

BBC – 5/19/24 – “Pentecost Sunday”

(Pentecost: OT: 50 days after Feast of Firstfruits – NT: 7th Sunday after the Resurrection [Easter])

(Part 1) – Exod 33:18 Moses: “show me thy glory”

A common myth: Upon salvation we instantly receive all the Holy Spirit (HS) we’ll ever have or ever need.

- **True:** At salvation, we are in fact baptized by the Spirit into the Body of Christ ([1 Cor 12:13](#); [Eph 4:4-5](#))
 - This is indeed a one-time permanent event: We don’t get saved / unsaved / re-saved
 - The first NT salvation (*regenerational baptism by the Spirit*) occurred on Resurrection Day ([John 20:22](#))
 - But the ‘Pentecost’ baptism for Apostles & others, occurred 50 days after Resurrection Day ([Acts 2:4](#))
- **False:** At salvation, we receive all the HS empowerment, anointing, giftings we’ll ever have or ever need.
 - What does [Eph 5:18b](#) mean? “...*but be filled with the Spirit*” (*believers to continue being filled/re-filled...*)
 - Why is it necessary for us to pursue continual filling/refilling with His Spirit? (*we tend to “leak”*)
 - **Peter:** Present with the 120, Peter (*already saved*) was initially filled with the HS on Day of Pentecost
 - This baptism *with* the Spirit was not for salvation, but for empowerment for service/ministry...
 - [Acts 4:8](#) – Later, Peter (*filled with the Holy Spirit*) was again empowered to effectively address rulers
 - [Acts 4:31](#) – After that, Peter & John (*with others*) were again re-filled and empowered with boldness
 - [Gal 2:11-14](#) – But later still, Peter weakened in faith and erred; had to be publicly corrected by Paul
 - **Paul:** [Acts 9:6-17](#) – (Saul=Paul) miraculously saved on his way to Damascus to persecute Christians;
 - Paul was saved, as Ananias called him “Brother” before he prayed for Paul’s healing and HS filling.
 - [Acts 9:20-22](#) - Upon his filling, Paul immediately began to minister, & then increased in his anointing
- **Correct understanding:**
 - At salvation the Holy Spirit does a complete work of regeneration in us as He baptizes us into the Body
 - But in our Christian walk, we need continual and repeated Spirit empowerment to carry out God’s will
 - The genuine believer will desire more of God’s power as he/she begins to experience the HS’s anointing
 - **Moses:** [Exodus ch.3-33](#) Perhaps witnessed & experienced more of God miraculous power than any other
 - *Burning bush; Confrontation with Pharaoh & wizards; 10 plagues; Pillars of cloud & fire; Red Sea crossing; Bitter water sweetened; Manna/meat from heaven; Water from rock; Battle over Amalekites; Mt Sinai events*
 - [Ex 33:18](#) *Yet, after all that, why did his desire for God’s intimate presence intensify? (He wanted more)*
 - **Paul:** After shown the 3rd heaven ([2Cor 12:1-4](#)); Did Paul still desire to know Jesus more? ([Philip’s 3:10](#))
 - The more a healthy Christian learns of/experiences God; the more he’ll yearn for God’s presence/power
 - On the Day of Pentecost, God poured out His empowering Spirit on believers, & they were transformed
 - The Church is required to worship in Spirit & truth ([John 4:24](#)) – *How does the HS help us do that?*

(Part 2) – Acts 1:4-8; 2:1 The OT Feast of Pentecost & NT “Promise of the Father”

A common myth: The NT Day of Pentecost was the “Birthday of the Church”

- **OT Feast of Pentecost:** [Leviticus 23](#) lists the initial 7 Feasts of the LORD (*Feast of Pentecost/“Weeks” is the 4th*)
 - The first 4 Feasts were observed in the Spring, then a **pause**, with the last 3 Feasts celebrated in the Fall
 - 1. PASSOVER – Death Angel passes over households w/lamb’s blood on door = JC crucified is our Passover!
 - 2. UNLEAVENED BREAD (*leaven = a type of ‘sin’*) = Jesus’ sacrifice takes away sin & sanctifies the believer!
 - 3. FIRST FRUITS = Jesus’ 3rd Day Resurrection brings regeneration to believers (*JC’s Ascension with ‘1st Fruits’*)
 - 4. PENTECOST (*Feast of [7] ‘Weeks’/Harvest*) 50d after Res. the Church empowered & harvest of souls begins
- Summer months (*between 4th & 5th*) = The Church Age; The season for the Great Commission work on the earth

5. **TRUMPETS** (*Rosh Hashana*) – Relates to Rapture of the Church & subsequent unbelievers' wrath judgment
 6. **DAY of ATONEMENT** (*Yom Kippur*) – At end of 70th Week, Israel as a Nation recognizes JC as their Messiah
 7. **TABERNACLES** (*Sukkot/Booths*) God 'tabernacles' with men during Millennium & beyond in Christ's KgdM
- The Church: How do we see the Church, from start to the end of the Age, in the 7 Feasts of the LORD?

- **NT Pentecost Sunday:** The Harvest of souls after the Cross. Commemorates three significant events:
 - The empowerment of the infant Church's initial believers to accomplish God's mandate on earth;
 - The gathering of unbelievers to hear the Message of Christ: crucified, resurrected, ascended, returning;
 - The launching of the Gospel message as part of the Great Commission.

Panoramic view? After the OT "winter": *Jesus planted in Spring, Church cultivates in Summer, JC's Fall harvest*

- **Correct Understanding:**
 - The Church's "birthday" occurred on Resurrection Day, when Jesus breathed the HS into the disciples
 - Pentecost (50 days later) was the empowerment of the Church to be able to fulfill its Gr. Comm. Mandate
 - John ch.14-16 Jesus had foretold the sending of the Comforter (*Holy Spirit of Truth, sent of the Father*)
 - Luke 24:47-49; Acts 1:4-8 On Ascension Day (40 days after Resurrection Day) Jesus instructed the already born-again disciples (*regenerated by HS*) to wait in Jerusalem for the "Promise of the Father"
 - Pentecost (10 days after the Ascension) Believers were supernaturally empowered by the Holy Spirit
 - The "Promise of the Father" (Acts 2:33) was the **empowering** Pentecost "baptism **with the Spirit**" upon those who had already been born-again **by the Spirit**, and were obediently waiting in unity.

Three initial outward manifestations occurred on that day:

 1. A sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind: *A sign that the Promise had been sent;*
 2. Fire resting upon each of them: *A sign that the Promise was not corporate, but for each individual;*
 3. They were filled and spoke in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance: *Sign of receiving.*
 - The supernatural tongues phenomena (*human languages unknown/unlearned by the speakers, but understood by the hearers*), **gathered** a large crowd of curious unbelievers from at least **16** foreign lands (Typical response of unbelievers: *confused and amazed; some doubted & others mocked*).
 - As God had previously supernaturally scattered people through tongues (Gen 11), He was now supernaturally gathering people to Himself through the use of tongues.
 - These were not preaching to the unbelievers, they were in an upper room apart worshipping concerning the "*wonderful works of God.*" But the news quickly got out and a huge crowd gathered.
 - Peter's empowered preaching was the **launching** of the Great Commission Gospel message to the whole world that began in Jerusalem. Many hearts were reached on that day, as 3,000 were saved!
- **Our Application:** We are called to...
 - Receive Christ for our salvation
 - Seek God's provision of empowerment to be better used of Him
 - Strive for unity in the Body of Christ