Shavuot 30 A.D.

Remembering its World-changing Events

- A. A **Promise** was **fulfilled**—The **Promise** of the **Spirit** "**pouring forth**" and *indwelling* **Believers** (Acts 2:1-4, 16-18)
 - 1. *Imparting* Spiritual birth (life) (John 3:3-5; Titus 3:5)
 - 2. *Imparting* Spiritual baptism (I Cor. 12:13; Romans 6:3-4)
 - 3. *Imparting* Spiritual power (Acts 1:8)
 - 4. *Inducing* Spiritual <u>sanctification</u> (II Thessalonians 2:13) and <u>transformation</u> (Romans 12:1-2)
 - 5. *Inaugurating* a new Spiritual <u>relationship</u> with God (Romans 7:4, 8:2)

B. A "Spiritual First-fruits" was gathered (among the Jews)

³⁷ Now when they (the Jews) heard this (Peter's message during the feast of Shavuot), they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus the Messiah for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- ³⁹ For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself…"
- ⁴¹ So then, **those** who had **received his word** were **baptized**; and that day there were added about **three thousand souls**. (Acts 2:37-39, 41)

C. A Spiritual "Mystery" was about to commence

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Messiah Jesus for the sake of you <u>Gentiles</u>—...

⁴ By referring to this (my letter), when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Messiah,
⁵ which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; ⁶ to be specific,

that the <u>Gentiles</u> are <u>fellow heirs</u> and <u>fellow members</u> of the <u>body</u>, and <u>fellow partakers</u> of the <u>promise</u> in <u>Messiah Jesus</u> through the <u>gospel</u>, ⁷ of which I was made a <u>minister</u>, according to the <u>gift</u> of <u>God's grace</u> which was given to <u>me</u> according to the working of <u>His power</u>.

⁸ To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the *unfathomable* riches of Messiah, ⁹ and to bring to light what is the administration of the <u>mystery</u> which for ages has been *hidden* in God who created all things; (Ephesians 3:1, 4-9)

D. A Spiritual "Harvest" season had begun— (2,000 years and counting)

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work. 35 Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'?

Behold, I say to you, **lift up your eyes** and **look on the <u>fields</u>**, that they are <u>white for harvest</u>. (John 4:34-35)

So when **they** (**Messiah** and **His disciples**) had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at *this time* You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them, "It is **not** for you to know **times** or **epochs** which the **Father** has **fixed** by **His own authority**;

⁸ but you will 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 1:6-8)

Personal Application Shavuot—A Time to be Thankful

- 1. **Thankful** for the *promise* and **gift** of the <u>Holy Spirit</u> (Acts 1:4-5)
- 2. **Thankful** for the *patience* of God in allowing this long time of "harvest" (2000 plus years) for the <u>salvation of men</u>

But do not let this **one** *fact* escape your notice, beloved, that with **the Lord one day** is like a *thousand years*, and a *thousand years* like **one day**.

The Lord is <u>not slow</u> about His promise, as some count slowness, but is <u>patient</u> toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for *all* to come to repentance. (II Peter 3:8-9)

3. **Thankful** for the *privilege* of **co-laboring** in this **rewarding ministry** of "**gathering** <u>fruit</u> for <u>life eternal</u>." (John 4:36)

What then is **Apollos?** And what is **Paul? Servants** *through* whom <u>you believed</u>,
even as **the Lord** gave *opportunity* to each one.

I <u>planted</u>, Apollos <u>watered</u>, but God was causing the growth....

For we are <u>God's fellow workers</u>; you are <u>God's field</u>,...

(I Corinthians 3:5-6, 9a)

4. Thankful for the *provision* of <u>fellow laborers</u> and <u>personal strength</u>, that enables us to continue to <u>serve</u> patiently in the harvest field of the world; awaiting the return of the "Lord of the harvest."

Seeing the people, **He** (*Messiah*) felt **compassion** for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like **sheep without a shepherd**.

Then He said to His disciples,
"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.
Therefore <u>beseech</u> the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:36-38)

Let us **not lose heart** in **doing good**, for in **due time we will reap** if we do not **grow weary.** (Galatians 6:9)

Therefore be <u>patient</u>, brethren, until the coming of the Lord.

The farmer waits for the <u>precious produce</u> of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

You too <u>be patient</u>; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

(James 5:7-8)

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