

THE DAY OF SHAVU-OT/ PENTECOST

Today I am teaching about the feast of Shavu'ot. Better Known **Pentecost**. Both Shavuot and Pentecost refer to the fifty day feast of Harvest.

Shavu'ot is Hebrew and means weeks.
Pentecost is Greek and means fifty.

On Next Sunday, 5/23, **Pentecost is celebrated by the churches.**

Most believers know that Pentecost is the day the holy spirit fell on the 120 followers of Yeshua who were in the upper room, and they began **to speak in tongues.**

However, most do not know that this day is **one of the feast date** which Yahweh chose to meet with his people Israel at the temple each year.

Therefore, today we will examine some **biblical facts** about Pentecost, that will shed some light on this Feast of Shavu'ot, [Better Known to believers as **Pentecost**], that many have not considered.

The English word Pentecost comes from the Greek word pentekoste [pen-tay-kos-tay] means **fifty**.

Because it is the fifths day **after** Firstfruits, the day that Yeshua was resurrected from the dead.

The instruction for this day is given in Levitical 23.

Leviticus 23:15-16 CJB

(15) " 'From the day after the day of rest — that is, from the day you bring the sheaf for waving — you are to count **seven** full weeks,
(16) until the day after the seventh week; you are to count **fifty** days; and then you are to present a new grain offering to Yahweh.

The day after the **rest refers** to the day after Nisan 16, firstfruits, the day **after** the resurrection of Yeshua.

So, the instruction given to Israel by Yahweh through Moses was for the nation to begin counting on the 17th of Nissan and count down to the 49th day. They are to count **seven weeks** from the feast of firstfruits. This counting period is called Counting the Omer.

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Counting the Omer begins with a **wave offering** of **barley** and continues for **49 days** (7 days x 7 weeks = 49 days). on the 50th day Israel was to bring the first fruit of **their wheat** and offer it to Yahweh on Shavu'ot.

Shavu'ot is from the **Hebrew** word Shābhū'ōth literally, **weeks**. It is so called because of the counting of the **seven** weeks that lead to **fifty** days from firstfruits, the day of Yeshua's resurrection.

This year it began on Sunday evening, **March 28th** and is ending at evening on Sunday [today] **May 16th**. The day after May 16, Monday, May 17th is Shavu'ot.

However, **traditionally** churches celebrate Pentecost on **Sunday May 23rd**. The reason the dates are different is because **Yahweh** scheduled His biblical feast days to be celebrated according to the **dates** on the calendar, while church leaders have chosen to celebrate it according to the **days** of the week.

And because churches celebrate **Easter**, rather than firstfruits, and Easter is always on a Sunday, this causes **Pentecost** to **also** fall on a Sunday each year since Pentecost occurs **50 days** after Easter.

As we have learned, firstfruits is a moving holiday. Because it is celebrated on Nissan 15, the dates fall on different days of the week each year. That is why it is celebrated on Monday this year.

Shavu'ot/Pentecost is the **second** pilgrimage feast of Yahweh which he chose to meet with his people Israel each year at the Temple.

Therefore, it is important for us to view the Day of **Pentecost** in the context of the **festival of Yahweh**. connecting it to the feast day gives us a better understanding of Yahweh overall **plan of redemption**, which is to **evangelize** the world.

- The feast of Passover was fulfilled by his sacrificial death.
- The feast of first fruits was fulfilled by his resurrection from the dead.
- And the Feast of **Shavu'ot/Pentecost** was fulfilled in Yeshua sending the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit] **within** the believers.

In **all** these festivals Yah was doing his work of reconciling mankind to himself. Which is why believers **cannot** ignore them as something that pertained to the Jews only.

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Separating the day of Pentecost from the **feast of Yahweh**, has resulted in a lot of misunderstanding. Especially concerning speaking in tongues. Some denominations are called Pentecostal because they speak in tongues.

However, Pentecost/shavu'ot **is not about** speaking in tongues. Although the disciples did speak tongues/in other languages. It is about what happened because of speaking in other languages.

Some **teachers and preachers** often refer to the day of shavu'ot as "**the first Pentecost**", when the 120 disciples were in the upper room and the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit] came and they began to speak in tongue.

