

ACTS 1:15—26 BETWEEN THE ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

- Peter, as leader to the Hebrew church, addresses the 120 in the upper room.
 - Peter was given the keys to the Kingdom by Christ as soon as he realized that Jesus was their Messiah.

Matthew 16:18—19 ¹⁸"I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. ¹⁹"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."
 - The Disciples, with Peter as their leader, were given the authority to act in Christ's behalf in His absence

John 20:21—23 ²¹So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²²And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³"If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."

 - They were able to do this supernaturally through the power of the Holy Spirit (as we see at Pentecost). See Acts 5 concerning Ananias & Sapphira.
 - This church (called-out group) will be a Millennial Kingdom church.
 - Peter will have the power to admit or deny entrance into the Kingdom.
 - This makes perfect sense when we see that the Disciples will be sitting on 12 thrones as judges.

Matthew 19:28 And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."
- Through the Holy Spirit, Peter interprets scripture, relating O.T. passages to the death of Judas.
- Since there were now only 11 Disciples, they needed to choose a replacement Disciple.
 - This was necessary because God was still dealing with Israel as His favored nation.
 - The message was still the Gospel of the Kingdom.
 - There will be 12 sitting on thrones judging Israel (Matthew 19:28)
 - They needed to choose a replacement right away because the coming of the Holy Spirit signaled the coming of the Millennial Kingdom.
- The replacement Disciple needed to be with the group from the baptism of Jesus by John until the ascension.
 - They had to be close followers of Jesus to be a Disciple (Matthew 19:28)
- Paul was not qualified because:
 1. He did not become a believer until after the selection.
 2. He was not a close follower of Jesus during His ministry.
 3. Paul was reserved for a special ministry among the Gentiles.

Galatians 1:1 ¹Paul, an apostle (not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead), ¹⁵But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased ¹⁶to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles,

ACTS 2:1—4 The Day of Pentecost, introduction

- A study of the Jewish feasts will help in our understanding of the events on the day of Pentecost.
- All feasts are Israel's and do not belong to the Church, the Body of Christ nor relate to it.
- Many say Pentecost is the beginning of the Church and feast of Trumpets is the end of the Church.
 - Pentecost was given to the Jews and was a shadow of what was to come.
- The coming of the Holy Spirit as we see in Acts was foretold—a part of prophesy.

Isaiah 32:15 Until the Spirit is poured out upon us from on high, And the wilderness becomes a fertile field, And the fertile field is considered as a forest.

Isaiah 44:3 'For I will pour out water on the thirsty land And streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring And My blessing on your descendants;

Ezekiel 36:26—27 ²⁶Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

Ezekiel 39:29 "I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I will have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel," declares the Lord GOD.

Joel 2:28—29 ²⁸It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions. ²⁹Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

- Everything happening on the day of Pentecost are signs pointing Israel in the direction of the coming Millennial kingdom.
- No Scripture points to this event as being the beginning of the Church, the Body of Christ.
- We will see that only Jews are addressed by Peter in his sermons. With the Church the Body of Christ there is no Jew or Gentile

Ephesians 2:14—16 ¹⁴For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, ¹⁵by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

- They were baptized by Christ into the Holy Spirit. We are baptized into Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Mark 1:7—8 ⁷And he was preaching, and saying, "After me One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to stoop down and untie the thong of His sandals. ⁸"I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Galatians 3:27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

- At Pentecost only Jews received the Holy Spirit. This would go against the idea that we are all one body whether Jew or Gentile. In fact, we don't see a Gentile getting saved until about 10 years later!