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Pentecost- Pentecost is a Greek term that means “*fiftieth*,” and the Feast of Pentecost took place 50 days after Passover.

1. When is Pentecost?

- Pentecost always falls 50 days after Easter. Pentecost will take place on **Sunday, May 19th**.

2. What is Pentecost Sunday?

(Acts 2) must be interpreted in light of **(Acts 1:4-8)**, where the risen Lord Jesus instructed the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father, the Holy Spirit. Jesus explained that they would “be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now” **(1:5)** and they would receive power to be Christ’s “witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth” **(1:8)**. Just as the ministry of Jesus depended on the Holy Spirit descending on Him at His baptism, so the ministry of the disciples depended on them receiving the Holy Spirit and relying on His power. While they had experienced a measure of the

Spirit's power before ([John 20:22](#)), now He would come to dwell in them permanently ([John 7:37-39; 14:17](#)).

- Pentecost Sunday is a commemoration and celebration of the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the early church.
- John the Baptist prophesied of the first Pentecost when Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire ([Matthew 3:11](#)). Jesus confirmed this prophecy with the promise of the Holy Spirit to the disciples in ([John 14:26](#)). He showed Himself to these men after His death on the cross and His resurrection, giving convincing proofs that He was alive. Jesus told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Father's gift of the Holy Spirit, from whom they would receive power to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth ([Acts 1:3-8](#)). After Jesus' ascension to heaven, the men returned to Jerusalem and joined together in prayer in an upper room. On the [Day of Pentecost](#), just as promised, the sound of a violent wind filled the house, and tongues of fire came to rest on each of them and all were filled with the Holy Spirit. They were given the power of communication, which Peter used to begin the ministry for which Jesus had prepared him. After the coming of the Holy Spirit, the disciples did not stay in the room basking in God's glory but burst out to tell the world. This was the beginning of the church as we know it.
- Pentecost signals the beginning of the church age.

3. Why do we celebrate Pentecost?

- Today, in many Christian churches, Pentecost Sunday is celebrated to recognize the gift of the Holy Spirit, realizing that God's very life, breath, and energy live in believers.
- The celebration of Pentecost Sunday reminds us of the reality that we all have the unifying Spirit that was poured out upon the first-century church in ([Acts 2:1-4](#)).

4. What happened on the day of Pentecost?

- At Pentecost, the disciples witness the birth of the New Testament church in the coming of the Holy Spirit to indwell all believers. The scene of the disciples in a room at Pentecost links the commencement of the Holy Spirit's work in the church with the conclusion of Christ's earthly ministry in the upper room before the crucifixion.

5. What were the two signs of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost?

- What were the two signs of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost? The two signs were the “sound... from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind” (**Acts 2:2**) and “tongues as of fire” over the disciples' heads (**Acts 2:3**).
- The idea of spiritual life as generated by the Holy Spirit is implicit in the sound of the wind at Pentecost.
- Fire is often associated in the Old Testament with the presence of God (**Exodus 3:2; 13:21–22; 24:17; Isaiah 10:17**) and with His holiness.
- The New Testament, fire is associated with the presence of God (**Hebrews 12:29**) and the purification He can bring about in human life (**Revelation 3:18**). God's presence and holiness are implied in the Pentecostal tongues of fire.
- Another aspect of the Day of Pentecost is the miraculous speaking in foreign tongues which enabled people from various language groups to understand the message of the apostles. In addition is the bold and incisive preaching of Peter to a Jewish audience. The effect of the sermon was powerful, as listeners were “cut to the heart” (**Acts 2:37**) and instructed by Peter to “repent, and be baptized” (**Acts 2:38**). The narrative concludes with three thousand souls being added to the fellowship, the breaking of bread and prayers, apostolic signs and wonders, and a community in which everyone's needs were met.

6. What is the main message of Pentecost?

- The purpose of Pentecost is to remind every Christian that even though Christ died for our sins and that we accept the forgiveness of our sins, there is something else each one of us needs to do. We need to receive the Holy Spirit so we can do the work of discipleship that awaits each one of us.

