***ACTS & US -* PENTECOST / SHAVUOT R. Giglio**

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***50 days (counting the Omer) from the Sabbath following Passover (7 Sabbaths or weeks) Christian Religion: 50 days after Easter***

***Shavuot* (7 “*Weeks*”)**

***Pente-cost* =50 days**

The Biblical feasts: (Lev 23)

1. Pesach, - Passover
2. Unleavened Bread,
3. First Fruits,
4. ***Shavuot,*** *- Feast of weeks*

5. Rosh Hashanah ,

6. Yom Kippur,

7. Succoth – Feast of Tabernacles

Note: PENTECOST Existed and Exists as a Jewish Holiday, before Acts 2*.*

*(King David is said to have been born and died on this specific day.)*

For Jews:

Celebration of “*The giving of the Law*” on Mount Sanai. (*They read the Book of Ruth and eat blintzes.?.?)*

For Christians: The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit and what some call the “Birth of the church”:

NOTE: The Holy Spirit always existed. Up until this time however, He had not been POURED OUT ON ALL PEOPLE. Only on a very select few.

[**Joel 2:28-29**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Joel/2/28)

**28** “Then, after doing all those things,  
    *I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.*  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.  
    Your old men will dream dreams,  
    and your young men will see visions.  
**29**In those days I will pour out my Spirit  
    even on servants—men and women alike.

Jesus predicted the *coming of the* ***Holy Spirit*** (*Ruach Ha Kodesh*).

He referred to Him as “**paraklētos**” which means “Advocate, Helper, Comforter”,

John 14:16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another [Advocate, Helper, Comforter],  to help you and be with you forever—

|  | John 14:26But the [Advocate, Helper, Comforter], the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.    John 15:26 “When the [Advocate, Helper, Comforter],  comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me.  John 16:7**“**But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the [Advocate, Helper, Comforter],  will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. |
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**ACTS 1:8-9 Sets the Stage…**

**8**But you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” **9**After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. *(The Ascension)*

**2nf Chapter of Acts:**

**ACTS 2 “**When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. **2**Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3**They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4**All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

**5**Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. **6**When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. **7**Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? **8**Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?”

*(very amazing miracle!) All speaking at once, many heard in unique dialects. –*

*( Different than 1st Cor. 14:2:*

***1st Cor. 14:2*** *“*For anyone who speaks in a tonguedoes not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.”)

*Where were they from? Fifteen different places.*

**“9**Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10**Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome **11**(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” **12**Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

**13**Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

**Peter Preaches to the Crowd – *(With incredible power and authority!)***

*Peter who was the most impulsive, impetuous, sometimes ignorant and cowardly. Is now the most powerful, gifted and anointed Apostle in the first part of Acts, speaking boldly to thousands of Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem who put Jesus to death 50 days ago. WHY? HOW? - The baptism of the Holy Spirit!*

**“14**Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. **15**These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning!”

*5:00 somewhere? : )*

**16**No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

**17**“‘In the last days, God says,  
    I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
    your young men will see visions,  
    your old men will dream dreams.  
**18**Even on my servants, both men and women,  
    I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
    and they will prophesy.  
**19**I will show wonders in the heavens above  
    and signs on the earth below,  
    blood and fire and billows of smoke.  
**20**The sun will be turned to darkness  
    and the moon to blood  
    before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.  
**21**And everyone who calls  
    on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

**22**“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. **23**This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

He then begins accusing them of murder!

**24*But God*** raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

**25**David said about him: *(Ps. 16:6-11)*

“‘I saw the Lord always before me.  
    Because he is at my right hand,  
    I will not be shaken.  
**26**Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
    my body also will rest in hope,  
**27**because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
    you will not let your holy one see decay.  
**28**You have made known to me the paths of life;  
    you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

**29**“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. **30**But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **31**Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **32**God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. **33**Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. **34**For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“‘The Lord said to my Lord:  “Sit at my right hand **35**until I make your enemies  
    a footstool for your feet.”’ **36**“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this **Jesus,** whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

*How did they respond? Did they run him out of town as a Heretic?*

*Did they call him a blasphemer and nail him to a cross, just like Jesus?*

*NO!*

**37**When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

**38**Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39**The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

**40**With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them,

*[Meaning it was a really long sermon : ) ]*

“Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” **41**Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

*(AMAZING! in any city anywhere at any time)*

**What did they do? They formed a Community *“Church”***

**42**They devoted themselves to;

* the apostles’ teaching,
* and to fellowship,
* to the breaking of bread
* and to prayer.

