

Being a Spiritually Minded Christian
Part Twenty
Being in One Accord
Knowing Christ as the Light of the World through Fellowship

- *The Greek word ὁμοθυμαδόν (homothymadon) is used 12 times in the New Testament and it is usually translated as “with one accord.”*
- *ὁμοθυμαδόν (homothymadon) means “pertaining to mutual consent or agreement, with one mind, by common consent, unanimously, in togetherness, as one.”*
- *“ὁμοθυμαδόν (homothymadon) is a compound of two words meaning to ‘rush along’ and ‘in unison.’ The image is almost musical; a number of notes are sounded which, while different, harmonize in pitch and tone. As the instruments of a great concert under the direction of a concertmaster, the Holy Spirit blends together the lives of members of Christ's Church.”*
- *Unity is not conformity. Unity is harmony where everyone plays their unique part using their special gifts and blending their hearts and lives together to reveal the person of Christ. “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.” (1 Corinthians 12:12).*
- *The Greek word for “with one accord” is used seven times in the Book of Acts to describe the early church. Each reference reveals a different purpose, benefit, and aspect of Christians gathering together in fellowship around Christ.*
- *In the Book of Acts, the Church came together seven times “with one accord,” and in the Gospel of John, Jesus made seven statements about being the great “I am.” It appears that these seven “with one accord’s” found in Acts and the seven “I am’s in John correlate in the same order.*
- *In the Gospel of John, the first time Jesus proclaimed that He is the great “I am,” He declared, “I am the bread of life.” (John 6:48). Jesus declared that “He who eats this bread will live forever,” (John 6:58) thus freeing us from the fear of death and eternal damnation.*
- *The Greek word for “with one accord” is used for the first time in Acts, Chapter one. As the believers gathered together in the upper room, all fear of the Jewish leaders and the Roman soldiers was dispelled. They no longer feared for their lives. As they gathered together with one accord in prayer and fellowship they became confident in Christ as the Bread of Life.*

- *The second time Jesus declared Himself as the great “I am” is found in John, Chapters eight and nine when Christ declared, “I am the Light of the World.”*
- *God created the natural world to give us insights into spiritual truths. A parable is an earthly or natural example or story that reveals heavenly or spiritual truths. The Word of God has much to say about light and about darkness. Light and darkness in the natural realm provide insights and truths about light and darkness in the spiritual realm.*

John 8:12 (NKJV)

¹²Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

- *Jesus made three important statements in John 8:12.*
- *“I am the light of the world” – We need to recognize that Jesus is the Light and the only true light of the world.*
- *“He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness” – We need to choose to follow and obey Him if we want to walk in His light.*
- *“But will have the light of life” - If we walk in the light of Jesus Christ we will not only receive eternal life, but we will also experience abundant overflowing life.*
- *The Pharisees’ immediate reaction to Jesus’ words, “I am the Light of the World” was an indicator of the true condition of their hearts. “The Pharisees therefore said to Him, ‘You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true.’” (John 8:13).*
- *The reason the Pharisees rejected Jesus’ claims of being the Light of the World is summarized in Jesus’ words in John 3:18-19. “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”*
- *If a person has been in a pitch black room for any length of time and someone turns on a bright light, their immediate response is to squint, cover their eyes, and turn away from the light. This is exactly how the carnally minded man reacts when first confronted by the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. “For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.” (John 3:20).*