5 Things the Holy Spirit Accomplished at Pentecost

1) Pentecost reveals the work of a triune God in our salvation.

Pentecost is the day when God clearly demonstrates that salvation and redemption are the work of the triune God. The Father is the source, the initiator, and the final goal of all the redemptive acts of God. The Son is the embodiment of the mission of God. The work of salvation is accomplished through His birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension. The Holy Spirit is the empowering presence of God who makes us holy.

2) Through the events on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit now dwells among us.

The Holy Spirit is God Himself acting in this world and in our lives. He draws us by His grace to the Father. He intercedes with us and within us, helping us to pray. The Holy Spirit teaches and admonishes us when we read Scripture. He gives us the gift of discernment so that we might have the mind of Christ and think about things in ways that are informed by godly wisdom. He applies and nurtures the fruit of the Spirit in our lives (love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control). The Holy Spirit assures us of our forgiveness and our adoption as the children of God. In short, the Holy Spirit mediates the presence of God in our lives and in the church.

3) The Holy Spirit empowers the church for effective service, witness, and global mission.

Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would empower us to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). It is the Holy Spirit who enables the church to serve sacrificially and to be an effective witness unto Christ and the gospel. Holiness, as we shall see, is not just about making us personally righteous, but it is about extending God's glory and righteousness to all peoples of the world! There are thousands of people groups who still have not received the good news about Jesus Christ. It is the Holy Spirit who makes sure that the gospel is proclaimed to the ends of the earth through the empowered witness of the church.

4) The Holy Spirit reveals the signs and wonders of God's in-breaking kingdom.

Fourth, the Holy Spirit is the One who continues to manifest redemptive signs of God's kingdom breaking into the world. The good news of God's powerful work in this world did not stop at the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is too small to think that we are called to simply proclaim something that happened in history thousands of years ago. While the cross and resurrection form the central proclamation of the church, we also acknowledge that the good news of God's reign continues to unfold. All the future realities of heaven (healing, forgiveness, reconciliation, deliverance from evil, and so forth) are breaking into the world now through the presence of the Holy Spirit. Men and women are healed by the power of the Holy Spirit. They experience forgiveness and reconciliation with one another. The poor and downcast receive hope. The Holy Spirit applies all the future realities of the New Creation to the present. This process will not be fully complete until Jesus returns, but if we look around, we can see that God is still at work by His Spirit, reconciling the world to Himself.

5) The Holy Spirit makes us holy.

Fifth, the Holy Spirit is the One who makes us holy. The presence of the Holy Spirit, God's empowering presence in us, leads to transformational holiness in our lives, in society, and in the world. As God's empowering presence, the Holy Spirit embodies the New Creation, including purity of holiness. This should really begin to expand our understanding of the full dimensions of holiness in our lives. In chapter 4, we saw that holiness is the sign and seal of God's presence in the world. This means that we must expand our ideas regarding what it means for God's holiness to be reintroduced into the world.

We mostly think of it in terms of personal holiness. We understand God's presence as eradicating sin in our lives. This is an important aspect of holiness. However, God's presence also challenges and transforms the society we live in. In other words, social holiness is also crucial to a proper understanding of biblical holiness. God's transformative work infuses not only our individual lives, but also the whole structure of culture and society. Moreover, holiness is not only personal and social; it is also missional. This means that holiness is not just about our being transformed, or even our culture reflecting certain things, but it causes us to think missionally about the world and how we can mirror God's actions in the world.

Conclusion:

The celebration of Pentecost Sunday reminds us of the reality that we all have the unifying Spirit that was poured out upon the first-century church in [\(Acts 2:1-4\)](#). It is a reminder that we are co-heirs with Christ, to suffer with Him that we may also be glorified with Him; that the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good [\(1 Corinthians 12:7\)](#); that we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body [\(1 Corinthians 12:13\)](#); and that the Spirit which raised Jesus from the dead lives inside believers [\(Romans 8:9-11\)](#). This gift of the Holy Spirit that was promised and given to all believers on the first Pentecost is promised for you and your children and for all who are far off whom the Lord our God will call [\(Acts 2:39\)](#).