**43**Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. **44**All the believers were together and had everything in common. **45**They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. **46**Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, **47**praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. <>

*NOTE: The Holy Spirit wasn’t introduced for the first time at Pentecost, He WAS PRESENT in the Old Testament, but only on certain individuals and in limited capacity.*

*After Pentecost The Holy Spirit was “Poured Out” on many men and women and they receive an “indwelling” of his Spirit.*

Important to realize that they did NOT stop being Jews after Pentecost. The very next chapter they were back at the temple praying.

*They just became “Pentecostal Charismatic Messianic Jews”… : )*

*Pentecostal (Pentecost Experience),*

*Charismatic (gifts in motion), etc.…*

*We try to avoid labels,*

*Because what is intended to be descriptive, often becomes divisive.*

Why does Pentecost mean so much to us?

* We now can live with the presence of His Holy Spirit within us!
* We can know His truth as the Spirit reveals it.
* We have Power for works of Ministry as the Spirit gives us Gifts and supernatural abilities.

Just to live a normal Christian life in this world of spiritual warfare, requires the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 12 and 1st Corinthians 12 mention the *Gifts, Workings and Manifestations* of the Spirit.

Does the outpouring of the Holy Spirit mean that we just have more demonstrative and hyper-spiritual *worship services* on Sunday mornings, prayer meetings and conferences? Maybe, maybe not…but that’s not the main thing.

The OUTPOURING of the Holy Spirit results in fruit AND the supernatural workings of the Spirit:

**FRUIT:**  *(Gal. 5:22-23)*

1. **love,**
2. **joy,**
3. **peace,**
4. **patience,**
5. **kindness,**
6. **goodness,**
7. **faithfulness,**
8. **gentleness,**
9. **self-control.**

**GIFTS:** (Romans 12) A Supernaturally enhanced and empowered ability in these things:

1. Prophesy– proclaiming truth
2. Serving - meeting practical needs
3. Teaching – clarifying truth
4. Exhorting – building up faith
5. Giving - entrusting assets for ministry
6. Organizing (or Leading) – coordinating efforts
7. Empathizing (Mercy) –sharing and removing emotional distress

Also: MANY MANIFESTATIONS: (We studied nine in 1st Corinthians 14)

But most of all, the very thing that Jesus promised would happen…

**Acts 1:8** “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

This promise is not just for the Apostles in Jerusalem, *it is for us!*

***ME?*** *After receiving the fullness of the Spirit, I had power in areas of ministry that I had never experienced before.*

*I was just a song-leader, but by the power of the Holy Spirit, I became a* ***Worship-Leader!***

*In Bible memorization and instruction, I struggled to remember important verses and explain them to others, but by the power of the Holy Spirit,*

*I became a* ***Teache****r!*

*In areas that I lacked confidence, “chutzpa” in the past,*

*through the power of the Holy Spirit I now have* ***boldness****,* ***effectiveness and authority*** *that goes way beyond my natural ability, talent, education and experience.*

This experience is for ALL OF US…

D.L. Moody, one of the greatest Evangelists of all time, *preached the gospel to nearly 100 million people in his lifetime – (the 1800’s)* writes:

“My mentor once said; *"The world has yet to see what God can do with and for and through a person who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him." . . . A person! that meant any person. He didn't say he had to be educated, or brilliant, or anything else. Just a person. Well, by the Holy Spirit in me, (Moody said****) I'll be that person!”***

***FILLED TO POUR OUT***

Eph. 5:18Don’t be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,

***We are filled not to remain full, but filled to be poured out…***

Romans 15:13 “…Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.!”

***Like the giant Water-Bucket at the Splash Park!!! Will fill to the brim, then pour out...***

When the Lord poured His spirit out on the church on the Day of Pentecost, after all the amazing signs and wonders, the empowered and anointed preaching by Peter that resulted in 3000 being saved and baptized, and the formation of the church,

The final verse of Acts 2 shows the results of the Holy Spirit being poured out upon them;

**Acts 2:47** “Each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.”

How did they become such a growing thriving church in such a hostile and difficult environment? What did they do?

They devoted themselves to;

* the apostles’ teaching,
* and to fellowship,
* to the breaking of bread
* and to prayer.

*But they also received and operated in the power of the Holy Spirit. They were not afraid to be baptized and consumed with the Spirit and they boldly became His witnesses wherever they went.*

**This was the model of the church in Acts, it’s also a model for Us *(ACTS & US)***

It starts with each of us as individuals. We are not become spectators of a church to show up and watch the Lord move. WE ARE those whom He wants to move in and through.

If you allow the Holy Spirit to fill you, empower you and control you, you will move mightily in all the areas He has gifted you in, even if you’ve yet to discover them.

and when He does, He will use you to change the lives of all those around you, to impact your community, ignite the church, and CHANGE the WORLD!

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