

God instituted 3 major feasts in the OT. Feast of Passover which we see Jesus ushers in the Feast of His Passion and Resurrection. The Feast of Tabernacle and St. John writes **the word became flesh and tabernacles with us**, now brings us the Feast of Christmas. And Feast of Pentecost, which Jesus unleashes His church, this gospel into the world and still called, Pentecost.

Pentecost, 50th day. For 50 days after Passover -from bondage, death- Moses received God's Word and commandments at Mt. Sinai. A day celebrating the covenant the Lord made, they're His chosen people, He their God. And some people also constructed a gold calf to mingled secular worship with sacred worship and 3000 died. (That number comes up again.) Later, on this day, God's people are to bring an offering of thanksgiving of newly harvested wheat along with sin offerings and peace offerings. Feast of Pentecost, a day to rejoice in our Lord's goodness, His harvest, His covenant, rejoicing our God keeps His word, made us His people, defeats our enemies and provides a future.

Pentecost, 50 days after the resurrection. The miracles of the apostles in the packed Jerusalem crowd mirrors events of Mt. Sinai. A loud sound, mighty wind as there was thunder at Sinai. All recognizing the divine presence. Flames upon the apostles that do not burn them; so also lighting on the mount that didn't hurt Moses; recorded flames from the mount as God's Word was spoken, as God spoke to His servants, Moses, the apostles, they bring His spoken word to God's people. Likewise the burning bush that it's not consumed; and the pillar of fire that guided God's people. Signs of the divine presence. Pentecost harvest festival following the sacrifice of our Passover Lamb who tabernacles with us in the flesh.

But a distinct sign is how these Galileans proclaim the mighty works of God in unlearned languages. That miracle is without precedent or parallel in the OT except in the negative. As we heard, the curse of Babel. Pentecost, the reverse, in comprehension and reuniting man into one eternal gospel, one family of God, one faith, one baptism, one Lord of all.

We just got a portion of Peter's Pentecost sermon, the fulfillment of the prophets, of John's baptism as John said **the one after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire**. And on Pentecost, 3000 died again, but these died to sin and death and raised to new life at a baptismal font. Also states children too, all **receiving the Holy Spirit, forgiveness of sins in baptism**. The Holy Spirit shown working only in words, baptism, words of Jesus to save.

There, in those waters, is your Pentecost, began at holy Baptism, still continues in you today. The Spirit poured out upon you. You declared His people, the harvest of your soul. A promise of a future. The Holy Spirit fills you in the Word read and preached, sacraments given, just as powerful now as it was then.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. A promise He keeps. Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to work through His very words. Through these means, words, the Spirit works, lives are changed, you are changed, poured out that your loved ones, those unknown to us, all can all be changed in His works. Don't ever lose hope, never give up on anyone.

This is your Pentecost. For you in these last days. The future is not yet but it is already yours. Pentecost has come, your future assured, but in *these gray and later days*, the present is a struggle. But know. You have before you the vision of that eternal tomorrow in Scripture. You have the foretaste of that eternal in this very communion. Though sorrow touches your life, joy of the Spirit is upon you. Though sin is still your struggle and weary battle, His forgiveness revives, refreshes you daily. Though death still casts its shadow over you, rejoice in all things, you live without end.

My peace I give to you. That holds good for you. St. Paul writes, **being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus.** Peace. The warfare your sins have wrought has been satisfied. Peace. Why you hear the Pax Domini after the Words of Institution. *The Peace of the Lord be with you always.* You sing *Amen*, means yes, truth, yes He is, before you elevated, gives His forgiveness, life. For that Gospel, Jesus speaks on the night of the New Covenant in His blood, where He says **remembrance of me.** So much there. But you hear Him say, the Spirit **will bring to remembrance all that I have said.** By faith the Spirit works in you, to receive the peace of Christ in this Sacrament. What He gives, **this peace not of this world;** given in His body, blood,. Your peace wears flesh. And here is what you do with this peace, dwell in repentance, wear His forgiveness. You are bearers of His peace for He placed His name upon you. And the Spirit dwells in you. Be renewed in love and peace with each other. Do not let sin or this world or even your flesh rob you of this joy. Bask in joy each day, all that's yours.

Pentecost, a day to rejoice in your Lord's goodness, His harvest, His covenant on this altar, rejoicing your God keeps His word, made you His people, defeats your enemies -foremost your sin and death and anything that could truly harm you and provides you a future. **Let not your hearts be trouble. Do not be afraid.** What life, promise, daily care, joy is yours.