



## Acts 2: The Birth of the Church

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### Key Verse

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* Acts 1:8

Key Word - Together

### What is Pentecost and What is a Pentecostal?

Pentecost – pentekosta = 50

Feast of Weeks or Shavu'ot – Feast of joy to be celebrated 50 days after the Passover on the occasion of the giving of the law and also the wheat harvest. (Ex. 34:22; Lev. 23:15-22; Num. 28:26-31; Dt. 16:9-12)

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon the believers with the evidence of a mighty wind, fire alighting on them and speaking in tongues. A supernatural community was created; the church.

A Pentecostal – a Christian who believes the experiences of Acts 2 are available and practiced today.

### What happened on the Day of Pentecost?

- The Holy Spirit came and filled all of the believers. Vs 1-13

*"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."* Vs 2:1-4

- Peter preaches the Gospel. Vs 14-41

*"This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel; "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people... Therefore let all Israel be assured of this; God had made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ... Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off... and about 3000 were added to their number that day."* Vs 16-17, 36, 38-39, 41

- The Church was born. Vs 42-47

*"They devoted themselves... All the believers were together... Every day they continued to meet together... they ate together... and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."* Vs 42, 44, 46-47

They were devoted:

- To the Apostles' teaching
- To prayer
- To communion/breaking of bread
- To fellowship
- To generosity
- To praising God
- God did miracles

### The Significance of the Day of Pentecost

- Feast of Passover – Israel released from bondage/Jesus died on the cross freeing us from sin.
- Feast of Unleavened Bread – Jesus was the perfect pure sacrifice/We are forgiven by His blood.
- Feast of Firstfruits – Jesus rose again becoming the "firstfruits from the dead"/We have eternal life.
- Feast of Weeks or Pentecost – Israel a people of God and celebrated the harvest/The church a people of God and celebrate a harvest of souls.
- Feast of Trumpets – Jewish New Year, new beginnings with trumpet blast/Eternal life begins with the trumpet.
- Day of Atonement – Confession to be clean before the Lord/Sins forgiven, we stand clean before the Lord.
- Feast of Tabernacles or Booths – Remember the wilderness journey and final harvest/New home in heaven, harvest completed.