

Pentecost Reverses Babel, August 29-September 1

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)

Intro: *It is a very BIG DEAL for God to reverse Babel at Pentecost... A VERY. BIG. DEAL.*

Jesus broke the barriers and invites us to unite

1. 3rd supernatural rebellion created supernatural divisions.

Genesis 11:1–9 (ESV) (pew Bible page 7)

- ➔ God commanded us to “be fruitful and multiply”
- ➔ mankind rebelliously, defiantly, flagrantly does the opposite, vs. 1-4
- ➔ God reviews the tower with His Divine Council, vs. 5-7
- ➔ God divides and disperses by different languages, vs. 7-9
- ➔ God assigns groups (nations) to supernatural rulers, Deut. 32:8-9
- ➔ supernatural rulers disobey, create hostility, idol worship, Psalm 82
- ➔ God creates a new people (Hebrews) to represent Him to all

Genesis 12:2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

Exodus 19:5–6a (ESV) ⁵Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.”

- ➔ Hebrews compromise instead of representing God

2. Jesus, at Pentecost, removes the divisions – one people again.

REVIEW: Gen. 3 brought sin nature, Gen. 6 brought perverse evil – those make it hard to love God and would be bad enough, but then 3rd rebellion escalates the attack on human relationships, not just making it hard to love others but creating divisions rooted in Unseen war that make it **impossible** to live in peace

Even WORSE, prevents both Jews & Gentiles from knowing God because intertwined with loving others.

1 John 4:19–21 (ESV) ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Acts 2:1–21 (ESV) (pew Bible page 910)

- † Jesus fills believers with Himself - TRANSFORMATION, vs 1-4
- † Languages supernaturally overcome, vs 4-6
- † People groups/nations gathered to experience God, vs. 7-13
- † ALL people groups/nations invited to Jesus, vs. 14-21
- † 3rd rebellion curse reversed; power of division broken

For the first time since Eden true unity was possible!! We cannot overestimate the enormity of this!!

3. Jesus’ Church is to be His unifying Body.

† Jesus’ mandate to “disperse” with His Gospel, Matt 28:18-20

† one people of God – from Jewish nation to Jesus’ Church

Acts 8 - Philip in Samaria, mixed race, then Philip with Ethiopian eunuch, Gentile

Acts 9 – Jesus assigns Saul/Paul to be apostle to Gentiles

Acts 10 - God sends Peter to Cornelius to break down the barrier between Jew and Gentile

Acts 11 - Jerusalem Council, no longer Jew & Gentile, but one people named “Christians” by observers

4. Believers MUST obey to live LOVE, overcoming divisions.

† one “chosen people” of God – followers of Christ to represent Him, **Galatians 3:25–29 and 5:2–6**

† Christ followers are commanded to love all people, **Colossians 3:9–14**

† Partiality, social divisions, levels of value are no longer, **1 Timothy 2:1–7**

