

Time~N~Destiny Publishers

Pentecost, A Celebration of Harvest



We took some of the most popular Pentecost content from our blog and turned it into this beautiful eBook.

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Table of Contents

1. Pentecost...Power to Birth the Kingdom

2. Sealed With Fire

3. A Season of Transition

4. Call to Action

Pentecost... Power to Birth the Kingdom

Pentecost - A celebration of provision, revelation, and power throughout History.

Laura Judah, May 2012



The Old

Moses received the 10 Commandments on Mount Sinai on Pentecost. In the Old Testament this feast was called the Feast of Weeks. We know that beyond the 10 Commandments, God gave Moses the details of His Law for living in the Promised Land. The people stood at the base of the mountain and witnessed God speaking to Moses through billows of smoke, lightning, thunder and fire. What they saw terrified them. Exodus 19:16-22 gives us this account.

It was the giving of the Law that *birthed* the Hebrew people into the nation of Israel. Without a Law, the people cannot be free. God's Law set their boundaries, it established their culture and assured their freedom, if they would obey it. A culture without laws is lawless, it breeds fear and violence. Proverbs tells us "Righteousness exalts a nation" (Pr 14:34) and "When the righteous rule, the city rejoices" (Pr 11:10).



The New

Forty days after His Resurrection, Jesus ascended to heaven and told the disciples to wait for the promise from on high. They weren't really sure what was going to happen. Ten days later, they were all gathered in the Upper Room when the Holy Spirit came from Heaven with the noise of a violent rushing wind. It appeared that the Holy Spirit rested on the believers like tongues of fire. This was the gift of Holy Spirit given to the church. (Acts 2 and Joel 2)

This was 50 days after Resurrection Day and no coincidence that it happened at the same time that God had given the Law to Moses. In the Greek speaking culture of Jesus' Day, it became known as Pentecost. For Moses and the Hebrews in the Promised Land, the law was given to point them to their need for a Savior, which would come many years later. To those who believed in Jesus and the church that would grow through the ages, God gave the Holy Spirit to empower us to become like Jesus and lead others to Him. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever would believe in Him would not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Up until this time, God had dealt primarily with the Hebrew people. But the giving of the Holy Spirit was for ALL who believed. The giving of the Holy Spirit *birthed* a new entity in the earth called the church, Jew and Gentile, or One New Man.

The Law was given while the Hebrews were still in the desert with a promise that God taking them to the Promised Land. They knew they would not stay in the desert forever and the Laws were given for the time when they would live in the Land. They practiced the Laws in the desert, but they would be fully manifested in the Promised Land. In the context of their day, part of celebrating this festival was to offer a wave offering of two loaves of bread made from their wheat harvest at a time when they weren't yet growing crops.



The Now

The Holy Spirit was given to the Church at the beginning of the Church age with a promise of living eternally in the Kingdom of God. We know that we will not remain on earth forever, but soon and very soon, Jesus will return to receive His Bride and we will rule and reign with Him in His millennial reign on earth and for all eternity in the New Jerusalem. Our destiny is the Kingdom, but that is not reserved for some future day. We are NOW entering the Kingdom age so that we can partner with Jesus to bring the Kingdom to earth as it is in Heaven. The Holy Spirit was given on that first Pentecost, but throughout Scripture we can see that the promise of the power of Holy Spirit has always exceeded what we have witnessed. In our day, a new fullness of time moment is occurring and God is releasing to us a new, fresh baptism that will allow us to accomplish God's end-time purposes. It's not a "new" Holy Spirit, like something new we've never seen before, but it's "new" in the sense of fresh, powerful, and relevant for our day. Can you receive it? Are you ready to believe for something new?

