

Vote for Life

All Together — One Voice

I. Promise of the Father

A. Unity and Power

Acts 1:4 ... he ordered them **not to depart from Jerusalem**, but to **wait** for the *promise of the Father*," *Conversations*

Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost arrived (**was fulfilled**), *they were all together in one place*.

2 And suddenly there came from heaven a **sound** like a mighty rushing **wind**, and it *filled the entire house* where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of **fire appeared** to them and **rested** on each one of them.

B. Unity and Hearing

4 And *they were all filled* with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men **from every nation under heaven**. 6 And **at this sound the multitude came together**, and they were **bewildered**, because each one was **hearing** them speak in his own language (dialect).

C. Hearing

7 And they were **amazed** and **astonished**, ...

8 And **how is it that we hear**, each of us in his *own native language*? 9 ...(15 nations mentioned),

11... —**we hear them** telling *in our own tongues* the mighty works of God."

D. All Flesh

Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them:

- 17 “ ‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that **I will pour out my Spirit** on **all flesh**,
- 21 And it shall come to pass that **everyone who calls upon the name
of the Lord shall be saved.**’

II. First Things First — COVENANTS & COMMANDS

A. The New Commandment

Jn 13:34 A **new commandment** I give to you, that you **love one another**: **just as** I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this **all people will know ...**”

Jn 15:9 **As** the Father has loved me, **so** have I loved you. Abide in my love. 11 ... **that my joy may be in you**, and that **your joy may be full**. 12 “This is **my commandment**, ...

B. Keeping Love in the Midst of Controversy

Racism is a grievous wound and sin

We all have one Father.

Act 17:24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself **gives** to all mankind **life** and **breath** and everything. 26 And he **made from one man (blood) every nation** of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,...

Profaning the Covenant

Love One Another

Mal. 2:10 Have we not all **one** Father?

Has not **one** God created us?

Why then are we faithless to one another, **profaning the covenant of our fathers?**

Declaration of of Independence is a covenantal vision statement

We hold these truths to be self-evident: That **all men are created equal**; that they are **endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights**; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;

The Constitution structures this vision. Bill of Rights clarifies it.

When it is not equally applied, it is profaned.

“**Race**” is a social construct.

Ethnicity is real. It is true.

All nations means all ethnicities.

We use “Nations” to describe political entities. Citizenship.

Biblically, “nations” ethnicities.

We tend to understand (imperfectly) those who are close. Forming “in and out” groups.

We identify with our “in group.” We generalize with “outsiders.”

Why do we distinguish and discriminate? The FALL.

C. Overcoming the CATEGORIES

Rev. 12:7 Now war arose in heaven,... **8** dragon defeated

9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the **devil** and **Satan**, the **deceiver** of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. **slanderer, adversary, liar**

10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “**Now** the salvation and the **power** and the **kingdom** of our God and the **authority** of his Christ have come,

for **the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down**, who **accuses** them day and night before our God. **categorizer**

11 And they have conquered him by the **blood of the Lamb** and by the **word of their testimony**, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Cup of the Covenant. OUR MESSAGE - In Him

12 Therefore, **rejoice**, O **heavens** and you who **dwell in them!**
But **woe** to you, O earth and sea, for the devil ... great wrath, ...
knows that his time is short!"

WE NEED TO FIGHT AGAINST THE ACCUSER OF THE BRETHERN
WHO WOULD CAUSE US
TO ACCUSE PEOPLE WE DON'T KNOW WITH GENERALITIES
AND
EXCUSE PEOPLE WE DO KNOW WITH UNDERSTANDING.

III. One Voice

Rom. 15:1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

5 May the God of **endurance** and **encouragement** grant you to **live in such harmony with one another**, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may **with one voice glorify the God** and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore **welcome one another as Christ** has **welcomed you**, for the glory of God.

Receiving Power to BE the TESTIMONY of Jesus

John 17... that they may be ONE

Inside you are SOLUTIONS and ASSIGNMENTS. Servants

Wherever there is a need, God has a solution already planted inside of you.

Receiving and Expressing Holy Spirit (Pentecost- New Beginning)

John 14:27 **Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.** Not as the world gives do I give to you. **Let not your hearts be troubled**, neither let them be afraid.

John 16:33 I have said these things ... that ***in me you may have peace***. In the world **you will have tribulation**. But take heart; ***I have overcome*** the world." This is the **Victory = our Faith**

COUNT IT ALL JOY!

Ja 1:2 **Count it all joy**, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ... 4 And let patience have its full effect, **that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**

ASK FOR WISDOM!

What is Good: Do justly, Love mercy, Walk humbly with your God

That my joy may be in you and your joy may be full

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.