

THE FEAST OF SHAVUOT (PENTECOST)

Deuteronomy 16:8-12

8 Six days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a sacred assembly to the Lord your God. You shall do no work on it.

The Feast of Weeks Reviewed

9 “You shall count seven weeks for yourself; begin to count the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the grain. 10 Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the Lord your God blesses you. 11 You shall rejoice before the Lord your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your gates, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are among you, at the place where the Lord your God chooses to make His name abide. 12 And you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and you shall be careful to observe these statutes.

The Feast of Pentecost.

This feast is also known as the Feast of Weeks (i.e. Shavout), the Day of Firstfruits, and the Feast of Harvest.

The Jews would count fifty days from the Feast of Firstfruits (Leviticus 23:9-14). The Feast of Pentecost was celebrated on the fiftieth day, therefore the name ‘Pentecost’ from the Greek for ‘fifty’.

The Jews would bring to the Temple the firstfruits of their wheat harvest. From this offering, the Jewish priests would make “two loaves of bread to be waved...of fine flour, and they shall be baked with leaven, as first fruits to the LORD”. A priest would present the two loaves before the Lord as a wave offering.

Wheat is a symbol of believers (Matthew 13:25)

The leaven is a symbol of sin (Deuteronomy 16:3-4)

The two loaves symbolize Jews and Gentiles

The two loaves were made from the same sheaves of wheat (One Body, One Lord)

These two loaves were baked together

In Christ, all believers are ONE

This is the symbolism of the wave offering to the Lord

MANIFESTATION OF FIRE

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 19:18 18

Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. It was about the sixth day of the third month when the Lord descended upon Sinai, three days after Israel reached the mountain, the very day established for the future celebration of Pentecost.

NEW TESTAMENT

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:3-4

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.