

PENTECOST/Shavuot – what this day is all about.



May 31, 2020

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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

Summary: *What a thrilling day Pentecost is and should be to God's children. Learn about our appointments with God, dress rehearsals, the 3 harvest seasons and what they represent. What BIG things happened on Pentecost or Shavuot (Weeks)? What do God's 10 commandments, God's Holy Spirit – all have to do with this day? And which weddings took place, and will take place, on this very day? And why is that important (some of that in next message). Why were two leavened loaves raised up and then lowered?*

KEY words: *Pentecost, Shavuot, Holy Spirit, 2 leavened loaves, moed, moedim, miqra, Feast of Weeks, Firstfruits, Ruth, Boaz, Wedding of the Lamb, tongues, Acts 2, blameless.*

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We're in the holyday period of Pentecost? There's a whole religious group that gets its name from the speaking in tongues that happened in Acts 2. Speaking in tongues is not my topic today but I'm sure you've heard of "Pentecostal" groups. On the Day of Pentecost, God sent his Holy Spirit and it filled the 120 who were assembled and ALL of them, we're told, spoke in other languages that onlookers could understand when people wondered what was going on. That's all in Acts 2.

We're here for **another holyday – May 31st, 2020 is Pentecost/Shavuot.**

We've just come through Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread and we remembered the Wavesheaf Day, when Jesus/Yeshua ascended to heaven on behalf of the rest of the harvest of souls, so we would all be acceptable to our Father. Much more on all this in a minute... *Pentecost, as I've taught for years, is intricately tied to Passover and Wavesheaf Day.*

So hello everyone. I'm Philip Shields, the host and founder of Light on the Rock. I'm wonderfully aided by my webmaster **Scott and his wife Brandie.** Maybe I can persuade them, if they wish to, to post their picture briefly so you can see who does a ton of the work behind the scenes. My wife also helps with setting up the camera and lighting and all that. So it's the 4 of us basically.

In our English Bibles, God's holydays are **called "feasts of the LORD" in Leviticus 23.** The English word "feast" actually comes from 2 Hebrew words.

Leviticus 23:1-2

'And Yehovah (the LORD) spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The *FEASTS of Yehovah*, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are *My feasts*."

Let's note a few important points right off the bat:

- **These are "My Feasts" – says Yehovah.** They are *His* days and they're not, as Jews call them – they're NOT "holidays". No sir, they are holy days, not holidays.

So of course the early believers – who at that time were all Jewish, kept the feasts of God. The one we're coming up to is called **Pentecost** in the New Testament, and usually **Feast of Weeks** (Shavuot) or **Feast of Firstfruits**, in the Old Testament.

Acts 2:1-4

"When the Day of Pentecost *had 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 the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 **And they were ALL filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."**

Later on, many years later, when Paul was converted, he too, made a point to hurry to be sure to be in Jerusalem for Pentecost. He skipped going through Ephesus, just to be there on time (Acts 20:16). So they kept Pentecost, etc. as it was a pilgrimage feast.

Pentecost comes from the Greek for "50th", as it was the 50th day of the 50-day count up to Pentecost. Shavuot, the Hebrew word, means "weeks" or "sabbaths", as there were 7 weeks + a day to the Feast of Weeks/Shavuot.

So the word "Feast" – as used in our English Bibles – actually comes from 2 Hebrew words in the OT. When I say "feast" or "festival" to you, we think of a good time, lots of food and drink. There is a Hebrew word for that – *chag*.

***Chag* = feast, (more like an "h" sound) meaning a time of joyous celebration, feasting and drinking. This coming holy day – Pentecost, has been called "the Pinnacle of JOY" by my friend Jeff Niccum. It certainly is a "chag".**

But there's also another word for "feast" that isn't as well known. It's the one used in Lev. 23:2, for example.

Moed (Strong's 4150) = "an appointed time or place; a divine appointment with God". Moedim in plural (feasts, divine appointments). First used in Genesis 1:14 where the lights in the sky were to mark the appointed times – or holy days -- translated "seasons". It can mean "feast", or it can mean any designated time.

So when we read Lev 23:1-2 with that in mind, the word "feasts" there is "moedim" – The appointed times. Here's what Holman Apologetics Bible says for example:

Leviticus 23:1-2 HOLMAN

“The LORD spoke to Moses: **2** “Speak to the Israelites and tell them: These **are My appointed times**, the times of the LORD that you will proclaim **as sacred assemblies**.”

