

Intro: In Garoua, Cameroon, I communicated with the help of two translators: one translating from English to French (& vice versa), and another translating from French to Fulani (& vice versa). Imagine when the Holy Spirit serves as translator to proclaim the gospel!

I. Background to Pentecost

- a. "Festival of Harvest with the firstfruits" Ex. 23:16
- b. "Count off fifty days...& present new grain" Lev. 23:16

II. Unity

- a. Jesus prayed for his disciples & all believers in John 17
- b. Firstfruits of his prayer: unity of believers in Acts 1; 2

III. Wind & Fire

- a. "a sound like...a violent wind came from heaven"
- b. "tongues of fire...came to rest on each of them"

IV. Tongues

- a. "filled w/the Holy Spirit...to speak in other tongues"
- b. "tongues" = *glo'ssa* = human languages

V. Nations

- a. A reversal of sorts from Babel – Genesis 11:1-9
- b. Not one *language*, however, but one *message*

VI. Prophecy

- a. Acts 2 was foreshadowed by Numbers 11:24-29
- b. Acts 2 is a fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32

VII. Purpose

- a. Jesus the firstfruits of the resurrection 1 Cor. 15:20-23
- b. All the world will hear the gospel Mt. 24:14; Acts 1:8

Close: Revelation 7:9 gives us a glimpse of the ultimate "Day of Pentecost" when people of every nation and language are united before the Lamb.