However, **Shavu'ot, in AD 33, was not the first time it was celebrated.** It

The first Shavu'ot took place **50 days** after Israel left Egypt. On the first Shavu'ot

- **the to-rah was given to Israel.**
- They became his covenant nation.
- It was on that day the **nation of Israel was born** as Yahweh holy people.

In my lesson today, I will **not** go into **details** about **how** Shavu'ot was celebrated by Israel. I gave details in a **previous lesson.**

My focus today is on **Shavu'ot in AD 33**, the day that Yeshua sent the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit], which he promised, into his followers for **evangelization** of the world.

When we consider **the almighty, Yah's** plan to bring humanity back into relationship with him, it is **no accident** that He chose **this very day of shavu'ot**, to pour out the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit] on **Yeshua's disciples.**

They had **been commissioned by Yeshua to evangelize the world,**

Matthew 28:19-20 TLV

(19) Go therefore and make **disciples of all nations**, immersing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Ruach ha-Kodesh,

(20) teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And remember! I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

And what better time to begin than in Jerusalem when **men from all over the world** were gathered there?

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Yeshua told them **to begin** in Jerusalem. Therefore, Yeshua **opened wide the door**, empowered the disciples, and drew 3000 Jews into his kingdom.

And it all happened on Yahweh feast day of Shavu'ot, also called the "**feast of harvest**". What an **awesome harvest of souls** was brought into the kingdom on that day.

Yeshua commissioned his disciples to evangelize by preaching the good news about him. However, they would need to be equipped with **supernatural power** to do it.

Acts 1:4-5, 8.

... not to leave Jerusalem, but to "wait for what the Father promised, which you heard about from me. For **John** used to immerse people in water; but **in a few days**, you will be immersed in the Ruach HaKodesh!".... But you **will receive power** when the Ruach HaKodesh comes upon you; you will be **my witnesses** both in **Jerusalem** and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, indeed to the ends of the earth!"

Yeshua only said **in a few days**. He did not say **in 10 days** on the feast of Shavu'ot you will be immersed in the spirit.

And so, the disciples **fasted and prayed in anticipation** of the power that would enable them to **become witnesses** to Yeshua resurrection and the establishment of his kingdom.

And so, Luke tells us in Acts 2:

ACTS 2:1-4 WMB [World Messianic Bible]

¹ Now when the day of Shavu-ot had come, they were all with one accord in one place.

² Suddenly there came from the sky a sound like the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled **all the house** where they were **sitting**.

³ Tongues like fire appeared and were distributed to them, and one sat on each of them.

⁴ They were **all** filled with the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit], and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.

On the day of Shavu'ot/Pentecost, AD 33, the [Ruach HaKodesh] Holy Spirit came upon the disciples while they were **at the temple**, in **obedience to the To-rah**, and they began to praise Yahweh in the languages of those who were gathered there from many different nations.

Please note what the scripture says:

Acts 2:1 JB

The festival of Shavu`ot arrived, and the believers **all gathered** together **in one place**.

This scripture **does not say** the believers were in the **upper room**, but rather they were gathered together **in one place**.

When we understand the occasion that brought the people together on that day, we will know that the believers **would not** have been at home, in their living quarters when the [Ruach HaKodesh] Holy Spirit arrived.

We read Yahweh's instructions in Deut.

Deuteronomy 16:10-11 CJB

(10) You are to observe the festival of Shavu`ot [weeks] for Adonai [Yahweh] your God [Elohim] with a voluntary offering, which you are to give in accordance with the degree to which Adonai [Yahweh] your God has prospered you.

(11) You are to **rejoice in the presence of Adonai [Yahweh] your God [Elohim]** - you, your sons and daughters, your male and female slaves, the Levites living in your towns, and the foreigners, orphans and widows living among you - **in the place** where Adonai [Yahweh] your God [Elohim], will choose to have his name live. **[AT THE TABERNACLE/TEMPLE]**

They were **required** to be at the **Temple** celebrating and **rejoicing in the presence of Yahweh**.

Because the Church does not connect Pentecost was Yahweh's feast day that was connected to Passover by the counting of the days, they **do not know** that the disciples were required to be at the temple in celebration.

