

Happy Birthday Church - Pentecost Sunday

The Book of Acts

Pastor Carl Toti

Acts 19:1-8 (NJB)

1 It happened that while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul made his way overland as far as Ephesus, where he found a number of disciples. 2 When he asked, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' they answered, 'No, we were never even told there was such a thing as a Holy Spirit.' 3 He asked, 'Then how were you baptised?' They replied, 'With John's baptism.' 4 Paul said, 'John's baptism was a baptism of repentance; but he insisted that the people should believe in the one who was to come after him—namely Jesus.' 5 When they heard this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus, 6 and the moment Paul had laid hands on them the Holy Spirit came down on them, and they began to speak with tongues and to prophesy. 7 There were about twelve of these men in all. 8 He began by going to the synagogue, where he spoke out fearlessly and argued persuasively about the kingdom of God. He did this for three months,

FOUR INTERESTING FACTS

- 1) These events occurred some 20 years after Pentecost.
- 2) The 12 disciples were more than likely Apollos converts.
- 3) These were Christians, or Luke would not have called them “disciples.”
- 4) What was the dead giveaway that these Believer’s were missing something?

Acts 7:51 (NIV)

51 “You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!”

Isaiah 63:10 (KJV)

10 But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

Christianity is not a “works”-based religion, but rather a “grace”-based or “gift”-based belief which requires receptivity.

1 Cor. 4:7 (NIV)

For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

HOW TO RECEIVE SINCE YOU BELIEVE

1. _____

Luke 11:13 (CEV)

13 As bad as you are, you still know how to give good gifts to your children. But your heavenly Father is even more ready to give the Holy Spirit to anyone who asks.

2. _____

John 14:17 (GW)

17 That helper is the Spirit of Truth. The world cannot accept him, because it doesn't see or know him. You know him, because he lives with you and will be in you.

3. _____

Isaiah 51:4 (ASV)

4 Attend unto me, O my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall go forth from me, and I will establish my justice for a light of the peoples.

ANSWERS:

1. ASK

2. ACCEPT

3. ATTEND