

The Feast of Harvest

Exodus 23:16

I. The Feast of Firstfruits (Ex 23:19)

- A. The feast of firstfruits occurs during the feast of unleavened bread after the sabbath (Lev. 23:11; Deut. 16:9–10).
- B. It was observed by bringing a wave offering of the firstfruits of the barley harvest (Lev. 23:9–11).
- C. The feast of firstfruits is a picture of the resurrection of Christ (1 Cor. 15:20–23; Col. 1:16–18).
 - 1. The Lord would accept the firstfruits when waved before Him (Lev. 23:11; Mark 1:11; Matt. 12:18; 17:5).
 - 2. The harvest could not be eaten until the firstfruits were offered (Lev. 23:14).
 - 3. The Lord would bless the remaining harvest as the firstfruits were offered (Eph 1:5-6).
- D. The Lord set a pattern for all believers that the Lord should be honoured with the firstfruits of our substance to bless the remainder of the harvest (Prov. 3:9-10).

II. The Feast of Harvest

- A. The feast of the harvest was also known as the feast of Shavuot (weeks) (Deut. 16:16).
 - 1. Seven sabbaths would be counted from the feast of the firstfruits (Lev. 23:15–16).
 - 2. The day of the feast was known as Pentecost referring to the fiftieth day after the feast of firstfruits.
- B. The feast of weeks marked the firstfruits of the barley harvest (Ex. 34:22; Jo 4:35).

1. There are three harvest periods in Israel: barley, wheat and fruit.
 2. Each feast event was marked by an offering of firstfruits.
- C. The offerings of feast of weeks
1. Meat Offering—Two leaven loaves of bread were the wave offering (Lev. 23:16–18).
 - a. There were two great loaves picturing the Jews and gentiles becoming one in Christ’s body, the church (1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 2:13–14).
 - b. It was leavened picturing that there is still sin within the church and Israel since Christ has not yet returned to remove the presence of sin (Lev. 2:11; Eph. 5:25–27; Matt. 13:24-26; 1 Jo 3:2 c.f. 2 Cor. 4:6–11).
 2. Burnt Offering (dedication)—seven unblemished lambs, a young bull, and two rams.
 3. Sin offering (atonement)—a kid of the goats.
 4. Peace offering (reconciliation, fellowship)—two lambs.

III. Pentecost and the Holy Spirit

- A. The promise of the Father was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Lu. 24:49; Ac. 1:4).
- B. The outpouring of the Spirit was for “_____” under the supervision of Peter (Joel 2:28–32). Peter was given authority to bring three groups into the church (Matt. 16:19)
 1. The _____ received the Spirit after Peter preached and were baptized at Pentecost (Acts 2:5, 38–41).
 2. The _____ received the Spirit after Peter laid hands on them (Ac. 8:14–17).

3. The _____ received the Spirit after they heard and believed Peter’s message of the Gospel (Ac. 10:44–45).
- C. The Holy Spirit would be given in the “last days.”
1. Joel wrote it would happen “afterwards” (Joel 2:28).
 2. Peter defined “afterward” to mean “the last days” (Ac. 2:16–21).
 3. The characteristics of the last days
 - a. God’s Word will come directly through His _____, Jesus Christ (Heb. 1:1–2).
 - b. The Holy Spirit will be _____ out on all men (Ac. 2:17).
 - c. There will be _____ concerning Jesus Christ (2 Pe. 3:3–4).
 - d. There will be _____ times (2 Tim. 3:1–5).
 - e. The last days include the _____ period (Ac. 2:19–20).
 - f. Jesus Christ will return to establish His _____ (Isa. 2:2; Mic. 4:1–2).
- D. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was an event called the “baptism” of the Holy Spirit.
1. Old Testament saints were empowered as the Spirit _____ came upon them (Nu. 24:2; Jud. 3:10; 6:34).
 2. John the Baptist testified that _____ would baptize with the Holy Ghost (Jo. 1:32–34).
 3. Jesus prophesied the baptism of the Spirit (Ac. 1:4–5; Jo. 16:7).
 4. The disciples were already _____ by the Spirit

before Pentecost (Jo. 20:21–22).

5. After Pentecost, the Holy Spirit baptizes every believer into Christ's _____ at salvation (1 Co. 12:13; Ro. 6:3–4).
6. The baptism of the Holy Spirit gives every believer the potential to be _____ with the Spirit.
 - a. To be filled with the Spirit is to have _____ to _____ (Acts 1:8; 2:1–4; 4:8; 13:9–10).
 - b. To be filled with the Spirit requires _____ to do the will of Christ (Acts 4:31).
 - c. To be filled with the Spirit is to joyfully _____ with Christ (Acts 13:51–52; Phil. 4:4; 1 Pe. 3:14).
 - d. To be filled with the Spirit is to know the _____ of Christ (Eph. 3:19).
 - e. To be filled with the Spirit is to _____ be controlled by anything but Christ (Eph. 5:18).
 - f. To be filled with the Spirit is to be _____ to the Word of Christ (Col. 3:16).
 - g. To be filled with the Spirit is to evidence the _____ of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-24; Eph 5:8-9; Ja. 3:17-18).