Understanding Pentecost



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Now this is a much talked about Feast. Many very important things occurred on this day in the book of Acts. We will dissect this feast and show the importance that this feast has in our walk with our Father today. We will be going over the origin as well the symbolism revealed in this feast. We will see if this feast has a future application for Fathers people to be looking forward to today. This feast is the feast of Pentecost.

Now the name Pentecost is actually a Greek word simply meaning Fiftieth. The word Fiftieth points us to the manner of which we get to the actual feast. Lets take a look at the when this feast was first mentioned.

Exo 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the first fruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

Pentecost was also referred to as the feast of Harvest. It is the middle mark from the early harvest called first fruits and the beginning of the rest of the harvest toward the fall. It is the Climax of the entire harvest year. Pentecost or feast of Harvest also has another name which is directly connected to the Greek name Pentecost.

Exo 34:22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end.

The feast of weeks is telling us about how we ought to count the weeks to get to day 50 in order to celebrate this feast. The Hebrew word for weeks is Shabuoth or also pronounced Shavuot which many Hebrew based fellowships refer to this feast as. Now let's get to the specifics of this 50 day harvest feast.

Lev 23:15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

Lev 23:16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.

So we see the instruction is to begin a counting of days from the day the sheaf was waved. This instruction gives us the first day of this fifty day count.

Lev 23:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest unto the priest:

Lev 23:11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.

The day after the Sabbath during the feast of unleavened bread is said to be the day of the wave sheaf. The context mentioned in the beginning of Leviticus chapter twenty three reveals to us that the seventh day is referred to as the Sabbath. We can see this in the verses prior to the Feast of week's instruction.

Lev 23:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

Lev 23:3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

The day after the Sabbath is the first day of the week or what many people call Sunday. If Sunday is the first day, then the Sabbath is that 7th day. The instruction is to count seven SABBATHS and then on the day after the seventh Sabbath we will have day fifty.

Lev 23:15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

This day as well as the day of the wave sheaf always lands on the first day of the week. So this shows us how to get to Pentecost by counting seven Shavuot or weeks using the Sabbath as a ending maker for the weekly count. After the 7th Sabbath we add a day to bring us to day fifty which is the first day of the week. Now lets see what does this feast mean to us.

I find the feast of weeks to be a memorial of the experience at Mount Sinai. That experience is extremely important because it was a restoration of the covenant Israel forgotten after being enslaved in Egypt for over 400 years. Much symbols in this feast to teach us what kind of reality we ought to experience. Forgive me if I do not cover all of the important points, there will be more studies to come on this topic.

In scripture a Mountain represents the Children of the everlasting Covenant.

Jer 6:2 I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman.

Heb 12:22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

Heb 12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

Dan 2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Dan 2:45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

We see that the mountain is the covenant keeping people of the Heavenly Father. Let's continue.

Exo 19:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, Exo 19:11 And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

Exo 19:18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

Exo 24:17 And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

This is an image of the reality we see fulfilling in the book of Acts. The Lords presence or Spirit came down and dwelled on top of the Mountain which represents His people. And it was like Fire on TOP of the Mountain representing the GLORY of the Father on His people. When did this occur in its partial fulfillment?

- Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- Act 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- Act 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost(Presence), and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Act 2:5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

We see that when Pentecost or Shavuot came, The presence of the Father and Son came onto His people and demonstrated the Fire or Glory of the Father to Israel. Messiah promised this experience right before He died.

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Now there is a very important point as to what this experience means to us. The receiving of the Law or Torah is extremely important in receiving the everlasting covenant.

Exo 31:18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

The tables of the testimony is also referred to as the tables of the Covenant.

Deu_9:15 So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands.

One misconception is that God wrote on the tables of the testimony or covenant with His literal finger. This is important to understand, because the finger of God is the Spirit of God.

Luk 11:20 But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.

The Messiah said that He cast out the Devils with the finger of God. We know that He did not use His Fathers LITERAL finger but by His spirit, He was able to cast them out.

Zec 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

It was by His spirit that the tables of the covenant was written. It is also by the spirit that the Law is written IN our hearts. The demonstration at Sinai was supposed to help them realize the reality Father desired for them. Even Moses understood their condition and that the Father wanted His presence to come upon His people to bring Fire in their hearts and engrave His law in their hearts.

