

**Panorama Bible Study**  
***The Plan of the Ages, Study 10***  
 THE DISPENSATION OF GRACE  
 FROM PENTECOST TO THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

The Following Scripture is The Most Important Scripture in the Bible that submits  
**OBJECTIVE, PROVABLE, STATISTICAL EVIDENCE** that **Jesus Christ** is  
 Who He said He was:

“...for the **testimony of Jesus** is the **spirit of prophecy**.” (*Revelation 19:10*)

“**Testimony**” means “**convincing proof**,” as in a court of law. This scripture tells us that  
**FULFILLED PROPHECY** is the **PROOF** of **Who Jesus is!**

Our last study ended with the **ASCENSION** of **JESUS CHRIST** in **FULFILLMENT** of **OVER 300**  
**PROPHECIES** concerning Him. I have attached a listing of just **100** of them. Peter Stoner,  
*(Chairman of the Departments of Mathematics and Astronomy at Pasadena City College until*  
*1953; Chairman of the science division, Westmont College 1953–57; Professor Emeritus of*  
*Science, Westmont College; Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Astronomy, Pasadena City*  
*College)* cited in his book, ***Science Speaks***, the statistical probability involving the fulfillment of  
 these prophecies. In other words, Dr. Stoner is submitting, through the use of objective,  
 mathematical analysis, the **evidence** that **NO ONE PERSON** could have, **just by CHANCE**,  
 perfectly **fulfilled** all of these prophecies—that these **prophecies were fulfilled** because the  
**DIVINE HAND** was and is involved with human history **orchestrating** the **events** to accomplish  
 the **REDEMPTION** of humanity.

1. For example, to understand the likelihood that **8** of these **prophecies** would, **just by CHANCE**, be fulfilled in one person, Dr. Stoner uses this example:

Try to imagine a **container 2 feet deep** and **large enough** to **cover the entire state of Texas**.  
 Visualize **filling that container** with **silver dollars** and placing **ONLY ONE MARKED silver dollar**  
 in with all the others, then **mixing up** all of them. The **likelihood** that you could randomly  
 reach into such a container and **pick the ONE MARKED silver dollar** is statistically the same  
 likelihood that, just by **random chance**, all **8** prophecies could be fulfilled in one person.

2. Now look at the example for the likelihood that **16** of these prophecies would, just by **CHANCE**, be fulfilled in one person:

Using the **silver dollars** example again, even a **container** large enough to **cover the entire earth's surface** would be **TOO SMALL** for **this comparison!!!** Try to imagine a **BALL of silver dollars** that has a **RADIUS 30 times** the **distance** from the **earth to the sun!!!** (*That's 30 times 93 MILLION miles! I can't imagine a BALL with the radius of the distance of 93 million miles, much less a BALL that has 30 times that radius!*) Visualize filling that **BALL** with silver dollars and placing **ONLY ONE MARKED silver dollar** in with all the others, then **mixing up** all of them. The **likelihood** that you could randomly reach into such a **BALL** and **pick the ONE MARKED silver dollar** is statistically the same likelihood that, just by **random chance**, all **16 prophecies** could be fulfilled in one person.

3. Now look at the example for the likelihood that **48** of these prophecies would, just by **CHANCE**, be fulfilled in one person:

We can no longer use silver dollars in our example because at this level of comparison they are **TOO LARGE**. Now we must use the **SMALLEST unit** we can imagine: An **ATOM**. (**There are 7 times 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000-- or 7 times 1 OCTILLION ATOMS in the HUMAN BODY!**) It is incomprehensible to conceive of the number of **ATOMS** in our **UNIVERSE**, but this is the model needed to understand the likelihood of **48 prophecies** being fulfilled in one person strictly by chance. Visualize a **BALL** containing **EVERY ATOM** in our **UNIVERSE**. Then imagine making **another BALL** containing **EVERY ATOM** in our **Universe for EACH ATOM** in our Universe **AND** doing that **EVERY SECOND** since **the universe began!!!** (*Even in this incomprehensible example, we are still short of actual probability numbers, but will use it as an illustration.*) Visualize placing **ONLY ONE MARKED ATOM** in with all these others, then **mixing up** all of the **innumerable balls of atoms**. The **likelihood** that you could randomly reach into such a **MASS** and **pick the ONE MARKED ATOM** is statistically the same likelihood that, just by **random chance**, all **48 prophecies** could be fulfilled in one person.

Keep in mind that the **ATOM illustration** is the likelihood that **48 prophecies** could be fulfilled just by chance. Those numbers show that that is **IMPOSSIBLE!** Even more mind boggling is the fact that there are **NOT just 48 prophecies** about **Jesus**, but that **THERE ARE OVER 300 PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS**. That probability is beyond statistical analysis!!!

