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News

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Online Newspaper

THINGS PENTECOSTALS DON'T KNOW

— About The Relationship Between First-Century Pentecost & Modern Pentecost —

#pen-1 — Online **NEWS**paper "PENTECOST" series. Each article builds on the aggregate foundation of all the previous ones.



If you have ever driven a car without power steering or power brakes, then you may find it easy to understand how The Holy Ghost works. With power, a person has to execute the exact same motions for a given task that he would for that task without power. The difference? It becomes a lot easier...so that the person is less likely to become weary in well doing!

We have encountered very few Pentecostals who know the history (the fully-vetted history) of Modern Pentecost. It came as no surprise to us that few of those good folk have acquired an objective comprehension of the First-Century events on and after the Day of Pentecost. We pray that this series will prove enormously helpful to lots and lots of sincere people who seek Truth.

A good starting place may be Peter's introductory remarks

to that marvelous sermon on the Day of Pentecost—

Acts 2:16-18 records what Peter said in his native tongue, Aramaic. That was the only language he knew: "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 my Spirit on 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."

Well known was the fact that Galileans were not well educated folk. With very few exceptions, they only knew the Aramaic tongue. All but one of Jesus' original 12 were Galilean. That is why those visiting Jews were surprised to hear Galileans speaking in the multiple tongues of the countries where they or their families had emigrated.

Those Jews were in town for the Feast of Pentecost. They were a well educated lot. Each was multilingual. They learned Hebrew and Aramaic as kids. Having emigrated to multiple other regions, they had become fluent in the tongues of society and commerce, there, too.

What we think you'll find interesting is that they had read Joel 2 numerous times, but in

Hebrew. They had never heard Joel's words in the languages of the countries where they or their families had emigrated.

Peter's task was to help them understand that the "**this**" that you've just heard in those multiple other languages with which you are familiar is "**that**" which you've read many times, but in the Hebrew language!

Joel 2:28,29—

"And it shall come to pass **AFTERWARD*** [that] I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit."

***After WHAT?** Read Joel 2:1-27 for the shocking answer!

So why was that introduction to Peter's sermon such a major "Ah ha!" moment for those devout Jews? That'd be because each of them had been having to juggle three (3) very different languages—and at 9:00 o'clock in the morning! Here's how those "dots" connect—

- a** Each of them had just heard verbatim quotations of the text of Joel 2, supernaturally spoken in his own native language.
- b** They had frequently read the text of Joel 2, but in the

original Hebrew language because that had been Joel's native language. [Note: Hebrew was the primary original written language of the Old Testament.]

- c** They were listening to Peter speaking to them in the only language he knew. It was Aramaic. It's the language Jesus used with His twelve closest disciples, who were all Galilean, except Judas.
- d** The Holy-Ghost-inspired introduction to Peter's sermon [Acts 2:14,15] was to help them connect-the-dots. Once they had done that, their *ears to hear* were proportionately piqued; i.e.: they felt like they **HAD** to get some additional information and insight—fast!
- e** Because the fullness of time was now prime, the remaining words of Peter's sermon [Acts 2:16-41] yielded the pricking of their hearts unto repentance. That event is our **ONLY** credible scriptural precedent.

The church at Corinth was the only one that apparently tried to duplicate the Day-of-Pentecost phenomena. Their failure was miserable – even blasphemous. Paul scolded them about that: The essence of 1 Corinthians 14:20 is, "Stop acting like children!"

