

Acts 2:1-41

v1	Pentecost (n)		A Jewish festival ('Feast of Weeks') that celebrates 50 days after God gave the Law to Moses at Mount Sinai; the day when the Holy Spirit came down and stayed with the disciples, after Jesus rose into Heaven
v2	violent	(adj)	very strong or powerful
v3	tongues of fire	(n)	flames (see picture)
v3	tongues	(n)	languages
v4	enabled	(v)	made able; gave the ability (to do something)
v5	bewilderment	(n)	confusion
v7	utterly	(adv)	completely; totally
v8	native	(adj)	relating to a person's birthplace or place of growing up (i.e. a person's native language is their original language, learnt and spoken in their home country)
v11	declaring	(v)	saying (something) clearly and confidently
v12	perplexed	(adj)	puzzled; confused; baffled
v14	addressed	(verb)	spoke to
v14	fellow	(adj)	in the same situation
v15	suppose	(v)	believe
v16	prophet	(n)	someone who receives messages from God and communicates them to people
v17	prophecy	(v)	speaking God's word to his people as revealed/told by God
v19	billows	(n)	a large moving amount of something (usually smoke, cloud or steam)
v22	Israelites	(p.n.)	a people group (In the Old Testament, the Israelites (people of Israel) were God's special, chosen people.)
v22	Nazareth	(p.n.)	a town
v22	accredited	(v)	officially declared to be of an approved standard
v22	miracles	(n)	surprising and unexpected events
v22	signs	(n)	events that point to a greater truth. In this case, the signs mentioned point to the fact that Jesus is the Christ (God's chosen king).
v23	foreknowledge	(n)	knowledge of something before it happens
v23	wicked	(adj)	evil; against God
v23	cross	(n)	a T-shape made out of wood that criminals were nailed to in order to kill them
v24	agony	(n)	great physical and mental pain
v25	David	(pn)	a king of Israel. He was king around 1000BC. David wrote many of the Psalms. David was considered Israel's greatest king.
v25	be shaken	(v)	be moved; be unsettled
v26	therefore	(adv)	for that reason
v26	rejoices	(v)	feels or shows great joy or delight
v26	hope	(n)	expectation about the future, usually positive; a feeling of great trust
v27	abandon	(v)	leave; give up
v27	holy	(adj)	morally perfect, a characteristic of God
v27	decay	(n)	rot; deterioration
v28	presence	(n)	being with someone



A flame of fire



v29	patriarch	(n)	male head of a family or tribe
v29	tomb	(n)	a large burial place for dead bodies above ground that may be decorated
v30	oath	(n)	a formal promise
v30	descendants	(n)	relatives in later generations
v30	throne	(n)	a special chair for a king or queen to sit on
v31	resurrection	(n)	the act of coming back to life after being dead
v31	Messiah	(title)	God's chosen king. Jesus is the Messiah
v32	witnesses	(n)	people who saw an event and told others about it
v33	exalted	(adj)	brought up to a high or important level
v33	Holy Spirit	(p.n.)	the third person of the Trinity (three-fold God). Christians worship one God, who is also three persons—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
v34	ascend	(v)	go upwards
v35	footstool	(n)	a small stool/chair for resting your feet on
v36	assured	(adj)	certain, sure
v36	crucified	(v)	killed by being nailed to a cross
v37	'cut to the heart'	(phrase)	very upset
v37	apostles	(n)	people witnessed Jesus' life, death and resurrection, and who were appointed by Jesus to tell others about him
v38	repent	(v)	to be sorry that you have done wrong and start doing what is right
v38	baptised	(v)	washed with water as a public sign that they have repented and put their trust in Jesus
v38	sins	(n)	rebellion against God; things we think, say or do that damages our relationship with him
v40	warned	(v)	telling someone not to do something so that they can avoid punishment/consequences
v40	pleaded	(v)	asking with strong emotions
v40	corrupt	(adj)	morally wrong

Acts 2:1-41 (New International Reader's Version)

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

2 When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers gathered in one place. ² Suddenly a sound came from heaven. It was like a strong wind blowing. It filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw something that looked like fire in the shape of tongues. The flames separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak in languages they had not known before. The Spirit gave them the ability to do this.

⁵ Godly Jews from every country in the world were staying in Jerusalem. ⁶ A crowd came together when they heard the sound. They were bewildered because each of them heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ The crowd was really amazed. They asked, "Aren't all these people who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ Then why do we each hear them speaking in our own native language? ⁹ We are Parthians, Medes and Elamites. We live in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia. We are from Pontus, Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia. Others of us are from Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene. Still others are visitors from Rome. ¹¹ Some of the visitors are Jews. Others have accepted the Jewish faith. Also, Cretans and Arabs are here. We hear all these people speaking about God's wonders in our own languages!" ¹² They were amazed and bewildered. They asked one another, "What does this mean?"

¹³ But some people in the crowd made fun of the believers. "They've had too much wine!" they said.

Peter Speaks to the Crowd

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the 11 apostles. In a loud voice he spoke to the crowd. "My fellow Jews," he said, "let me explain this to you. All of you who live in Jerusalem, listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ You think these people are drunk. But they aren't. It's only nine o'clock in the morning! ¹⁶ No, here is what the prophet Joel meant. ¹⁷ He said,

"In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Holy Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
Your young men will see visions.
Your old men will have dreams.

¹⁸ In those days, I will pour out my Spirit on my servants.
I will pour out my Spirit on both men and women.
When I do, they will prophesy.

¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above.
I will show signs on the earth below.
There will be blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

²⁰ The sun will become dark.
The moon will turn red like blood.
This will happen before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ Everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.' ([Joel 2:28-32](#))

²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to this! Jesus of Nazareth was a man who had God's approval. God did miracles, wonders and signs among you through Jesus. You yourselves know this. ²³ Long ago God planned that Jesus would be handed over to you. With the help of evil people, you put Jesus to death. You nailed him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead. He set him free from the suffering of death. It wasn't possible for death to keep its hold on Jesus. ²⁵ David spoke about him. He said,

"I know that the Lord is always with me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will always be secure.

²⁶ So my heart is glad and joy is on my tongue.
My whole body will be full of hope.

²⁷ You will not leave me in the place of the dead.
You will not let your holy one rot away.

²⁸ You always show me the path that leads to life.
You will fill me with joy when I am with you.' ([Psalm 16:8-11](#))

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, you can be sure that King David died. He was buried. His tomb is still here today. ³⁰ But David was a prophet. He knew that God had made a promise to him. God had promised that he would make someone in David's family line king after him. ³¹ David saw what was coming. So he spoke about the Messiah rising from the dead. He said that the Messiah would not be left in the place of the dead. His body wouldn't rot in the ground. ³² God has raised this same Jesus back to life. We are all witnesses of this. ³³ Jesus has been given a place of honor at the right hand of God. He has received the Holy Spirit from the Father. This is what God had promised. It is Jesus who has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ David did not go up to heaven. But he said,

"The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand.

³⁵ I will put your enemies
under your control.'" ([Psalm 110:1](#))

³⁶ "So be sure of this, all you people of Israel. You nailed Jesus to the cross. But God has made him both Lord and Messiah."

³⁷ When the people heard this, it had a deep effect on them. They said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven. You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children. It is also for all who are far away. It is for all whom the Lord our God will choose."

⁴⁰ Peter said many other things to warn them. He begged them, "Save yourselves from these evil people." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized. About 3,000 people joined the believers that day.

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