

## The Promise of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:38-39

### The Day of Pentecost

As instructed by their Lord, the apostles are waiting (in hiding) in Jerusalem 'For what the Father had promised.' "For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Peter explains the spiritual phenomena of what is occurring on the day of Pentecost. He understands it to be the fulfillment of prophecy.

### Acts 2:15-21 (Joel 2:28-32)

*For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day; but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:*

*And it shall be in the last days, God says, "That I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;*

*Even on my bond slaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophesy.*

*And I will grant wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke.*

*The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the great and glorious day of the lord shall come.*

*And it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the lord will be saved."*

A period of time that starts with the pouring out of God's Spirit and ends with signs and wonders; blood, fire, columns of smoke; the sun turned to darkness and the moon into blood;

This period is the "last days."

### During this period of time

- There will be revelation of God
- The Holy Spirit will restore prophecy, meaning, God's voice will once again speak through the church.
- God will work through all ages and statuses of men
- Faith will come by hearing – hearing by preaching
- Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Who are the hearers of Peter's message?

### Acts 2:22-24;36

*Fellow Israelites listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.*

*But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.*

*Therefore, let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.*

## Acts 2:37

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

**Acts 2:38-39** Peter said to them, "**Repent**, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.

**Greek Word:** ἐπαγγελία

**Transliteration:** epangelia

**Phonetic Pronunciation:** ep-ang-el-ee'-ah

> a legal term denoting a summons or promise to do or give something.

>a divine assurance

## The Significance of Pentecost

The Day of Pentecost: A Jewish feast celebrating the harvest of barley and wheat.

- Following the Sabbath day after the Passover, A sheaf of barley was brought to the temple where it was dried, beaten, and sifted into a fine flour.
- Oil and frankincense were then added but no leaven.
- The priests would measure out an omer and place it in a container to be waved before the Lord at the Brazen altar.
- This represented the "Firstfruits" of the harvest

From the offering of the firstfruits the counting of days began (the sefirah)

On the fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) day following, came the feast of Pentecost. This occasion celebrated the wheat harvest.

- A sheaf of grain was taken and turned into fine flour.
- Two measures of this fine flour were used to make two loaves of leavened bread.
- The 2 loaves were presented at the brazen altar and waved before the Lord

These events are rich in prophetic significance.

- Jesus arose from the dead on the day of firstfruits
- 50 days later (Pentecost) you have the firstfruits of the church
- The two loaves represent both Jew and Gentile: Israel and the Church.
- Leaven represents our possessing this treasure in earthen vessels (sinful flesh)
- On the day of Pentecost, the same Spirit that raised Jesus to Life, raised the church to life.

We have two points in time.

- The Firstfruits at the beginning of the grain harvest
- Followed by a period of time to the day of Pentecost at the end of the grain harvest season.

**1 Corinthians 15:22-23**

*For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.*

*But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming.*

**Romans 8:11**

*And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.*