Only the **ALMIGHTY, OMNISCIENT God** could control circumstances and events of human history to cause these prophecies to **come to pass in PERFECT PRECISION!**

4. Not only was **PROPHECY** perfectly fulfilled in Jesus, but the **FEASTS of MOSES' TABERNACLE WORSHIP** were **PERFECTLY FULFILLED in Jesus** on the **EXACT DAY** of the **month** God had ordered those feast days back during Moses' time. For example, **Jesus FULFILLED THE PASSOVER FEAST** (*He was the **Passover Lamb***), **Jesus FULFILLED THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD**, (*He was **WITHOUT LEAVEN**—i.e., **SINLESS***) and **Jesus FULFILLED THE FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS** (*He was **RESURRECTED** on the **THIRD DAY***).
5. The **NEXT FEAST** on **God's calendar** is **PENTECOST** or **FEAST OF WEEKS**. It was ordered by God to be celebrated **50 DAYS after PASSOVER**. In the Old Testament God ordered this **FEAST** to commemorate the **offering** of the **NEW grain** of the summer wheat **HARVEST**. This feast also occurred on the **anniversary** of the **GIVING OF THE LAW—THE TEN COMMANDMENTS** on Mt. Sinai.
6. For **40 DAYS after the resurrection**, (*see Acts 1:3*) Jesus periodically appeared to various people. At one time He was seen by over *"500 of the brethren at once."* (*1 Corinth. 15:6*) On the **40<sup>th</sup> day**, He told the apostles to **STAY in JERUSALEM** and...

*"WAIT for the **PROMISE** of the Father...For John truly baptized with water; but **YE SHALL BE BAPTIZED** with the **HOLY GHOST** not many days hence...But ye **SHALL** receive **POWER**, after that the **HOLY GHOST** is come upon you: and ye **SHALL** be **WITNESSES** unto **ME**, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."* (*Acts 1:5, 8*)

A total of **120 followers** of Jesus went to the **UPPER ROOM** in Jerusalem to **WAIT** for the **PROMISE**—the **BAPTISM** with the **HOLY GHOST**. It should be noted that **JESUS' MOTHER, MARY**, was **one of the 120** who also knew **her need for SALVATION!!!** Remember, John the Baptist had said at the beginning of his ministry that this soon-coming Messiah would **"Baptize with the HOLY GHOST and FIRE."**

7. The believers prayed and waited for **another 10 days**. Little did they know that on the **50<sup>th</sup> day**, they would be the recipients of the **FULFILLMENT** of the **FEAST of PENTECOST**. The Bible says...

“And suddenly there came a **SOUND** from **HEAVEN** as of a **RUSHING MIGHTY WIND**, and it **FILLED** all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them **CLOVEN (SPLIT or DIVIDED) TONGUES (FLAMES) of FIRE**, and it sat upon each of them. And they were **ALL FILLED** with the **HOLY GHOST** and began to **SPEAK with OTHER TONGUES**, as the **Spirit gave** them utterance...**every man heard them speak in his own language.**”

**THIS EVENT OF THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE SUBSEQUENT INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE **BIRTH OF THE CHURCH AGE!!!****

8. The **FEAST of PENTECOST** in the Old Testament foreshadowed a **NEW grain** from a **SUMMER HARVEST**. The fulfillment is found in those who, by faith in Jesus Christ, have become **NEW CREATURES** (2 Corinth. 5:17). We are **in the HARVEST AGE** of **winning souls** to Jesus.

Since the **FEAST of PENTECOST** also commemorated the **GIVING OF THE LAW ON MT. SINAI**, we see the **FULFILLMENT in the HOLY SPIRIT** being poured out upon the **120** and **GOD’S LAW BEING WRITTEN UPON THEIR HEARTS...**

*“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put **MY LAWS into their mind**, and **write them in their HEARTS**: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people...” (Hebrews 8:10)*

Remember, **120** is the number associated with **The LAW**, for **MOSES, THE LAWGIVER**, was **120 years old** when he died; and in Solomon’s Temple, there were **120 PRIESTS** serving under **the LAW** when the **TEMPLE** was **FIRST DEDICATED**. (*The **MANIFEST GLORY of GOD** came into Solomon’s Temple and was so **HEAVY**, the **120 Priests COULD NOT STAND UP!!!***) Those **120 TEMPLE PRIESTS** ministering under **THE LAW** foreshadowed the **120 SPIRITUAL PRIESTS** in the **UPPER ROOM** who would receive **THE LAW upon their hearts** when they were **BAPTIZED with the HOLY GHOST on the DAY of PENTECOST**. The **CHURCH** is the **PRIESTHOOD** to which the Old Testament worship pointed!!! We are **KINGS** and **PRIESTS** before our God!!! His **GLORY** is upon **US!** Isaiah said it was coming...

