2018 - Central Theme

God's Plan

Creation to Eternity



God's Plan - The Day of Pentecost

- "Preach about the Day of Pentecost!"
- God's Plan We might say that Acts 2 THAT Pentecost is the focal point of the whole Bible...
- Christianity didn't start with Jesus' birth, his death or even his ascension to heaven. It started with Pentecost!

- I have preached from Acts 2 and taught it in Bible class many times.
- What is the background of the Jewish Day of Pentecost?
- God's Plan Gal 4:4-6 "But when the set time had fully come... Eph 1:3-6 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world

- "On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place." Acts 2:1
- What was The Day of Pentecost?
- Pentecost is Greek "Pentecost" is a transliteration of the Greek word pentekostos, which means "fifty" or "fiftieth day."

- Feast of Weeks! –
- In Hebrew "Shavuot"
- Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or "fifty days" from the end of Passover to Shavuot!

- Shavuot was the second great feast in Israel's yearly cycle of holy days.
- 1. A harvest festival when they would bring in the First Fruits of the crops.
- 2. Commemorate the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai.

- How Did they Celebrate Shavuot?
- "You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf (omer) of the wave offering. You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering of new grain to the LORD" (Lev. 23:15-16).

The Day of Pentecost **How Did they Celebrate Shavuot?**

בָרוּך אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶינוּ כֶּׁלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר

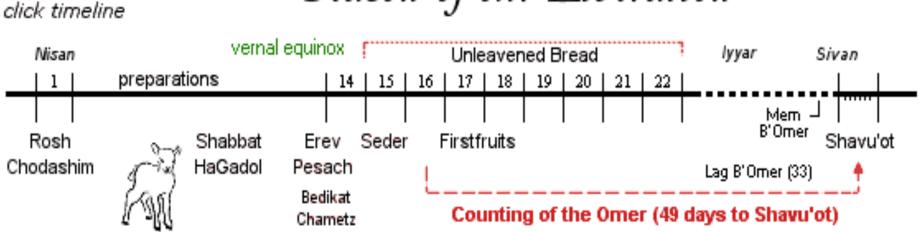
Blessed are you Lord our God, Master סf the Universe, קּרְשְׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתְיוּ, וְצִוְנוּ עֵל סְפִירַת הְעוֹמֶר.

who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to count the Omer!

- How Did they Celebrate Shavuot?
- "The Counting of the Omer"
- Day 1 "Today is one day of the Omer"
- Day 8 "Today is eight days, which is one week and one day of the Omer.
- "Now we have one day less to wait for the giving of the Torah!"

How Did they Celebrate Shavuot?

Season of our Liberation

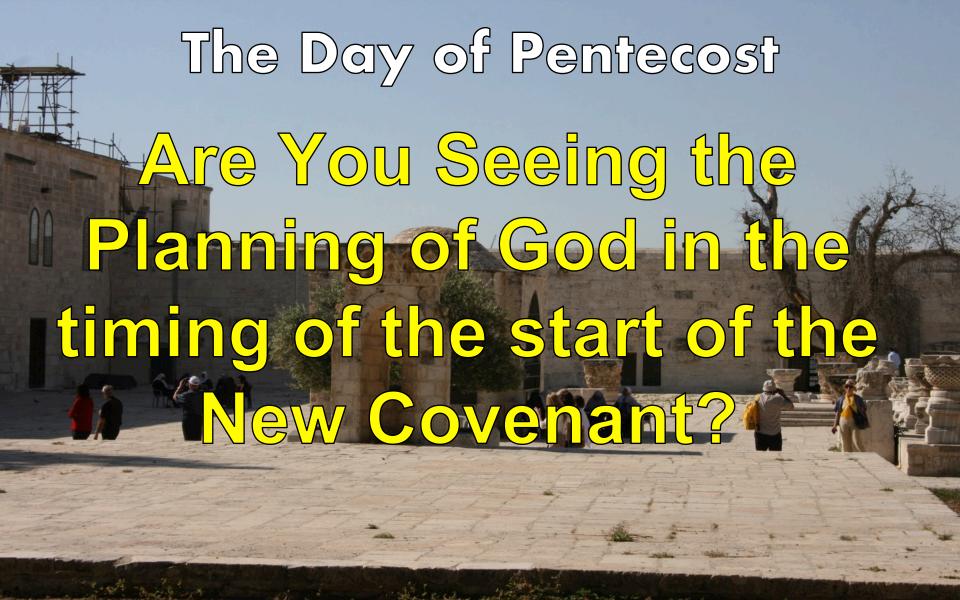


 This is from a Jewish website: "Our Sages tell us that when Moshe (Moses) was about to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, he told them of G-d's promise to give the Torah to His beloved people following their liberation from bondage. At once they asked when would that happy day be, and Moshe replied that it would be fifty days later. Every day the children of Israel counted: One day is gone, two days, three, and so on, and eagerly looked forward to the fiftieth day."

- Some things associated with the Jewish Celebration of Pentecost:
- Psalm 67 is often recited because it is composed of 49 Hebrew words which correspond to the 49 Days of the Count Down –
- "May the nations praise you, O God!"
 V.3

- The Book of Ruth is read on Shavuot because:
- King David, Ruth's great grandson, was believed to have been born and died on Shavuot - Pentecost
- Feast of Weeks -celebrates the Early Harvest Book of Ruth at harvest time
- Ruth's conversion to Judaism is representative of all the people becoming God's People!





- They Celebrated the Giving of the First of Covenant - The Beginning of the New Covenant!
- They Celebrated the First Fruits of the Harvest - The First Fruits of the Harvest
- Think about the Count Down from Passover to Pentecost –

- From Shadow to Substance!
- "A shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ" Col 2:16-17
- Hebrews 8:5; 9:9; 10:1 "a shadow of good things to come"
- Pentecost is the climax of God's plan for our deliverance through Jesus the Messiah!

- This Day was Prophesied!
- Isa 2:1-3 And all the nations will stream to it!
- Micah 4:1-2 The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
- Jer 31:31-34 I will make a new covenant with the people...

- The New Covenant:
- Heb 8:9-10; Heb 10:15-17 "I will put My Laws in their hearts and inscribe them on their minds. Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."

 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. Acts 2:41

DAY 1 - Today we are on about day 726,415 - (2018 x 365.25)-30yrs

Shalom Shavuot! Happy Pentecost Today!

 Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:47



- Talk about starting with a Bang!
- A sound as of a mighty rushing wind –
 Divided tongues as of fire sitting upon each of them Acts 2:3
- Enabling the apostles to speak in foreign languages - Acts 2:4-11
- A Foretaste of the multicultural nature of the Church!

- Jesus Is the Deliverance we Have waited for!
 - -23 This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge
- The testimony of David He Lives!
- The testimony of the Holy Spirit's outpouring!

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- The First Fruits Acts 2:36-41
- 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off for all whom the Lord our God will

 The First Fruits - 3000 souls were "added"





- Forgiveness of sins and "the gift of the Spirit" -the Spirit Himself!
- Acts 5:32- the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."
- Gal 4:6 Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
- 1 Cor 12:13 By one Spirit we were all baptized...

- What a Plan God Revealed on That Pentecost!
- The Count Down to the Covenant
- The New Covenant
- The First Fruits of the Harvest
- It Continues to this day!