

The New Testament Church
Empowered by the Spirit
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I Passover and Pentecost – Leviticus 23:4-22

- A. The Feast of Passover – *drawn to Jesus* because of what He has done for you!
 - 1. It marks the “first day of the new year”
 - 2. Exodus 12:1-14; 43-48 – fulfilled by Jesus as well as in the conversion of believers!
 - a. Each family would select a lamb (Palm Sunday); bond with it (examine) five days
 - b. Then it would be slain at 3 PM; blood put on the sides and top of the door
 - c. They would then eat the passover meal by 6 PM; not one bone of the lamb broken
 - d. As they ate, the death angel passed over them, seeing the blood, a substitute for sin
- B. The Feast of Pentecost – *direction from the Law* because we all not need a standard
 - 1. It is celebrated 50 days (Pentecost means “fiftieth) from Passover
 - 2. Exodus 19-20 – the Feast of Pentecost
 - a. A wave offering of two loaves (Jew and Gentile – all of Israel as an offering)
 - b. Fire and thunder of judgment – “voice of God like tongues of fire” (Heb. 12:18-19)
 - c. The giving of the law on Mt. Sinai – direction to live a holy life

II Empowered by the Spirit of God

- A. Why was the Holy Spirit given?
 - 1. The third person of the Trinity – “eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son”
 - 2. Jesus said if I go away – “*he shall give you another* (of the same kind) *Comforter*”
- B. Jesus taught us to be empowered by the Spirit
 - 1. He will “*guide us into all truth*” – John 16:13 (the Spirit leads us into the Word)
 - 2. He works in the world to *convict of sin, point to righteousness, and judge the evil*
 - 3. His purpose is to *empower us to do what God has commanded us to do*
- C. Jesus fulfilled the Feast of Pentecost...
 - 1. On the eve of the Resurrection, “*He breathed on them and said to them, receive the Holy Spirit*” – John 20:22 – at this moment the disciples were converted
 - 2. Fifty days later (40 with Jesus, and 10 waiting), “*when the day of Pentecost had fully come...there appeared to them divided tongues as of fire... all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*” – Acts 2:1-4
 - a. They offered themselves to God
 - b. God provided tongues of fire again!
 - c. They were filled with the Spirit (His truth, His law, His Word)!
 - 3. What is praying in tongues? (distinct from prophecy or with interpretation - 1 Cor. 14)
 - a. It is practicing working with the Spirit - *They spoke, as the Spirit gave utterance*
 - b. It is praying in God’s will (see Mt. 3:11-12) – “*with fire, thoroughly clean out*”
 - c. It edifies your faith (1 Cor. 14:4; Jude 20)
 - d. You bless God, give thanks, and communicate with God (1 Cor 14:16-17)
- D. Hebrews 12:18-28 – the fulfillment of the Day of Pentecost
 - 1. “*For you have not come to the mountain... that burned with fire – v. 18*
 - 2. *But you have come to Mt. Zion... company of angels... assembly of church of firstborn*
 - 3. Prayer to receive the empowering (baptism) of the Holy Spirit