Sometimes the word “moed” is translated “feasts” – an appointed time; or a designated time. Isaac was to be born at a “moed” for example (Gen. 18:14; 21:2; 17:21). I suspect many of the days we now keep as holy days could have been dates of historical importance already to the Hebrews. My opinion....

So when our God sets an appointment, he expects us to be there, to meet with him and to worship him. So we know the early believers in Christ MET on this day, Acts 2 -- and on this day they were given some of God’s very own divine nature by His Holy Spirit. They came together as ONE, “**in one accord**”, we’re told. They weren’t in splits and various groups. And what would have happened if they HADN’T kept that appointment with God?

But besides being an APPOINTMENT – a *moed* – it also was **a sacred assembly, or holy convocation**. The word in Hebrew there for assembly or convocation is MIQRA. Now watch this:

“OT:4744 miqra’ (mik-raw’); from **OT:7121**; something called out, i.e. **a public meeting** (the act, the persons, or the place); **also a rehearsal**”

But what’s a “dress rehearsal”? (I describe the college entertainment we’d put on... and since we wanted it to be perfect on the night, we would have “dress rehearsals” – where we wore what we were going to wear on the night and performed as if it was the real night. Why? So on the exact day – we all knew our parts, our roles; when to come in and when to leave and what to do.)

THE FEASTS OF Yehovah are rehearsals, “miqra” – convocations, for very real events in the past that pictured future events, and also still-to-happen events in the future, so we won’t be caught off guard as much! The holydays are God’s dress rehearsals of upcoming important events. ON each holyday that has already been fulfilled, everything happened right to the MINUTE, on the exact day.

Pentecost is, in my mind, a *transition* holy day. Much has already happened in the past on Pentecost – but I feel much more is yet to happen on this mind-boggling day for the future. Some of that will be covered in the next sermon.

So these holydays are divine appointment with God – translated simply as “feasts” in our English Bibles but are also public meetings where we rehearse what these days mean and what they prepare us for.

- On Passover, when the Passover lamb was killed, the Lamb of God was killed at exactly the right time. God’s time. The Passover lambs pointed to Christ.
- On the first day of unleavened bread, Israel came out of Egypt. And that was right to the second exactly the timing to the very night God gave promises to Abraham in the covenant with him.
- On Wavesheaf Day, the Son of God rises to Heaven EXACTLY on cue. Then what happened, and will YET happen, on Pentecost? stay tuned....
- And on Pentecost, some huge events happened right on this very day.

THREE HARVEST SEASONS AND WHAT THEY PICTURE

Three times a year, or in 3 seasons, God commanded at least the men to show up for these holydays. (Deuteronomy 16:16-17).

Deuteronomy 16:16-17

"Three times a year all your males shall appear before YHVH your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) and at the Feast of Tabernacles; *and they shall not appear before YHVH empty-handed.* ¹⁷ *Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of Yehovah your God which He has given you."*

Holyday offering: So on these 3 holydays, not all 7, but these 3, we are commanded to have a freewill offering prepared, as we've purposed in our hearts and have planned. Don't forget that.

So the 3 seasons show the timetable of God's plan of Salvation.

1 – Spring Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread and Wavesheaf Day all fully primarily to Messiah, the Lamb of God. He is also what the unleavened bread represents, for HE is the sinless, unleavened bread from heaven – that entire spring holydays, and the wavesheaf – all spotlight Christ, who starts the plan of Salvation.

Just as the **Passover lamb was picked 4 days** before it was offered, so Christ also was also pre-selected to be "slain from the foundation of the world", four thousand years (4 days in God's reckoning) before he died on the cross.

Yeshua, the Word, the Son of God, is our Passover, HE is our perfect UNLEAVENED bread from heaven, sinless. So the very first harvest – the spring barley harvest pictures Christ primarily. It's even his resurrected life, HIS perfect life, that has to ascend to heaven to the Father to be ... what? – to be accepted on our behalf. When we are baptized, we are buried with him symbolically (Romans 6:3-6) and resurrected with him and now are part of His body, covered by HIS righteousness.

In the same way, **ancient Israel came out of Egypt on the first day of Unleavened Bread** – but under the cover and protection of their God in the cloud above, which sometimes went ahead and sometimes came behind them, to be between them and the Egyptians. HE was their covering and life!

