

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for May 17, 2009**

**“The Arrival of the Holy Spirit”**  
**Acts 2:1-4**  
**Gerry Andersen**

**1. When the Spirit came**

The day of Pentecost was fifty days after Passover and ten days after the ascension of Christ (cf. Acts 1:3) and was originally called the feast of firstfruits or also the feast of weeks, coinciding with the end of the harvest season.

The day of Pentecost was the day the Jews of the first century celebrated the giving of the Law of Moses. The Holy Spirit came replacing the Law of Moses (2 Corinthians 3:3-6; Romans 7:6).

This arrival of the Holy Spirit marked the beginning of the church (Acts 1:5; Acts 11:15-16; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Colossians 1:18).

**2. How the Spirit came**

a. The miraculous sound

There was a noise that filled the room but there was no wind.

The word for Spirit is closely related to the word for wind in both Hebrew and in Greek. Wind is used in the context of God's presence in the Scripture.

b. The miraculous sight

Fire also was associated with the presence of God in the Scripture.

This vision clearly demonstrated that the Holy Spirit had come to each believer in Christ.

c. The miraculous speaking

Speaking in tongues is a supernatural ability to communicate in a language that the speaker has never learned not an ecstatic utterance.

Speaking in tongues is a supernatural ability to communicate in an actual human language, not a heavenly language (Acts 2:6).

Speaking in tongues is a public communication not a private prayer language.

The purpose of speaking in tongues is to validate the messenger of God, and thus his message not to edify himself (1 Corinthians 14:22).

Speaking in tongues is a supernatural enabling of the speaker not a supernatural enabling of the hearer (Acts 2:6-8).

Speaking in tongues is supernatural validation of prophetic revelation, not a pragmatic communication of prophetic revelation.

Speaking in tongues has ceased (1 Corinthians 13:8)

Just as Jesus healed the sick in light of the curse of God in Genesis 3 the Holy Spirit enabled tongue speaking in light of the curse of God in Genesis 11.

### **3. Who the Spirit came to**

The Holy Spirit filled all in the room and all began to speak in tongues (Acts 2:4).

The Holy Spirit fills all upon belief (Romans 8:9) yet all do not speak in tongues (1 Corinthians 12:29-30). Our continued filling by the Holy Spirit depends upon God's control over our lives.

May each believer in Christ be yielded to the Spirit of God so that His glory may be communicated through us to the world.