- *However, in contrast to John 3:20, a spiritually minded person is drawn to the light. In the natural realm, when someone has been in a well lit room and is used to the light, not only do they not turn away from the light, but they actually draw closer to the light so they can see even more clearly and precisely. “But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.” (John 3:21).*
- *A good indicator of the condition of our own hearts, even as believers, is how we respond to the light when it shines on our lives. If we get upset, offended, or angry it means there is something in our hearts resisting God’s work in our lives. However, if we seek to listen and understand, it indicates that our primary motivation in life is to please God even when His light reveals things in our lives that we need to repent of or change.*
- *Just because we have received Christ and are born again does not mean we are always spiritually minded and walking in the Light of Christ. Paul reminds and exhorts us: “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth).” (Ephesians 5:8–9). We still have to choose to walk in the light.*
- *Before we received Christ we not only walked in darkness but “we were darkness” and “children of darkness.” However, now “we are light in the Lord” and have become “children of light,” but we must now learn how to walk as children of light. In other words, we need to live in the light by following and obeying Jesus Christ daily. We either focus on the light or on darkness. Light and darkness cannot co-exist—we walk in whatever our focus is on.*
- *For us to walk in the light and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit we need to draw closer to Jesus Christ because He is the light of the world. We need to sincerely desire to “find out what is acceptable to the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:10).*
- *If we truly want to find out what is acceptable to the Lord, we will turn to God’s Word and diligently read, study, and meditate on His Word because “Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.” Then we will clearly see and understand the path that God wants us to follow. (Psalm 119:105).*
- *We must not allow compromise to influence our decisions. We are to “have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” (Ephesians 5:11). We are not called to expose the darkness in others but to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to search our own hearts to expose any areas of darkness, sin, or selfishness so we can confess our sins and be forgiven and cleansed.*

- *Mankind has always been groping to find the real purpose and meaning to life and it is the life that Jesus possesses that provides the real answers and illuminates us. “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.” (John 1:4).*
- *However, the world does not recognize that they are dwelling in darkness and they do not understand that the light of Christ was given to deliver mankind from darkness and destruction. “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.” (John 1:5).*
- *Those who dwell in darkness are not even aware that they are in darkness because darkness is all they have ever known. Their darkness is not able to comprehend the light. They actually think that their perception of life is both clear and bright, when in fact they are only perceiving shadows and incomplete images. They are incapable of seeing the eternal perspective.*
- *The Greek word translated in the New King James as “comprehend” in the phrase “the darkness did not comprehend it” not only means “to understand” but its primary meaning is “to grasp, lay hold of, to gain control over something, to overcome.” So John 1:5 is translated in a number of translations as “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” This implies that not only is the darkness unable to grasp the meaning of the light but is actually hostile to it.*
- *The wonderful news is that although “the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one” (1 John 5:19b), “the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” Christ has overcome the world, the devil, and darkness, so the Light of the World continues to shine.*
- *Because the world dwells in darkness they do not recognize that Jesus is the light of the world nor do they recognize Him as their God and Creator. “That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.” (John 1:9-10).*
- *Because the world lies in darkness and is under the sway of the wicked one the world is unable to discern between good and evil and light and darkness. “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5:20). In fact, the Bible says that as the time draws closer to the end, this world will grow darker still and the world will increasingly confuse good for evil and evil for good.*

- *Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, so those who do not know Christ not only live in darkness but they are unaware that they live in darkness because they have never experienced anything but darkness.*
- *Just as in natural our eyes cannot operate without light so it is with our spiritual eyes. When a person looks to Jesus then the light of Christ fills them but when a person is looking into the darkness they see nothing but dark shadows. “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matthew 6:22–23).*
- *The next verse in Matthew, Chapter six, warns us that covetousness can cause our spiritual eyes to be turned away from Christ and toward darkness. “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matthew 6:24).*
- *The following verses describe what one experiences when one walks in darkness—worry and fear. “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?” “Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? “So why do you worry about clothing? (Matthew 6:25, 27–28a).*
- *When we as believers are not walking in the light of Christ then we no longer see God’s faithfulness or provision. Fear and worry grip our hearts because we are afraid of the uncertainty of the future. We have forgotten Who holds the future. “Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?” “Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” (Matthew 6:26, 28b, 29).*
- *Therefore a good test for believers to measure the degree of the light of Christ we are walking in, is to note how free we are from worry, anxiety, and fear. The word of God innumerable times exhorts and encourages us to “fear not” but to trust in the living God, knowing His promises are faithful and true. “Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” (Luke 12:32).*
- *Another good test for believers to measure the degree of the light of Christ we are walking in, is to note if we are gripped by materialism and covetousness. God has given us many material and natural blessings to enjoy and be thankful for, but they are not meant to become our source of purpose, joy, or satisfaction.*

