



The power of Pentecost and Shavuot

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Reading the Word of God we find that the Lord ordained many festivals for his people Israel. In Hebrew they are called Mo'adim or מועדים, and God gave them in order to teach spiritual lessons about himself and his Kingdom. These lessons are also for the Body of Christ today.

Recently we past the holiday of "Pentecost" from the Greek word Πεντηκοστή, and the Jewish holiday "Shavuot", השבועות, and this year of 2015, they both occurred on the same date.

Pentecost stands for the Greek word for fifty, counting the days from the ascension of the Messiah as being fifty.

The word Shavuot means weeks, and the festival of Shavuot marks the day the Torah was given to Moses, and the completion of the seven-week counting period between Passover and Shavuot.

Jesus appeared and spoke to his followers for forty days after his resurrection. We can read how Paul talks about it in 1 Corinthians 15:5-9: **And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time (miscarried). For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.**

For nine more days they remained praying in the upper room before the day of Pentecost had fully come. In the beginning there were probably many more gathered, but now there were only one hundred and twenty that had remained (the same number of priest that were serving before the Lord at the initiation of the Temple of Salomon), believing for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that Jesus prophesied about.

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)

The Apostles were there, with the exception of Judas who was replaced by Matthias, and the mother of Jesus was also there and Jesus' half brothers. Let us see what the word says.

And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. Acts 1:13-14

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4

It all started with united prayer in one accord for the will of the Father to be fulfilled. Their prayers were soon answered. It is amazing how that **the Lord needs our prayers for his will to be done.**

Then came the Holy Spirit and filled the house and the people in that house.

Thirdly, they yielded to the Spirit and he manifested himself through them, using the most potent member of the human body, the tongue.

The Jews had come from all over the world to Jerusalem to celebrate Shavout and they were amazed and marveled, because they heard from local people about the wonderful works of their God, in their own languages and accents. Acts: 1-13

But not until Peter lifted up his voice and spoke to them in the Hebrew tongue were they able to receive the free gift of Salvation. The Holy Spirit convicted them of their sins and Peter told them to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins. Three thousand men were then saved according to Acts 2:41, the same number of men that were killed on the first Shavout

when the Torah was given by Moses in Exodus 32:28. ***The Law killed three thousand and Grace gave life to three thousand. Hallelujah!***

This is what the Lord is doing again today; He is bringing the Law, or the letter that kills, 2 Corinthians 3:6 together with the Spirit that brings life.

Jews and Gentiles are coming together and are united in **One New Man in the Messiah** (2 Corinthians 5:17). This is so His Glory can be poured out over all nations and over all flesh, **according to His Word** in Joel 2:32.

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call. Joel 2:28-32

-Roger Wågsjö