

# Day of Pentecost

When we tell people that we keep God’s Holy Days (identified in Leviticus 23) we often get “pushback” when we identify the Day of Atonement or the Feast of Tabernacles ...

... but we don’t get as much pushback from the spring Holy Days ... because we have **Bible support** to show that these “old days” have **spectacular** prophetic fulfillment

Who would have imagined (in Leviticus 23 times) of John the Baptist’s words saying "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! (**1John 1:29**)

Today we explore “what’s so important ... or spectacular ... about Pentecost!

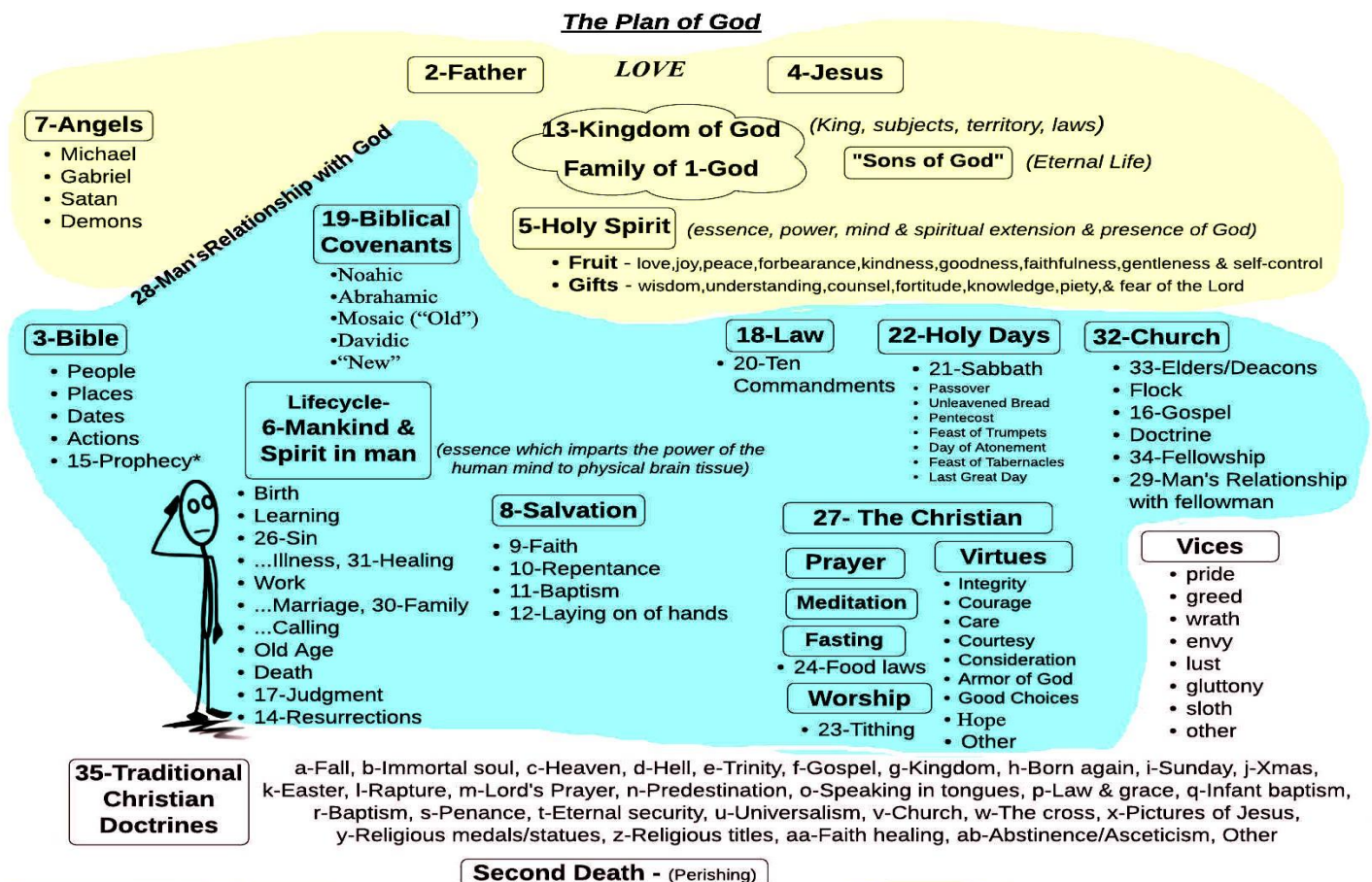
**Doctrinal Statement:** The Day of Pentecost is celebrated fifty days from the wave sheaf day - hence the terms:

