

God Was in the Fire Not the Wind

And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a violent rushing wind.

ACTS 2:2

Written by Bill Perkins

They were waiting,
in a room filled with
anticipation.
The soft shuffle of people
gathered in one place.

Then—

The sound of a tornado
rising above all else
until no other sound remained.

A sound like a violent rushing wind
filling the whole house.

As I read this the
Scriptures suddenly opened.

I realized this wasn't the first time
God revealed Himself
by overtaking every other sound.

In 1 Kings 19,
Elijah stood at the mouth of a cave.

A wind blew.
One so strong
it tore mountains apart.
It shattered rocks.
It was
violent,
overwhelming.

But God wasn't in the wind.
The wind announced His coming.

When God came to Elijah,
He came in a gentle whisper.
A whisper that strengthened Elijah
and sent him on a mission.

Pentecost follows
the same pattern
because God wasn't in
the sound of the wind.
The wind heralded
His coming.

But unlike with Elijah
God didn't come in a gentle whisper,
He came in the fire.

Flames like fire appeared,
separating
and resting on each of them—
and then
entering them.

The God who once descended
on Sinai,
who once filled the tabernacle
with glory,
now filled
His people.

God had arrived.
And God had entered
each of them.

And you may not know this about Jesus,
but the fire that fell on Pentecost
was the Presence He promised—
the same Spirit who empowered
His life and ministry
was filling His people. .

Holy fire.
Convicting fire.
Revealing fire.

The Spirit compelled them all
to rush to the street and declare
Jesus' death and resurrection
in languages they didn't know.
And the Spirit spoke through them
convicting the masses
of their sin and need of a Savior.
And 3,000 believed and were baptized
that day.

And that fire still burns
in every disciple
of Jesus.

REFLECTION

Where do I need the Spirit
to silence every competing sound?

God's Spirit doesn't just visit—He fills me.

Father, let Your fire burn in me
with clarity and courage.
Fill me and make my life reveal Jesus.
I ask in His name. Amen.