

THE DAY OF PENTECOST -

MONDAY, 22ND JUNE A.D. 33 THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCEND UPON THE JEWISH DISCIPLES OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AT JERUSALEM

“The same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls”

(Read Acts 2:1-47 and Leviticus 23:9-22)

Just a reminder, that The Day of our Lord’s resurrection was on Monday, 4th May A.D. 33. All four Gospels affirm that this was “the first (day) of the Sabbaths”, that is, the seven Sabbaths or weeks to Pentecost, which was the 50th day, or “morrow after the seventh Sabbath”. The Day of Pentecost was, therefore, Monday 22nd June, being the 50th day from Monday, 4th May.

One of the most beautiful types of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament is to be seen in Eliezer of Damascus, the servant of Abraham, whom he sent into Mesopotamia to fetch a bride for his son Isaac, as recorded in Genesis 24. The primary objective that God had in sending the Holy Spirit down from Heaven was that He might, through the preaching of the Gospels, gather out, first from Israel and then from the Gentiles that bas assemblage which would form the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ which, in one most important aspect, is viewed as His Bride. In other words, what Eve was to “the first man Adam” the Church is to be to “the last Adam”, that is, our Lord Jesus Christ (See Ephesians 5:25-33). So we view the descent of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost as the true birthday of the Church which, in the ultimate, is to be the Bride of the Eternal Helpmeet of Christ, Who “loved the Church, and gave Himself for it” at Calvary.

WHY OUR LORD ASCENDED AFTER FORTY DAYS – THE TEN DAYS TO PENTECOST YET TO BE LIVED BY CHIRST AND HIS CHURCH AT THE SECOND ADVENT IN FULFILMENT OF THE LEVITICAL TYPE. PLEASE READ LEVITICUS 23:9-22 AND CONNECT TO MATTHEW 27:51-53.

As we develop this next subject, we would ask you prayerfully to consider connecting the dots of Leviticus 23:9-22 which was an antitype of that which was to come, to I Corinthians 15: 20-23, Matthew 27:52-53. This is also new to us, but when we connect the dots, it makes a lot of sense. (Jacinta)

The subject we are about to consider is of the utmost importance to all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ because it relates to events at His now impending Second Appearing.

All the great Christian Communities celebrate the Fifty Days between Easter and Pentecost because this number of days elapsed between our Lord’s resurrection and the day of Pentecost in A.D. 33, when the Holy Ghost came done to form the Church, which is the Mystical Body of Christ. If reference is made to Leviticus 23:16, it will be seen that these fifty days are specifically named as the period between the offering of “a sheaf of the firstfruits. . . on the morrow after the

Sabbath” (verses 10 and 11) and the offering of the “two wave loaves” on “the morrow after the seventh Sabbath”.

The day of the Lord’s resurrection was the fulfillment of the type of “the sheaf of the firstfruits” that took place “on the morrow after the Sabbath”. This is the reason our Lord is referred to as “the firstfruits of them that slept” in I Corinthians 15:20. It is equally well known that the “two wave loaves”, which have to be offered on the fiftieth day after the offering of “the sheaf of the firstfruits, form a simple and beautiful type of the Church –Jew and Gentile- which is Christ’s mystical Body. It will be noted that both offerings are “firstfruits”. The reason for this is that Christ’s resurrection and that of the Church at His Second Advent are “the firstfruits” or token of that great harvest of human souls which presently are to be raised from the dead.

It will be obvious to all that this Levitical type positively requires, if taken literally, that the completed Church, which is the antitype of the “two loaves”, should be offered on the 50th day of “morrow after the seventh Sabbath”; just as Christ, Who is the Anti-type of “ sheaf of the firstfruits”, was offered to God on the first of these fifty days, that is called in all the Gospels “the first (day) of the Sabbaths”, that is, the seven Sabbaths to Pentecost.

It will be equally clear to all that on the day of Pentecost in A.D.33, which was the 50th day after Christ’s resurrection, there were no “two wave loaves” to offer to God, as the Church, which they typify, on that day only began to be formed by the descent of the Holy Ghost. When forty of these fifty days between our Lord’s resurrection and Pentecost had passed He left the earth and ascended up to Heaven. His doing so was a vital part of a perfect plan- the effect of His Ascension being to suspend the course of the fifty days when ten had yet to run.

Apart from this suspension of the typical fifty days, our Lord, as the risen Head of the Church, would have had to remain on earth with His believing members until the day of Pentecost, when He would have presented them as an offering to God at their translation to Heaven. What then would have happened to the world-wide commission to preach repentance and remission of sins to all nations? It would never have been accomplished.

It is important to see that during the whole fifty days Christ and the Church are together and, being “the firstfruits” of the Harvest, death has no place in their midst- Christ and His members having passed through death physically into resurrection life – the exception being those who “are alive and remain” unto His coming, who without dying will be miraculously changed into immortality when summoned “at the last trump” – “to meet the Lord in the air” (see also Philippians 3:20,21).The great distinguishing mark of the nine days in A.D. 33 between the Ascension and Pentecost was the absence of a Divine Person on the earth. This is the only occasion when it will have been so between our Lord’s first and Second Advents. Let the simple but vital fact be kept in mind that the type of the Fifty Days, given in Leviticus 23, embraces the whole history of the Church, which is the Body of Christ, from His presentation to God as “the firstfruits” on the morning of His resurrection to the presentation of the completed Church, the

antitype of the “two wave loaves” on that day of Pentecost which will occur nine days after our Lord’s Second Advent.

From the book *The Restored Vision* by A.E. Ware.