Deu 5:29 O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!

Deu_10:16 Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

Deu_30:6 And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

The revelation at Sinai shows us what happens when we enter into a Covenant with our Father.

Heb 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Heb 8:9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Though Sinai was an object lesson to teach Israel what Father wanted for His people to experience, the people did not desire this truth. It says that He regarded them Not as His people and renews His covenant with people who will let Him write His law IN THEM, that their very nature will reflect the law and character of God.

2Co 3:3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

Now the question many people have is: Why the fifty days? What does it symbolize?

As I researched the number 50, I found two things. It is by 50 hooks that the tent or tabernacle became one piece. The tabernacle also symbolizes the people of God (Ephesians 2v20-22). I see 50 means unity of the spirit as well as restoration.

Lev 25:10 And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

Lev 25:11 A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed.

Lev 25:12 For it is the jubile; it shall be holy unto you:

Lev 25:13 In the year of this jubile ye shall return ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field. every man unto his possession.

Lev 25:17 Ye shall not therefore oppress one another; but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the LORD your God.

Lev 25:18 Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety.

Lev 25:19 And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in safety.

Fifty is significant to emphasize the restoration of Israel which is what Father tried to do with Israel at Mount Sinai. This is what is He doing with us today. I also found the number fifty in analyzing the situation at Sinai. It did not take fifty days to go from Egypt to mount Sinai.

Exo 19:1 In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

They left Egypt on the 15th day of the first month.

Num 33:3 And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.

So them getting to Mount Sinai on the third month on the 15th day, shows us that it was about 60 days when they got to Mount Sinai from Egypt. So the question is: Where do we get the 50 count from?

The only information I found was that it was 50 days from the time of Consecration to the time they received the Laws of the covenant. I believe this is something we should also experience before entering into the covenant with the Father. Consecration is extremely important but that's another study.

Exo 19:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, Exo 19:11 And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai

Exo 24:15 And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount.

Exo 24:16 And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

Exo 24:17 And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

Exo 24:18 And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.

We see that Father told them to consecrate themselves for 3 days. 7 days later, Father allowed Moses to go into the presence of the Father to receive His Law, then He was before the Father for 40 days. 3 plus 7 plus 40 equals 50. I see that 50 represents the complete consecration and restoration of the relationship between Father and His people. I pray we all have this reality of Pentecost/Shavuot in our daily walk with our Heavenly Father.

Now a very important question is, Did not this feast fulfill during the time of the disciples in the book of Acts? Lets take a look at that experience and see it in scripture. Peter during His preaching mentioned the fulfillment of a prophecy at the time of Pentecost.

Act 2:16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel(Joel 2v28-32);

Act 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Act 2:18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Act 2:19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

Act 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

Act 2:21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

We see this prophecy was PARTIALLY fulfilled here. This is why it must fulfill a 2nd time. Looking at the prophecy in Joel, we have no record in the book of Acts of the blood, fire and smoke as well as the sun darkening and the moon turning into blood. These signs and wonders was also mentioned by the Messiah.

Mat 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

Mat 24:30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

We see the prophecy of the sun darkening is for a time right before the Messiahs second coming. The prophecy both in Joel and in Acts both say these things will occur right before Messiahs coming.

Joe 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

Joe 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

Act 2:19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

Act 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

We see these signs will occur in the future.

Rev 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

Rev 6:13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

Rev 6:14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains:

Rev 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

Rev 6:17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

The situation at Mount Sinai was the experience all Fathers people are supposed to experience. This experience will happen in these last days right before Messiah comes for His people. The Father will give a final opportunity to accept This covenant right before the terrible day of Messiah as we see in scripture. Father promises to pour out His spirit right before that time in order to spread His Glory and truth throughout the earth so there will be no excuse to miss out on this great Harvest.

The question we all must answer is: Have we surrendered ourselves to His Spirit and allow His presence to dwell in our hearts? Have we submitted our minds to His word and allowed Father to engrave His law in our Characters? Or are we following the example of Israel of old at Sinai and building our own golden calves to follow instead of the only

true God? Are we studying His word and asking the spirit to empower us to follow?

If not I invite you to repent, consecrate yourselves and accept His gift of the Spirit as well as submit your mind to His word. I hope this was informative and a blessing to you. May Father bless you and keep you, as you walk with Him, Amen.

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