

Acts 2:33 – “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.” The first thing of importance is not that the Spirit had come, but that Jesus had been exalted. The coming of the Holy Spirit was evidence that “God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ” (v. 36). The salient thing, was that Jesus had been exalted. Jesus Himself had said, “Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘streams of living water will flow from within him.’ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. For the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not been glorified” (Jn. 7:38-39). Here is the principle of Pentecost: When Christ is glorified, the Spirit comes. The principle of Pentecost is the principle of revival. The church needs revival when it runs on human power. The Holy Spirit cannot work through the power of human wisdom. The Spirit is incomprehensible to the natural mind. He is not seen by the human eye. He makes no sense to carnal thinking. The church that relies on human power knows nothing of Spirit power. We must earnestly and prayerfully strive to be empowered with the Spirit of Pentecost. Who will be happy in a revived church? Those who want to give up their sins, those who want to know God, those who want to know Spirit power. The Spirit will come when Christ is glorified. When Christ is exalted, His power will be present, because the Spirit will be present. The church today is like Samson of old. “He knew not that the Lord had departed from him.” Until the church knows what (who) is missing, it can do nothing about its ineffectiveness. We do know that when Jesus is exalted, the Spirit will come. “God... has highly exalted Him” (Phil. 2:9). Let the church do the same. HA