- “**Feast of Weeks**” in the Old Testament and
- “**Pentecost**” (Greek for “fiftieth”) in the New.

It is:

- the “birthday” of the Church of God,
- commemorating the sending of the Holy Spirit; and
- foreshadows the resurrection of the “firstfruits.”

Jesus Christ, the apostles, and the New Testament Church continued the practice of observing this ancient festival of God.



**Time:** (Past - History - Creation, 25-Hebrew Calendar ... **Present** -(World events) ... (**Future** - 15-Prophecy\*) ... **Eternity** ...)

## The Feast of Weeks

Lev 23:15 'And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed.

Lev 23:16 Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD.

Lev 23:17 You shall bring from your dwellings **two wave loaves\*** of two-tenths of an ephah.



They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. They are the firstfruits to the LORD.

Lev 23:18 And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD.

Lev 23:19 Then you shall sacrifice one kid of the goats as a sin offering & two male lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of a peace offering

Lev 23:20 The priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the LORD for the priest.

Lev 23:21 And you shall proclaim on the same day that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a **statute forever** in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

Lev 23:22 'When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any gleanings from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God.' "

\* From the CGI Home Bible Course ...

There was a special offering made on the Day of Pentecost in the Old Testament. (Lev 23:17). The Bible tells us these loaves symbolized the firstfruits. The **two loaves** we read about in Leviticus 23:17 cover the **two periods** of the Old Testament and the New Testament Church. "Church" has been translated from the Greek word ecclesia, which means the "called-out ones." Therefore, Pentecost, or the Feast of Firstfruits, portrays to us the first part of the spiritual harvest of souls: the calling out of God's Church, a **small group** of people and a **small first harvest**. It is quite apparent that God is not dealing with the vast majority of the world today. He is only calling a few now to whom to reveal His wonderful truths. Remember that in Lev 23:17 the two loaves were baked with leaven. The apostle John reminds us that we cannot say "we have no sin" (1 John 1:8). The Bible uses leaven symbolically to represent sin. Therefore, the two loaves were baked with leaven. Even though we cannot say we are without sin, we are to confess our sins as we find them in our lives, and Jesus will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). We are to put sin out of our lives whenever we find it. Only Christ our Savior is without sin!

*Other views of the two loaves...* **1.** An agricultural firstfruit blessing **2.** Two Tablets of the Law **3.** Priests & People **4.** Jews & Gentiles **5.** Old Covenant & New Covenant peoples **6.** Israel & Judah **7.** the Church as imperfect firstfruits **8.** Dual nature - spirit & flesh, heavenly & earthly **9.** Resurrection / Firstfruits sequence - Jesus = Wave Sheaf & believers = next harvest



## **The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

Act 2:1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Act 2:5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.

Act 2:6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.

Act 2:7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?"

Act 2:8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?

Act 2:9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

Act 2:10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

Act 2:11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."

Act 2:12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"

Act 2:13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

### **Peter's Sermon at Pentecost**

Act 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

Act 2:15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.

Act 2:16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: **(Joel 2:28-32)**

Act 2:17 'AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS IN THE LAST DAYS, SAYS GOD, THAT I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL FLESH; YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS.

Act 2:18 AND ON MY MENSERVANTS AND ON MY MAIDSERVANTS I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT IN THOSE DAYS; AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY.

Act 2:19 I WILL SHOW WONDERS IN HEAVEN ABOVE AND SIGNS IN THE EARTH BENEATH: BLOOD AND FIRE AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.

Act 2:20 THE SUN SHALL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS, AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE COMING OF THE GREAT AND AWESOME DAY OF THE LORD.

