

# You Shall Receive Power

Feast of Pentecost

**Acts 1:6-11; 2:1-8**

Leviticus 23:1-2, 15-22

John 14:15-26



## Pressing Forward into 2023

- Am I a disciple of Christ? (Luke 14:25-33) **“He cannot be my disciple.”**
  - (Luke 14:26) Do I love Christ SUPREME? Do I love Christ more than I love my family? Is my life in Christ more important than my life in the world? Remember John 14:21-24 from last week!
  - (Luke 14:27; 9:23) Am I **denying myself, picking up my cross daily** (dying to self), and **FOLLOWING (obeying) Christ**.
  - (Luke 14:33) Have I forsaken ALL for following Christ?
- Catechism and Meditation

## God's Eternal Purpose

### God's Feasts (Leviticus 23)

- God gave His people **His** feasts *after He* redeemed them from Egypt.
- God gave His people **His** feasts to *His* people in order to share **His** joy with *His* people. God **communes** with HIS people.
- One cannot share in God's joy unless he/she is a child of God.
- One cannot share in God's joy unless he/she is *born-again*. (John 3:3, 5)
- God's joy is centered on His Son, Jesus Christ.
- All of **His** feasts point to and speak about His Son.
- Review God's calendar. (Handout: God's Feasts of 2023)
- God was/is the host. The people are *only* guests.
- All arrangements, the time, the place, the ordering of the feasts were under taken by GOD.
- NOTHING was left to the people. There was NO vote!
- *True happiness* comes from enjoying God, not what we believe is better!

### Feast of Weeks – Pentecost (Leviticus 23:15-22)

- GREAT EVENTS in history:
  - **CREATION** - God creates the UNIVERSE out of nothing.
  - **INCARNATION** - God's coming in the flesh to save His people.

- **CRUCIFIXION** - God crucifies His beloved Son in order to save His people from the penalty of His holy, good, and just Law.
- **RESURRECTION** - God raised His Son from the grave showing that He accepted His Son's sacrifice on His people's behalf.
- **PENTECOST** - God sends His Spirit into the hearts of His people as a guarantee of His promise and to enable them to obey His Law. He established His Church, the assembling of His elect, on the earth.
- Two loaves of bread – with leaven! **ONE OFFERING.** (1 Corinthians 12:13; Romans 11:17; Colossians 3:10-11; Ephesians 2:10-3:11)
- A **new** grain offering. (Leviticus 23:16; Matthew 9:15-17; Ephesians 3:5-6)
- It was a *firstfruit* offering. It was closely connected to the *firstfruit* of the Feast of Firstfruits. (Hebrews 2:11; **12:23**; Romans 8:23; 1 Corinthians 15:)
- Jews and Gentiles **supernaturally** brought together to make one Church. And yet, God recognizes that there is no difference in their sin. (Acts 4:27; Romans 3:22-23; Ephesians 2:11-22; 3:1-11)
- The New Testament Church is born at Pentecost!
  - By an act of God. - Indissoluble (Eccl 3:14; Job 42:2)
  - Eternally one with Christ, His Body (1 Cor 12:27; Eph 1:22-23; 5:30-32)
  - Man cannot mar or mutilate it.
  - The gates of Hell shall never prevail. (Matt 16:18; Heb 12:28)
- We speak here of *only* the true Church made up of *true* Christians. These Christians are described by Jesus, their Head, in His sermon on the mount. (Matthew 5-7)
- These Christians are Christ's sheep who hear His voice, are known by Him (in contrast to Matthew 7:23), they follow Him.
  - ★ Christ gives eternal life and promises that these will never perish who follow and obey Him. (John 10:27-29)

## Sending of the Holy Spirit

- Christ PROMISED to send the Holy Spirit to lead, help, teach, advocate, and comfort His people. (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7, 13-14)
- The **TRIUNE GOD** each had their part in the eternal purpose and everlasting covenant:
  - **God, the Father:** Elects, gives His elect to Christ, sends His Son to die for His people.
  - **God, the Son:** Comes to do the will of the Father. To die for everyone that the Father gave Him and will raise everyone He died for. Make intercession for those whom He died.
  - **God, the Holy Spirit.** Applies Christ's merits to God's elect, gives eternal life to the elect, imparts saving faith.
- God **gave** His Holy Spirit. (Romans 5:5) As He **gave** His Son. (John 3:16)

