

PETER SPOKE, PEOPLE HEARD

The miracle at Acts 2.2-12

Act 2:2-12 Suddenly there came a **sound** from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues** like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 They (*and Peter*) were all **filled** with the Holy Ghost, and began to **speak** with other **tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, **devout men, out of every nation** under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man **heard** them speak in his own language. 7 And they were all amazed and **marveled**, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? 8 And how **hear** we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them **speak in our tongues** the wonderful works of God. 12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

Act 2:16 This is that which was spoken by the prophet **Joel** (2.17-27)

The understanding of this passage is clear and simple. There were at least 16 language groups represented in Jerusalem during the Feast of Pentecost.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Parthians | Turkmenistan |
| Medes | Iran |
| Elamites | Iran area |
| Mesopotamia | between Tigris & Euphrates |
| Judea | Israel (<i>perhaps in Hebrew or Aramaic</i>) |
| Cappadocia | central Turkey |
| Pontus | Turkey near Black Sea |
| Asia | western Turkey |
| Phrygia | central Turkey |
| Pamphylia | southern Turkey |
| Egypt | Egypt |
| Libya | Libya |
| Cyrene | north Africa |
| Rome | Italy |
| Crete | island belonging to Greece |
| Arabians | Arabian peninsula |

Asia
Africa
Europe
Islands

The Church came in with a bang!

7 things happened to ratify that a new era was beginning. The Church of Jesus Christ was born.

- A sound - a rushing mighty wind, - 2.2
- A sight - cloven tongues like fire, - 2.3
- The filling of the Holy Spirit - 2.4 evidenced by speaking with tongues (Middle Eastern languages)
- All (believers) began to speak with all the languages of the out-of-towners - 2.4
- The crowd heard the believers speaking in their own languages - 2.6,8
- These visitors were amazed that Galileans spoke their languages - 2.7-11
- One part of Joel's 5-part prediction came true: following the miracles of Jesus - Acts 2.19,22

Of course, to us in the 21st century this miracle of languages seems more like the gift of ears in verse 2.4, but the paragraph is clear. Peter and others spoke . . . the people heard . . . everyone heard "every man in our own tongues."