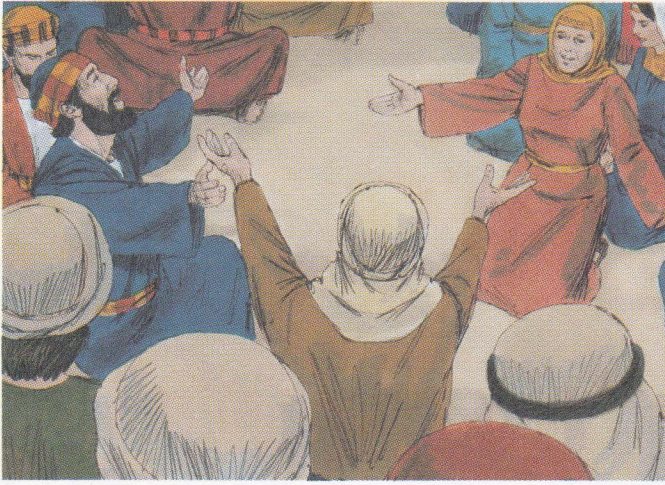


The Day of Pentecost



1 When the day of Pentecost, the great Jewish festival, came, Jesus' disciples were all gathered in Jerusalem. It was just ten days since Jesus had gone up into heaven.



2 Suddenly, a sound like a strong wind filled the house where they were sitting. What looked like tongues of fire rested on each of them, and they began to speak in other languages.



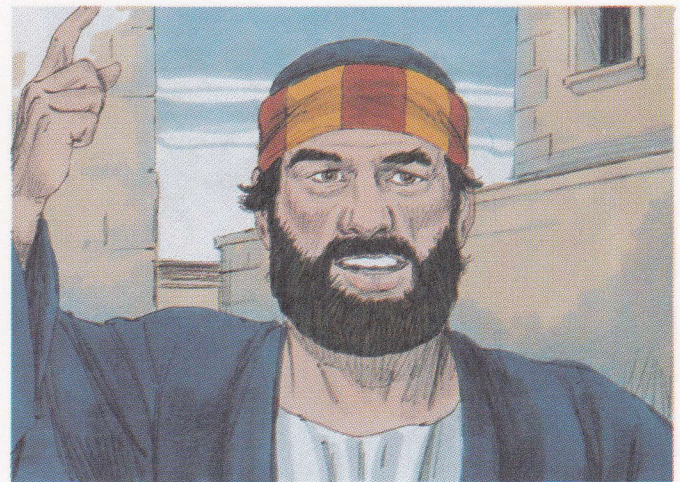
3 Because it was a holy day, Jews had come to Jerusalem from all nations. Hearing the noise, a large crowd gathered. They were surprised to hear the apostles speaking their own languages.



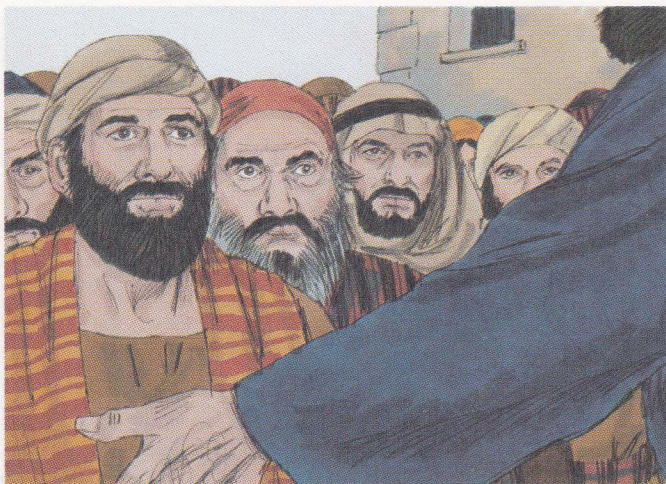
4 "Aren't these men Galileans?" they asked. "How can they be talking about the wonders of God in our languages?" But some said, "They have just had too much wine."



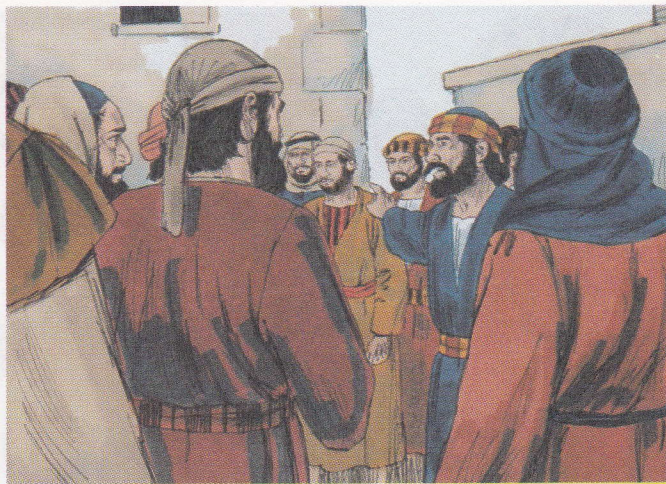
5 Then Peter spoke to the crowd: "These men are not drunk. This is what the prophet Joel spoke about: 'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit and they will prophesy.'"



