

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-18

Memory Verse: Acts 20:16

Pentecost is one of the three commanded feasts of Yahweh during which all true worshipers are commanded to gather together in holy convocation to worship our Father in Heaven.

The **King James** term “convocation” is derived from the Latin (*con-* meaning “together” and *voco-* meaning “call”), while the Hebrew word from which it is translated in Leviticus 23:21 is **miqra**, meaning “someone or something called out, a public meeting or a rehearsal” (Strong’s Concordance #4744).

Therefore, we are commanded to join with others of like precious faith to worship Yahweh on the day which He has specified. We cannot remain at home during these commanded assemblies, but Almighty Yahweh wants us to worship Him in the company of brethren who are in sound doctrine. We either assemble by gathering to worship or disassemble by refusing to hear the command.

Pentecost holds a deep spiritual meaning for the people of Yahweh. It is the day on which the children of Israel at Mt. Sinai ratified the covenant with Yahweh. This agreement became known as the Old Covenant.

In the New Testament, Pentecost became significant because on this day the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the faithful disciples, as described in the second chapter of Acts. It commemorates the sending of the Holy Spirit in Yahshua’s Name, the outpouring of the power from on high that helps us to overcome sin and keep the law, Romans 7 and 8. The law did not change. Yahweh’s Holy Spirit writes the law within our minds and hearts during this New Covenant era, Jeremiah 31:31-34. It is our attitude toward obedience that has changed. The New Covenant signifies the True Worshiper’s willing compliance with the terms of Yahweh’s law so that for the people of Yahweh it becomes a way of life, doing Yahweh’s will from the heart.

The word Pentecost in Greek means “count fifty” or “fiftieth day.” In the Old Testament, however, this commanded feast was known by other names such as “**Feast of Weeks**” in Exodus 34:22; Deuteronomy 16:10-11 and II Chronicles 8:13. In Exodus 23:16 it is known as the “**Feast of Harvest**,” meaning the firstfruits of our labors. In Numbers 28:26 it is called the “**Day of Firstfruits**.” The Jews know it as “**Shavuot**” or “**Shavuoth**.”

Pentecostal organizations frequently seem to forget that when the Holy Spirit fell, the Apostolic Assembly as a group was in **ONE ACCORD IN ONE PLACE TO KEEP THE SCRIPTURAL FEAST OF WEEKS OR PENTECOST DAY**. They were all in one accord in Jerusalem just as the law of Yahweh commands. The members of the Apostolic Assembly were in one accord in obedience to His Word. When the power of Yahweh fell upon them, they began to teach the multitude of assembled Israelites in their own languages.

The Feast of Pentecost was celebrated seven weeks after the offering of the wave sheaf after the Passover. The name “Pentecost,” meaning “fiftieth,” originated from the fact that there was an interval of 50 days between the two. The feast lasted a single day (Deuteronomy 16:9-12), and marked the completion of the wheat harvest. The characteristic ritual of this feast was the offering and waving of two loaves of leavened bread, made from the ripe grain which had just been harvested. This was done by the priest in the name of the congregations. In addition to these wave offerings, the people were enjoined to give Yahweh an offering of the first fruits of their produce. The amount of the offering was not designated.

Questions

1. Is Pentecost one of the three pilgrim feasts? Exodus 23:14-17
Deuteronomy 16:16-17
2. Was Pentecost observed after Messiah went back to heaven?
Acts 2:1
3. How many people were gathered in the upper room before the Holy Spirit came?
4. Did Paul keep the Feast of Pentecost? Acts 20:16
5. Is Pentecost a joyous occasion? Deuteronomy 16:9-12