

1. The “Feast of Pentecost” was also called the “Feast of Weeks.”
(Numbers 28:26 and Deuteronomy 16:10)
2. Pentecost is the New Testament name for the Feast of Weeks, when the wheat harvest was celebrated by a one-day festival during which special sacrifices were offered.
3. Pentecost was the second of the three great harvest festivals of Judaism, coming between Passover and Tabernacles.
4. The reason it was called “Feast of Weeks” was because it was celebrated seven weeks after first fruits.
5. This interval became known as “Pentecost” or fiftieth.
6. The Greek word for Pentecost means “fiftieth” - it is used to translate the Hebrew word “Shavuot.”
7. It was a joyous occasion in which the entire nation gave thanks to God for the abundant gifts of food.
8. This feast is the only pilgrimage confined to a single day.
9. The children of Israel were to present a wave offering of two loaves of bread composed of two-tenths of an ephah (a little more than 10lbs in weight).
10. The two loaves were baked with leaven. (Leviticus 23:17)
11. In addition to the two loaves - there were sacrificial animals, cereal gifts, and drink offerings.
12. Also - no work was to be done and the needs of the poor and the stranger were remembered.
13. In addition to the two loaves, seven male lambs, one bull and two rams were to be presented as a burnt offering to the Lord. (Leviticus 23:16b-18)
14. A male goat was to be sacrificed as a sin offering, and two male lambs were given for a fellowship offering. (Leviticus 23:19-20)
15. Sinful man is accepted before God only when the blood offering for sin is provided. The Pentecost offering was a picture of the gospel message - and it provided a perfect opportunity for believers to proclaim the Good News.
16. No work was to be done on this day. (Leviticus 23:21)
17. During the celebration of this feast the Israelites were to remember the poor. They were also reminded to leave the corners of the field for the poor and the alien to glean.
(Leviticus 23:22; 19:9-10)
18. This last admonition could prove to be critical since the Feast of Weeks concludes the spring festivals and the next festival would not be for about four months.

The Feasts of Israel

3-4-20

19. From Passover - Unleavened Bread - First Fruits - to Pentecost...Jesus Christ was crucified, buried, raised up, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and the Holy Spirit came as promised.
20. Four coincidences are hard to explain away - especially when each one is so completely appropriate to its purpose.
21. Pentecost is the last of the Spring Feasts - after which comes the summer of harvest.
22. In God's timeline - we see that the Spring Feasts all deal with events that have come to fruition in the life of Christ and His early followers.