

## What is Pentecost?

Passover – Birth night of a nation

Pentecost Sunday – The birth of the Church

The Feast of Harvest (Ex. 23:16)

Pentecost is a Jewish holiday, which in Hebrew is pronounced Shavuot. It is also one of the three pilgrimage festivals of spring, **summer** and fall. It was originally a harvest festival (Ex. 23:16), but, in time, turned into a day to commemorate the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai.

The Feast of Weeks (Deut. 16:10)

“You shall also count for yourselves from **the day after the Sabbath** that you bring the Wave-sheaf, seven Sabbaths. They must be complete. Then after the seventh Sabbath, you shall count fifty days, when you shall present a new offering to the EVER-LIVING. You shall bring from your dwellings two wave cakes of two tenths of fine flour. They shall be fermented, -- baked in an oven for the EVER-LIVING” (Leviticus 23:15-17, Ferrar Fenton Version).

In John 1 we're told that the Law came through Moses as he heard it from YAHUVEH for **40** days at Sinai, but Grace and Truth came through YAHUSHUA HA MASHIACH. Note: Moses led the children of Israel through the Red Sea, a symbol of their baptism (the Red that saved them destroyed their enemies). When the Angel saw the blood their first fruits were saved. Moses descended with the law that he was given the gift to interpret and upon seeing the plague of the rebellious he went again into the mountain 40 days as Christ also who overcame death. Each day upon Sinai represented Moses chronological age. Quite possibly 100 years represents each day in the **Upper Room** where the disciples waited for 10 days before the Pentecost phenomena to be liken as a thousand years.

The Son cannot do anything on his own but only what he sees the Father doing... As the Father raises the dead and gives them life so the Son gives life to those whom He wills... He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him (see John 5:19, 21, 23). Note: Jesus is baptized, then tempted to break covenant as Moses who after **40** days of fasting breaks the tablets. Jesus said “take: eat; this is my body (see Matt. 26:26)” because we are members of His body. Eph. 5:30 ESV

Pentecost Week (Contemplative) May 22, 2015 – May 29, 2015 (no teleconferences)

May 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day and International Missing Children's Day

The definition of contemplative is being deep in thought or concentrating on complex ideas or situations. Incorporated into daily life, they act as a reminder to connect to what we find most meaningful. Examples of contemplative practices include various forms of meditation, focused thought, time in nature, writing, contemplative movement, and the arts.

**All of scripture is perceived in a new light by the soul that opens itself to the Gospel and that belongs to Christ. “Draw near to Him, and you will be enlightened” (Origen)**

Does Christianity as an organized institutional religion reflect, represent and embody the teachings and the love of Jesus? The history of organized religion in general and Christianity and the bible in particular have been used to control the masses. Today, if we are willing to know what we know and see what is right before our eyes it

becomes clear that our Western Worldview and our perception has been shaped by the dogma and doctrine inherent in institutionalized Christianity whether we identify as Christians or not.

The way forward for our world is a Universal Spirituality that is alive, vibrant, transformative, and acted out in every aspect of daily living. Can it be possible that by taking the bible literally we have diminished the power of the hidden and the secret wisdom contained therein? The world is in crises. The only viable and sustainable solution to the current challenges of our times rest with our ability to bring Spirit into the world of matter with consistency, with a focused intention for the highest good and with selfless service to all of humanity. Denial of and avoidance of what is our current situation perpetuates the disease that is like a virulent cancer eating away at the fragile threads of community. The way forward is through the dark night of the soul and our individual and collective wilderness experiences.

The essence of Jesus teaching was love and forgiveness. The power of Pentecost Sunday can free us from our self imposed bondage and liberate us from narcissistic self absorption that keeps us focused on our personal salvation and where we will spend eternity to an expanded awareness of the intricate inter connection of all life and our responsibility to go out into the whole world, sharing the Good News of Christ, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man has an ear, let him hear (see Rev.13:8, 9).

From the evil of injustice--the green fruit and the rotten--grant us liberty.

Shalom,

Beth Ministries Inc