In the same way, we look to the Son of God, but we also come out of the world, pictured by Israel leaving Egypt, *and claim allegiance now to a higher kingdom, to the kingdom of God*. And now we're covered by Christ – but we must let Christ live in him or her – the way Christ lived before – lovingly, obediently. Our lives now should be exhibiting the life of Christ in us.

"I no longer live, but the life I now live, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me" **Gal. 2:20**.

"LET this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." (**Philippians 2:5**)

Colossians 3:3 "For YOU died, and your life is *now hidden in Christ*, in God."

However, I feel I see now that the days of Unleavened Bread cannot picture you and me, because WE still sin, and WE – up to this point in the symbolism – *don't even have the Holy Spirit yet, until Pentecost!* And we certainly can't be fully obedient without the Holy Spirit. *So even the Days of Unleavened Bread pictures Christ and HIS perfect, unleavened life – not us.* As I Cor. 15:20 says, it all starts with HIM.

The first fruits/harvest of barley harvest is Christ, pictured by the first of the firstfruits. Barley was the poor man's bread. Wheat, for the better off.

Exodus 23:19

“The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring into the house of YHVH your God...”

So first was Yeshua, the firstfruits, or FIRST of the firstfruits – then those of us being called now – then the rest of humanity after that in God's perfect time.

1 Corinthians 15:20-24

“But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the FIRSTFRUITS of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

23 But each one in his OWN ORDER:

Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.”

God is not trying to call and save everyone right now. If he was, he's losing. And our God never loses. Instead, he has a sequence of events. You have the high, high calling of being among the few being worked with now. I gave a sermon titled “Pentecost – Dress Rehearsals” in 2009 that shows the clear connection between Pentecost and the Wavesheaf/days of Unleavened Bread.

2) FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS, PENTECOST, FEAST OF WEEKS – Yes, this is when we firstfruits come more fully into the picture, not so much at the days of Unleavened bread, which focused on Christ – but Pentecost, called the “feast of Firstfruits”, which now pictures US, the relatively few from this world being called and chosen to be called first, who will be in the FIRST resurrection. Those being called now are NOT the great, not the well-educated, not the powerful and wealthy – for the most part (1 Cor. 1:26-29) In other words, people like you! And me!

WE are a kind of firstfruits of God's harvests of souls.

James 1:18 Holman

“By His own choice, He gave us a new birth by the message of truth so that we would be the firstfruits of His creatures.”

Paul refers to the early believers as “first fruits” of salvation.

Romans 8:23 – Paul says we have the firstfruits of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 14:4 – the 144,000 in heaven are said to have been purchased from men and are firstfruits to God and the Lamb.

But the firstfruits of wheat, which is what Pentecost is about, would not and could not happen without Wavesheaf Day happening FIRST. Christ starts the plan of salvation. Day

one of the 50-day count to Pentecost begins with Christ on wavesheaf day during the days of Unleavened Bread, which also completely picture HIM. Check out my sermon on that.

Leviticus 23:9-11

And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, 10 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest. 11 He shall wave the sheaf before YHVH, ***to be accepted on your behalf***; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it."

Holman Bible on verse 11 – "He shall wave the sheaf before the Lord ***so that YOU may be accepted..***"

We believe "the sabbath" here is about the WEEKLY sabbath, our Saturdays, so the count was to begin on what we call Sunday, the day after the sabbath, for 7 sabbaths plus 1 day = it always ends on a Sunday, or first day of the week. The Pharisees began counting the day after the first holyday of Unleavened Bread – a "high day" sabbath – on Abib 16 in other words. Wrong.

Leviticus 23:15-16 says they were to count 7 complete weeks (Hebrew is "Sabbaths" #7676, shabbat) and then the 50th day is to be Feast of Weeks/Pentecost.

On Sunday May 31st, 2020 will be the Feast of Pentecost, which is Greek meaning "50th". It's called *Shavuot* in Hebrew, meaning WEEKS, because 7 sabbaths, or 7 weeks elapse, then 1 more day – the 50th day – and that is Pentecost.

Exodus 34:22

"And you shall observe **the Feast of Weeks**, of the *firstfruits* of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end.

EVENTS THAT WILL HAPPEN TO those being called now, the firstfruits, rightfully belong to this day, Pentecost – not to the fall holydays. That's in the next sermon! I mean BIG things... on THIS day in a coming year. That's why Pentecost is a TRANSITION year. some things yet to happen on this day.

