



Holy Spirit

## **The Meaning of Pentecost**

*May 13, 2018*

*While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." - Acts 19:1-2 NIV*

## THE JEWISH HOLIDAYS FULFILLED

*"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." - Matthew 5:17 NIV*

Passover: SALVATION.

*For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. - 1 Corinthians 5:7 NIV*

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV*

Pentecost: POWER to MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

*After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> 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, which you have heard me speak about. <sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." - Acts 1:3-5 NIV*

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8 NIV*

Tabernacles: The SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.

*For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 NIV*

# THE MEANING OF PENTECOST

*Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"  
- Acts 2:12 NIV*

1. The Holy Spirit empowers me to live RIGHTEOUSLY.

*But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. - Romans 8:9 NLT*

*Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." - Isaiah 30:21 NIV*

2. The Holy Spirit empowers me to live SUPERNATURALLY.

*And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. - Acts 10:38 NLT*

*My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. - 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 NIV*

3. The Holy Spirit empowers me to live ON MISSION.

*[Because] our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. - 1 Thessalonians 1:5 NIV*

Being filled with the Holy Spirit doesn't make me  
BETTER THAN YOU, it makes me BETTER THAN ME.

# Walk the Talk

## *A Small Group Guide*

Read: Acts 2:1-18

1. Have you ever been to a foreign country where they spoke a different language? How did that make things difficult or mysterious for you?
2. How would you describe the scene you read about here? What emotions would you have had observing all of this? What would you compare it to today?
3. Look through the different “Jewish Holidays” above in the outline and tell me how they help you understand the place this event here in Acts 2 fits into a believer’s life.
4. Why do you think God used “tongues” as the initial sign for those looking on and listening to this event (verses 6-8)?
5. How does this account for the major change in the courage they possessed after it happened?
6. Review the section above, “The Meaning of Pentecost” and pick the one empowerment you need the most right now. Explain your reason for choosing the point.
7. What is the closest you have come in your life to experiencing this kind of special empowerment for sharing your own story to others?