

What is PENTECOST?



PENTECOST comes from the Greek word "Pentecoste" meaning 50th day. Pentecost Sunday is one of the most prominent feast days in the Christian calendar. It is often referred to as the "BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH".

It marks the day when the HOLY SPIRIT descended upon the Apostles, who had been living in fear for fifty days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

On Pentecost, the HOLY SPIRIT came down visibly on the Apostles. He gave them the power to speak in strange tongues to the crowds that came to Jerusalem for that Feast. He also transformed them, from selfish and timid men into giants of courage and faith.

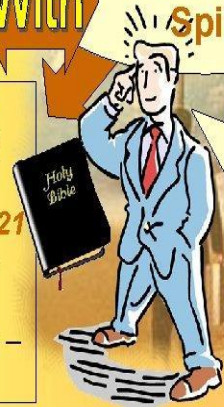
The Holy Spirit's Work in the Life of the Christian

The Holy Spirit "Bears Witness"



Our Human Spirit

- Believe – *Acts 8:37*
- Confess – *Romans 10:9*
- Repent – *Acts 17:30*
- Be baptized – *1 Peter 3:21*
- Be faithful – *Colossians 1:23*
- Confess, Repent, & Pray – *Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9*



I have done those things!



The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

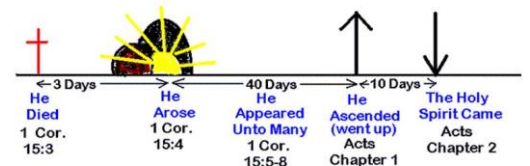
- 1. WISDOM:** helps us see the world differently and from God's point of view.
- 2. UNDERSTANDING:** enables us to know more clearly the mysteries of faith.
- 3. COUNSEL [also known as Right Judgment]:** helps us to discern what is right and what is wrong.
- 4. FORTITUDE [also known as Courage]:** strengthens our will so that we can actually accomplish what is true, good and beautiful.
- 5. KNOWLEDGE:** enables us to discover God's will in all things.
- 6. PIETY:** helps us to love God, our merciful Father, and to obey his precepts out of love for him.
- 7. FEAR OF THE LORD [also known as Wonder and Awe]:** helps us to understand how we must depend on God for everything. In other words, he is God, we are not.

(Source: aletea.org)



Pentecost

Pentecost means the 50th day
 It was on the 50th day after Easter Sunday that the Church as we know it began.
 The risen Jesus had been with his disciples for 40 days before the ascension.



1 SAMUEL 29-31

Q. How did God move in this war?	A. 1 Samuel 29:1-4 = David, asked to join Achish, joined with the other commanders and they were outraged that Achish loved David. They knew what David was capable of and refused to let him fight with them.
Q. How did the other commanders remember David?	A. 1 Samuel 29:5 = By the song "Saul had killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands."
Q. Did Achish send David and his men back to Ziklag?	A. 1 Samuel 29:7 = Yes.
Q. Was this providential?	A. 1 Samuel 29:1 = Yes. The Amalekites raided Ziklag and captured all the women and children, burning the city to the ground.
Q. What was David and his men's reaction?	A. 1 Samuel 29:4-6 = They wept bitterly and the men became angry with David, wanting to stone him.
Q. So now even David's men turned on him?	A. 1 Samuel 29:6 = Yes.
Q. How did David handle the situation?	A. 1 Samuel 29:6 = He found strength in God. He was, after all, God's anointed king! Note: Have you ever been in a place where all your Christian friends seem to turn against you and only a pastor or a non-Christian is left to comfort you? You are not alone! Trust God and ask Him what to do -- and remember to wait for God's timely answer!
Q. Did David do this?	A. 1 Samuel 29:7-8 = Yes. God even gave him the assurance they needed that their families were okay and all would be restored.
Q. How?	A. 1 Samuel 30:8 = David and his men would have to pursue the enemy.
Q. What happened along the way?	A. 1 Samuel 30:10 = Two hundred of David's men tired out. Four hundred continued on.
Q. What did they find on their way?	A. 1 Samuel 30:11 = An Egyptian man in a field.
Q. Who was he?	A. 1 Samuel 30:13 = The slave of an Amalekite, left to die after the raid on Ziklag, David's town.
Q. Would he take David to them?	A. 1 Samuel 30:15 = Yes. In exchange for his life and being freed as a slave.
Q. What were the Amalekites doing when David and his men arrived?	A. 1 Samuel 30:16 = Partying hard. They were joyous because of the rich plunder taken from the Philistines and Judah.
Q. Did David attack?	A. 1 Samuel 30:17 = Yes. After 2 days of fighting, only 100 young men escaped on camels.
Q. All was restored to David and his men?	A. 1 Samuel 30:19 = Yes. Every item, child, woman, animal and elderly one was restored to them.
Q. Was there anything for David and his 400 men to plunder?	A. 1 Samuel 30:20 = Yes. This place was the Amalekites' home town and they had herds and flocks of animals.
Q. What did David's men think of the 200 men left behind from exhaustion?	A. 1 Samuel 30:22 = Some grumbled that they didn't deserve any plunder.
Q. And David?	A. 1 Samuel 30:23 = He behaved like a good king -- giving God the credit for the victory and dividing the plunder for all Israel. He made it the law.
Q. So David's kingship evolved out of victories and longsuffering and fairness and always giving God the credit due while letting God lead and guide them all?	A. Yes! And while Saul remained king too!

<p>Q. What happened in that war Achish fought with his Philistine army against Saul and Israel?</p>	<p>A. 1 Samuel 31:1-2 = The Philistines attacked Israel and Israel fled. All 3 of Saul's sons died, including Jonathan. Saul's army was slaughtered. All in the same day! Saul killed himself by falling on his own sword.</p>
<p>Q. What did the neighboring towns of Israel do?</p>	<p>A. 1 Samuel 31:7 = They fled, so the Philistines occupied their towns.</p>
<p>Q. What happened to the corpses of Saul's soldiers?</p>	<p>A. 1 Samuel 31:8-10 = They were stripped of their armor. Saul and sons too. They cut off Saul's head and fastened his body to the wall of the city of Beth-shan.</p>
<p>Q. What did the Israelites do?</p>	<p>A. 1 Samuel 31:11 = The people of Jabesh-gilead sent 4 warriors there to get the bodies and gave them a proper burial by burning followed by fasting of 7 days.</p> <p>Note 1 = Very sad that Jonathan was among them. Innocent righteous people lose their lives sometimes not so peacefully. Thought: David and Saul are like familiar fictional characters seen in the movies today. Saul referred to David as his son sometimes, though he was evil. Saul's son, Jonathan, was loyal to his father to the end. David would always honor Saul's memory.</p> <p>Note 2 = It doesn't matter how much a person may hurt you. Honor their life as if they were the best gift of all.</p> <p>Note 3 = Look at how God orchestrated these events. Saul was defeated as prophesied, but David was victorious. The 2 anointed kings dealing with separate events. One king with his own town in Philistine country, fighting the Amalekites, who retaliated in due time. What an interesting way events were staged for the finale. David is finally the one king of Israel.</p>