We'll come back in a minute to Pentecost, as it's so rich, so full... but for now, let's complete Yehovah's outline or plan of Salvation taught by the holy days:

3. HARVEST SEASON #3 – IS the Feast of Ingathering, or Feast of Tabernacles, at the year's end in the Fall. This pictures when all the fruits, vegetables, olives – the big harvest – happens, and everyone comes to Jerusalem to celebrate the big fall harvest. (post picture of fruits, vegetables)

But they didn't realize, it wasn't really about crops, fruits, and vegetables – as it was to picture *the spiritual harvest of souls* that God was preparing

The "Millennial reign": So Christ returns – soon – and sets up the 1000-year millennial messianic reign (Revelation 20) – and all humanity is converted, given the holy spirit, and it's a time of peace and prosperity and great health as all the prophets foretold. It's the time

of the lion and the lamb, the swords turned to pruning hooks and no more war – until the very end at least. That's the massive beginning to the great fall harvest.

Then all humanity is resurrected after the Millennium, according to Revelation 20:11-14, and their hearts are opened, and they get their first real chance to really understand and to accept Christ and God. Remember spiritual things can't be seen by carnal minds whose minds have not been opened (read 1 Cor. 2). Those who don't accept God's way, and change from their evils, are burned up when there are new heavens and new earth.

Satan is also put away forever after that – perhaps even totally eliminated, as I believe. I'll go into depth on that in future someday.

Other scriptures where Shavuot/Pentecost is called the Feast of Weeks include Deut 16:10, 16. Remember "Pentecost" means "50th". **50 is an incredibly special number in the Bible.** It's the number of freedom, of Jubilee. And it's the count to Pentecost.

By the way, **the year 2030** is going to be a perfect $40 \times 50 = 2000$ years since Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. 40= testing. 50 = jubilee, freedom. Time will tell if 2030 is a prophetic big year. We'll see.

NOW, back to PENTECOST!

I want to give a part 2 into the heart of a HUGE part that I believe happens on this day, but let's at least talk about some of the other things that happened on Pentecost. On Pentecost, the biggest events that happened historically:

- **In the NEW covenant, Almighty God started the New Covenant body by sending his Holy Spirit, a part of HIMSELF** to the 120 gathered, as we read in Acts 2. **The giving of the Holy Spirit – which is a part of God's own divine nature (2 Peter 1:4)** now not just to a select priest or prophet or king here or there in the Old Testament, but now to eventually thousands of people, over 3,000 on Pentecost Acts 2.

2 Peter 1:4 – by his great and precious promises, "you may be partakers of the DIVINE NATURE..."

GOD and Christ now come RESIDE in us (John 14:23) and we become his holy temple.

This becomes a growth process "Until Christ is formed in you" (Galatians 4:19).

God officially began his spirit family with the giving of His Spirit, as Acts 2 tells us, until we will someday be changed to incorruptible immortality (1 Cor. 15:50-56) and we shall see God as he is, for we shall be like him (1 John 3:1-2).

So WE KNOW Pentecost pictures the giving of the down payment, the Earnest, of the Holy Spirit in the New Covenant – the promise of completing the complete transformation to spirit.

Other big points about PENTECOST IN THE Old Testament

- **It was on or very close to Pentecost when YHVH gave Israel the 10 commandments** written on 2 slates of stone, both sides.

So on Pentecost, many Jews still stand and read out loud the 10 commandments. To many Jews, this point is what the day of Shavuot, Pentecost, is all about: the giving of Torah, the giving of the Law.

- At the giving of the Covenant, **God who spoke to them – we know now that was Yeshua – married Israel, in the** Pentecost season, perhaps right on Pentecost. Remember Yeshua himself says that “A KING (God the Father) put on a wedding for his SON...”. So it's YHVH The Word of God, who is also God (John 1:1-3) who marries Israel.

Matthew 22:1-2

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is **like a king who arranged a marriage for his son.**"

The 10 commandments are spoken in Exodus 20 on Pentecost. By Exodus 24, Israel was saying their “I do” to the Creator. The next 2 scriptures are bonus, not in the video, but Ex 24:9-11 is. By Exodus 24 we could be a day after Pentecost.

Exodus 24:3-4

“So Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the Lord has said we will do." 4 And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord.”

Note that Moses wrote ALL God's words. The notion that there were some special oral laws that God reserved only for Moses or the 70 elders, is nonsense.

