



Lesson 8: Pentecost

The LORD's Progressive Revelation about His Plan of Redemption.....

NOTES FOR LECTURE 8

Pentecost - Karen

Colossians 2:16-17 –

These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

Hebrews 10:1 –

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming – not the realities themselves....

The Law = Torah - contains 613 specific laws or commandments

In Matthew 5:17 Jesus said:

...I have not come to abolish them (Torah) but to fulfill them.

First century Rabbi's would say:

"It has been fulfilled," – if a passage in Scripture was interpreted correctly

1. The fourth Appointment listed on **The Seven Appointments of the LORD, Chart #4** is known as Pentecost or Shavuot in Hebrew
 - a. Also called: Feast of Seven Weeks, The Day of Firstfruits and The Feast of Harvest
 - b. Begins with the summer harvest season (spiritually, a harvest of Believers).
 - c. Acts 2 – The story of the giving of the Holy Spirit
 - In one place, sound like violent wind, tongues of fire, spoke in other tongues
 - Second Pilgrimage Appointment – 2.5 million Jews in Jerusalem – Why?
 - Jesus said in **Acts 1:4** - *Do not leave Jerusalem...*
2. Count off seven full weeks after Appointment of Firstfruits - Leviticus 23:17, 20-21
 - a. A Sabbath that was a holy (*qodesh*) set apart dress rehearsal (*miqra*)
 - b. A time of thanksgiving
 - c. Harvest of Wheat - Refer to: **Harvesting and Ingathering, Chart #5**
 - d. Families bring firstfruits of wheat to the temple
 - e. Priests present, or wave two huge loaves of wheat bread (with yeast) before the LORD
 - f. Wheat is symbolic of spirit-filled Believers
 - g. Represented first of the harvest and a guarantee that there was more to come
 - h. Memorial of the process of freedom (salvation) which began at Passover and brought them to the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai

3. God's perfect timing – Do you see the connection with Acts 2?
 - a. Exodus 19:1 - In the third month after they left Egypt (a picture of the world)
 - b. Exodus 19:16-20 - led the people to meet with God; fire, sound, trembling
 - c. Exodus 20:1 - God spoke (Gen 1:1, 5 and John 1:1); heard by the entire nation

4. Hebrew root words and symbolism:

The presence of God in a pillar of fire: *Shekinah* Glory

Tabernacle: *mishkan* or dwelling place

Both derived from the Hebrew root word *shakhan* - "to settle, inhabit, or dwell"

Exodus 25:8-9 – *They shall make me a sanctuary, and I will dwell (ve-shakhan-ti) among them. You must make the tabernacle (mishkan) and all its furnishings following the plan that I am showing you.*

Fire: The presence and glory of God

Wind: The Spirit of God, His breath of life

Greek translation = *pneuma* = breath

Hebrew translation = *ruach* = breath, air, wind

Trumpet: The voice of God

Land: The Kingdom of God/Inheritance/Eternity

John 1:14 – *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us...*

Ezekiel 36:26-27 – *...I will put my Spirit in you....*

Jeremiah 31:33 – *I will put my laws in their minds & write it on their hearts...*

II Corinthians 3:3 – *not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of human hearts*

5) The early church – *ecclesia* in Greek – the called out ones.

Acts 2:41 and Acts 4:4 – Initially all Jews

Acts 21:19-20 – two groups of "called out ones" – remember the two loaves?

Romans 12:1 – *a sacrifice he will find acceptable*

II Corinthians 1:21-22 and 5:5 – *a deposit guaranteeing what is to come*

Ephesians 2:14-18 – *...one new man out of two, thus making peace."*

John 17:20-23 – Jesus' prayer – *May they be brought to complete unity...*

6) A look at the story of Ruth

The Jubilee in Leviticus 25:10 – return the property to the family

A picture of:

- The Nation of Israel - Naomi lost her inheritance and needed a redeemer to buy back her land.
- The gentile nations – Ruth, a Moabitess who, as a gentile, had no inheritance and would be excluded from the covenants needed a redeemer to buy her freedom
- Our Redeemer, Jesus - Boaz – the kinsman redeemer who takes the Ruth (the gentile church) as His bride and buys back the inheritance for Ruth (Israel).
- **Leviticus 23:22** – *Leave the gleanings of your harvest for the poor and alien*

Ruth 2:23 – *So she stayed close by the maids of Boaz in order to glean until the end of the barley harvest (Appointment of Firstfruits) and the wheat harvest (Appointment of Pentecost/Shavuot). And she lived with her mother-in-law.*

Ephesians 2:19 – *Consequently, you (gentiles) are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people (Israel) and members of God's household.*

Homework after Lecture 8

Prepare for Lecture 9 – Israel Tending the Fields

We have just finished studying the Spring Appointments of the LORD, and have seen how these Appointments were more than just Jewish holidays, but were dress rehearsals for things that were to come (Colossians 2:16-17).

