



# **STARTING IN JERUSALEM**

## **LESSON 2**

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# VERSE FOR THE JOURNEY

- **Acts 1:7-9** He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.
- **AUTHORITY: *EXOUSIA*: the right to act**
  1. given by someone to someone
  2. works within certain specified rules
  3. has established parameters (or domain)
- **POWER: *DUNAMIS*: the ability to act**
- **AUTHORITY AND POWER WORK TOGETHER**



# WHAT IS PENTECOST?

- One of three feasts required to be attended by Jewish men
- **Leviticus 23:15** 'You shall also count for yourselves from the day after the sabbath, from the day when you brought in the sheaf of the wave offering; there shall be seven complete sabbaths.
- Also called the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Ingathering or Harvest
- For many Jews, coming to Jerusalem from other parts of the world was a once-in-a-lifetime experience
- Those who came from distant places often stayed for the full 50 days

# PASSOVER

- One day, celebrated on Nisan 14
- Lamb for Passover selected on Nisan 10 (triumphal entry—God's lamb identified)
- Lamb killed at twilight on Nisan 14 (between 3 and 6 PM or beginning at the 9<sup>th</sup> hour) Jesus died after the 9<sup>th</sup> hour
- Celebrated the night that the Jewish houses were passed over by death, sparing their firstborn—after which the Pharaoh let them go
- Blood of lamb applied to doorpost was a sign for God to passover that house and spare it
- Jesus fulfilled the Passover feast

# UNLEAVENED BREAD

- Celebrated the day after Passover, beginning on Nisan 15 at sundown and lasting until Nisan 21
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> day was First Fruits of the barley harvest
- Jesus rose on this day
- **1 Corinthians 15:20-24** But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the **first fruits** of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. 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, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

# TIMING

- Jesus died at Passover
- He rose on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Unleavened Bread, the day of First Fruits
- He presented Himself alive for 40 days:  
**Acts 1:3** To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.
- About ten days between the ascension and Pentecost
- The disciples would have been waiting in Jerusalem during this time

# PENTECOST

- Regarded by most rabbis of Jesus' time as commemorating the anniversary of the giving of the Law on Sinai
- God came with fire on Sinai to enact the Law—the "old covenant"
- God came with fire on Pentecost to empower the church – the "new covenant" between God and people
- **Joel 2:28** "It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

# WHAT HAPPENED

- **Acts 2:1** When the day of Pentecost had (fully) come, they were all together in one place.
- Had come: *sumpleroo: sumplerousthai: is fulfilled (erchomai)*
- 120 people had been there as recorded in Acts 1
- They were “all together”
- **Luke 3:16** John answered and said to them all, “As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”



# THE EVENTS

- **Acts 2:2-4** And suddenly there came from heaven a **noise like a violent rushing wind**, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them **tongues as of fire distributing themselves**, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all **filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to **speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.
- The events seem to have included everyone who was in the room
- Heard wind; saw fire; spoke in other languages

# BABEL REVERSED!

- Genesis 11:5-7 The Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. The Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that **they will not understand one another's speech.**"
- Acts 2:5-6,11b Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language...we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

# PETER'S SERMON

- Verses 17, 18 were being fulfilled; Verses 19, 20, 21 are still future, but the events are ushering in a new covenant which will result in their fulfillment
- Acts 2:22-24 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power."
- **Psalm 16:8-11**

# PETER'S ARGUMENT

- David wasn't speaking of himself in Psalm 16
- Because of the Davidic promise, David was looking forward:

Acts 2:30-31 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants on his throne, he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh suffer decay.

- Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."

# THE ACTION NEEDED

- Acts 2:37-38 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 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."
- 1. **Repent: *metanoeo*: reconsider; think differently**
- 2. **Be baptized in the name of Jesus**
- 3. **Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**
- **Name: *onoma*: authority**
- Acts 2:39 "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."

# THE RESULT

- Acts 2:42,43 They were continually **devoting** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone kept **feeling** a sense of awe; and many **wonders and signs** were taking place through the apostles.
- Acts 2:44-47 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were **sharing** them with all, as anyone might have need....**continuing with one mind in the temple**, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.