLY HAPPENS when we EACH SURRENDER to JESUS 100%. Then we are BAPTIZED with The HOLY SPIRIT. That is “Baptized”. What about “FILLED”? ACTS 2:4 =

⁴ *And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.* ⁶ It happened on PENTECOST ...

#3 = The Spirit FILLED

The FILLING of the SPIRIT is about GOD FILLING US with the POWER for WITNESS and SERVICE ... GO into ALL the WORLD! As WITNESSES, we are CHRIST-LIKE in our LOVE ... UNCONDITIONAL, offering FORGIVENESS 70x7! Do YOU have the POWER to DO THAT with ALL PEOPLE? People you DISAGREE WITH? Jesus said to LOVE your NEIGHBOR as YOURSELF, and you do NOT get to PICK your NEIGHBOR! Jesus said to LOVE ONE ANOTHER as HE LOVED US FIRST. Jesus said to LOVE your ENEMIES ... Like, WHAT is the BIG DEAL if you JUST LOVE people who LOVE YOU?

Do YOU have the POWER IN YOU to LOVE / WITNESS to EVERYONE in THOSE WAYS? ME NEITHER! We need GOD’S POWER of LOVE FILLING US EVERY DAY (ASK for it!) ... SPIRIT FILLED!

The BAPTISM of the SPIRIT means I BELONG / IDENTIFY with The BODY of CHRIST. The FILLING of the SPIRIT means MY BODY BELONGS to HIM! BAPTISM makes us ONE in The BODY of CHRIST. FILLING is PERSONAL / INDIVIDUAL. FILLING is about FAITH GROWTH! Two separate things...

Let’s FINISH ... ACTS 2:5-13 = ⁵ *At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem.* ⁶ *When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.* ⁷ *They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee,* ⁸ *and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages!* ⁹ *Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia,* ¹⁰ *Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome* ¹¹ *(both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!”* ¹² *They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other.* ¹³ *But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!”* ⁷

Here’s WHERE the RUBBER MEETS the ROAD ...

#4 = The Spirit SPOKE

Don’t MISS this ... The BELIEVERS were NOT PREACHING the GOSPEL, they were simply PRAISING GOD! They were PRAISING GOD for the WONDERFUL THINGS GOD had DONE ... and they were PRAISING in LANGUAGES that were NOT MYSTERIOUS, but RECONGNIZABLE BY the PEOPLE PRESENT ... SO THEY could UNDERSTAND that GOD is WORTHY of our PRAISE!

¹ Tyndale House Publishers. (2015). *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (1 Co 12:12–13). Tyndale House Publishers.

⁴ Tyndale House Publishers. (2015). *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (Ac 2:4). Tyndale House Publishers.

⁷ Tyndale House Publishers. (2015). *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (Ac 2:5–13). Tyndale House Publishers.

WHY did GOD DO THIS? Why was there an OUTPOURING of GOD'S SPIRIT? Why did JESUS PROMISE IT and THEN it CAME TRUE? Because GOD wanted the WHOLE WORLD (all people) to KNOW that The GOOD NEWS of JESUS (Forgiveness / Salvation / Eternal) is FOR the WHOLE WORLD (all people). God DESIRES to SPEAK to EVERY PERSON in his/her OWN LANGUAGE the MESSAGE of SALVATION in JESUS!

The EMPHASIS in Luke's BOOK of ACTS is WORLD EVANGELISM! JESUS KICKS it OFF ... ACTS 1:8 = ⁸ *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* ⁸

Listen, the MORE we GROW in our FAITH, the MORE we ASK for a FRESH / DAILY FILLING of HIS SPIRIT, the MORE INTENSE we BECOME when it COMES to JESUS' MISSION ... The MORE we LOVE JESUS, the MORE we LOVE HIS MISSION!

OF COURSE, there were MOCKERS who CLAIMED the BELIEVERS were DRUNK! DUH! Jesus WARNED there will ALWAYS be MOCKERS / CRITICIZERS ... it's WAY LESS WORK to CRITICIZE than to COMMIT!

Do you a favor: COMMIT to JESUS as your SAVIOR. SURRENDER to HIM. REPENT of your SINS, BELIEVE and be (automatically) BAPTIZED with the HOLY SPIRIT. BECOME "IDENTIFIED" with JESUS. THEN, SURRENDER to HIM EVER DAY ... ask for a FILLING of His HOLY SPIRIT, so you have to POWER to LOVE PEOPLE who are UNLOVABLE ... UNCONDITIONALLY ... CHRIST-LIKE.

Let's GO on MISSION ... TOGETHER!

Let's Pray!

Next Steps: *Memorize Acts 1:8*
Read Acts 1 and 2
Invite someone to Worship with you this summer

Hosting (Closing)

HEY, it has been a GREAT DAY here at BMZ... Glad you've been here with us!
In a moment, we are going to RECEIVE the OFFERING so please take this time to finish COMPLETING any information

- Or NEXT STEPS on your CONNECTION CARD (**FULLY FILLED OUT!!**)
- AND when our ushers come around to RECEIVE our OFFERING
- You can drop that card in the offering basket.

IF you are a First-Time Guest with us today

• We are so glad you joined us ... And we have a GIFT for you.
It's this book "**UNSHAKABLE**" and it's at the BACK TABLE / By the DOORS...

- all you need to do is HIT "**SEND**" your COMPLETED Connection Card

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As our ushers GET READY to come forward

- I just want to remind you ... STEWARDSHIP is DISCIPLESHIP ... we RECEIVE an OFFERING EVERY Sunday BECAUSE it's BIBLICAL ... AND it HELPS us GROW in our FAITH!
- STEWARDSHIP VERSE ... 1st CORINTHIANS 12:12 =¹² *The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ.*
- FIRST of our EARNINGS go back to the ONE who Blessed us in the first place! That's why WE/I do Automated Giving! I get paid ... the TITHE comes OUT FIRST!
- God's plan for BUILDING His Church was through TITHING and GIVING of the FOLLOWERS ... Share the GOOD NEWS! To REFRESH OTHERS!
- As Developing Followers of Jesus Christ, WE need to KNOW what the BIBLE says about GIVING ... NOT just what we THINK it should say.
- **MONEY is a HEART ISSUE.** And GOD wants what is BEST for your HEART! Listen, if GOD LOVES US so much that HE is willing to GIVE UP His OWN SON FOR US, WHY would GOD LEAD us ASTRAY in FINANCES?! USHERS ...
- Next Week: **SUMMER ROAD TRIP with JESUS! Jesus TAUGHT some things along the ROAD to JERUSALEM that are STUNNING!**

"Truth without Grace is Fundamentalism (Brutality). Grace without Truth is Sentimentalism (Hypocrisy)."

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