Exodus 24:7-8

Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the Lord has said we will do, and be obedient." 8 And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you according to all these words."

Exodus 24:9-11

“Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 **and they saw the God of Israel.** And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. 11 But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. **So they saw God, and they ate and drank.**”

This is a huge part of the meaning of what happened on or near this day: **The wedding between God and Israel.** Was Ex 24:11 a type of the future wedding supper? Just wondering. The only way man could see God and live would be without his glory. Abraham, after all, also saw YHVH – but not in his glory - and ate and drank with him also (Genesis 18).

Remember God had to later on divorce Israel. And upon Yeshua's death, he was free to remarry (Romans 7:1-7). This time he is marrying a spiritual entity – spiritual Israel, the converted saints who are “the Israel of God” (Galatians 6:16; Galatians 3:29) regardless of what nation they come from today.

- **The book of RUTH** is also read out loud on this day. WHY? Because it was after the barley harvest and into the Wheat – when Boaz, the kinsman-redeemer, the *goel*, was able to marry the Gentile wife of a deceased relative –RUTH. And the two of them became one – the union of Israel and Gentiles, into one LIFE, one marriage. See **Galatians 3:26-29**, how God is now calling Gentiles to be grafted on to the Israel Olive tree (Romans 11) when they accept the Messiah Yeshua/Jesus -- and all can be heirs of the promises made to Abraham.

Ruth had made the conversion, made the promise –“Your people shall be my people, and your God shall be my God” (**Ruth 1:16**).

So on Pentecost the High Priest raised/waved up 2 large leavened loaves. Leavened! But scripture does NOT clearly explain why there were two loaves or who they represented. We do know that leaven was usually used as a picture of sin. *And leaven was never allowed in the temple or tabernacle for offerings and sacrifices – except this one, on Pentecost!*

The House of God was to be a house of prayer for ALL nations, remember (Mark 11:17; Psalm 86:9). Even Christ and even David had some Gentile blood in them, if they descended from Ruth, the Moabitess, as well as from Rahab the Canaanite harlot (Matthew 1:5-6). It's how we end up that counts, not all that you or I did wrong in the past and that you've turned from, repented of, or for sins for which God has forgiven you. God won't remember our past if we turn from it. (Too bad humans aren't like that.)

I originally believed (and said so on this video) that the 2 leavened loaves represented sinful- but forgiven – Israel and Gentiles, pictured by Boaz marrying Ruth, a Moabitess, a Gentile. But remember, a leavened loaf can no longer leaven anything else! It's leavened but is done leavening. If they picture God's people who are being called now, and I think they do picture us, then remember “there is now no condemnation to those who are in Christ” (Romans 8:1), especially if we no longer walk after the flesh, as our way of life.

[I now believe the 2 leavened loaves more likely represent this: Loaf 1 = those who have died in the faith like Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, the faithful women and all who have died or will die before Christ's return. The 2nd loaf would picture those believers who have God's spirit who are alive at Christ's return. 1 Thess. 4:13-18 shows these 2 groups. But the one thing that is definite in my mind: the 2 leavened loaves picture God's one-sinful, called-out children filled with his Holy Spirit.

Or ... could they represent those who were led by God's spirit in the Old Covenant and New Covenant? That scenario would also account for all of God's firstfruits.]

More on the 2 leavened loaves raised up on Pentecost

There were a special series of ceremonies in preparing these 2 large wheat loaves made from 1 gallon of fine wheat flour. Each loaf is about 24” by 15” in size approximately. The grain was not threshed in the common way you would all other grains. Instead, the stalks and grains to be used for the 2 large *leavened* loaves were hand rubbed and then smashed or beaten by hand – then sifted through numerous sieves until the flour was exceptionally

fine. Do you ever feel beaten and rubbed out? Hmm. Perhaps there's an obvious lesson here.

After the resurrection, this corruption that we are, will put on, or be changed to incorruption spiritually as well as physically (**1 Cor. 15:50-53**). *So on Pentecost we are waved or elevated up to the Father* – just as they did on the Dress Rehearsals of Pentecost for millennia now with the two leavened loaves – picturing ALL the first fruits of those being saved from humanity, including you and me.