Act 2:21 AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS THAT WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.'

Act 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know-  
Act 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

Act 2:24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

Act 2:25 For David says concerning Him: **(Psalms 16:8-11)** 'I FORESAW THE LORD ALWAYS BEFORE MY FACE, FOR HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, THAT I MAY NOT BE SHAKEN.

Act 2:26 THEREFORE MY HEART REJOICED, AND MY TONGUE WAS GLAD; MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL REST IN HOPE.

Act 2:27 FOR YOU WILL NOT LEAVE MY SOUL IN HADES, NOR WILL YOU ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO SEE CORRUPTION.

Act 2:28 YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE; YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF JOY IN YOUR PRESENCE.'

Act 2:29 "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

Act 2:30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,

Act 2:31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

Act 2:32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

Act 2:33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

Act 2:34 "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: **(Psalms 110:1)** "THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

Act 2:35 TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL." '

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

Act 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

Act 2:40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."

Act 2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

### **The Fellowship of the Believers**

Act 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers...

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.



# Major Themes of the Pentecost Holy Day

## 1. Firstfruits Harvest

Pentecost was the feast celebrating the beginning of the wheat harvest and the offering of firstfruits to God.

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- God calling a **firstfruits people**
- An early spiritual harvest
- Believers dedicated to God ... before the larger harvest

“That we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.” — **James 1:18**

These (144,000) were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God & to the Lamb-**Rev 14:4**

## 2. Giving of the Holy Spirit

Pentecost is strongly connected with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in **Acts 2**.

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Power from God
- Spiritual transformation
- God dwelling in His people (Rom 8:16 Holy Spirit & “our” spirit)
- Beginning of the New Testament Church age

## 3. Beginning of the New Testament Church

Acts 2 marks the public beginning and empowerment of the Church.

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Formation of God’s spiritual body
- Unity through the Spirit
- Expansion of the gospel to many peoples

## 4. God’s Law Written on the Heart

Jewish tradition closely associates Pentecost with Sinai and the giving of the Law.

The New Covenant fulfillment is God writing His law internally through the Spirit.



“I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts...” — **Hebrews 8:10**

“The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” — **2 Corinthians 3:6**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Internal obedience
- Spiritual understanding
- Heart transformation
- Covenant relationship

## 5. Covenant Relationship

At Sinai, Israel entered covenant with God. In Acts, believers enter deeper covenant through Christ & the Spirit.

“Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me...” — **Exodus 19:5**

“This cup is the new covenant in My blood...” — **Luke 22:20**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Jesus’ Team (Church) of called-out-ones
- Separation unto holiness

## 6. Unity and One Accord

Pentecost emphasizes harmony and spiritual unity.

“They were all with one accord in one place.” — **Acts 2:1**

“Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” — **Ephesians 4:3**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Unity among believers
- Shared purpose
- One spiritual body

**Vision 2030**

<p>CgiCanada – <b>5 yr Objective 1</b> – To help God’s people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Walk worthy of our vocation;</li><li>Maintain humility while forbearing one another in charity;</li><li>Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace;</li><li>Discover, develop &amp; use their gifts towards being active members of the body of Christ</li></ol> <p>“Eph. 4.1-3 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”</p>
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## 7. Power for Witness

After receiving the Spirit, the disciples boldly proclaimed Christ.

“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me...” — **Acts 1:8**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Boldness
- Evangelism
- Spiritual empowerment
- Worldwide witness

## 8. Revelation and Understanding

Pentecost opened spiritual understanding.

“Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy...” — **Acts 2:17**

“The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God...” — **1 Corinthians 2:14**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Spiritual discernment & Revelation from God
- Understanding Scripture
- Prophetic insight

## 9. A Called-Out and Holy People

Pentecost points to sanctification and separation unto God.

“You shall be holy, for I am holy.” — **1 Peter 1:16**

“A chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation...” — **1 Peter 2:9**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Holiness
- Priestly service
- Dedication to God

## 10. The Beginning, Not the Completion, of Harvest

Pentecost is an *early* harvest festival, not the final harvest.

