

ACTS: I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH (PART 3)

Matthew 16:18-19 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

If Peter was given the KEYS of the kingdom of heaven, we need to obey what he says and do what he does in the book of Acts!

Acts 2:1-4 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

PENTECOST means “FIFTIETH” (fifty days after the Feast of Firstfruits)

PASSOVER commemorated Israel’s deliverance from Egypt through the death of the Passover Lamb.

FIRSTFRUITS commemorated the start of the barley harvest, when a priest used the first sheaf of grain for a wave offering, symbolizing that the entire harvest belonged to the Lord.

PENTECOST commemorated the end of the wheat harvest, when a priest waved two loaves of leavened bread, symbolizing the nation’s thanks to God for the entire harvest.

PASSOVER – Jesus died as the Lamb of God

John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

1 Corinthians 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

FIRSTFRUITS - Jesus was first of “harvest” to rise from the dead

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at his coming.

PENTECOST – Birth of the church, made of both Jews and Gentiles

Ephesians 2:13-16 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

PENTECOST in the Old Testament also marked the day that Moses was given the Law on Mount Sinai, written on tables of stone.

PENTECOST in the New Testament marks the day that the Law of God is written in human hearts by the Holy Spirit!

2 Corinthians 3:3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

AND WHEN THE DAY OF PENTECOST WAS FULLY COME (2:1)

The phrase “was fully come” literally means “was being fulfilled.” This Day of Pentecost would be different than every past Day of Pentecost!

Just as Pentecost couldn’t have happened before Passover and Firstfruits on the calendar, the Holy Spirit couldn’t have been poured out until Jesus first died, then was buried, and then rose from the dead.

John 7:37-39 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

BELLY (“KOILIA”) = “WOMB” / Holy Ghost associated with BIRTH!

WIND & FIRE sometimes accompanied God’s presence in the Old Testament (Elijah at Mount Horeb – 1 Kings 19), but this time would rest individually on believers as a sign that Pentecost was being FULFILLED.

In Hebrew and Greek, the terms SPIRIT and WIND are the same word!

John 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

John 20:22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

Ezekiel 37:9-10 Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

The cloven tongues of fire (divided to individuals) symbolize the lighting of the lamps on the Golden Candlestick. The church is to be a LIGHT!

Revelation 1:12-16 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Matthew 3:11-12 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Matthew 5:14-16 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

There was no electricity in Bible times – all of the light that man could use to dispel darkness was created by FIRE!

Hebrews 12:29 For our God is a consuming fire.

In Acts 1, we see Jesus leaving his disciples and going to Heaven; in Acts 2, we see Jesus returning to his disciples through the Holy Ghost!
GOSPELS = CHRIST WITH THEM // ACTS = CHRIST IN THEM!

Colossians 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.