- Why was the Holy Spirit given to the Church?
  1. To **save and sanctify**. (Romans 15:16; 1 Cor 6:11; 2 Thess 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2; Titus 3:5)
  2. To **testify** of Christ to us. (John 15:26)
  3. To **impart eternal life and saving faith**. (John 6:63; Romans 8:11; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Galatians 5:5; 6:8)
  4. To **empower** her. (Acts 1:8)
    - To **fight** the battle of sin. (Galatians 5:17)
      - The *filling* of the Holy Spirit allows us to do this. (Eph5:18)
    - To **witness** of Christ and His work. (Acts 1:8)
      - Through what we say and do.
    - To **walk (live)** according to God's Word. (Romans 8:1-5; Ezekiel 36:26-27)
  5. To **seal** her. (Eph 1:13-14; 4:30; Rom 8:23; 2 Cor. 1:21-22; 5:5)
    - Nothing and no one can break this seal. (Romans 8:35-39)
    - The Holy Spirit is God's **guarantee** to all of His promises.
  6. To **lead** her into TRUTH.
    - We cannot know the truth without the Spirit. (1 Cor. 2:14; John 16:13)
    - He leads us by the use of TRUTH – God's Word. (John 17:17; Psalm 119:105; 43:3; 19:8; Proverbs 6:23; 2 Peter 1:19)
  7. To **lead** her in the way she should go. (Gal 5:18, 25; Romans 8:14)
  8. To **give spiritual gifts** to each one that Christ died for. (1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:1-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11)
  9. To **indwell** her. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)
    - God sent His Spirit into His special people's heart **because** they are/were His sons. (Galatians 4:6)
    - He is **in** us! (John 14:17; 1 Corinthians 6:19)
    - We **are** God's witnesses here on earth.
  10. To **produce** fruit in her.
    - Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of **the Spirit**, not of us!
    - Love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control are all **gifts**, not things we produce but are produced in us by the Holy Spirit!
    - This fruit is NOT for us but for others. (1 Peter 4:10-11; John 7:37-39)
  11. To **help** her to **pray**. (Romans 8:26; Eph 6:18; Jude 20-21)
    - We are to pray in the Spirit. To pray "in the Spirit" is to:
      - ① Be in submission, being led by, "lining up with" the Spirit of God.
      - ② Pray consistently in accordance with the will of God and in the power of the Spirit as He dwells in me to "will and do for His pleasure". (1 John 5:14-15; Philippians 2:13)

- We are to become so saturated with the thoughts of God (immersed [baptized] in the Words of God) that we pray as the Spirit prays in us. We become one in our prayers.
- 12. To **intercede** for her. (Romans 8:26)
- 13. To **convict** her! (John 16:18)
  - God sent His Spirit, as He sent His Son, to convict us of our sins. No conviction — No Spirit.
- 14. To **comfort** her in her **many** afflictions and tribulations! (John 14:16, 18, 26; 16:7, 33; 15:19-21; **Acts 9:31**; 14:22; Romans 8:16-17, 18, 36; 2 Cor 4:17-18; 2 Timothy 3:12; Philippians 1:29; 1 Peter 1:6-7; 1 Peter 4:12-19; Matthew 5:4, 10-12; **2 Corinthians 1:3-6**)
- 15. To **raise** her from the dead! (Romans 8:11)
  - The Spirit, and the Spirit alone, gives life. (John 6:63; 2 Cor. 3:6; Galatians 6:8)
- 16. To help her **mortify** sin in her. (Romans 8:13)
- 17. To **shed abroad God's love** in our hearts. (Romans 5:5)

## Warnings

- (1 Thessalonians 5:19) DO NOT QUENCH the Spirit.
- (Ephesians 4:30) DO NOT GRIEVE the Spirit.
- (Acts 7:51) DO NOT RESIST the Spirit.
- (Hebrews 3:7-8, 15) DO NOT IGNORE the Spirit.
- ★ We quench, grieve, resist, ignore the Spirit in our disobedience to God's Law, living life for ourselves rather than for God, giving God less than what He deserves, not giving God our all/best, etc.
- (Romans 8:14) ONLY those who are led by the Spirit (being led implies those who are being led and following) are the children of God.

## Living On Every Word of God (Luke 4:4)

- Be filled with thanksgiving that God sent His Spirit to indwell us.
- Live knowing that our bodies are temples (sacred places) of the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Romans 8:9)
- Be CHURCH since this was God's will in sending His Spirit.
- Be filled with the Spirit, so that, the fruit of the Spirit will flow out of us to others.
  - To be filled with the Spirit means that we must totally deny ourselves. (Galatians 5:22-23; John 7:37-38; Luke 9:23)
- Walk in/by the Spirit so that you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16) If you are filled with the Spirit walking in the Spirit will be natural and a great joy!
- Know that ONLY those who are led by the Spirit are the children of God. (Romans 8:14)