

Sermon Notes for 5/24:

John 4:25-27 — “All this I have spoken while still with you. 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. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

Richard and Christopher Hayes in *The Widening of God’s Mercy* – “After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the burning controversial issue for his early followers was whether gentiles could join the church at all without first becoming converts to Judaism. Could gentiles be accepted in the community of Jesus-followers?”

John 10:16 – “I have other sheep who are not of this fold. I must bring them in also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.”

Acts 1:5, 8 – “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father has promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit... You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 2:1-4 – “When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

Acts 2:5-13 – “Now there were staying in Jerusalem, God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each heard their own language being spoken. Amazed, they asked: ‘Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language... declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues?’ Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, ‘What does this

mean?’ But some made fun of them and said, ‘They have had too much wine.’”

Acts 9:32-33 & Isaiah 53:7-8 – “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.”

Willie James Jennings in Acts – “Acts renders the Gentiles as a profound question to the Jews of diaspora: What will you do if I join you at the body of Jesus and fall in love with your God and with you? ... The deepest reality of life in the Spirit depicted in the book of Acts is that the disciples of Jesus rarely, if ever, go where they want to go or to whom they would want to go. Indeed the Spirit seems to always be pressing the disciples to go to those whom they would in fact strongly prefer never to share space, or a meal, and definitely not life together.”

Emily Swan and Ken Wilson in Solus Jesus – “We now live in the age of the Holy Spirit, a time in our collective spiritual history when God’s Spirit, unleashed into the world with unprecedented power, roams and romances those desperately seeking unfettered connection with both God and humankind.”

Galatians 3:26-28 – “You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”