- *Materialism and covetousness can indicate we have forgotten that all our worldly accomplishments are short lived and will be left behind. “For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.” (1 Timothy 6:7). It is only what we have done for Christ that will be eternal! Our first priority is to seek His Kingdom. “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33).*
- *When we as Christians are operating in the natural mind we are not allowing the light of Christ to shine on us or through us which results in us becoming shortsighted. This produces materialism and covetousness because we are not able to see the things of this life in the light of eternity. “For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble.” (2 Peter 1:9-10).*
- *However, a spiritually minded Christian walks in the light of Christ and can see a great distance—even into eternity. A spiritually minded Christian will always make decisions in this life that reflect an eternal perspective.*
- *Hebrews, Chapter 11, the great faith chapter of the Bible, speaks about great men and women of faith, and repeats over and over again the theme of seeing things that are invisible to the naturally minded person. “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.” (Hebrews 11:3).*
- *The spiritually minded Christian, because he or she is walking in the light of Christ, is able to see things that are hidden from those who walk in darkness.*
- *Noah is an example of a spiritually minded person who believed God and acted upon His warnings although at the time there was no indication of impending judgment. “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” (Hebrews 11:7).*
- *Abraham is another example of a spiritually minded believer who was able to leave behind the temporal things which were seen so he could receive an eternal inheritance which was not yet seen. “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.” (Hebrew 11:8).*
- *Moses is also an example of a spiritually minded believer who chose to leave the riches and luxuries of Egypt to follow God’s calling. He forsook the temporal to*

pursue the eternal because he was able to see the eternal. “esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.” (Hebrews 11:26-27).

- *All these men and women of faith were children of light and could see afar off the eternal rewards that God was offering. “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.” (Hebrews 11:13). This contrasts to the naturally minded person who is shortsighted and cannot look beyond this temporal realm to the eternal rewards God is offering His children.*
- *Our response to Jesus will determine if we live fruitful lives filled with light and joy or unfruitful carnal lives filled with confusion and disappointments. “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” (John 11:9-10).*
- *If any of the works of the flesh are manifest in our lives it means there is still some degree of darkness in our souls and the light of Christ is not fully shining in our hearts. However, we are to take heart because we can have the assurance that as we pursue God, then the light within us will continue to grow brighter and brighter. “And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.” (2 Peter 1:19).*
- *Believers who have received Christ and know Jesus as the Light of the World are still growing in that revelation and receiving more light. In stark contrast, the world is in total spiritual darkness and searches in vain for purpose, enlightenment, and answers.*
- *As the end times are approaching, believers who choose to pursue God will grow brighter and brighter in the light of Christ, but this world will continue to stumble and fall as the darkness continues to deepen and as wickedness and sin increase. “But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble.” (Proverbs 4:18-19).*
- *The world is seeking answers to the many problems facing it. They mistakenly believe that they can look within themselves to find the answers. The world has swallowed hook, line, and sinker the oldest lie ever told to man. “in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” (Genesis 3:5) The New Age movement basically says, “We are all gods and the light of the world is within us.”*