So, because the disciples **were required** to be at the temple, and because they were part of the **countdown** to Shavuot/Pentecost, they would not have stayed at their living quarters.

What many have failed to realize is that the disciples **did not** spend the **entire 10** days leading up to Shavuot/Pentecost praying in the upper room.

It is **unfortunate** that They always stop at **Acts 1:13 which says-**

Acts 1:13 CJB

(13) After entering Jerusalem, they (the disciples) went to the **upstairs room** where they were staying....

However, they did not remain in their room **all day every day**. We need to note that the disciples **did not live** in Jerusalem, they were there because of the feast of Passover and the feast of Shavuot/Pentecost. They were merely staying there until the celebration was over.

However, Luke tells us in chapter 24:

Luke 24:52-53 CJB

(52) They bowed in worship to him (Yeshua), then returned to Jerusalem, overflowing with joy.

(53) And they spent **all their time in the Temple courts**, praising God.

Every year **most preacher** places the disciples in the **upper room** waiting for the [Ruach HaKodesh] Holy Spirit to come.

The reason they **never take the disciples out of the upper room** on the day of Pentecost/Shavu'ot, is because they do not know that shavu'ot/Pentecost is Yah's feast day when he requires his people to meet **at the temple** and celebrate with him.

Another reason is **not knowing** that the "**whole house**" in acts 2:2. Could also be translated as **temple**.

Acts 2:2 CJB

Suddenly there came a sound from the sky like the roar of a violent wind, and it filled the **whole house** where they were sitting.

Oikos- oy'-kos **The Greek word for house** also means **a temple**.

Josephus, the **Jewish historian**, in his **description of the temple** in "Wars of the Jews, said that there were **many little houses** on the side of the **lower part** of the temple.

Wars of the Jews, Book 5, Chapter 5

*"Now, about the sides of the lower part of the temple, there were **little houses**, with passages out of one into another; there were a **great many of them**, and they were of three stories high; there were also entrances on each side into them from the gate of the temple".*

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Therefore, **this house** where the disciples were gathered together **must** have been one of the **houses at the temple**, because **we know** they were at **the temple** because Yahweh said they were to be there.

That is why it is important to understand that the **thousands of people** gathered in Jerusalem that day were there to **celebrate** the feast of Shavu'ot/Pentecost.

When we understand this, we will understand **why** the disciples had to be at the temple that day and **not** in their living quarters in the **upper room**.

Acts 2:3-4 CJB

(3) Then they saw what looked like **tongues of fire**, which separated and came to rest on **each one** of them.

(4) They were all filled with the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit] and began to talk in different languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

Shavu'ot/Pentecost was an **awesome** event in history!

Because on Shavu'ot, Yahweh **supernaturally** poured out the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit] on Yeshua's disciples **and** they were **empowered** to live a Spirit led life and to be his witnesses **in Jerusalem**, in **all Judea** and **Samaria**, and **to the ends of the earth!**

The disciples moved out of the **realm of the natural** into the **supernatural**.

So much so that It was said of Paul and Silas, that they turned the **world upside down**.

Acts 17:6 CJB

....., **"These men who have turned the whole world upside down have come here too!**

After the disciples were **empowered** by the Holy Spirit, the gospel was **supernatural** preached, and **3,000** people were **set free** from the bondage of sin and transferred into the kingdom the Heaven. It happened, in **Jerusalem**, on **the day of Shavu'ot**.

This is what **Yeshua** wants for **all** those who believe in him. He wants **us** to make **such an impact** on the world with the gospel, that it **will be said of us**. **"Those believers are turning the world upside down."**

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Therefore, Shavu'ot is **a very important** festival for **all** followers of Yeshua, both the **native-born** Israelites and those of us who are **"wild branches"** that have been grafted into the **natural olive** tree [**Romans 11:17-18**].

Although Shavu'ot/Pentecost is considered by many as the **"birth of the gentile Church,"** Those **followers** of Yeshua who were **waiting** in Jerusalem, and those **visitors** in Jerusalem to celebrate Shavu'ot were **Jewish men and women**. There were of course **Jewish proselytes** there, but they were in **the minority**.