We, like the disciples of old, are waiting and expecting this outpouring, but we aren't really sure of what is going to happen or what it is going to look like. If we read the promises of what's to come in the last days, we might be tempted to be fearful, but the Holy Spirit in us makes us bold, makes us fearless, so we can partner with Jesus to *birth* and build His Kingdom. Each of us has a dream in us, placed there by God, that is a piece of His Kingdom. We birth the dream and then work with Him and His Body to see all the pieces of the puzzle fit together to manifest His Kingdom on earth. He wants us

to KNOW we have all that we need to be victorious through every trial and tribulation we will encounter. But it's not just about enduring the tough stuff, it's about having joy, assurance of His Presence, peace and well-being, confidence in His love and great courage. We are becoming the Pure, Spotless Bride, full of the Love of God, fearless in the face of danger, and willing to lay down our lives for each other. The outpouring of God's Spirit this Pentecost and in the coming days will far exceed what we can imagine. Stir up your expectation, receive the fresh baptism and get ready to build with Him! Let Him open your eyes to see what you could not see before, let Him move your heart to pursue what you could not pursue before, let Him fill your mouth so you can say what you couldn't say before. Surrender to Him and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Lord, let your Kingdom Come!

Happy Pentecost!

Sealed With Fire

We are sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance. (Eph 1:13-14)

Laura Judah, May 2012



Set me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm...its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the Lord. SOS 8:6

As I was reading Song of Solomon this morning and came to the verse above, the Lord quickened to me the picture of the solar eclipse this past weekend...the moon encircled by the sun was called "ring of fire." He showed me this is the prophetic picture of the "seal" of marriage to Jesus...the completeness of this season, the Bride (moon) equally yoked to Jesus (Sun) in voluntary love. Jesus the Son, perfectly aligned with His Bride. His fire seals us because we have chosen to submit to Him completely.

It is symbolic of this Pentecost when Jesus is baptizing His Bride with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Luke 3:16). *"When the day of Pentecost had fully come...and there appeared to them tongues as of fire...and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance."* Acts 2:1-4

The fullness of time has come for the first wave of the Bride to be unveiled, Jesus is placing His ring of fire on Her finger, and the Holy Spirit is releasing a fresh baptism that will fill our mouths with a new sound. We will speak what the Father speaks, when we open our mouths He will fill it.

Jesus declaring the maturity of His Bride to those that have gone through this wilderness season with Him. It is His declaration that we have completed our season and have gained our identity. Our cry for the First Commandment to be reality in our hearts has been answered. We have withstood the temptations, we have thrown away other gods, we have surrendered our rights to Him and given Him our all. We now carry the fullness of His heart in us and He is releasing new assignments to minister to the rest of the Bride, those that have not yet been awakened as well as the unbelievers, out of the Holy love of God. It takes God to love God and that fullness is in us. It takes God in us for us to love the Church and Israel and that fullness is in us. We have become the nurturers, the spiritual mothers and fathers for the next generation (not by age, but by their maturity in the Kingdom).

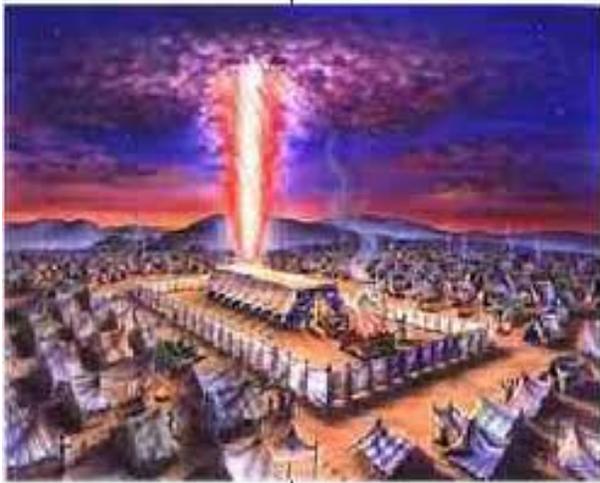
We now possess a confidence and boldness that we have not had before. We have been tested and tried and found true. Our hearts have been purified by His grace. We are truly One with our Beloved and He entrusts us with this ministry knowing that no longer will we pursue our own agendas, but we will listen to the voice of the Bridegroom and minister from the intimacy of our relationship with Him.

