# Shavuot

## The **Jewish Feast** that ***Changed*** the **World**

### A. The ***Promise*** of **Power** for **Ministry**

"**He (Jesus)** said the **them (His disciples)…**
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 1:7a, 8)

### B. The ***"Pouring Forth"*** of **God's Holy Spirit**

#### 1. A ***Perplexing*** **Sign**

When the day of **Pentecost** (**Shavuot**) had come,
They (**Messiah's disciples**) were **all together** in one place.
And **suddenly** there came from **heaven** a **noise** like a violent **rushing wind**,
and it **filled** the **whole house** where they were sitting.

And there appeared to them **tongues** as of ***fire*** distributing
themselves, and they **rested** on **each one** of them.
And they were all **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** and began to speak
with ***other*** **tongues**, as the **Spirit** was **giving them utterance**.

Now there were **Jews** living in **Jerusalem**,
devout men from ***every*** **nation** under **heaven.**

And when this ***sound*** occurred, the **crowd** came together,
and they were **bewildered** because they were **each one**
hearing them speak in his **own language**.

They were **amazed** and **astonished**, saying,
"Why, are not **all these** who are **speaking Galileans**?
And how is it that we each **hear them** in our ***own*** **language**
to which we were **born**?..— we hear them
in our ***own*** **tongues** speaking of the **mighty deeds of God**."

And they **all** continued in **amazement** and **great perplexity**,
saying to one another, "***What*** does this mean?"
But others were **mocking** and **saying**,
"**They** are full of **sweet wine**."
(Acts 2:1-13)

#### 2. A ***Prophetic*** **Proclamation**

But **Peter,** taking his stand with **the eleven**,
raised his voice and **declared** to them:

"**Men of Judah**…**give heed** to **my words**…

…this is what was **spoken of** through the **prophet Joel**:

'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE **LAST DAYS**,' God says,
'THAT I WILL **POUR FORTH** OF **MY SPIRIT** ON **ALL MANKIND**;

AND YOUR **SONS** AND YOUR **DAUGHTERS** SHALL **PROPHESY**,
AND YOUR **YOUNG MEN** SHALL **SEE VISIONS**,
AND YOUR **OLD MEN** SHALL **DREAM DREAMS**;

EVEN ON MY **BONDSLAVES**, BOTH **MEN** AND **WOMEN**,
I WILL IN THOSE DAYS **POUR FORTH** OF **MY SPIRIT**
And they shall **prophesy**…

…let **all** the **house of Israel** know for certain
that **God** has made **Him** both **Lord and Messiah**—
this **Jesus** whom **you crucified**."
(Acts 2:14-18, 36)

### 3. A *Powerful* Result—a great Spiritual "Harvest"

Now when they **(the people)** heard *this*,
they were ***pierced* to the heart**,
and said to **Peter** and the rest of the **apostles**,
"**Brethren, what** shall we **do**?"

**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**.

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**…"

So then, **those** who had **received his word** were **baptized**;
and **that day** there were added **three thousand souls**…

And the Lord was **adding** to their number **day by day**
**those** who were **being saved**.
(Acts 2:37-39, 41, 47b)

## C. The *Powerful* Worldwide Impact

And with **great power** the **apostles** were **giving testimony**
to the ***resurrection* of the Lord Jesus**,

and **abundant <u>grace</u>** was upon them **all**...(Acts 4:33)

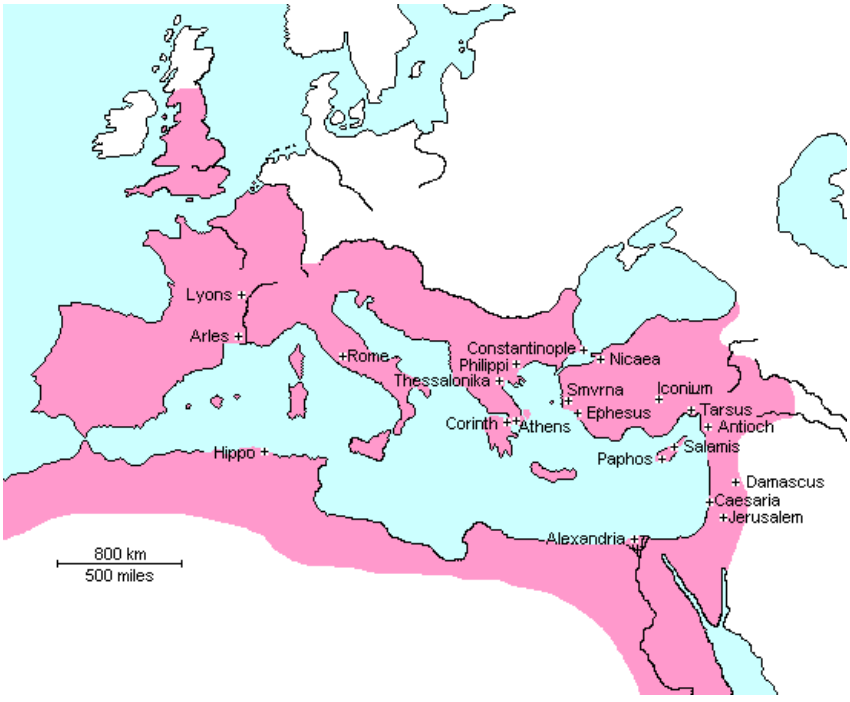
But the **<u>word of God</u>** kept on **<u>spreading</u>**;
and the **number** of the **disciples** continued to **<u>increase greatly</u>**
in **Jerusalem**, and a ***great many*** of the **priests**
were becoming **obedient to the faith**. (Acts 6:7)

But the **<u>word of the Lord</u>** continued to ***grow***
and to be **<u>multiplied</u>**... (Acts 12:24)

So the **<u>word of the Lord</u>** was ***growing*** **mightily** and **<u>prevailing</u>**...
(Acts 19:20)

When they (**the mob**) did not find them (**Paul and Silas**),
they *began* dragging Jason and some brethren before the city authorities,
shouting, "**These men** who have **<u>upset the world</u>** have come **here also**;
(Acts 17:6)

...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: 8b)




The Spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire

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# Personal Application
## ***Shavuot***—A Time to be **Thankful**

1. **Thankful** for the ***promise*** and **gift** of the **Holy Spirit** (Acts 1:4-5)

2. **Thankful** for the ***patience*** **of God** in allowing this **long time** of **"harvest"** (**2000** plus years) for the **salvation of men**

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 **not slow** about **His promise**, as some count slowness,
but is **patient 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 fruit** for **life eternal**." (John 4:36)

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

I **planted**, Apollos **watered,** but **God** was **causing the growth**….
For we are **God's fellow workers**; you are **God's field**,…
(I Corinthians 3:5-6, 9a)

4. **Thankful** for the ***provision*** of **fellow laborers** and **personal strength,** that **enables us** to continue to **serve *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 **beseech** the **Lord of the harvest** to send out
**workers** into **His harvest**."(Matthew 9:36-38)

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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 **patient, brethren**, until the **coming of the Lord**.
The **farmer** waits for the **precious produce** of the soil, being **patient**
about it, until it gets the **early and late rains**.

**You too be patient**; **strengthen your hearts**,
for the **coming of the Lord is near**.
(James 5:7-8)

# Communion