

## Acts # 18 “Why Tongues?”

*Acts 2:5-11; Isaiah 28:11-12; 1st Corinthians 14:21-22*

### The Lord Jesus Christ controls history:

**1) Directly through His divine essence as God, He never loses control of anything.**

2) Indirectly through God’s established laws, our Lord set up a system of protection to guarantee continuation of the human race and to allow freedom in every generation for the expression of faith in Him for salvation and freedom for believers to express a positive response to His Word for spiritual growth.

3) *Permissively by allowing human free-will to function in this phase of the angelic dispute.*

The Bible is the key to historical interpretation related to God, the unseen world of angels and the visible world of mankind which can only be understood properly through processing biblical truth.

**Sin is not the issue because Jesus Christ destroyed it as an issue on the cross.**

He was judged for our sins and that is why we simply name our sins and we are forgiven immediately.

*Our sin only becomes a hindrance when we don’t address it but evil is a hindrance to everything.*

**The Bible reveals God’s Person and plan and only through knowledge of God can anyone appreciate, love and worship Him.**

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are commanded to renew or renovate our thinking with God’s thinking so His gracious purpose can be fulfilled in and through our lives.

*God’s purpose for our post-salvation life requires spiritual growth.*

We are kept alive on earth to fulfill our destiny which is to become mature believers or spiritual winners to the fullness of Jesus Christ.

**When the Holy Spirit came, there was a tremendous explosive tornado-type noise which woke up everyone in Jerusalem.**

This is how the crowd was gathered on the Day of Pentecost as people came to investigate and they were startled with bewilderment because every person there heard the Twelve speak in his own language.

*The language of Judea at this time was Aramaic but these men had been away from Judea a long time, so they spoke Gentile languages.*

**Tongues is the first gift used on the day of Pentecost and its primary purpose was the warning of Israel’s soon judgment in an attempt to lead to her evangelism.**

The great hindrance to evangelism in the city at that time was the fact that it was filled with many people who spoke many languages; therefore a communication barrier existed.

*Pentecost began the Church Age and a new method of operation began immediately: temporary and permanent spiritual gifts came into existence.*

**The gift of tongues was given as a sign of judgment for Israel and when Israel was destroyed including the temple in A.D. 70, there was no longer a need for that gift, so it didn’t function anymore.**

**If we confuse the gift's legitimate use, that completely skews our view of the Bible.**

*We are royalty of Heaven living on earth as royal priests and royal ambassadors.*

**We have a unique opportunity to use divine power and our God is ever-ready and willing to increase our already vast resources.**