

# Pentecost Sunday

Jesus had said to wait in the city until the disciples were clothed with power from on high. What the Father had promised would be sent and without this gift they were not to proceed. When Jesus had ascended into heaven, the disciples still remained in the upper room worshipping, praising and praying. They remained there with expectancy and longing building within their hearts. Finally the day of Pentecost came and the Holy Spirit was poured out from heaven. The Church was born and 3000 people came to Christ that day through the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Read Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:5-8.

- How do these passages explain what was about to happen?
- What is the main purpose of the Spirit being sent?

There are 7 Jewish festivals mentioned in the Bible. Each of these find their fulfillment in Christ. The first four have already been fulfilled and the last three lie in the probably not too distant future. In order they are;

1. Passover – Jesus is the final Passover lamb
2. Feast of Unleavened bread – The sinless one gave his body for all
3. First fruits (barley harvest – wave offering) – Resurrection
4. Pentecost – Great harvest of souls
5. Feast of trumpets
6. Day of atonement (Yom Kippur)
7. Festival of tabernacles (Booths)

- What do you know of each of these festivals?
- Does the bible give us clues as to the fulfillment in Christ of the final three?

Pentecost is also called the Feast of Weeks or Harvest. It is a “Week of Weeks” after the Festival of First Fruits. Jesus is the First Fruits of the resurrection, meaning that we too will share in resurrection life. The salvation of 3000 people was a great harvest at Pentecost. The harvest has continued to be reaped over the centuries as the Spirit draws many to Christ through the gospel message.

## Read Acts 2:1-4

- Describe the sequence of events.
- Can you think of any symbolism in the sound of a mighty wind?
- What does fire do in the physical realm? How does this apply to the spiritual realm?

## Read Ephesians 5:18

- How do we become filled with the Holy Spirit?
- Is this an ongoing process?