

**THE FEAST OF SHAVUOT**

# **PENTECOST**



# PENTECOST



## “Old” Testament Meaning and Purpose

Called Pentecost (in Greek), which means, Fiftieth or Shavuot (in Hebrew), this Biblical holy day is the memorial of Mount Sinai when YAHWEH gave His people the Torah and taught us how to please Him. This celebration is the commemoration of the ratification of the holy Covenant between the Almighty Creator, YAHWEH, and His people Israel. That Covenant itself is summed up in what is called the Ten Words or Decalogue ( in Greek ), which is more commonly known as The Ten Commandments. Though this is the Covenant itself, and what was put inside the sacred Ark, it should by no means be considered that the contract with our Creator contains *only* ten rules, all of which were give to Moses throughout his forty years in the wilderness.

## “New” Testament Meaning and Purpose

On this exact same date, over a thousand years later, on Mount Zion, YAHWEH sent His Holy Spirit upon Israel Who would Himself instruct us in all ways of pleasing our Heavenly Father. It was at that time that He renewed His Covenant with Israel changing nothing but location. No longer were the Ten Words carved in stone, but by the power of the Spirit, they were set inside our minds and hearts, so that the Torah would be our desire and no longer merely a demand.

## When Is Pentecost ?

Pentecost means Fiftieth and describes when this holy day falls every single year. It takes place exactly fifty days after the weekly Sabbath that occurs during the feast of Unleavened Bread. Scriptural instructions tell us to look for this feast day by counting one of three ways - either fifty days, or seven weeks, or seven Sabbaths to the day after the seventh Sabbath. This is the only one of the annual holydays that is never on a fixed date, and it is also the only one that will always fall on a so-called “Sunday”. We are likely taught to count to this holy day because of its being in memorial of the giving of the Torah. It should be with anticipation and with eagerness that we look for the Instruction of our Heavenly Father. We

number our days till we have that holy Law in our hands and written in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

## The Requirements of Pentecost

As is so of every Biblical holy day, Pentecost is likewise a High Sabbath, and thus to be treated like any weekly Sabbath. On this day, no work may be done, a congregation must be held, and we must rest and recognize what YAHWEH has done for us in the day of antiquity we commemorate in modernity.

Additionally, traditional observance of Pentecost calls for a double loaf for the Kiddish, which alludes to the dual bread offering required for this day long ago according to Lev. 23:17. It is furthermore tradition to eat dairy based foods for the celebration of this day. The premise of this custom is obscure, but there are two stories which are told for the basis of the practice. The first says that these dairy products are consumed at Pentecost to remind us of the golden cow idol we made at the very moment of receiving the written copy of the Covenant. This reminds us not to rely on our own strength to be holy, because no sooner do we commit to the Divine contract then we wander off to follow our own heart's desires. The other story is purely mythic and says that while the Israelites were away receiving the Law from Heaven their milk had spoiled but they were taught to make it into cheese instead. And the moral of the story is that even when we have spoiled what YAHWEH has given us ( ie. the idolatry involving the idol worship ) still He has a use for it anyway beyond what we had envisioned.

## The Daily Count to Pentecost

YAHWEH said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them... 'From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the wave sheaf offering, count off seven full-weeks. Count off fifty days up to the day after the seventh Sabbath ...'"(Lev. 23:1 - 2, 15-16)

HalleluYAH!

“Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of Wisdom.” (That is to say “a heart of Torah”). Ps. 90:12

HalleluYAH!

Today is the ( Appropriate # ) day of the count to Pentecost and this the ( Appropriate # ) week on our climb to Sinai ... ( If Sabbath ) Today is the ( Appropriate # ) Sabbath of our Ascent to receive the Law of the LORD. “This is the day YAHWEH has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.” Ps - 118:24

## Opening Service for Pentecost

( OPENING PRAYER & CANDLE-LIGHTING )

Blessed is YHWH, Eloheinu, King of The Universe, Who performed wonders for us in ancient days at this season, Who has vouchsafed life and health unto us, to behold the return of this holy day - Who has sanctified us with HIS commandments, and Who allows us to light the fire of His feast .

