

The Experiences of Obedience

Acts 1:4; 2:1-8

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

God has wonderful plans for people who are obedient to Him – look at Isaiah 1:19 – Hab. 1:5 and Jeremiah 29:11-13 – to enjoy His plans we must be obedient to His will.

The scripture for today focuses on the people of the Early Church – read Acts 1:2-4; 2:1-8 – their option was to obey and wait or to get busy on their own – 120 believers obeyed and waited – we wonder what happened to those who left rather than obey the Lord's command to wait – we are going to look at the special experiences that came to those who waited as Jesus had instructed.

I. It Was an Emotional Time Unlike Any Anyone Had Ever Experienced

- a. The Holy Spirit swept over them in an overwhelming manifestation
 - i. Note verses 2:2-4, 12, 15-21
 - ii. Is it good to experience such emotion?
 - iii. We accept emotional experiences in every other area of our lives.
- b. Obedient Christians have a warm feeling toward God.
 - i. They are open and responsive to His movement
 - ii. Disobedient people are afraid that they give away their true selves
 - iii. Could our world be waiting for people who are willing to turn God loose in their lives?

II. It Was a Mystical Experience – verses 5-8

- a. Some things cannot be explained or understood – they can only be experienced.
 - i. In verse 6 we read how those present understood in their own languages the words of the disciples
 - ii. Obedient people enjoy the workings of God
- b. Wherever God moves, some mystery is involved
 - i. In Job 5:9 we read, “He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed.”
 - ii. The Israelites did not understand the destruction of Jericho.
- c. Obedient people have unforgettable experiences.

III. It Was a Melting Moment – Acts 2:1-11

- a. These obedient people were blended together in a very special way
- b. Obedient people are so focused on their relationship with God that they easily relate to others
 - i. They experienced wonderful fellowship – vv. 42-47
 - ii. Obedient people love one another

IV. A Movement Was Born

- a. These obedient people started a movement that has affected the entire world
 - i. It was the birthday of the Church
 - ii. They grew dramatically
- b. The movement was powerful
 - i. In verse 43, 46-47 we read that the world took notice of them

- ii. God's blessings are in proportion to our obedience
- iii. As modern-day believers become obedient, we, too, will experience special times with God.

Obedience does not always lead us down a comfortable path. Obedient people have special experiences about which others only dream.

God is looking for some people who will allow Him to have His way in their lives.