

What is the Pentecostal Zion Fellowship?

Pentecostal Zionists are an offshoot of the charismatic movement. They teach that Israel has a right to her land and that tongues are a necessary sign of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. They are correct on the former point and in error on the latter point. Like all cults and 'isms they mix truth with error (Ga 5:9).

Zionists:

God gave the Jews all land west of the Euphrates River (See Judges 11). Today, the Jews do not occupy all land given to them by God. Zionists support Israel's right to her land as given in scripture.

Pentecostals:

Pentecostals believe that tongues are evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. They argue that no one should forbid the speaking in tongues based on 1 Corinthians 14:39 (do not forbid the speaking with tongues, DBT); therefore, one cannot disagree with their position. While non-charismatics do not forbid the speaking of tongues (they will indeed return in the future), they maintain the biblical position that tongues were for an earlier time and place.

John MacArthur writes:

Tongues "Will Cease"

...Charismatic believers insist that none of the gifts have ceased yet, so the cessation of tongues is yet future. Most non-charismatics insist that tongues have already ceased, passing away with the apostolic age. Who is right?

It should be noted that 1 Corinthians 13:8 itself does not say when tongues were to cease. Although 1 Corinthians 13:9-10 teaches that prophecy and knowledge will cease when the "perfect" (i.e., the eternal state) comes, the language of the passage—particularly the middle voice of the Greek verb translated "will cease"—puts tongues in a category apart from these gifts. Paul writes that while prophecy and knowledge will be "done away" (passive voice) by "the perfect," the gift of tongues "will cease" in and of itself (middle voice) prior to the time that "the perfect" arrives. When did this cessation of tongues take place? The evidence of Scripture and history indicate that tongues ceased in the apostolic age.¹

Tongues are a sign (1 Cor. 12:8–10, 28–30) of the Spirit's coming (Acts 2:3, 4). There must be an interpreter if/when tongues are spoken (1 Cor. 14:27, 28). There is no evidence today that men are hearing the same thing from God when they are tested by being separated from one another (1 Thess 5:21). When asked to share what was spoken in their so-called heavenly language, their accounts do not jibe. These men may be hearing from demons not God. Many are willing to open themselves up to lies and deceit (1 Tim. 4:1). The bible warns that tongues may be abused (1 Cor. 14:22–26). If one hears a message contrary to God's word, he should reject it. Love is superior to speaking in tongues (1 Cor. 13:1–13) so one should not be made to feel spiritually inferior if he does not have this spiritual gift.

¹ MacArthur, John. *The Gift of Tongues: Selected Scriptures: A Grace Community Church Distinctive*: 2001.

In the future an authentic pouring out of the Spirit will occur (Ac 2:17). Today we are not to look for strange experiences (Heb 13:9). A Church is guided by God's word (Ps 119:160, Eph. 1:18). Men are encouraged to continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship and in the breaking of bread, and in prayers (Ac 2:40–42). Christians should stimulate one another to righteousness and obedience. The apostle Peter wrote: As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God (1 Pe 4:10). Each Christian has been given gifts to use in the service of God.