

Note: It was unlawful for a Jew to have a close association with or to visit a Gentile (Acts 10:28; 11:2,3)

- b. To make possible the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy that the Holy Spirit would be given to all believers regardless of race, i.e., to Jewish believers, Samaritan believers, and Gentile believers (Acts 2:16,17 - note the words "I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh"; 38,39)
- c. To convince the Jewish believers to receive the Gentile believers into the church on an equal basis with themselves (Acts 15:5-11)

Note: In the body of Christ which is the church, there is no difference between Jewish believers and Gentile believers; they are all one in Christ.

- d. To convince the Gentile believers that they were to be part of the church which is the body of Christ.

Note: This is why the Holy Spirit was given to the Gentiles while Peter was preaching to them (Acts 10:44,45)

#### 4. Evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit

It was speaking in tongues (Acts 10:44-46)

#### E. An Examination of the baptism <sup>with</sup> of the Holy Spirit in Acts 19:1-7

- 1. Occurrence of the baptism <sup>with</sup> of the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:6)
- 2. Time of the baptism <sup>with</sup> of the Holy Spirit

It was after conversion (Acts 19:4-6)

Note: These disciples believed that Jesus of Nazareth was the Messiah on whom they had believed, were baptized in Jesus' name, and then received the Holy Spirit when Paul laid his hands on them.

#### 3. Reasons for the time of the occurrence of the baptism <sup>with</sup> of the Holy Spirit

- a. To convince these disciples that the Holy Spirit had been given at Pentecost (cf Acts 19:2)

Note: This was important:

- (1) Because these disciples were to be the nucleus of the Ephesian church which was to be a new centre - the next in importance after Syrian Antioch - from which the Gospel was to be spread to other Gentiles, and these disciples needed to know that they had the Holy Spirit and that He would empower them to do it.
- (2) Because it would enable these disciples to convince any others who didn't know that the Holy Spirit had been given at Pentecost that this had occurred.