*“But ye shall be named the **Priests of the LORD**: men shall call you the **Ministers of our God...**” (Isaiah 61:6)*

*“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the **GLORY of the LORD is RISEN upon THEE.**”  
(Isaiah 60:1)*

9. Furthermore, remember **Jesus** had **BREATHED** on them prior to His ascension (just as **ELOHIM** had **BREATHED** into Adam in the Garden of Eden) and He then referred to this future event on the Day of Pentecost as **THE PROMISE** of the Father. In the **Old Testament**, **ISAAC** was the **CHILD** of the **PROMISE**—the **SPIRITUAL CHILD** whose **BIRTH** came about **because of God’s intervention**. We know the **Lord Jesus Christ** is the **TRUE CHILD of the SPIRIT** and, now, because of the **REDEMPTION of the CROSS**, **EACH of us** can become a **CHILD** of the **PROMISE** and be given a **PROMISED LAND** to subdue. After the **120** have been **BAPTIZED with the Holy Ghost** and they speak in the **languages** of all the people present for the Feast of Pentecost in Jerusalem, notice that Peter preaches to them. He begins by telling them that this **OUTPOURING** of the **HOLY SPIRIT** was predicted by the **Old Testament Prophet, JOEL**, nearly **750 years before** the Birth of Christ...

*“And it shall come to pass in the **LAST DAYS**, saith God, I will **POUR OUT** of **MY SPIRIT** upon **ALL FLESH**: and your **SONS** and **DAUGHTERS** shall **PROPHECY**, and your **YOUNG MEN** shall see **VISIONS**, and your **OLD MEN** shall dream **DREAMS**: And on my **SERVANTS** and on my **HANDMAIDENS** I will **POUR OUT** in those days of **MY SPIRIT**; and they **SHALL PROPHECY...**”  
(Acts 2:17-18)*

10. Peter, whose understanding has now been enlightened by the Holy Spirit outpouring, begins to share with the people that this is the **PROMISED** fulfillment of God raising up an **ETERNAL KING**, just as He had promised King David and that this is “**THE LAST DAYS AGE.**” Peter also shows the fulfillment of what God had promised to Abraham--that out of Abraham **ALL the nations** of the earth would be blessed. From the very beginning, God’s Plan of **SALVATION** was going to unfold for **ALL of HUMANITY**, not just the nation of Israel. Peter further says...

*“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the **NAME of JESUS CHRIST** for the **REMISSION of SINS**, and ye **SHALL** receive the **GIFT of the HOLY GHOST**. For the **PROMISE** is unto **YOU**, and to **YOUR CHILDREN**, and to **ALL** that are **AFAR OFF**, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.” (Acts 2:38-39).*

Remember in last week’s study, before Jesus ascended, He told the disciples that “**REPENTANCE and REMISSION of SINS**” should be preached in His Name among **ALL** nations,

beginning at Jerusalem. This is **EXACTLY** what Peter is doing and Peter calls this event **“THE PROMISE,”** just as Jesus had told them before His Ascension.

The many **LANGUAGES** supernaturally spoken by the 120 not only show that God has **opened the way for ALL nations, i.e., all languages to be saved,** but it hearkens back to when the **LANGUAGES** of the **different nations** were **FIRST** created. Remember, God caused the **EVIL men** building the **TOWER OF BABEL** in Genesis to speak **DIFFERENT LANGUAGES** in order to **DIVIDE and SEPARATE** them, since their intentions were **IDOLATROUS**. Now God is using this **supernatural GIFT** of speaking in **LANGUAGES** the believers did not know, to **SHARE the GOSPEL** and **UNITE** the people of God. It says that the 120 spoke...

*“...the wonderful works of God.” (Acts 2:11).*

**QUESTION:** Why did God use the **“sign”** of the **“cloven tongues” (divided flames)** of **FIRE** upon the **HEADS** of the 120 when they were baptized with the Holy Ghost?

**ANSWER:** *(See Ex .3:2, Ex. 13:21, Ex. 19:18, Lev. 9:23-24, Lev. 6:13, Psalm 29:7, Micah 2:13, Matthew 3:11)*

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**QUESTION:** Why did God use the **“sign”** of **speaking in languages (tongues)** they had never learned when the 120 were baptized with the Holy Ghost?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**QUESTION:** What is the **SIGNIFICANCE** of the **“SOUND** of a **RUSHING MIGHTY WIND”** as the Holy Spirit is **POURED OUT** upon the 120 believers?

