



The Book of ACTS

Chapter 2

“PENTECOST, PREACHING, & PRACTICE!”

> (v1-13) The Day of PENTECOST!

PENTECOST - Commonly known and celebrated as “The Feast of Weeks” include Ex 23:16; 34:22; Lev 23:15-21; Num 28:26-31; Deut 16:9-12; and 2 Chron 8:13. This feast was observed early in the third month on the 50th day after the offering of the barley sheaf at the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The Feast of Unleavened Bread began on the 15th day of the month as a part of the larger celebration of Passover (Ex 13:3-10; Lev 23:6-8), fulfilled in the New Testament when Christ was crucified for our sins. The Feast of Weeks began at this time opening the reaping season, which lasted officially for forty-nine days, a week of weeks, also known as the Feast of Harvest and the Day of First-fruits. It included a holy convocation with the usual restriction on manual labor. Num 28:26-31 describes the number and nature of offerings and Deut 16:9-12 describes those who were to be invited to this feast. They include servants, sons and daughters, Levites, the fatherless, the widow, and the stranger. Israelites were to be reminded of their bondage in Egypt on that day. The early Christian believers, who were gathered in Jerusalem for observance of this feast, experienced the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in a miraculous way (Acts 2:1-4). *(from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)*

(v1-4) The believers were in one accord (unity) and were filled with the HOLY SPIRIT. The apostles and the 120 (Cf. Joel 2:28–32). In contrast to the baptism with the Spirit, which is the one-time act by which God places believers into His body (*1 Cor. 12:13*), the filling is a repeated reality of Spirit-controlled behavior that God commands believers to maintain (*Eph. 5:18*). Peter and many others in Acts 2 were filled with the Spirit again (e.g., 4:8, 31; 6:5; 7:55) and so spoke boldly the Word of God. The fullness of the Spirit affects all areas of life, not just speaking boldly (cf. *Eph. 5:19–33*). These were known languages (Gk. – *glossias - languages*) not ecstatic utterances.

(v5-13) Those attending the *Feast of Pentecost* in Jerusalem were “*Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven*” (v5).

> (v14-40) The PREACHING of the Gospel!

(v14-21) Peter gives Scriptural confirmation on what has just taken place, quoting Joel 2:28-32.

(v22-40) Peter by the Holy Spirit shares a four-fold PROOF that JESUS is their MESSIAH and SAVIOR:

#1 – (v22-24) Jesus was attested by God through miracles, wonders, signs, plus His death and resurrection! (POWERFUL PREACHING!)

#2 – (v25-31) Peter quotes Psalm 16:8-11; written by the Jewish prophet and King David; this prophecy deals with the coming MESSIAH! (PROPHETIC PREACHING!)

#3 – (v32) These disciples were personal WITNESSES to the resurrection of CHRIST!

(PERSONAL PREACHING!)

#4 – (v33-36) That which the people were witnessing is the outpouring of the HOLY SPIRIT! (PURPOSEFUL PREACHING!)

(v37-40) What shall we do?

(1) REPENT! – Go from unbelief to belief Jesus Christ! Confess you are a sinner in need of the SAVIOR! Turn from sinful ways; turn to JESUS CHRIST who is THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE! (John 14:6)

(2) Every believer is to be WATER BAPTIZED; make a public confession of the inward change; identify with Christ death and resurrection!

(3) RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT! Allow God’s Spirit to help, guide, comfort and empower you for His honor, glory, and praise!

> (v41-47) The PRACTICE of the Church!

~ Eight Disciplines for a blessed life and church:

- Discipline #1 – We STUDY the apostles’ doctrine! (v42a)

Dr. Paul Enns author of the Moody Bible Handbook of Theology writes, “God gave the Scriptures for the purpose of teaching people and bringing them to maturity (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Teaching is the antidote to false doctrine (1 Tim. 1:3); it produces love among believers (1 Tim. 1:5); it provides spiritual nourishment (1 Tim. 4:6); godliness (1 Tim. 4:6-16); submission (1 Tim. 5:17; 6:2); and a proper focus on life (1 Tim. 6:17). Paul instructed Timothy to teach others to reproduce (2 Tim. 2:2).”

- Discipline #2 – We FELLOWSHIP with believers! (v42b)

The word fellowship is Koinonoia which is the sharing of common thoughts and interest for that which pertains to Jesus Christ and His church.

Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

~ “ONE ANOTHER” Christians will:

- a) Confess your sins to one another (James 5:16)
- b) Forgive one another (Colossians 3:13)
- c) Instruct one another (Colossians 3:16)
- d) Bear with one another (Galatians 6:2)
- e) Rebuke one another (Titus 1:13)
- f) Comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- g) Encourage one another to do good (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- h) Edify one another (Romans 14:19)
- i) Counsel one another (Romans 15:14)

j) Submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21)

- Discipline #3 – We PRAY! (v42c)

Philippians 1:9-11 - *And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

1 Timothy 2:1-3 - *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.*

- Discipline #4 – We GIVE! “*they had all things in common and shared with one another*” (v44-45)

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 - *But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."*

- Discipline #5 – We are UNIFIED! – “*of one accord*” (v46)

Philippians 2:1-4 - *Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*

- Discipline #6 – We PRAISE the LORD! (v47a)

Hebrews 13:15-16 - *Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.*

1 Peter 2:9-10 - *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*

- Discipline #7 – We have FAVOR! – “*having favor with all the people*” (v47b)

Colossians 3:23-25 - *And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.*

- Discipline #8 – We are SOUL-WINNERS! – “And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” (v47c)

***~ Who do we evangelize: FAMILY evangelism!
FRIENDSHIP evangelism!
FOREIGN evangelism!
FOE evangelism!***

- Let us be inspired, motivated and on fire for souls, remember what Jesus told us in Mark 16:14-15 - Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”