The one lighting the candles says: Your Word, oh YHWH, is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path . ( He then lights the candles . )

**ALL :** Send forth Your Light and Your Truth; let Them guide me. Let Them bring me to Your holy mountain, to the place where You dwell . Ps. 43:3

**FIRST READER :** When YHWH, Eloheinu, brought us out of the land of Egypt with a mighty Hand and an outstretched Arm, He did not not leave us orphaned in the wilderness nor did He abandon us to anarchy. He punished our emprisoners, judged all their gods, and drowned all their armies in the depths of the sea, but He kept us unscathed through the plagues, led us on dry ground through the waves, and guided us unto His holy mountain to give us at last our liberty ... liberty by Law .

**SECOND READER :** There at Mount Sinai, YHWH descended in smoke and fire on the summit where He spoke to Moses the Words of our freedom. He declared to us His Covenant, the Ten Commandments, which He commanded us to follow and then wrote them on two stone tablets. And of all that was uttered and all that was written what did we declare at that time ?  
Deut. 4:13

**ALL :** If we are careful to obey all this Law before YHWH, Eloheinu, as He has commanded us, that will be our righteousness . Deut. 6: 25

**THIRD READER :** Even to this day does that righteous Covenant endure as the psalmist has said, He remembers His Covenant forever, the Word He commanded for a thousand generations. And so shall this Law remain unchanged unto the ending of the world as it is also written, He provided redemption for His people: He ordained His covenant forever - holy and awesome is His NAME. Let us, therefore, at this time on the anniversary of this announcement to which we agreed long ago, recite all the terms of the contract YHWH made with us, speaking all Ten Words that have set us free .

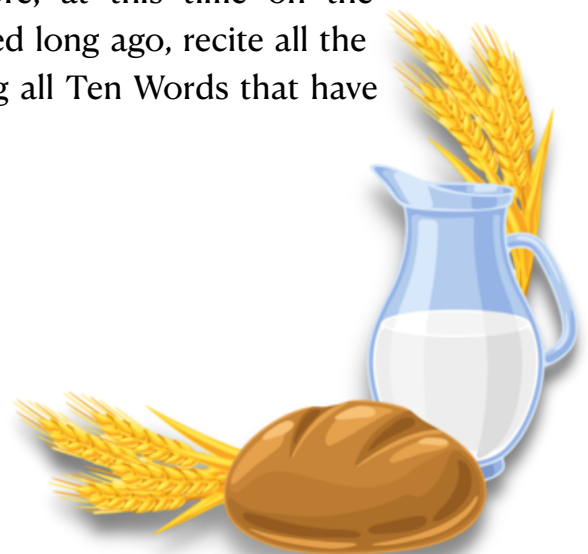
**ALL :** ( Recite the Ten Commandments )

**FOURTH READER :** ( Deut. 30; 11 - 20 )

**FIFTH READER :** (Deut . 6 : 1 - 3 )

**ALL :** ( Recite the Sh'ma )

**SIXTH READER :** Blessed is, the man you discipline, oh YHWH; the man you teach from your Torah. The Law of his Elohim is in his heart; His feet do not slip. Where there is no revelation the people cast off restraint; but blessed is he who keeps the Torah. Every good thing shall be his, and all he does shall prosper. Praise YHWH for You alone offer us life and have loved us and have given us the grace of Your holy Torah. Help us to fulfill our purpose faithfully, to honor and obey all of Your commandments, to keep Your Covenant and to walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your NAME. Amein.



**SEVENTH READER** : But we did not hold fast to this Covenant in the day that HE gave it. Indeed, we broke It before You could carve it in stone. We were faithless in the hour of testing, and our Elohim treated us as HE had promised, punishing us severely for our sin. Yet still we did not learn as our rebellious history has shown all nations. Ours is a legacy of letting YHWH down...And yet let us not lose heart, for in the Law is always hope and the promise of redemption. As we eat the dairy foods set before us, let us recall the cow idol we erected against YHWH in ancient days, resolving never to arouse our King's jealousy ever again, and let us also remember that just as spoiled milk may be made into cheese, so also our lost opportunities and iniquities may be made even still into something more savory in the end .