- *God struck Egypt with ten plagues which judged the false idols of Egypt and revealed the true spiritual condition of their hearts. The ninth plague showed the Egyptians the great darkness they lived in, a darkness that could actually be felt. “Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt.” (Exodus 10:21). Similarly, in these end times a darkness is coming on the world that can be felt.*
- *As the problems, conflicts, and disasters both manmade and natural continue to escalate, the darkness will be felt more and more and “men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.” (Luke 21:26).*
- *As man tries to deal with the problems that are coming upon the world in these end times apart from God, things will actually become worse and more unstable.*
- *Specifically the Bible indicates that the issue of Jerusalem will become a global problem that the world will not be able to solve. Jerusalem will become a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone which will cut the nations in pieces. “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it. (Zechariah 12:2–3).*
- *As world leaders scramble for answers to the mounting problems they face both nationally and globally, they are coming up empty handed. These dire circumstances are meant to make them realize that they are in darkness so they will turn to God and seek Jesus who is the Light of the World and the answer to all their problems.*
- *When Paul was speaking to the Athenians he succinctly summed up their quest for truth. “And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’” (Acts 17:26–28).*
- *God has allowed the nations to experience a darkness that is so deep that it can be felt “so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.” In other words, the darkness is increasing so that people and nations will cry out to God*

to find help and deliverance from the coming judgment and find the true light of the world, Jesus Christ.

- *Some will find Christ and others will harden their hearts and fool themselves by pretending that things are getting better. “But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.” (1 Thessalonians 5:1–3).*
- *However, we as children of light are to be vigilant and have our lights burning brightly so we will not be overwhelmed by the darkness, calamities, and fear that are going to overtake the whole world. “But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.” (1 Thessalonians 5:4-8).*
- *The people of this world who are in darkness argue, “If there is a God why is the world filled with so much evil, death and destruction?” They fail to realize all these terrible things are because the world is filled with the darkness of sin and rebellion. They also fail to see God’s hand in the affairs of mankind because they are in darkness. However, we who are in the light are able to see Christ’s hand in every detail of our lives and in the affairs of this world.*
- *There is one more attribute of light that is important for us to note. Not only does light drive away darkness so one can see, but light is expressive, reflecting the source of the light.*
- *In the natural realm the type and quality of the light indicates the source of the light. The light emitted by an object not only indicates the temperature of the object but the actual elements that compose the object. Different light sources will emit different spectrums of light which are unique to the elements. By using a spectroscope scientists are able to determine both the temperature of a star and its chemical composition.*
- *Jesus as the light of the world expresses the very image and nature of God to the world. “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by*

Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.”
(*Hebrews 1:1-3*).

- *Jesus shines with the brightness of the Father* “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person.”
- *Jesus as the Light of the World came to reveal the Father to the world through Himself. Philip asked, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us” and Jesus’ response was clear. “He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?” (John 14:8b, 9b).*
- *The second time Jesus declared that He is the Light of the World is in John 9:5 and is in the context of Jesus healing a man who was born blind. This healing is significant on a number of different levels. This is the first time in the Bible that someone who was born blind was healed. “Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth.” “Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind.” (John 9:1, 32).*
- *Jesus came into a world filled with people who were born spiritually blind, so that as the Light of the World, He would give sight to as many as would believe on Him.*
- *God does not condemn anyone because they were born spiritually blind, but because they refuse to come to Christ and put their faith in Him so they may see. “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.” (John 3:19).*
- *The second time that Jesus declared that He is the Light of the World is found in John 9:5. “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”*
- *“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” As long as Jesus walked among us, He was the Light of the World that brought light to mankind, but once Jesus died, rose again, and ascended to be at the right hand of the Father He no longer dwelt among us. Jesus declared that He had to return to the Father. “I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.” (John 16:28).*
- *However, God’s plan to bring the light of the Gospel to the world included His Church. “You are the light of the world.” (Matthew 5:14a).*
- *Every born again believer is part of the Body of Christ and through His Body, the Church, He now shines His light and His life to the world through our actions and lives. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16).*

