

GOD Shares HIS Spirit

Ephesians 3:1-13

Leviticus 23:15-22

Acts 2:1-13



23 May 2021

Why Blow the Trumpet?

- (Isaiah 58:1; Ephesians 5:15-16) When we and our children are being taught that good is evil and evil is good; when our generation is a generation that loves pleasure more than God; when we live our lives according to the ways of the world and our own lusts, desires and opinions rather than “every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”; when the Word of God is not taken as seriously as God takes it seriously; when we are more concerned with the material safety, health, comfort and profitable futures of our children than their souls; when Christendom is being **seduced** to accept the policies and teachings of the world; when there is very little discernment according to the Word of God; when the Law of God is ignored in and out of the Church; then it is time to blow the trumpet to awake those who call themselves **followers** of Christ. (Romans 13:11)
- Why does your pastor blow the trumpet? What does your pastor desire for you? Since we **all must** give an account for **all** we have done in our lives, your pastor desperately wants five things for you when/if you stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:9-10; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Romans 2:6-11; Revelation 22:12)
 - ❶ First and foremost, your pastor wants you to stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor 5:9-10) and not the White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11-15).
 - ❷ He does not want you to have Christ speak to you saying, “I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.” (Matt 7:21-23)
 - ❸ He does want you to have Christ speak to you saying, “Well done, **good and faithful servant**, you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter the joy of your Lord.” (Matt 25:21, 23)
 - ❹ He does not want you to stand before your Lord with “wood, hay, and stubble” but with “gold, silver, and precious stones” so that you have something to give Christ as you enter into heaven. (2 Cor 3:10-15)
 - ❺ He want you to do more than what he preaches. (Philemon 21)

Feasts of God (Leviticus 23)

- See Handout “The Feast of the Lord - 2021”
- God gave His people **His** feasts *after He* redeemed them from Egypt.
- God gave His people **His** feasts to *His* people in order to share **His** joy with *His* people.
- One cannot share in God's joy unless he/she is a child of God.
- One cannot share in God's joy unless he/she is *born-again*. (John 3:3, 5)
- God's joy is centered on His Son, Jesus Christ.
- All of **His** feasts point to and speak about His Son.
- God was/is the host. The people are *only* guests.
- All arrangements, the time, the place, the ordering of the feasts were under taken by GOD.
- NOTHING was left to the people. There was NO vote!
- *True happiness* comes from enjoying God, not what we believe is better!
- Three times a year God demanded/commanded that all male gather together with Him in Jerusalem to celebrate HIS feasts. (Exodus 23:14-17; 34:23-24; Deuteronomy 16:15-16) MEDITATE: Luke 14:12-24.

Feast of Weeks – Pentecost (Leviticus 23:15-22; Ephesians 3:1-13)

- Two loaves of bread – with yeast/leaven! (1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 11:17; Col 3:10-11)
- Jews and Gentiles *supernaturally* brought together to make one Church. And yet, God recognizes that there is no difference in their sin. (Eph 2:11-3:13)
 - (Ephesians 3:6) THE MYSTERY: JEWS and GENTILES ONE! THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JEWISH and GENTILE SINNERS! THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JEWISH and GENTILE BELIEVERS.
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW “in Christ” - ONE BODY.
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW “fellow citizens” in the Kingdom of God.
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW “partakers of His promise in Christ.”
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW “called to ONE hope.”
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW God's “special people.”
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW members of God's family.
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers are NOW “fellow heirs”.
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers NOW are partakers of the “unsearchable riches of Christ.”
 - ★ Jewish and Gentile believers NOW have EQUAL rights, privileges **and** responsibilities. They are **THE CHURCH of GOD!**
- A **new** grain offering. (Leviticus 23:16)
 - We, the Church, are a NEW CREATION. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

- We, the Church, are RE-CREATED by God for GOD for WORKS. (Ephesians 2:10)
- It was a **firstfruit** offering. It was closely connected to the *firstfruit* of the Feast of Firstfruits. (1 Corinthians 15:20-23; Hebrews 2:11; Romans 8:23; 11:16)
- The New Testament Church was born at Pentecost!
 - By an act of God.
 - Man cannot mar or mutilate it.
 - The gates of Hell shall never prevail.
- This offering COULD NOT be offered to God BY ITSELF – it had to be offered with the other offerings. The Church is ONLY acceptable (sweet) to God by the works of Christ. (Leviticus 23:18-19; 2:12; Ephesians 5:2)
- At the request of His beloved Son, God “shared” His own Spirit with His people - His Church. (John 14:16-18) This is what we celebrate today!!

