

WE NEED A PENTECOST EXPERIENCE

Most folk would like to believe the church is where it ought to be. However, if we think about the many challenges we face, we are far from it. Normally in crisis people run to the church, only this time, the church doors were closed. Many found a way to connect through technology, however, some did nothing and adjusted to the covid phase. And during this time, many churches lost members, and some made no effort to connect thereby, moving the church to further demise. However, I believe that if we truly want the church alive, and a place of healing and hope again, we need a Pentecost experience.

Jesus already knew He would be leaving, yet He also knew we would need an advocate. He knew, we would need power from on high. He knew that the work of the disciples would be fruitless without the Helper. In (John 14:26), Jesus said, *“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”* So, if we want a Pentecost experience, we must be ready to receive the Holy Ghost. It's not enough for the church doors to open again, we must be willing to step aside and let God move. The people of God are hurting, the trauma in their lives can only be healed with a touch from God. We need to lay our announcements and traditions aside and just say, “Welcome Holy Spirit.” You are welcome to heal, welcome to deliver, welcome to save, welcome to lift the downtrodden, welcome to touch somebody.

We need to understand, just as no one made room for Jesus in the inn, is there room in our hearts? Is there room in our Bible Study and Sunday Service? Is there room for God to be in control of our worship? Until we make room for the Holy Spirit to come, we are merely going through the motion of church. How can God show up if we make no room? How can God heal and deliver if we give Him no time? How can He set somebody free if we put Him on a time schedule? If we want the church back, we need a Pentecost experience.

In short, Pentecost in the time of the Apostles was a great and grand harvest celebration. The streets of Jerusalem were clogged with thousand of pilgrims who had come from every point of the compass to celebrate the goodness of God and the bringing in of the wheat harvest. Little did they know their lives would be changed forever. The Bible says, that when the Holy Spirit fell on the people, 3,000 were added to the church that day. When the Holy Spirit fell on the disciples, they preached with power, they healed with power, they prayed with power. Today saints, we need the Holy Spirit. We need a fresh anointing that can only come from on high. We must move beyond our comfort zones and allow God to move in our midst. If the church is going to be alive again, what we need most is a Pentecost experience.