**ALL** : Blessed is YHWH, Eloheinu, King of The Universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments and Who saves us from our sins.

**EIGHTH READER** : (Psalm 1 )

**NINTH READER** : ( Pr. 15 )

**TENTH READER** : (Pr . 101 )

**ELEVENTH READER** : ( Ps . 19 )

**TWELFTH READER** : YHWH , how grateful we are for Your Covenant of promise and for the grace You provide us therein, for all Your loving care and for letting us call You, Father. Thank you for saving us from slavery to sin and death, for delivering us out of destruction and despair and for sealing Your Covenant in the shed blood of Yahshua , our Messiah. Save us, Master when we stray and help us to stay true to Your NAME, to keep Your commandments and to love those things You love. We ask all this in the precious Name of Your 'Son'. Amein.

( Read Ruth chapters 1&2 and  
and discuss in light of Pentecost .

# Service for the Day of Pentecost

( OPENING PRAYER )

Blessed is YHWH , Eloheinu, King of the Universe, Who saved us from slavery, walked with us through the waters, made our way to His holy Mountain, and laid down the Law to all who have ears to hear. He it was Who watched over us in our wilderness wanderings and through our wanton rebellion. He alone has loved us, allowed us our freedom, and let us live and prosper to this present day; and on this great day, the Sovereign Ruler of Heaven also sent us His Holy Spirit, to dwell within us, to empower us, and to teach us all the law made known of old . / Blessed is YHWH , / Who has renewed His covenant with us . (All Echo)

**FIRST READER** : Long ago, oh YHWH, you gave us Your blessed Word, and we broke it before it was chiseled in stone. We stole from Your glory and gave praise to graven images age after faithless age. Idolatry and infidelity were our iniquity, and in our wickedness we failed to show forth Your NAME to the nations. Yet through all our waywardness You guarded us in faithfulness, always calling for us to come home; Through our Messiah You made a Way for our redemption and return, and through Your Spirit You moved Your Law from rock to flesh.

**SECOND READER** : Therefore , Sovereign YHWH says, "I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again. They will return to it and remove all its vile images and detestable idols. I will give them an undivided heart and put a new Spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh. Then they will follow My decrees and be careful to keep My Laws. They will be My people, and I will be their Elohim." ( Ezekiel 17 : 20)

**THIRD READER** : Father, we thank You for sending Your 'Son' to be the Saviour of the world, to shed His blood for our blessed redemption and to suffer, die, and rise that we might have a Way to be brought into Israel. Through Yahshua, our Messiah, You made it possible for us to please You, and You renewed Your Covenant with us, moving the Torah into our hearts and minds. Make us ever mindful of these mercies, and may we never grow confident in our own ability to obey Your commandments, but over-reliant on Your love and the power of Your Holy Spirit to remain in Your Way.

FOURTH READER : Jeremiah 31: 31-37

FIFTH READER : Ezekiel 36:22- 27

SIXTH READER : Romans 8:1- 17

SEVENTH READER : Therefore, if we have been graced with sonship and made co-heirs with the King Messiah Himself, if we have shared in His sufferings and partaken of the Spirit He sent, let us take heed to our steps and take stock of our ways, that we shall ever walk in holiness and uprightness all our days, doing the will of YHWH Eloheinu out of a pure heart. Let us cleave unto His commandments and keep ourselves from evil, not for our salvation but for the sake of our Father's NAME and for the sake of His great praise. As we partake of the double loaf this day, let us do so in reverence and fear of our Heavenly Father, acknowledging by grace that YHWH gave us His Covenant through Moses once, and gave us the same contract a second time through Messiah. As these two loaves are by all accounts the same, so also are the Testaments "old" and "new".

