

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

(Acts 2:1-4)

Introduction:

1. Today is the Day of Pentecost. This day, outside of the Jewish world, has no real significance since the Law of Moses that commanded its observance was removed (Eph. 2:14, 15). But this day does have great significance to the Lord's church in that it was upon this day that the church was founded.
2. Let us therefore this morning consider the Day of Pentecost with regards to its being a feast day of the Jews, tied to a promised day to all mankind, and finally let us consider that Day of Pentecost that was fully come.

Discussion:

I. The Feast Day.

- A. Pentecost was the Greek name for the Feast of Weeks. This feast was commanded to take place 7 weeks and a day after the Passover Sabbath (thus fifty days, *pentecost* = "the fifty" in Greek).
- B. This feast is called the Feast of Weeks (Ex. 34:22, 23; Deut. 16:9, 10), the Feast of Harvest or Reaping (Ex. 23:14-17), and the Feast of First-fruits (Num. 28:26ff). It was a feast of offering of the first-fruits of the harvest to God in thanksgiving for His blessings.
- C. As Jesus was the first-fruits from the dead (1 Cor. 15:20), so the church would be a first-fruit of His death (John 12:23, 24; Jas. 1:18).

II. The Promised Day.

- A. The promised "harvest" was salvation via the forgiveness of sin and the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven, the kingdom of those saved (Matt. 13:30).
 1. Promised salvation = Gen. 3:15; Luke 19:10; John 3:16; Rom. 6:23; Acts 2:40.
 2. Promised kingdom =
 - a. Dan. 2:44 = eternal kingdom established by God that shall consume all other kingdoms.
 - b. Is. 2:2, 3 = God shall establish a mighty kingdom above all others into which all nations shall flow, and the law/instruction of this kingdom shall come from Jerusalem.
 - c. Joel 2:28-32 = God shall pour out His Spirit on all flesh and with signs and wonders salvation shall be made available to all.
- B. New Testament kingdom promises = Matt. 16:16-19; Mk. 9:1; John 18:36; Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:6-8.

III. The Day Full Come.

- A. The Holy Spirit was poured out with power allowing confirming miracles (Acts 2:1-21).
- B. Peter gives proofs that Jesus was/is the Christ (Acts 2:22-36).
 1. Jesus' miracles proved He was the Christ (v22).
 2. Jesus' resurrection from the dead proved He was the Christ (vv 25-36).
 - a. David's prophecy of Ps. 16:8-11 = Acts 2:25-31.
 - b. David's prophecies of Ps. 68:18 and Ps. 110:1 = Acts 2:32-36.
- C. Peter answers the question of how to be saved and enter the kingdom (Acts 2:37-47).
 1. Repent and be baptized remits your sin and entitles one to receiving the Holy Spirit, which is tied to THE promise (vv 38, 39; cp. John 6:45 and Matt. 22:31).
 2. Those who received the word gladly and obeyed it were added to "them" (Acts 2:41). They continued to live by the words/law of Christ via His apostles (Acts 2:42-45; cp. Is. 2:3). They continued living this way and those who were being saved were added to "them", the kingdom (Acts 2:46, 47).

Conclusion:

1. Even though the Day of Pentecost is no longer observed religiously, let us always be thankful for that great Day of Pentecost that brought salvation and entrance to the kingdom to all.
2. Let us strive to continue in that salvation and in the kingdom that we might be the fullness of God in Christ (Eph. 1:22, 23).
3. Invitation

MORE ON “THE DAY OF PENTECOST”

1. The biblical concept of first-fruits is foundational and pervasive.
 - A. Gen. 4:4; Heb. 11:4 Abel.
 - B. Ex. 13:2, 11-16; 22:29, 30; 23:16-19; 34:19, 20; Lev. 2:12-16; 23:15-22; Num. 28:26-31 = Israel.
 - C. Christian
 - Jas. 1:18
 - Jesus rose on the first day of the week (Mark 16:1, 6; 1 Cor. 15:20-23).
 - Church founded on first day of the week (Acts 2).
 - Church meets on first day of the week to partake of the Lord’s Supper (1 Cor. 11:17-34; 16:1; Acts 20:7; Rev. 1:10).
 - We are to give the first and best to God (Matt. 6:33; Col. 1:18; 1 Cor. 16:1; 2 Cor. 9:6-11; et al).

2. The promise (Acts 2:39).
 - A. In context, the promise was promised to all and must refer to salvation via the forgiveness of sin (Gen. 3:15; 22:18; Joel 2:28-32 = Acts 22:16; Jer. 31:31-34; et al).
 - B. In context, the “gift of the Holy Spirit” in Acts 2:38 would appear to be the gift that is the forgiveness of sin which allows the Holy Spirit to indwell us as a downpayment/seal” (Eph. 1:13, 14; Acts 19:1-6; 1 Cor. 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:5; et al). In other places (Acts 10:45), the “gift of the Holy Spirit” refers to the miraculous gifts from the Holy Spirit.
 - C. Thus, the believing Jews pricked to the heart by Peter’s sermon were told to repent (change their minds about who Jesus was/is) and be baptized by the authority of Jesus Christ (John 1:12) for (cp. Matt. 26:28) the remission of sin (that sin might not be charged against us). This would result in their receiving the Holy Spirit, the promise made to all who are called by God (cp. John 6:44, 45).

3. We today have the gift of not the gift from the Holy Spirit, unless one consider the Bible the gift from the Holy Spirit. We have everything they had minus the miraculous. We are to hear the word of God (the calling), believe, repent, confess, and be baptized for the remission of sin; where we too receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (the forgiveness of sin and the indwelling of the Spirit).