

BACK TO PENTECOST

A STUDY ON WHAT IT MEANS

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly....”

~ Acts 2:1-2

1. Back to Pentecost!

- a. It's called a Christian holiday, the birthday of the church, the end of Eastertide
- b. 2 of 3 mentions in the NT is Paul observing it! (Acts 20:16, 1 Cor 16:18, Rom 14:5)
- c. The Jewish holy days were shadows of things to come – not the mystery - Col 2:16-17
- d. Pentecost was not a mystery. Going back robs you of the riches of grace – Col 2:18

2. Jewish Feast of Weeks

- a. Lev 23:15-17 – Count 7x7weeks from the day after – 50 days = Pentecost
- b. One of three holy pilgrimages to Jerusalem (between Passover and Tabernacles)
- c. Remembrance of deliverance from Egypt, giving of the Law, firstfruits of Harvest
- d. Pentecost was when the Holy Ghost was given = a shadow fulfilled? Exo 13-19

3. Leavened Bread

- a. *“a new meat offering”* Lev 23:16-17 – Two wave loaves WITH leaven
- b. Meat offerings were forbidden to have leaven – Lev 2:11
 - i. Most commentaries make Pentecost a shadow of the church: Jew and Gentile
- c. Leaven = impurity, wrong doctrine, hypocrisy Lk 12:1, Mt 16:6, Mk 8:15, Gal 5:9, 1Co 5:6-8
- d. Learn a parable of the wheat and tares – Matt 13:25-28, 36-43
- e. Could the leaven represent the wicked? And two loaves are Israel and Judah? Eze 37:16
- f. There is something new that is not the mystery – Heb 8:8

4. What's New in Acts 2

- a. Every verse of Acts 1-2 concerns Israel and prophecy, until Acts 2:47
- b. *“beginning in Jerusalem”* – Luke 24:47, then he spoke for 40 days – Acts 1:3
- c. There was a remnant among a wicked generation when the two leavened loaves waved
- d. *“this is that which the prophet...”* – what is new here? Nothing mysterious.– Acts 2:16
- e. His audience: Judah Acts 2:5,14, and Israel Acts 2:22, all the house – Acts 2:36, 3:24-26
- f. Acts 2:39 – the promise to Israel and the “far off” (cf. Eze 11:16)
- g. Acts 2:47 is only a problem in the KJ, and it says “added” (Acts 2:41) and “should be”

5. Why People Go Back

- a. Powers, moving of the Spirit, revival, and the supposed birthday of the church
- b. What you get for going back: put under the law, separate Jew/Gentile, made Israel, Israel's holy days, reopens prophecy, future salvation, impending tribulation, communal living in the temple, and covenant performance based position with God
- c. What you lose by going back: a complete position in Christ, living and walking by faith, the abundant riches of God's grace, liberty in Christ, a heavenly hope, present atonement
- d. The most dangerous part about going back – it hides the mystery of Christ! Eph 3:9
- e. Instead of going back to Pentecost – we should press on this dispensation of grace.