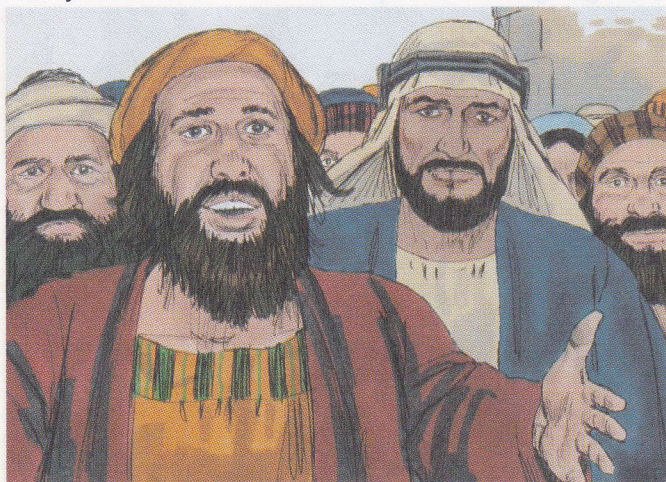
6 "Listen, Jesus of Nazareth was a man through whom God worked miracles and signs, as you yourselves know. But you had Jesus nailed to a cross. Yet God raised him from the dead!"



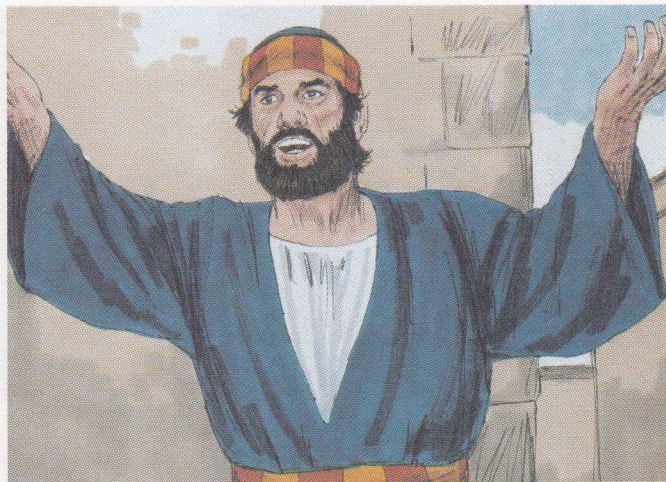
7 “We are witnesses that God has raised Jesus to life and has put him at his right hand. And Jesus has poured out the Holy Spirit, as he promised. This is what you see and hear.”



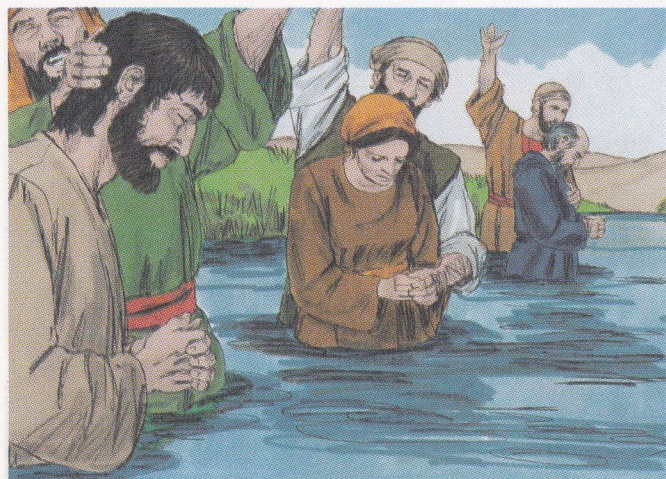
8 “You may be sure that God has made Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ—the Messiah!”



9 These words deeply affected the crowd. “What shall we do?” they asked Peter and the apostles.



10 Peter answered, “Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”



11 So those who accepted Peter’s message were baptized. About three thousand people were added to the group of believers that very day.



12 The believers spent their time listening to the apostles teach, having fellowship with each other, sharing with those in need, and praying. Their hearts were filled with joy.