“The harvest truly is plentiful...” — **Matthew 9:37**

“Each one in his own order...” — **1 Corinthians 15:23**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- God working in stages
- Early spiritual harvest now
- Greater future harvest later

## 11. Resurrection and First Resurrection Themes

Firstfruits language connects Pentecost to resurrection order.

“Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ’s at His coming.” — **1 Cor 15:23**

“Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection.” — **Revelation 20:6**

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- First resurrection hope
- Early calling
- Future glorification

## 12. Joyful Worship and Thanksgiving

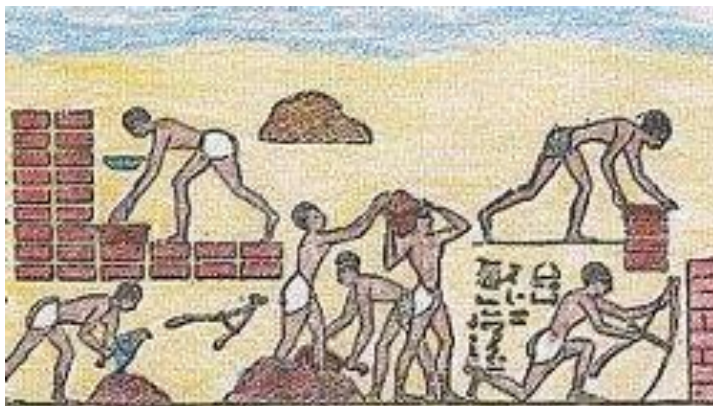
Pentecost was (& is) a joyful celebration before God.

“You shall rejoice before the LORD your God...” — **Deuteronomy 16:11**

Yet ... “**& you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt**, & you shall be careful to observe these statutes. **Deu 16:12**”

**Spiritual Theme** - Pentecost pictures:

- Gratitude
- Worship
- Rejoicing in God’s provision



“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...” — **Acts 1:8**

# Firstfruit Qualities

## **A. Dedicated Fully to God**

“These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes.” — **Revelation 14:4**

## **B. Spiritually Mature**

“Solid food belongs to those who are of full age...” — **Hebrews 5:14**

## **C. Faithful Through Trials**

“The testing of your faith produces patience.” — **James 1:3**

## **D. Obedient Earlier**

“Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.” — **Hebrews 3:15**

## **E. Watchful and Ready**

“Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching.” **Luke 12:37**

## **F. Holy and Set Apart**

“Be holy, for I am holy.” — **1 Peter 1:16**

*Jim says ... Firstfruits will exhibit  
the Fruit & Gifts of the Spirit!*



## FRUIT *of the* SPIRIT

<b>L</b> <b>LOVE</b> Walk in Christlike love <i>John 13:34</i>	<b>J</b> <b>JOY</b> Let your joy overflow <i>Romans 15:13</i>
<b>P</b> <b>PEACE</b> Rest in God's promises <i>Colossians 3:15</i>	<b>P</b> <b>PATIENCE</b> Be slow to anger <i>James 5:8</i>
<b>K</b> <b>KINDNESS</b> Reflect the kindness of Christ <i>Ephesians 4:32</i>	<b>G</b> <b>GOODNESS</b> Live honorably <i>Romans 12:21</i>
<b>F</b> <b>FAITHFULNESS</b> Stand firm in God's truth <i>1 Corinthians 4:2</i>	<b>G</b> <b>GENTLENESS</b> Correct with humility <i>2 Timothy 2:25</i>
<b>S</b> <b>SELF-CONTROL</b> Be Spirit-led in every choice <i>Galatians 5:16</i>	

## Listing of Spiritual Gifts

<b><u>Romans 12</u></b> Encouragement Giving Leadership Mercy Prophecy Service Teaching	<b><u>1 Corinthians 12</u></b> Administration Discernment Healing Interpretation of Languages Languages Prophecy Wisdom Apostle Faith Helps Knowledge Miracles Teaching
<b><u>Ephesians 4</u></b> Apostle Pastor Teaching	<b><u>1 Peter 4</u></b> Evangelism Prophecy Serving Teaching