



CHRIST'S CHURCH  
OF THE CANYON

Mid-Week Devotion

May 23, 2021

## The educated v. the simple

Right smack-dab in the middle of Pentecost, just as the Spirit-of-God is moving and impacting lives in the profoundest of ways, Doctor Luke writes in Acts 2:5, ***“Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.”*** The word “devout” means “circumspect.” I can’t remember the last time I used the word circumspect (I gotta get out more!). Here’s what Uncle Google says about people who are circumspect. “They think carefully before saying or doing anything.” It’s a great quality to have in someone entrusted with responsibility though sometimes boring in a friend. These devout Jews were incredibly educated and trained individuals always thinking through the implications of their words or actions. Unlike the guy who’s getting ready to launch into one of the most amazing sermons ever preached in the history of mankind, the Apostle Peter. I mean this sermon makes Rev. Billy Graham’s sermons to millions look like a first graders material (no disrespect Billy, rest in peace). Peter was less than devout or circumspect. He was simple, impulsive, rarely thought about the implications of his words or actions. Here’s the crazy part. At the front of Peter’s great sermon, he quotes, quotes mind you from the prophet Joel. Joel wrote his prophecy almost 1,000 years before Peter and Jesus lived. Part of Joel’s prophecy talks about what’s going to happen in the last days prior to the return of Christ, which explains what just happened in the “Upper room” with Pentecost. Those devout individuals should have been on top of this whole Pentecost thing. So, what does Peter’s sermon, as he quotes from Joel have to do with a bunch of devout Jews? These educated and circumspect men were missing the meaning of what was happening. They were mystified. Their education was lacking. The Spirit-of-God was moving and they didn’t see it. But, an illiterate, back-water, un-educated, simple fisherman got it. He figured it out. It’s about Jesus and Peter’s sermon says so!

Pr. Wayne

### **Upcoming Events** (see bulletin or website for more details)

Men’s Breakfast

Wrightwood Mountaineer Days

Wrightwood Car Show

Youth Tour to Santa Cruz, Monterey, and beyond