Oh, let us celebrate this Pentecost with great expectation and confidence in our Beloved, let us love as we have been loved. Let the harvest begin!

A Season of Transition

An explanation of three transitional generations that God has ordained to bring forth His purpose in the earth. What does He say about our generation?

Laura Judah, June 2011



The Bible tells the story of God's history and future plans for His relationship with mankind. There are three transitional generations recorded in His story. The first transitional generation was the Israelites as they came out of Egypt and were headed toward the Promised Land. The disciples were the second transitional generation as they established the church age after Jesus' resurrection and ascension. The third is our very own end-times generation that is called to begin to establish Jesus' Kingdom on earth and prepare for His arrival.



The Israelites at Mount Sinai

In Moses' day, the Israelites had been held in bondage in Egypt for over 400 years. Though they were the people of God, they had become accustomed to the ways of Egypt. In many ways, they had assimilated to Egyptian traditions and thoughts because of generations and generations being raised in that culture. They did not abandon their knowledge of God, but most of the people had, at best, a muddled concept of who God was and what He wanted to do among His people. When God delivered them from Egypt, before He could take them into the Land He desired to give them, He had to put them through His reconditioning program. He had to transform their thinking, removing Egypt and filling them with Him and His thoughts. He called them together at Mt. Sinai and gave them the 10 Commandments. In addition to the 10 Commandments, He gave them details for every aspect of living, social, religious and moral rules for relating to Him and to others. He gave them instructions for building a tabernacle that was meant to show the people how to come into His Presence and connect with a Holy God. He laid out the encampment of each Tribe, grouping them together for specific functions and placing the Tabernacle (Himself) in the center of their lives. He exhibited great patience with them through all their whining, but He showed them the consequences of their bad choices and wrong thinking. God judged their behaviors and attitudes not because He was being mean, but only to show the people that their thinking did not line up with His and that they needed to 'change their minds' (repent) and align with Him so that He could abundantly bless them.

This all took place in the wilderness, a lonely isolated place where God would have their full attention. He took away their props, their comforts, their delicacies and let them focus on Him. This process was intended to last slightly over 1 year. Unfortunately, their disobedience cost an entire generation their opportunity to move into the next phase of life that God had planned. Their one year turned into 40 and the next generation had to wait. The blessings were postponed but not abandoned. God is faithful.

When the time came to enter the Promised Land, the next generation had been

prepared by the great leader, Moses. He had trained them to fight, both militarily and spiritually. He demonstrated a life of humility and prayer to this generation. When it was time to install the next leader, Joshua, he had been fully equipped to listen to God and lead the people.



The Disciples in the Upper Room

The second transitional generation came after Jesus died and was resurrected. Jesus died to break the chains of sins and bondage and set people free. What God used Moses to do for the Israelites was a picture foreshadowing what Jesus was going to do when He came. To live in the freedom that Jesus provided, though, required a great deal of changing the way people thought. This freedom would only be found 'by faith,' not by sacrifices and keeping rituals. The Hebrews were so conditioned by their religious traditions that they had a very hard time recognizing the 'new thing' that God was doing. Though their own traditions and teachings passed down through the ages foretold of the coming Messiah, most of them couldn't recognize this very One when He was in their midst. The miracles He did made them mad rather than making them joyful. Instead of embracing Him, they wanted to kill Him. But God had prepared a Helper to come to their aid. God didn't expect them to make this transition in their own strength. He sent the Holy Spirit as a free gift to dwell inside every believer in Jesus. The Holy Spirit was poured into them to enable them to 'see' things they had never seen before. He brought Light, He brought gifts and miracle-working power that would now be resident inside every believer. He equipped His people to be able to live for Him and work with Him.

