

# The Day of Pentecost

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## Big Idea

**Fifty days after Jesus' death on the cross the Feast of Pentecost (Feast of Weeks) was the day a powerful living hope was birthed into Christ followers through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. That experience and ongoing empowerment is available today.**

### 1. The ORIGIN of Pentecost

The word "Pentecost" is linked in our minds with the book of Acts chapter 2 but Pentecost had been an ongoing Jewish Festival celebrated for 1,500 years. It was known as the Festival of Weeks (Shavuot).

Ancient Jews practiced 7 Major Annual Feasts. These Feasts are mentioned throughout Scripture. Instructions for all 7 are laid out in the book of **Leviticus Chapter 23**. The Feasts / Celebrations were to remind the people of God's deliverance, provision, and protection.

**Spring feasts:** Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, Feast of First Fruits. 50 days after PASSOVER was the Feast of Weeks / Pentecost. **Fall feasts:** Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Festival of Booths. Passover, Weeks, and Booths required an annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for all adult Jewish males...even if they lived in other lands.

For the Christian these feasts also foreshadow / symbolize aspects of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

The Apostle Paul said that the *'The Jewish feasts and celebrations were a shadow of the things to come through Jesus Christ'*. **Colossians 2:16-17**

### 2. The IMPACT of Pentecost

Just as Passover connected Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross, Pentecost connected the coming of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Church.

Pentecost was the day we begin to see supernatural encounters taking place through the Apostles... (as a result of being filled with filled with the Holy Spirit).

*“I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men & women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”* **Joel 2:28-29**

The Holy Spirit came in a Personal, Powerful & Purposeful Way...  
To reside within each of us; To birth The Church; Empower the church (us) as a witness.

2000 years ago, 1000's of devout Jews packed out ancient Jerusalem for **Pentecost** just as they did for Passover.

On the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Passover, the risen Christ meets one last time with His Disciples and gives them a final charge: *“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* **Acts 1:8**

Those 120 disciples were given confidence and boldness to engage their culture through the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit.

They were given Supernatural ability to communicate the Good News (Gospel) **EFFECTIVELY** to anybody...*in any language, any tongue.*

\*Spirit baptism was the catalyst in transforming the disciples to impact cultures\*

### **3. The PURPOSE of Pentecost**

Spirit baptism wasn't just a phenomenon 2,000 years ago. Spirit Baptism is for TODAY. Do you want the fullness of His Spirit in your life? If so, seek Him. Seek His Face... wait --- pray... praise and be open to let him fill you with His gifts.

The Lord wants to empower & enable you for His Purposes. It does not matter your status in life. What matters is this: Do you want His Spirit in your life? You were born again for a PURPOSE.... not just for a ticket to Heaven. What is that purpose? To be a witness within your sphere of influence.

*Now, May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.* **Romans 15:13**