- *The pronoun “you” in the sentence, “**You** are the light of the world” is in the plural implying not only that there will be many believers but that we are to shine His light into this world, not only individually but collectively as the world beholds our unity, love, and care for one another. “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35). Love shines! And in a world filled with so much darkness, it really shines.*
- *Jesus gave specific instructions on how we are to shine the Light of Christ through us to this world. “Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.” (Matthew 5:15).*
- *Often as believers we fail to be a light to this world because we hide our light under a basket. We hide our light in a number of ways.*
- *We can be ashamed of our faith in Christ and not let others know that we are followers of Jesus.*
- *We can hide our faith by not living our lives as spiritually minded Christians but instead act and live as either carnally or naturally minded people and hide the light of Christ under the basket of our fleshly choices.*
- *The correct way for our light to shine is by placing it “on a lampstand.” To recognize the significance and application of this, we need to know what the lampstand represents.*
- *Jesus is described in Revelation 1:12-13 as the one who stands in the midst of the seven lampstands. “Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.”*
- *In Revelation 1:20 the meaning of the seven lampstands is revealed as representing the seven local churches that were addressed in Revelation, Chapters two and three, “the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.”*
- *Another Scripture that provides additional clarity into the meaning of the lampstands is found in Hebrews 9:2. This same Greek word “lampstand” is used to describe the Menorah, or the seven branched lampstand that stood in the Tabernacle of Moses, “For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary.”*

- *So we can deduce that the lampstands represented local churches, which were not composed of a single light but of a collection of lights placed together in order to produce a bright radiant light that would be able to “give light to all who are in the house.” (Matthew 5:15b)*
- *Even though each believer is spiritually part of the Church or the Body of Christ, we still need to choose to be part of a local church where collectively our lights will shine to the whole world.*
- *In Acts, Chapter two, we find the second time that the Greek word “with one accord” is used in the context of the Church. This demonstrates and illustrates how when believers are gathered together and operate within a local church with one accord that Christ as the Light of World shines brightly.*

Acts 2:1–4 (NKJV)

¹When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

²And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

³Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

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

- *On the Day of Pentecost, when the disciples gathered together in prayer and fellowship for ten days with one accord, the most marvelous event occurred! The Holy Spirit was poured out on the Church and they began to manifest the power and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*
- *When the Holy Spirit filled each one of the disciples, His glory and power were truly awesome as they began speaking in tongues. Not only were the disciples overwhelmed, but it spilled into the streets of Jerusalem and caused the bystanders to be filled with awe and amazement. “And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.” (Acts 2:6).*
- *The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost was a direct result of the disciples obeying Jesus’ words and continuing with one accord for ten days of prayer and fellowship. I have not found one incident of God bringing revival without believers gathering together with one accord and seeking God diligently in prayer.*
- *The Bible emphasizes that “when the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.” The unity and harmony of the Believers is intrinsically linked to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.*

- *Therefore to have our light placed on a lampstand is more than going to a weekly service at a church building but coming together in fellowship and prayer with one accord. Being part of a local church is about relationships and harmony where each of our gifts and callings are used and blended together for the glory of God.*
- *On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus as the Light of the World was clearly seen by all. In the Old Testament, God mandated that every male Jew was to gather in Jerusalem every year to celebrate Pentecost and so all the men of Israel present witnessed the power of God. “Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, “Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?” (Acts 2:7–8).*
- *As the disciples were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues, all the Jews who had gathered together from the different countries to Jerusalem for Pentecost, heard them speaking each in their native languages, proclaiming all the wonderful things which God had done. “we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.” (Acts 2:11).*
- *The light of Christ shone so brightly through the Church that those around were bewildered. “So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean?” (Acts 2:12).*
- *The people asked an important question. “Whatever could this mean?” A short time later Peter preached the first evangelical sermon in history resulting in three thousand being added to the Church in that first day alone! Jesus as the Light of the World shone brightly that day.*
- *However, not all responded to the Light of Christ and the Gospel message in a positive way. “Others mocking said, ‘They are full of new wine.’” (Acts 2:13) Either way everyone heard the message and everyone had a chance to respond.*
- *When believers come together with one accord in fellowship, the light of Christ shines brightly as our carnal ways of thinking are removed and we radiate the light of Christ. “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7).*
- *Let us learn to come together with one accord so that the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, can shine through His Church to this world.*