

# Wisdom of Pentecost

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Pentecost / Pentecost / Acts 2:1–13; Luke 24:44–49

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## Introduction:

Today is Pentecost Sunday. In Acts 2 we read how the promise of the Holy Spirit was gifted to a small group of followers in Jerusalem. The upper room experience marks the beginning of the church which has forever distinguished the Day of Pentecost. However, the disciples and the group of followers had no background, expectation or knowledge of how this day would forever change the world. We often approach Pentecost with a historical reference of over two thousand years of the Church's participate and our personal experience of the working of the Holy Spirit. However, we risk losing the significance of the power of the Spirit due to our limited focus.

## Context of Pentecost

The word Pentecost means "Fiftieth" - 50 days from Passover

The 50 day celebration in the Old Testament is referred to as the "Feast of Weeks". Because it occurs seven weeks after Passover.

Other Names for Pentecost: "Feast of Harvest" (Ex 23:16) "Day of Firstfruits" (Numbers 28:26)

The Feast of Weeks was one of three pilgrimage festivals when individuals were to appear before the Lord with gifts and offerings.

# Understanding of Pentecost

I. The Promised Gift of the Holy Spirit is for Everyone - Luke 24:49

II. The Gift of the Holy Spirit Transforms

III. The Holy Spirit Empowers

IV. The Empowerment is for Reaching Others

V. The Purpose of the Gift Never Changes

## Conclusion

In Zachariah 4:6, the prophet gives us an Old Testament principle that still applies today. "...Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord." If we attempt to reach others in our own ability then we miss the opportunity to work with the Holy Spirit in adding to the Kingdom of God. Without the Holy Spirit, there is no opportunity.