EIGHTH READER : (Matt. 5:17 - 20)

ALL : ( Recite the Blessing for Kiddish )

NINTH READER : Read Joel 2:28 - 32

TENTH READER : Acts 2:1- 39

ALL : ( Read Through 73. 119 )

( Read Ruth 3 & 4 and discuss in light of Pentecost )



# Closing Service for Pentecost

( OPENING PRAYER )

Blessed is YHWH , Eloheinu, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments and has granted us this time to commemorate His giving of the Sacred Scriptures and His sending of the Holy Spirit, Who has called us out from all nations and set us apart to live by His Holy Word.

FIRST READER : (II Tim . 3:15 - 4:5)

SECOND READER : We live in an evil generation, a world overwhelmed by wickedness and every abhorrent action, even among those calling on our Creator. There are many who are satisfied with lies, and sweetsounding words of watered down doctrine, but YHWH has not ordered us to walk in the ways of such graceless and hopeless companions. YHWH gave us His Word, wrote it in our hearts, sealed it with His Spirit, and holds us to the same holiness required of the righteous in every bygone age. Now in these last days, the charge is given to us from Messiah Himself to preach the ancient Word of life, both in season and out of season, to learn it, to love it, and to live it out before all eyes.

THIRD READER : ( Phil . 2: 12# - 16a )

FOURTH READER : Therefore, let us make caution our true name and the commandments our true nature, so that in all we think, say, and do we will fulfill our responsibility to our Heavenly Father and to this world to shine His light to all who are lost in darkness. Here at the end of all things, it is left to us to hold out to the broken world the hope alive inside us. It is up to us alone to reflect upon all people the pure radiance of Heaven's verity, and to remember moment by moment that they are always watching and waiting to see if what we say is actually real. They want to believe there is something better for them. They desire to find something more than their dead dreams; Let us give them no reason then to doubt.

FIFTH READER : Blessed is YHWH , Eloheinu, King of the Universe, Who by Your Holy Anointed One, Yahshua, and according to His honest promise, sent Your Holy Spirit to guide



us, to teach us, and to empower us to keep Your Torah. Help us therefore to bear witness to Your King Messiah, the true and living Word with an upright life and well-squared actions. Bolster our weaknesses and strengthen our resolve. Sharpen our focus on faithfulness to Your Ways, and shape our minds to be conformed into the mind of Messiah, that we may think with Your thoughts only, that we would imagine only what is in Your immortal intent, and that we would ponder only those things which please You most.

**SIXTH READER :** (Phil. 2:5- 11)

**SEVENTH READER :** This then is our obligation, both on this holy day and always, to live the Law of love for YHWH and our neighbor but moreover to show the greatness of His NAME to all nations. We are tasked with teaching them His Torah by word and by example. Ours is the solemn duty to show them the pattern of His Temple. And our privilege it is to proclaim the Sacred NAME of our Saviour and to prove to every person possible that they too will one day declare It by will or by force when He reigns over all the earth. Let us encourage everyone we encounter to call on the NAME of YHWH, to do so in Faith, before the terrible Day when He will force them with fear.

**EIGHTH READER :** Let us establish His Kingdom in our lives and impress His Instruction upon our children, that we should set aside our bodies to be a Temple to His Holy Spirit, that we should sanctify our beliefs to be nothing but what was taught by Messiah, and that we should become a sacred nation befitting our status as Citizens in Israel. May our possession of the written Scriptures and the power of the Spirit giving us strength to strive in Them, filling us with joy and gladness. May we bear in mind that His Word is our life, the very source of our continued existence, and may we be ever anxious to devote to it our best efforts and our brightest hours.

**NINTH READER :** YHWH , our Heavenly Father draw near to us and never withdraw Your love from us. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we in turn may fulfill our Divine mission to go forth and teach all nations the power of Your NAME, the strength of Your Instruction, and the love of Your 'Son', Yahshua. May we boldly make it known that You alone, oh YHWH , are Elohim and that You swear Your Covenants forever. We will declare repentance in Messiah's holy Name and denounce all notions that You would forswear Your Word. We will immerse disciples in the Name of Yahshua for the remission of sins, and we will walk in the light of

Your Righteous commandments, by the power of the Holy Spirit and for the glory of Your holy NAME. Amen.

