#### A New Tongue

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 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 other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2: 1-4).

When we read of tongues in the scriptures we think of times learned. This was a gift of God and happened on many occasions. Yet, let us look at a new tongue in a different way. People can speak the same language that they have always spoken, maybe the only one that they know, and still speak with a new

Years ago I noticed that we often speak harsher to our fami-

lies that we do to anybody else, except when we are angry. Why? Perhaps it is just because they are family, and we treat them differ- ceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ently that we do anyone else. Whether it is family, or anybody else, ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteouswhen the Lord comes into our life we are changed. The people that ness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak we read of in Acts 2 didn't speak a new language until the Spirit every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one entered them. From then on, things were different.

When we become a Christian we receive the gift of the Holy cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And Ghost, (Acts 2:38). Then, where we may have had a hateful they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with tongue, it changes to a speech of love. Where there was bitterness, the spirit and the tongue become kinder. Ephesians 4: 24 & 25 say: "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created like this where people spoke other languages that they had not in righteousness and true holiness. 25. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another." Why did we become a Christian? Because the Holy Spirit revealed to us that we were lost and without God. Our ways were sinful and without faith, repentance, and the new birth, there was no hope for us.

Ephesians 4: 22-25, "That ye put off concerning the former

conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deof another." We speak with a new tongue because in Christ we become a new person. A new spirit, a clean spirit, the right spirit leads us to be a new person with a better life. People who had a critical tongue spoke that way because that was the kind of spirit within them. When the Holy Spirit is leading us we do not want to be critical, or hateful anymore.

How wonderful to see someone who was profane, change their manner and speech to be a person who helps instead of hurting someone. Edifying, building up and encouraging, rather than speech which harms both the speaker and the hearer is better in every way. Many of us know the kind of tongue that we used to have and the one we use now. It is a continuing marvel to realize the change that the Lord has made in us.

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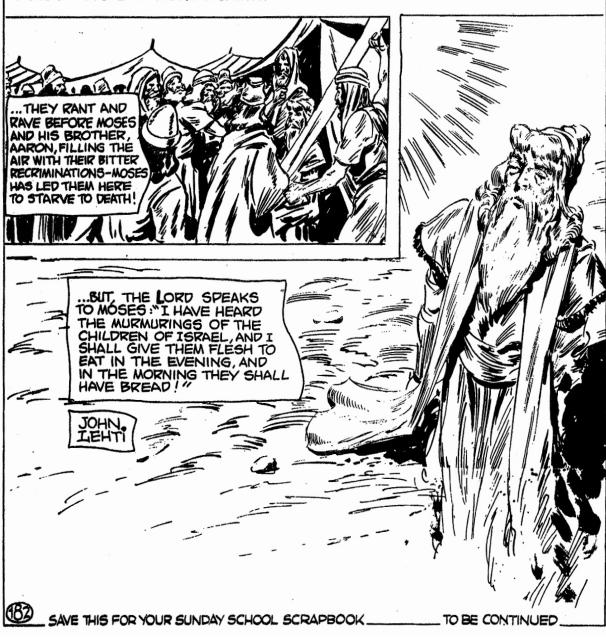
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