When we are presented before our God, Scripture says we will be presented spotless before Him, without blame or fault or sin. When we stand before God, we will stand before him faultless (**Jude 24 and Rev. 14:5**), having put on the righteousness of Christ, "***the Lord our Righteousness***" (Jeremiah 23:6; 33:16). "Before his glorious presence". Where is he? Where will we be when we're standing in front of him?

Jude 24 NIV

"To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence *without fault and with great joy...*"

RESTORATION:

Also remember the Father in the Luke 15 prodigal son story – when welcoming the repentant ***Prodigal son back*** (and that son has definitely been me, and perhaps you too) – **what did our Father do?** What is Father continuing to do with modern prodigals? Very symbolic! *Father ordered they put the "best robe" on to his son, and sandals on his feet and a ring in his hand* (Luke 15:22).

What does the "best robe" symbolize? It's the same as what is given to us when we turn back to God in deep repentance. We are clothed with Christ and all that HE IS, we put on Christ Himself (Gal. 3:27). That's "the best robe". In Galatians 3:27, many translations (NIV, NASB, etc.) say we have *clothed ourselves with Christ* if we have come to be "in Christ". There are verses which speak of "The LORD *our righteousness*".

Galatians 3:27

"For as many of you as were baptized **into Christ have put on Christ.**"

The **sandals** refer to the fact of **restoring sonship**. A slave walked around barefooted, but not the Father's children in a household. Father says in effect, "You're my son. Put sandals on your feet". The ring was the family insignia – restoring authority and position in the family. As children of God, we are restored, covered by faith by Christ's righteousness as our best robe, and there's great rejoicing.

So Pentecost is a WONDERFUL day picturing so many things. Becoming a child of God in the Highest is one of the meanings, accomplished by receiving the Seed of God, His very nature, his divine presence that begets us as his children. **I Peter 1:23** we have now been begotten with imperishable seed! *ONLY those possessing and being led by God's spirit are God's children (Romans 8:9, 14).*

I hope you're getting it. *God's spirit also allows Christ's righteousness to cover us.*

- It begets us as the child of God, and by His spirit He leads us – but we must follow.
- It opens us up to the mind of God by His Spirit.

- God's spirit gives us in essence His very DNA if I can liken it to that by analogy – *His seed, his genetic code if you will.*
- The Holy Spirit empowers us to want to obey and to be able to obey if we stir it up.
- His spirit intercedes with God even as we pray.
- It gives us access to the greatest of all power in the universe if we would only believe.
- It changes us. It emboldens us – look at Peter going from a scared denier – to, after receiving God's spirit, one who said “we must obey God rather than men” as he now boldly proclaims His Master.

I have a sermon on “22 things the Holy Spirit does for us” with lots of scriptures. I'll re-post it. OK, back to the story of what happened:

So the priest then “waved” or **raised to heaven these 2 leavened loaves on the Day of Pentecost** – along with pieces from the 2-lamb offering that accompanied it. (Leviticus 23:19-21).

The two leavened loaves raised up to heaven represent God's children who have been given God's holy Spirit, who are changed to spirit on Pentecost, who will be taken to the Father in heaven and for the wedding of Revelation 19. This to me, at least, is very clear.

The wedding is where the Father is. After all, Jesus says a “King put on a wedding feast for his son” (Matthew 22:1-2). The King has to be God the Father. The Son is Christ. Where is God the Father? “Our father, who art in heaven.” More, much more in the next sermon.

KEY: at that very moment that the High Priest was lifting the 2 leavened waive loaves to Yehovah, at 9 a.m., at that very moment was when the new Christians heard the strong wind and were given the Holy Spirit.

I'm out of time, but I hope we are keeping Pentecost with renewed zeal to not only be the spring-summer harvest, but to continue sowing the seed of the word so the harvest of souls continues.

Remember these dress rehearsals... and be sure next year you count up to the 50th day, very likely marking a future wedding day when you and I will all be together on the sea of Glass, and as part of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. God hasten that day.

I hope you all will – or did – have a wonderful feast of Pentecost – a joyous time right now and for God's children in the wedding supper that is coming.

Til next time – this is Philip Shields, your brother in the Anointed One.

You have a wonderful Pentecost. God willing, I'll try to crank out another message soon about Pentecost. God bless you all – and be true to your high calling. Your brother, Philip.

Closing Prayer

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If you've found this and other sermons helpful, please do 3 things: Tell others about us. Pray for us to continue to be led by God's truth. And do write a comment and let us know how it has helped you. Those comments really encourage us.