Sending of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-13)

- “You can do nothing without Me.” (John 15:5)
- Therefore, Jesus sent His Spirit to equip the Church.
- Why was the Holy Spirit sent to the Church?
 - ➊ To **raise** her from the dead!
 - The Spirit, and the Spirit alone, gives life. (John 6:63; 2 Cor. 3:6; Galatians 6:8; John 3:5; Eph 2:1-9; Ezekiel 37:1-14)
 - ➋ To **empower** her. (Acts 1:8)
 - To **witness** of Christ and His work (Ephesians 2:10).
 - Through what we **say and do**.
 - To **fight** the battle of sin.
 - The *filling* of the Holy Spirit allows us to do this. (Eph 5:18; 6:10-20; Gal 5:16-25; 1 Cor 9:6; 1 Tim 6:12; 2 Tim 4:7)
 - To enable her to **serve** God. (1 Thess 1:9; Rom 7:6; 12:1, 11; 14:18; 16:18; Col 3:23-24; Hebrews 12:28; Matt 20:27-28)
 - ➌ To **seal** her. (Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:23; 2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5)
 - Nothing and no one can break this seal. (Romans 8:35-39)
 - The Holy Spirit is God’s **guarantee** to all of His promises.
 - ➍ To **lead** her into TRUTH. (John 16:13)
 - We cannot know the truth without the Spirit. (1 Cor. 2:14)
 - He leads us by the use of TRUTH – God’s Word. (John 17:17)
 - The Church is the PILLAR and GROUND of TRUTH. (1 Tim 3:15)
 - ➎ To **indwell** her. (John 14:17)
 - He is **in** us! (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19)
 - We **are** God’s witnesses here on earth.
 - ➏ To **produce** fruit in her.
 - Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruits of **the Spirit**, not of us!
 - Love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control are all **gifts**, not things we produce!

- Christ is the Vine, we are the branches, the Spirit is the nutrients that flow from the Vine into the branches. (John 15:1-11)

- ➐ To **help** her to **pray**. (Romans 8:23-27)
 - We are to pray in the Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18; Jude 20-21)
 - We are to become so saturated with the thoughts of God (immersed [baptized] in the Words of God) that we pray as the Spirit prays in us. We become one in our prayers.
- ➑ To be her **convict** her! (John 16:8; Acts 2:37)
 - God sent His Spirit, as He sent His Son, to convict us of our sins. No conviction — No Spirit.
- ➒ To **comfort** her! (John 14:16, 18, 26; 16:7)
- ➓ To **unite** her! (Ephesians 4:1-7)

The Church!

- Christianity is NOT personal. It is CORPORATE. Without THE Church there is no Christianity. If you are a Christian then Church is the priority in your life.
- One cannot say, “Christ is number one in my life (Luke 14:26-33)” without His Body being number one in your life. (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:30)
- **Christ laid down His life for THE CHURCH. (Ephesians 5:2, 25; Matt 20:28)**
- **Christ sent His Spirit to the THE CHURCH. (Acts 2:1-13)**
- **The Church is the BODY of Christ.** A body has ONE HEAD. A body has many members BUT they are ONE BODY. (Rom 12:4-5; 1 Cor 12:12-27)
- The members of the body belong to and need each other. (**Romans 12:4-5**; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27)
- **By definition, a body does everything together!** (Romans 12:4-5)
- Each member is given grace/gifts for the profit and growth of the entire body. It takes every member **serving** the body for the body to grow. (Ephesians 4:1-16; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Romans 12:4-6; **1 Peter 4:10-11**)
- ALL Christians are placed into the body at the pleasure of God. Not all “professing Christians” are part of the body of Christ - only those who are active in serving the body as a member. One cannot call themselves a Christians without being a active serving member of a local body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 2:11-4:1-16)

What Did the Church Do When She Was Born? (Acts 2:42-47)

- She, the Body, **continued steadfastly** in studying doctrine together.
- She, the Body, **continued steadfastly** in Christian fellowship together..
- She, the Body, **continued steadfastly** in breaking bread together.
- She, the Body, **continued steadfastly** in praying together.
- She, the Body was **in one accord** in meeting together.

Are You A Member of Christ’s Church - His Body?