

## Pentecost Bible Study

### What was Pentecost in the Old Testament and what is it now?

#### Introduction

Pentecost is an important holiday in the Christian church as it is the day that the promised Holy Spirit was given to the followers of Jesus. This was done for the benefit of the recipients of the Holy Spirit, but also for the great benefit of the whole world. Through the believers, filled with The Holy Spirit, the whole world is enlightened to believe in the true Gospel.

- With this understanding, how important is the day of Pentecost?

#### Pentecost in the Old Testament

1. Pentecost in the Old Testament is most commonly referred to as “The Feast of Weeks” and it took place seven weeks (50 days) after Passover. This coincides with a remembrance of the giving of the 10 commandments on Mt. Sinai where God’s Law was given 50 days after the Passover and flight out of Egypt.
  - a. If Passover was a large holiday to God’s people, how do you think they would feel or think about this remembrance of receiving God’s Law?
2. Read Leviticus 23:15-22 where the law is first given to observe the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and contrast it with the second giving of the law in Deuteronomy 16:9-12.
  - a. Does anything stand out as being different or unique in Deuteronomy?
3. The celebration of the Feast of Weeks comes at the end of the wheat harvest and an offering of the first fruits of the harvest was a part of the celebration.
  - a. This is the setting in which the pouring of the Spirit happened on the day of Pentecost...

#### Pentecost in the New Testament

4. The people are gathered together to celebrate the gifts that God has given them and remember the Law that they are to live under. This was likely just enough time for the Jewish leaders to think that they were getting a handle on things after Jesus’ death and resurrection. Boy were they wrong!
  - a. Read Acts 2:1-7... The one man problem has quickly become something larger.
5. In Acts 2, Peter stands up and preaches to the whole crowd and quotes from Joel 2:28-32. He points out that this has been God’s plan all along.
  - a. What comfort does this give to the people that had followed Jesus and been confused about his death? What comfort does this give you?
  - b. Following what Peter preaches from Joel 2, take a look at Hebrews 1:1-2. What are “these days” or “these last days?”
6. The color of the day of Pentecost is understandably red. However, the season of Pentecost the paraments switch to green. Why do you suppose that is?

Have a blessed Pentecost season!

-Pastor Brubaker