

The Day of Pentecost – 2023

Saturday, 5/27 at 4:00 & Sunday, 5/28 at 9:00



Text: John 7:37-39 NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Today we celebrate the **Day of Pentecost!**

- The OT Meaning of Pentecost:** Pentecost is the 4th of 7 feasts commanded in [Leviticus 23](#). The men were required to ▶assemble, ▶make a wave offering of wheat bread, and ▶offer seven males lambs without blemish. Why?
 - To remember: The LORD rescued us from Egypt and gave us His Ten Commandments; *we are His covenant people.*
 - To be thankful: For the wheat harvest and all blessings.

- c. To look ahead: To the coming Messiah – *who would take away all sins, and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit – who is the Lord and Giver of Life.*
2. **Forgiveness through Jesus:** ³⁷ **Now on the last day, the great day of the feast** [*not the feast of Pentecost, but the feast of Booths, a.k.a. Tabernacles, the 7th feast of the year*], **Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.” ...**
- a. Thirsty: For all who are thirsty to receive forgiveness, *Jesus is inviting them to come to Him!*
- b. Jesus: Since He took away the sin of the world, *He is the ONE SOURCE of forgiveness for EVERYONE!*
- c. Locations of forgiveness: ▶Baptism (*Acts 2:38*), ▶the Bible (*James 1:18*), ▶Absolution (*John 20:22-23*), and ▶the Lord’s Supper (*Matt. 26:26-28*). Those are **the ways, the means, the conduits** through which the Holy Spirit gives *God’s gift of forgiveness to repentant sinners!*
3. **Looking Ahead to the NT Pentecost:** ³⁸ **He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water** [*grace and salvation*].” ³⁹ **But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive** [*on the Day of Pentecost*]; **for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.** // With those words, Jesus looked ahead to **the Day of Pentecost** (*50 days after His resurrection*) when He would pour out the Holy Spirit on all believers.

4. **What Happened after Jesus' Resurrection:**

- a. Before the 50th day: Jesus ✦ was raised to life and ✦ showed Himself to be alive for 40 days; **then** ✦ He was taken up into heaven, ✦ Matthias was chosen to replace Judas, and ✦ Jesus' disciples waited in Jerusalem.
- b. On the 50th day: **Jesus** poured out the Holy Spirit upon His followers. **Then the apostles**, *speaking by the HS in the most familiar languages of the people who had gathered*, told of the mighty deeds of God.

5. **The HS Makes a BIG Difference:**

- a. Jesus' apostles were given power: Jesus said to them: "...you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth" (Acts 1:8 NAS-77). // That power was evident, beginning on **the Day of Pentecost**. ***They courageously bore witness regarding † who Jesus is, † what He did, and † His resurrection from the dead. Then they called their hearers to repent and believe!***
- b. All believers were enabled to prophesy: On **the Day of Pentecost** this prophecy from Joel 2:28 was fulfilled; the LORD said: "...I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy..." To prophecy means **to proclaim what God wants to make known**. **The apostles did that throughout the world**. **The HS is leading us to do that among our family members, friends, and neighbors**.

- c. All believers became a source of living water: Going back to [John 7:38](#), Jesus said, **“He who believes in Me..., ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water [grace and salvation].”**
- i. What is living water? Living water is ❤️ God’s love, ❤️ God’s forgiveness, ❤️ God’s gift of eternal life. When we were converted, *such things came **into us!***
- ii. How does living water flow from us? Lenski wrote: **“He who comes to Jesus not only finds his own soul satisfied but also becomes a medium [like a water hose] for conveying the same spiritual satisfaction to others” (576).** As believers, *living waters flow **through us!***
- iii. We are difference-makers: As water flows through a hose to its destination, *may the good news of God’s salvation keep flowing through us **to others!***



Let Us Pray: Dear Holy Spirit, *TY for giving us life in Jesus and equipping us to be dispensers of living water.* Now, ♦grant us love for others, ♦give us the words to say, ♦make others receptive to hear, and ♦move them to repent and believe!