Acts 2:5 TLV

Now Jewish people were staying in Jerusalem, devout men from **every nation under heaven**.

Acts 2:11 CJB

(11) **Jews by birth** and **proselytes**; Jews from Crete and from Arabia. . .! How is it that we hear them speaking in our own languages **about the great things God [Elohim] has done?"**

Israel was called the church/ assembly in the wilderness.

Acts 7:38 TS2009

(38) "This is he who was in the assembly in the wilderness with the Messenger who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, who received the living Words to give to us,

Therefore, it was **not** a **new** church, but the beginning of a new **era** in the congregation that was formed **50 days** after Israel came out of Egypt.

There on My Sinai the **nation of Israel was born** as Yahweh holy, covenant people and was given **the to-rah**.

What took place **in AD 33** was a **continuation** of Yah's plan to **redeem** the world.

Also, another amazing thing took place on that particular Shavu'ot: Israel saw an **amazing reversal**.

For on the **first** Shavu'ot which took place **50 days** after Israel left Egypt, When Yahweh gave Israel the Tor-ah, He entrusted them with a **sacred mission** which was to spread **its light to all the nations**.

Shortly after the giving of the torah at Mount Sinai, **3,000 souls perished** because of the sin related to the worship of the golden calf.

Exodus 32:28 TLV

So the sons of Levi did as Moses said, and that day from among the people there fell about **3,000 men**.

On the day of **Shavu'ot in AD 33** when the [Ruach HaKodesh] Holy Spirit fell in the Temple, the Spirit of Yahweh **reversed** the destruction that was caused by the sin of Israel!

For on **this same date** years later, this same number of **souls were saved** after the [Ruach HaKodesh] Holy Spirit was poured out! About **3,000 people** were added to the **community of Believers** on Shavu'ot.

Acts 2:41 TLV

So those who received his message were immersed, and **that day about three thousand souls were added**.

It is clear that the **word of Yahweh** (the Torah) and the **spirit of Yahweh** (Ruach HaKodesh/Holy Spirit) work together. **Both** are important in the life of believers.

Paul Said:

Romans 3:2 CJB

... the **Jews** were entrusted with the **very words** of God [Elohim].

However, after the [Ruach HaKodesh] Holy Spirit came, the disciples of Yeshua worked tirelessly to bring the Good News to **all** of **Israel** and then beyond **to the Gentiles**.

Conclusion:

Just as Israel were entrusted with a sacred mission to spread **the light of [Elohim's] God's word to all the nations**,

Yeshua's entrusted **us, believers today**, to be the light of the world and to **make disciples** of all the nations. [Matthew 28:19-20]

The message of Shavu'ot is that **we all are significant to [Elohim] God**.

- He has **chosen** us,
- **appointed** us,
- and **anointed** us.

to **proclaim and live out His purposes** in this world by bringing us into a **covenantal** relationship with him through **Yeshua** the Messiah.

He has **equipped us** and **appointed us** as his ambassadors to take this good news to those who are lost.

We have been **fully equipped** with **his word** and with **his** [Ruach HaKodesh] **Holy Spirit**.

Both was **planned** and **orchestrated** by Yahweh **to occur** on the day of Shavuot/Pentecost.

May each **of us experience** the Holy Spirit [Ruach HaKodesh] in **a fresh**, new, and powerful way each day. May He **transform our hearts** and make us more conscience of **his redemptive** plan for humanity.

For it is **Yah's** will for all humanity, **both Jew and gentile**, to be saved through faith in **His** son, Yeshua, and brought into **His kingdom**.

Are you ready for the challenge that Yeshua has given to you today?

Shavu'ot is also call the harvest festive because it has to do with the ingathering of the wheat crops.

[Matthew 9:37-38 TLV](#)

(37) Then He said to His disciples, "**The harvest is plentiful**, but the workers are few.

(38) Therefore pray to the Lord of the harvest that He may send out workers into His harvest field."

Therefore, my prayer today is that Yeshua, the Lord of the Harvest, will send forth **more workers** into the fields to **harvest many souls** into His Kingdom.

Will you be one of them?