

The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)

The Feast Days of the Lord

Spring	Summer	Fall
1. Passover	4. Pentecost	5. Trumpets
2. Unleavened Bread		6. Day of Atonement
3. Firstfruits		7. Tabernacles (Sukhot)

The Appointments With God (Holy Days)

1. The Holy Days were given to us by God as appointments between Himself and His people. (Leviticus 23:2)
2. The holy days look backwards and forwards.
3. These are the “Lord's feasts” and so should be celebrated by all people who belong to Him.

“Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘These are my appointed feasts, the appointed feasts of the LORD, which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies.’”
- Leviticus 23:2

Understanding Pentecost

The Name

Pentecost – means “Fiftieth” (The number 50)

Shavuot – (Hag ha-Bikkurim – The Feast of the Firstfruits) – also called the Feast of the Harvest of Firstfruits

"Whitsunday" – White Sunday (Whitsuntide)

The Feel

It is a celebration!

- A reminder of God’s blessings – harvest.
- A reminder of forgiveness. (bread WITH leaven)
- The color for the day is red. (flame, Holy Spirit)

Why is It Celebrated?

For Jews:

- It is the harvest of the Firstfruits!
- It is the day that God gave the law.

For Christians:

It is the day that the Holy Spirit was given to dwell within people.

What Happened on Pentecost? (New Testament)

1. Jesus had ascended to heaven and Christians were obeying by praying and waiting.

"On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised" - Acts 1:4

2. The Holy Spirit descended in what appeared to be “tongues of fire” and the Christians spoke in other languages.

"Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?" - Acts 2:7,8

- Note the reversal from the story of the Tower of Babel.

"Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth." - Genesis 11:4

3. God used this as a sign to “awaken” the people to what He was doing.

¹²*"Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"*

- Note that some only ridiculed!

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

4. Peter preached a sermon declaring that this day had been foretold in the Book of Joel.

"Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel" - Acts 2:14,16

5. Peter declared Jesus to be Israel’s Messiah.

"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." - Acts 2:36

6. Peter offered the people an opportunity to receive this message and the Holy Spirit.

"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." - Acts 2:38

7. Three thousand people accepted Jesus as Messiah, in a sense, undoing the curse of the law.

"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day." - Acts 2:41

"The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died." - Exodus 32:28

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