Hopefully, by now you are also beginning to understand that these Appointments are not just dates from the Exodus for us to remember the LORD's hand in the Israelite's journey, and appointed times for the Messiah. They are also a shadow and a glimpse into the fullness of God's Plan of Redemption for all mankind over all of history, past, present and future (Isaiah 46:9-10).

Because the temple was destroyed in 70 A.D., these Appointments can no longer be kept as they were once observed in ancient Israel.

Although the LORD stopped all of Israel's appointed feasts as it is written in Hosea 2:11, he allowed them to carry on as they saw fit. Why? It was not only because their hearts were far from Him so that their sacrifices were meaningless (Isaiah 1:13 and Isaiah 29:13); it was because when Jesus (Yeshua) was crucified, buried, and resurrected on the third day, a final pleasing sacrifice and first fruit was once and for all presented before and accepted by God.

As we've learned, "The feasts were religious seasons or holy convocations representing God's dealings with the Jewish people as a nation. They symbolized major encounters between God and His covenant people. The long, hot summer months when there were no feasts served as a picture to the Jewish people of a future period of time when God would not be dealing with them on a national basis. He still would be redeeming individual Jews, but His attention would be directed toward the Gentiles." (Source: Celebrating Jesus in the Biblical Feasts, Dr. Richard Booker, 2009; page 112).

As we look at **The Seven Appointments of the LORD, Chart #4**, we can see that after Pentecost the long, dry summer months begin where there are no Appointments. The Jewish people were tending the fields in anticipation of the fall harvest. Refer to **Harvesting and Ingathering, Chart #5**. The celebration of Pentecost was a sign that the official summer harvest season had begun.

The time in which we are currently living is often called **The Church Age**, or **The Times of the Gentiles** (Romans 11:25; Luke 21:24). This is the time of the summer harvest. In this study this time is referred to as **Tending the Fields**.

In our lesson on Jewish church history we discussed the nation of Israel after the time of Christ through to today. In order to get a better understanding of why Israel is so such an important part of the LORD's Plan of Redemption, we must go back to the time when the LORD first called out and set apart the people of Israel through their father Abraham (initially known as Abram.)

1. Read Genesis 12:1-8.
 - What did the LORD tell Abram to do? Did he do it?

 - What seven promises did the LORD make to Abram in this passage? Hint: look for the words **I will**.

2. Read Genesis 17:5-8
 - What additional promises did the LORD make to Abraham?

 - How long was this covenant (promise) and possession to last?

3. When the Scriptures speak of the LORD choosing or calling someone or something, it is always for a purpose within His plan of redemption.
 - Read Genesis 18:19. For what purpose did the LORD choose Abraham?

 - Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8; 9:4-6 and 10:14-19. For what two purposes do these passages say the LORD chose the Israelites to be His treasured possession?

 - II Chronicles 6:5-6. For what purpose did the LORD choose Jerusalem and David?

4. Read Romans 11:1-5, 11-12 and 25-29.
 - Does Paul, the writer of Romans, believe that God has rejected the Israelites?

- What is the salvation to the gentiles supposed to do to (or for) Israel?
- When will Israel's partial hardening (veiling) be removed (verse 25)?
- Once the LORD calls or chooses someone for a purpose, can that be revoked?

5. Look up the following verses and note what the LORD says he has in store for the Israelites. These events may have already occurred or may be yet to come.

- Isaiah 11:12
- Amos 9:11-14
- Ezekiel 36:1-12
- Ezekiel 37:21-22

Refer to: **The Helpful Definitions, Chart #6**

6. Look-up and be familiar with the following terms and historical events.
- Aliyah
 - Balfour Declaration of 1917 *
 - Completed Jew (or "Messianic Jew")
 - Diaspora *
 - Fall of Jerusalem, 70 AD *
 - Gentiles

- May 14, 1948 *
- Replacement Theology
- Six-Day War of 1967 *
- Type (or typology)

* Pay particular attention to what happened to the Jews and Israel on these dates.

