



Shavout—Pentecost 2010 The Spirit of Mission

The Mission

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” *Matthew 28:19-20*

Mission consumes energy! The Spirit generates energy!

“Where there is no prophetic vision (Spirit direction),
The people stumble along in the flesh.”
Proverbs 29:18 (Free translation)

Three Steps to Power For the Mission

A. **WAIT** For the Power—Silence *Acts 1:4*

1. **William Wilberforce:** This British statesman and reformer’s 20-year fight to abolish the British slave trade is a picture of vision, waiting and fulfillment.
2. **Under a tree:** “If you go away alone and find a tree and sit down with your back against it for only half an hour, listening inside yourself for the Word of the Lord—Jesus will speak to you.”
Rev 3:20; Isaiah 40:31

Do you have a time each day to hear the voice of God?

B. **BE READY** for the Power—Timing *Acts 1:6-7*

1. **Shavout:** The Jewish feast of Pentecost is a study in God’s timing and fruitfulness. From the Exodus to Mount Sinai and the giving of the law was 50 days. From the resurrection of Christ to the celebration of Pentecost and the giving of the Spirit was 50 days. *See Lev 23; Josh 5:10-12;*
2. **Times and seasons:** [*vs :7*] The Father is the one who reveals the times and seasons for us. “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven...” *Eccl 3:1*
See also 2 Tim 4:2; Gal 6:9

*Are you willing to set aside your agenda for
God’s agenda in your life?*

C. **RECEIVE** the Power—Expectation Fulfilled *Acts 1:8; 2:1-4*

1. **Power with purpose:** [*vs 1:8*] This was POWER [energy] to fulfill the mission as stated in *vs 1:8* and in *Matt 28:19-20*.
2. **Now is the time:** When the Day of Pentecost had fully come—when God’s timing was NOW—they were ready to receive.
3. **One accord:** Not just together physically in one place but together in their ‘expectancy.’ When God’s people are united in the ‘communion’ of Christ—the Spirit of God provides the power/energy for ministry.

*Are you still attempting to accomplish God’s will in the power
of your flesh? Would you be willing to ask
for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit today?
Would you be filled with the Holy Spirit today?*

Acts 1:4-8 (NKJV)

:4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;

:5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

:6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

:7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know **times or seasons** which the Father has put in His own authority.

:8 But **you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 2:1-4 (NKJV)

:1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

:3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

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