Jesus, the disciples and all the Israelites had celebrated Pentecost as a religious feast ever since the time of Moses. This was always a celebration of God's provision. In Moses' day, it was celebrated as an agricultural event, a celebration of the early harvest that occurred 50 days after the Passover. God gave the 10 Commandments and His set of instructions, now called Torah, on this day from Mt. Sinai. When the people came into

their land and planted their crops, this giving of the law would be celebrated along with celebration for their provision of crops.

The Disciples of Jesus were in the upper room celebrating this feast when God poured out His Spirit and released tongues of fire on them and the 120 that were with them. Instead of preparing one man, like Joshua, to take over leadership of the people, God had now equipped every believer to carry the Presence of God within and lead the way for His Kingdom to be established. God was calling all to be His Kingdom of Priests, as was His original plan. These Spirit-filled believers were called to build the church which would contain both Jews and Gentiles. This new thing would again cause much disturbance to the norm. Between Jesus' death and resurrection and the pouring out of the Spirit, religious customs were being challenged and those who held fast to their traditions eventually found themselves opposing God. This battle has raged in the church ever since these events in Acts chapter 2 occurred.



The End-Times Generation

We are the third transitional generation, the end-times generation that will prepare for the great and glorious day of Jesus' return. We find God again doing a new thing. Isaiah speaks of the new and greater things God will do in chapter 43:18-19, "Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" God is establishing His Kingdom and calling us once again to be 'the people of God.' We are moving out of the Church age and into Kingdom. We are not to be bound by traditions of men or church walls. We are people filled with the Spirit of God and the authority to drive out the darkness from the land. Many have been walking through the wilderness. This purifying process has challenged our worldview. To our own dismay, the Lord has shown us that we have held on to many worldly ways and He has released great grace for us to let go and instead, choose His higher ways. He has called us into repentance, the process of changing our mind and replacing it with Kingdom perspective. Just as the Israelites found this a difficult process and were often offended at God's ways, so too, have we been. Our lives have been turned upside down

and everything has been shaken. God has done this for our good and for His glory. But now we have come out of the wilderness and have entered our Promised Land.

It's time to arise as 'the People of God.' Pentecost is always about a change of identity. It's about coming into a new order under new leadership. This is especially important this year because it is 2011. Eleven is the number of transition. Twelve is the number representing a new administration – a new government. Those who have submitted to being in the wilderness and embraced the NEW of God are being transitioned into new assignments under the leadership of the Lord Himself. As we cooperate with Him, He moves us into new places of responsibility and assignment. We are in a special kairos moment - where time and destiny meet. Those who have resisted this transforming process will be sent to make another circuit in the wilderness as the Israelites were. God loves each one, Jesus died for all and He is the God of many chances, but our choices have consequences and our blessings can be postponed.

We must recognize the hour of our visitation. The Spirit of the Living God is here among us like never before. We are the generation the Lord is preparing for the greatest day in History, His return! We must have our eyes opened to perceive all that God is doing in our day. It is not enough to go to church. We must be the church, the people who are sent out to represent Jesus in the world. God will shake our world until we wake up and align with Him. We've got to stop being so concerned with our comforts and our life. Jesus says, "He who wants to save his life will lose it, but he who loses his life for My sake will find it." We are the People of God. Our lives are about Him and His Kingdom. We are blessed in the process of building His Kingdom, not our own. During this Pentecost season, cry out for the King of Kings to open your eyes and let you 'see' His Kingdom. Purpose to hear His voice speaking a fresh new sound – the voice of the Lord thunders! Find your place in His Holy array! He is once again positioning Himself in the center of His people so that He can dwell among us. He wants to release greater dimensions of His power so that signs and wonders will confirm His Word and people will stand in awe of Him. Find a new way to worship. Sing a new song to break off old cycles. Let Him transform you and make you new!

Call to Action

Have you enjoyed reading about God's Appointed Feast of Pentecost? If so, check out our blog where you will find much more information regarding God's cycle of blessing and how the feasts are foundational to Kingdom economics. And be sure to get your copy of *God's Fall Feasts*, a book that provides an overview of all the feasts and a detailed explanation of all three Fall Feasts.

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