



Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 5 June 2022

Please read Acts 1.4-5 & 8

1. Compare and contrast John's baptism with water and the baptism with the Holy Spirit?

Please read Acts 2.1-2

2. This was clearly an immersive experience for everyone in the house. How do you think they might have felt?

I quoted some excerpts of reports from the Western Isles Revival. "Beginning in November of 1949, two sisters, Peggy and Christine Smith, 84 and 82 years old—Peggy completely blind, and Christine severely afflicted with arthritis—were burdened due to the depressed spiritual state in their Barvas village church. They sensed the Lord speaking to them: "I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground." (Isaiah 44:3). This led them to pray in their small cottage two to three nights per week. After several weeks of praying like this, Peggy had a vision of her church being crowded with people – they asked their minister to help realise the vision."

To a people not given to emotionalism, God's Spirit moved powerfully. They spoke of the glory of God's presence – "Not long after being seated in the church, people would begin weeping. For some, the tears were due to an overwhelming love of God. For others, it was due to the conviction of sin. The presence of the Lord would make your hair stand on end, and it continued day and night. That presence was pervasive and undeniable. It didn't matter if you were a Christian or not, you could sense that fearful, awe-inspiring presence of God."

3. How do you react to hearing these reports?
4. How have you experienced the 'atmosphere' change when you sense the presence of God in the room?

Please read Acts 2.3-4 & 7-11

5. How does the Spirit's coming to the disciples as 'tongues of fire' connect with what happens in verses 7-11?

Please read Acts 2.16 - *When Jesus came in person there was evidence of the signs, wonders, miracles, powerful teaching, discerning insights, healings etc. that we would expect when God comes amongst us. Likewise, when God the Holy Spirit comes – his coming and his presence is marked by the similar divine and supernatural evidences that God is amongst us. If there is no such evidence of God amongst us, there is something wrong – there is need of our revival and renewal.*

During the Western Isles revival, "many had visions that provided divine guidance that led to other people's salvation. The hunger for the Word of God was intense. Many ministers and missionaries received their calling and responded immediately. 75% of those saved during the Hebrides Revival were saved before they came to church. Outstanding debts were repaid. Several police courts became idle, with no cases to try."

6. Please discuss generally.
7. How do you think that revival begins?