

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST OR WEEKS

The Great Harvest of Souls

Like most of the major feast days for Israel, the **Feast of Pentecost**, also known as the **Feast of Weeks**, was celebrated around the harvests of Israel's crops. This feast actually is connected to the *Feast of First Fruits* or the *Wave Offering* following the Passover. In fact it, was to be celebrated exactly 50 days after Resurrection Sunday or the *Feast of First Fruits*.

It is in **Lev 23:15-16** that YAH gives Israel instruction on exactly when the feast should be celebrated – “**15**And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the **wave offering**; seven sabbaths shall be complete; **16**Even unto **the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days**; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.”

So, the *Feast of Pentecost* or *Weeks* was to occur exactly **7 weeks** (49 days) and **1 day** =

50 days after the *First Fruits/Wave Offering* or *Resurrection Sunday*. Hence the name Pentecost (G4005 – pen-tay-kos-tay) means “**the fiftieth day**”. In the Old Testament it was called the *Feast of Weeks*, describing the 7 weeks + 1 day from the *Feast of First Fruits*, in grateful recognition of the completed and blessed harvest.

In the New Testament it was called **Pentecost** in recognition of a harvest of souls, made effective by the giving of the *Holy Spirit*. It gave the apostles the power to spread the gospel of salvation to the Hebrew Israelites scattered in all the surrounding nations.

Acts 2:1 says, “And when the **day of Pentecost** was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2**And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **3**And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and sat up



Acts 2:4 “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost”

on each of them. **4**And **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues (languages), as the Spirit gave them utterance.” **5**And there were dwelling in Jerusalem, **Jews**, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. **6**Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. **7**And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? **8**And **how hear we every man in our own tongue,**

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wherein we were born? ⁹*Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of YAH.*”

Exactly when the **50-day** countdown to Pentecost was completed, YAH sent the *Holy Spirit* upon all those who were gathered in Jerusalem as Yahushua had told his disciples to do. And all these devout Jews, from more than **16 nations** around the world at that time happened to be in Jerusalem on that day. **Why? Because they were there to keep the law of the Feast of Weeks** as they had done all their lives. They were “devout Jews”. This feast was one of the three feast that all able-bodied Israelite men were to come to the city to observe. So, they heard all those Galileans

speaking in all of their different languages. And what were they all saying? **They were speaking about all the wonderful works of YAH** – they were preaching the gospel in languages they themselves did not speak.

Later Peter preached, telling them to “*repent and be baptized in the name of Yahushua Ha’Mashiach for the remission of sins and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our Elohim shall call*”.

And all that believed that day and were baptized were about **three thousand souls** – a great harvest in one day. The apostles were now equipped to preach the gospel to the Jews scattered in all the countries around Jerusalem, **telling them that salvation was promise to the Jews and all their children as long as YAH calls them.** With this gift, YAH solved the problem of a language barrier in



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reaching his chosen people with the good news to lead them back to the Elohim of their fathers **Abraham, Isaac** and **Jacob**. Both the apostles and we today are the **first fruits** of those to receive this gift to empower believers to bear witness to our Messiah, who was sent to redeem Israel back to YAH and the gentiles to see a great light and to learn righteousness from the witness of the elect of Israel – a great harvest of souls! We should give a free-will offering to YAH as was required of Israel as we commemorate this blessed day.