

# The Meaning of Pentecost

Acts 2:12

## Introduction:

- A. This Pentecost was the second of two eventful feasts.
  - 1. Passover: Jesus was crucified and raised.
  - 2. Pentecost: Sounds, tongues of fire, and miraculous tongues (v.4, 8).
  - 3. Miraculous power given to apostles (v. 43; cf. 2 Cor. 12:12 see NIV)
  - 4. Events received “prime time” coverage.
- B. Many asked, “Whatever could this mean?”
  - 1. Some thought it meant they were drunk. (v. 13).
  - 2. Peter’s sermon answered the question?
  - 3. It had three important and distinct meanings:

## Discussion:

### **I. It Meant That Jesus Was Now in Heaven (v. 33).**

- A. He had sent the Holy Spirit.
  - 1. As prophesied by Joel (vv. 16-18).
  - 2. As promised by Jesus (Acts 1:4-5; John 14:15-18).
- B. He was raised from the dead.
  - 1. As prophesied by David (vv. 22-31).
  - 2. As witnessed by the apostles (v. 32).

### **II. It Meant That Jesus Was Now King (v. 36).**

- A. He is on David’s throne at right hand of God. (vv. 29-36).
  - 1. The kingdom is now (Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9).
  - 2. Jesus reigns now (1 Cor. 15:23-36).
- B. He is the head of the church at the right hand of God (Eph. 1:19-23).

### **III. It Meant That Salvation Was Now Offered to All Men (vv. 38, 39).**

- A. Holy Spirit baptism did not save, but demonstrated God’s willing to save all.
  - 1. To be poured out on “all flesh.”
  - 2. Jews at Pentecost - Gentiles at house of Cornelius (Acts 11:14-17).
- B. Salvation is universally offered, conditionally accepted (Acts 2:38, 40)

## Conclusion:

- A. The results (vv. 41, 47).