**ANSWER:** *(Ezekiel 3:12-13, Ezekiel 37:9)* \_\_\_\_\_

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**QUESTION:** Why did the Old Testament Prophet Joel use the terminology that the Spirit would be **“POURED OUT?”**

**ANSWER:** *(Gen. 35:14, Ex. 29:6-7, Leviticus 2:1, Ex. 29:40)* \_\_\_\_\_

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11. The apostles begin to preach **Jesus** as the **fulfillment of the scriptures** and the **PROMISED MESSIAH**. Miracles of healing occurred. The **CHURCH** at that time was a **COMMUNITY** of believers who typically met in homes. As it grew, the disciples

appointed **7 good men** to assist in feeding the people. **Two** of those men were gifted **PREACHERS: STEPHEN** and **PHILIP**.

**12.** The same **RELIGIOUS CROWD** that had Jesus killed were **challenged by the preaching** of **STEPHEN**. When they brought **STEPHEN** before their council, **STEPHEN** began to illustrate **“SCRIPTURE interpreting SCRIPTURE.”** He traces the **SCARLET THREAD** of **REDEMPTION** and boldly **declares Jesus** as the **MESSIAH WHOM THEY MURDERED**. The **religious leaders** were so enraged with the words of Stephen, **they GNASHED on him** with their **TEETH**. When Stephen declared that he was **seeing a vision** at that very moment of the **Lord Jesus** in **Heaven STANDING** on the **RIGHT HAND of GOD**, they **COULDN'T stand it!!!** They carried him out of the city and **STONED him to death**. The **COMPASSION** Stephen had for his enemies was demonstrated in his dying words...

*“Lord, lay NOT this sin to their charge.” (Acts 7:60)*

Notice that a man by the name of **SAUL of TARSUS** is part of the crowd witnessing the brutal **STONING of Stephen**. God will turn this horrible, tragic **MURDER** around for the **FURTHERANCE of the Gospel** when He **CHANGES SAUL into PAUL**. Saul will eventually write **2/3 of the NEW TESTAMENT!!!** Saul, as a devout Pharisee, has a brilliant academic mind regarding the scriptures. He is unsurpassed in his **knowledge** of the **LETTER of the LAW**, but very soon, **GOD WILL TURN THE LIGHT ON** for Saul so that he may **understand the SPIRIT of the LAW**, which gives **LIFE EVERLASTING!**

**13.** **SAUL** begins to **PERSECUTE** all **BELIEVERS** with great fervency. He is very **SINCERE**, thinking he is eradicating **HERESY**. **BUT...he is SINCERELY WRONG**. God even uses **SAUL'S persecution of Christians** and having Christians imprisoned to cause a **DISPERSION**, which carries the Gospel into other areas!

**14.** Acts: 9 Finally, **GOD KNOCKS SAUL OFF HIS HIGH HORSE** when he heads to **DAMASCUS** to **arrest more Christians!!! LITERALLY!!!** The Lord Jesus gives Saul a **POWERFUL VISION** and **REVELATION OF HIMSELF!** Saul never forgot this experience, for he mentions it later when he testifies before others. A **BRIGHT LIGHT** shone around Saul and a **voice** said...

*“Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou ME?” And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am JESUS who thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.” (Acts 9:4-5)*

After the vision, **Saul** was **BLIND** for **3 days** and neither did he eat or drink. God sent a believer by the name of Ananias to pray for Saul to receive his sight. God told Ananias that Saul is...

*“A **CHOSEN** vessel unto **ME**, to **bear My Name** before the **Gentiles**, and **kings**, and the **children of Israel**: For I will shew him how **GREAT THINGS** he **MUST SUFFER** for My Name’s sake.” (Acts 9:15-16)*

- 15.** When Ananias prays for Saul, Saul is **physically healed** and can see. He is also **FILLED** with the **HOLY GHOST**. (Acts 9:17) Notice what the **FILLING** of the **HOLY GHOST** does for Saul’s **spiritual understanding**: He begins to **PROVE from the scriptures** that **JESUS** is the **CHRIST** and goes to the synagogues to convince others.
- 16.** While **Saul** is being commissioned as the **Apostle to the Gentiles**, God uses **PETER** to witness to the **FIRST GENTILE CONVERT, CORNELIUS**, a good man who was an officer of the Roman Army. **CORNELIUS** had given alms to the God of the Jews and prayed to their God, but had not been told that the **MESSIAH** had come and died for his sins.