

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:

Lev. 23:15-
Deut. 16:9-16
2 Chron. 8:13
Exodus 23:16
Acts 20:16
1 Cor. 14:8

Numbers 28:26
Exodus 34:22
Tobit 2:1
2 Macab. 12:32
Josephus, Jewish Wars
B II Chap. 3:1

WHEN AND WHAT WAS PENTECOST?

Lev. 23:15-22: “And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord. You shall bring from your habitations two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. They are the firstfruits to the Lord. And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the Lord, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the Lord. Then you shall sacrifice one kid of the goats as a sin offering, and two male lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offering. The priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the Lord, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the Lord for the priest. And you shall proclaim on the same day that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations. When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any gleaning from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the Lord your God.”

1. Pentecost came fifty days from the next day after the first sabbath of the Passover Feast. (This way, it always fell on Sunday or the first day.)
2. It is called the Feast of First Fruits - Brought part of Harvest to God.
3. It is called the Feast of Weeks.
4. Jewish scholars say the Law of Moses was given on the Day of Pentecost.
 - A. This would make a wonderful analogy for this is the day that the law of Christ is First introduced.

THE PENTECOST OF ACTS THE SECOND CHAPTER WAS A DAY OF BEGINNING.

1. It was the beginning of gospel preaching.
2. It was the beginning of salvation through Christ.
3. It was the beginning of the Christian Era.
4. It was the beginning of the Church of Christ.

GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE EVENTS OF PENTECOST.

1. The word of the Lord was to go forth from Jerusalem.
 - A. Isa. 2:1-5: "The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; he will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come and let us walk in the light of the Lord.
 - B. Micah 4:1-5: "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it. Many nations shall come and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.' For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and rebuke strong nations afar off; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken. For all people walk each in the name of his god, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever."

- NATION**
2. In the last days of the Jewish Economy, He would pour out His spirit.
 - A. Joel 2:28-29: “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; and also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”
 - a. This was to be poured upon Jew and Gentile alike.
 3. Jesus delegated Peter to open doors of the Church on that day.
 - A. Matt. 16:18-20: ““And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.”
 4. He promised to baptize the apostles with the Holy Spirit.
 - A. Acts 1:5: “for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”
 5. They were to tarry in Jerusalem until this power came upon them.
 - A. Luke 24:49: “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high,”
 - B. Acts 1:4: “And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, ‘which,’ He said, ‘you have heard from Me;’”
 6. New message of salvation was to be preached first at Jerusalem.
 - A. Luke 24:45-49: “And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, ‘Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of

My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

THE EVENTS OF PENTECOST ARE PROFOUND AND FAR-REACHING:

1. The Setting:
 - A. Jerusalem.
 - B. Devout Jews from all over Mediterranean World.
 - C. Some, no doubt, had been there since Passover.
2. The Coming of The Holy Spirit Upon The Apostles.
 - A. Come only upon the apostles - had been promised to them.
 - B. To guide them into all truth, show things to come, and bring to their remembrance the things Jesus taught them. (Jn. 14:16:)
 - C. Peter spoke as spirit gave him utterance.
3. Peter's Sermon:
 - A. He appeals to Joel. (Vs. 16-21)
 - B. He appeals to Christ. (Vs. 22-24)
 - C. He appeals to David. (Vs. 25-31)
 - D. He affirms the Resurrection of Christ. (Vs. 32-35)
 - E. He affirms the Kingship of Christ. (Vs. 36)
 - F. WHAT WERE HIS COMMANDS FOR SALVATION?
 - (1) He had preached the gospel and they had heard.
 - (2) They believed the preaching - were pricked in hearts.
 - (3) Told to repent - no longer to reject but accept Christ.
 - (4) Told to be baptized - in order to obtain remission of sins.
 - (5) Told to save themselves from untoward generation.

(a) About three thousand were baptized.

G. Conversion is the process of turning to God:

- (1) Faith changes the Mind.
- (2) Repentance changes the Life.
- (3) Baptism changes the Relationship.

4. The Church of Christ is Established:

A. The Church in Prophecy.

- (1) Isa. 2:2-4: “Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.”
- (2) Micah 4:1-2: “Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it. Many nations shall come and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”
- (3) Daniel 2:1-44: To be established during days of Roman Kings.

B. The Church in Preparation:

- (1) Matt. 3:2: John the Baptist said, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

- (2) Matt. 3:13-17: The Messiah is introduced.
- (3) Jesus came to establish a kingdom. Called by Matthew the "kingdom of heaven" and by Mark and Luke, "the kingdom of God."
- (4) Gentiles to be allowed in Kingdom. (Matt. 8:5-13)
- (5) Twelve preached that "kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matt. 10:5-7)
- (6) Matt. 16:18-20: Jesus promised to build the Church.
 - (a) Thus, could not have been built during Abraham, Moses, John the Baptist.
- (7) The words Kingdom and Church are used synonymously.
- (8) The parables of the Master deal with the kingdom.
- (9) The seventy sent out to proclaim nearness of kingdom. (Luke 10:8-9)
- (10) Humility is road to greatness in kingdom. (Matt. 18:1-6)
- (11) Forgiveness in the church. (Matt. 18:15-17)

C. The Church in Fact:

- (1) Terms of Christ were first made known on Pentecost.
- (2) Men heard, believed, and obeyed His will first that day.
- (3) God added these saved people to the Church. (Acts 2:47)

NOTE: Any Church started before Pentecost is too early.

Any Church started after Pentecost is too late.

THE WORSHIP OF THE EARLY CHURCH: 2:42-47

1. They continued steadfastly in Four Things:

- A. The Apostle's Doctrine.
 - B. The Breaking of Bread.
 - C. Prayers.
 - D. Fellowship.
 - (1) Not our recreation halls of today.
 - (2) Meant partnership or cooperation in the work of the gospel.
2. They were Christians and Christians only.
 3. They were all members of the same Church.
 - A. If that was possible in Jerusalem over 1900 years ago; it is possible here in Rome in the twentieth century.

THE SECOND CHAPTER OF ACTS SERVES AS A PATTERN FOR ALL TIME FOR:

1. Conversion.
2. Worship.

"FOR OUT OF ZION SHALL GO FORTH THE LAW AND THE WORD OF THE LORD FROM JERUSALEM"

1. We need to re-establish the Church of our Lord throughout the Holy Land.
2. We need to once more proclaim the Law of Christ and have this Word emanate to all the cities again of New Testament times.
3. This is within our grasp.
4. You need to cast your lot today in this great and noble work.