

THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CHURCH GROWTH
(A DESCRIPTIVE AND EXEGETICAL PAPER ON ACTS 2:1-13, 42-47)

A Special Paper

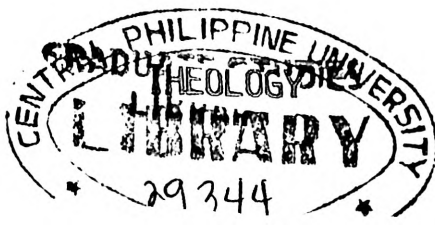
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ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the characteristics of the Holy Spirit and to interpret and theologically reflect on the content of Acts 2:1-13, 41-47. Specifically, this study analyzes the significant role of the Holy Spirit as reflected in Acts 2:1-13, 41-47 and its implications for church growth. This study hopes to determine the attributes and characteristics of the Holy Spirit, to determine the work of the Holy Spirit and to understand the importance and role of the Holy Spirit in church growth.

The content of this study includes an introduction with its definition of terms, a chapter on the review of related literature, a support-task for determining the original meaning of the passage by presenting its literary form and historical problems, an exegetical study of Acts 2:1-13, 41-47 and the implications and theological reflection.

Two levels of analysis are used in this study. The first level is historical and literary criticism. In this level, the object and plan, authorship, date, recipient, content, theme and purpose, characteristics, theology and literature is examined.

The second level of analysis employed in this study is exegesis. A verse-by-verse exegesis will be done on Acts 2:1-13, 41-47.

The implications are covered in three areas: (1) The identity and work of the Holy Spirit; (2) The role of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost; and (3) The work of the Holy Spirit in the Early Church. With the study of these areas, the understanding of how the early church was able to have its growth will be determined. Conclusions and recommendations are also reflected in this paper.