

BIBLE EXPLORER

News

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Online Newspaper

PEN-2

THINGS PENTECOSTALS DON'T KNOW

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

#pen-2 — Online NEWSpaper "PENTECOST" series. Each article builds on the aggregate foundation of all the previous ones.

From #pen-1—

The church at Corinth was apparently the only one that tried to duplicate the Day-of-Pentecost phenomena. *Those* First-Century churchians were not noble folk. We think you'll want to keep that in mind as you continue to gain critical new insight from this series.

At 1 Corinthians 11, Paul also rebuked them for getting drunk on the communion wine and other juvenile behavior.

The Campbell sisters, Mary & Isabella, Margaret Macdonald with her two brothers at Port Glasgow and Edward Irving at London were the "parents" of what was to become wildly popular as modern pentecost. It was the revival of Corinthian pentecost and, therefore, bears no resemblance to the marvelous Day-of-Pentecost phenomena.

We think you will want to read Joel 2 again, to confirm *when* we can anticipate a revival of the genuine phenomena of the Day of Pentecost.

While it is true that the Holy Ghost can speak supernatural interpretations through humble believers, those interpretations can, scripturally, serve only to CONFIRM what a given bilingual or multilingual unbeliever has already understood in his native language. That's precisely what happened at Acts 2, our

only clear, credible precedent. Given a perfect match, the heart of an unbeliever may only *then* be pricked to repentance unto salvation—as on the wonderful Day of Pentecost:

> "And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues **the wonderful works of God.**" —Acts 2:8-11

Those "wonderful works of God that they heard in their own languages were the same wonderful works of God that Joel had written at Joel 2.

If they had heard a *message* from God telling them to repent and be baptized, then we might credibly enjoy "'messages' in tongues" and "Thus sayeth the Lord, thy God!" interpretations in our churches. But they didn't and we can't. Even if there were "'messages' in tongues" from God they would never be to Believers...only to Unbelievers.

"Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not..."
—1 Corinthians 14:22

But...but...but what about all those messages in *unknown* tongues from God to church



people? There is no scriptural precedent for "messages" in tongues, known or unknown, and **never** is a Holy-Ghost-inspired tongue for the benefit of believers:

Our objective readers have likely concluded that there were no "unknown" tongues on that wonderful Day of Pentecost. Many will find that there is also another pill that'll be hard to swallow: There is NO instance of "unknown" tongues in the Bible. The only Holy-Ghost-inspired tongues are languages that are known to multilingual unbelievers who are present to hear them and be motivated to repent and follow Christ...as on the Day of Pentecost. There is no scriptural exception.

Yes, there are two verses in which the KJV translators included the phrase, "*unknown* tongues." In each of those cases that word, unknown, is either in *italics* or square [...] brackets. That is how the KJV informs us that the translators added a given word or phrase—that neither it, nor any equivalent of it appears in any original manuscript.

If the Galileans of Acts 2:4 had spoken in the unintelligible jabbering that characterized the Corinthian episodes, there could have been no credible sign to the unbelievers that were present on that majestic Day.

When people perceive the need to hyperspiritualize the tools of ministry that are purely practical and pragmatic by scriptural prescription, they invite the intrusion of those seducing spirits that Paul warned us about at 1 Timothy 4:1 and 1 John 4:1. Seducing spirits can not coexist with God's Holy Spirit. Not convinced?

Acts 2:4 is one of just three (3) examples of Holy Ghost inspired tongues in the entire Bible. Any other examples are nebulous, at best.

The scriptures give us not even one example of Holy Ghost inspired tongues at Corinth. Paul cited abundant evidence that the Corinthian "tongues" in no way resembled the Holy Ghost inspired tongues of Acts 2:4, 10:46 and 19:6.

Among charismatics and modern pentecostals, there is an effort to yield an air of increased sophistication to those *messages* in *unknown* tongues: They've labeled them "glossolalia."

We think Satan will inspire genuine tongues and genuine interpretations when he comes to masquerade as Jesus. Who'll be the first to fall for it?

