

# Upon This ROCK



- Peter is now the spokesman of the Messianic movement
- He was the logical choice as one of the original 12
- At Caesarea Philippi Yeshua said to Peter: ***You are the Rock, and upon this Rock I shall build my community***”

# WHY 12 DISCIPLES AND NOT 11?



- Yeshua told His followers that they shouldn't worry about future things, but rather the here and now
- A special power was coming that would enable the disciples to obey their prime directive: take the Good News to the entire planet
- Matt. 19:28
- 12 thrones, judging the 12 tribes



# THE BETRAYAL OF THE AGES

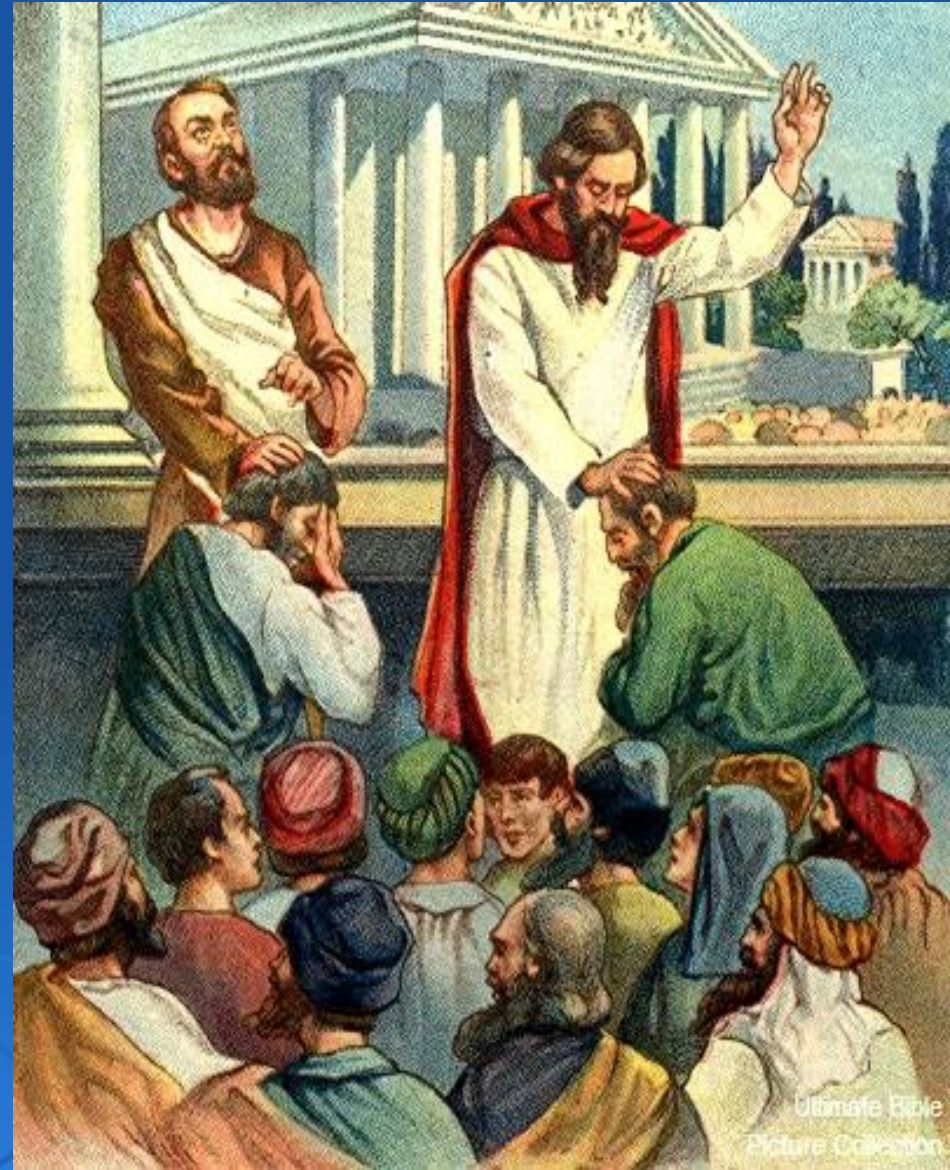


- Judas's betrayal was foretold by King David
- ***“He was one of us.....assigned part of our work”***
- Judas, by all accounts, was a Believer
- Generally, no Christian claim that Judas went to Heaven
- Advocating for Christ, identifying yourself as a follower, is not sufficient (Judas did that!)
- We must sincerely acknowledge WHAT Jesus is (Son of God and Savior) along with WHO He is (Yeshua of Nazareth)
- Matthew 16:13 – 15                      James 2:18 - 20



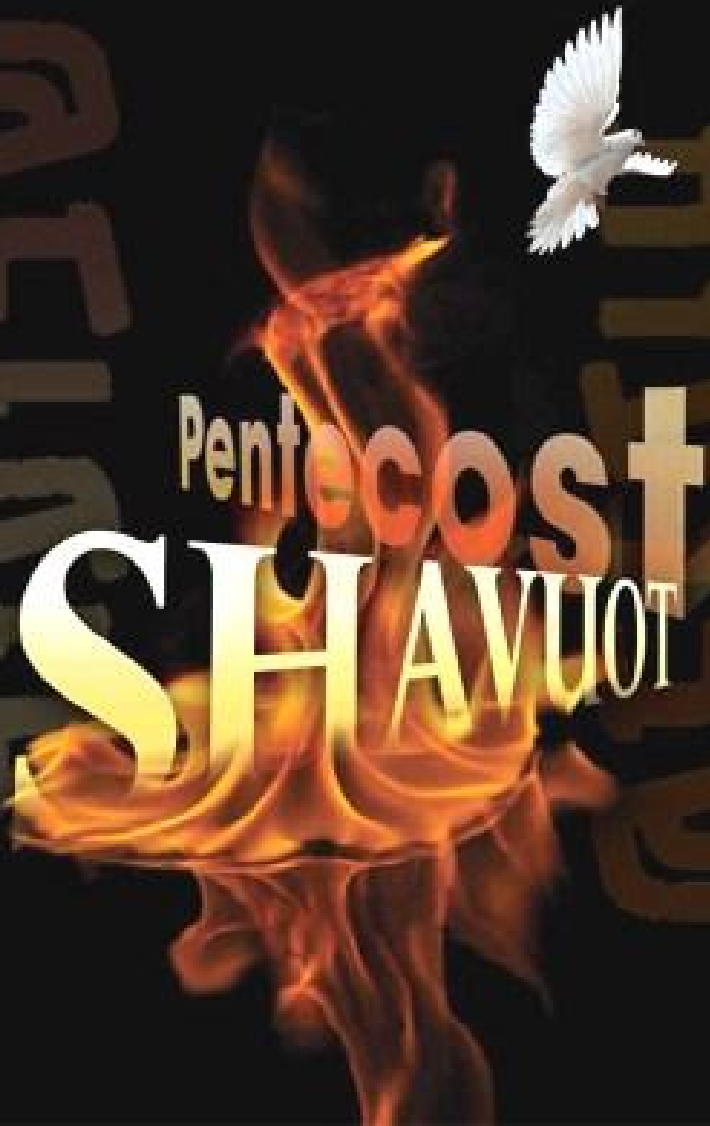
# THE 12 ARE RESTORED

- Peter quotes Psalm 109:  
***“Let someone else take his place as a supervisor”***
- The qualifications:  
Present with Christ from the beginning of His ministry, present at His ascension, & witness to His resurrection
- ***Yosef Bar-Sabba & Mattiyahu*** were qualified
- Casting of lots chose ***Mattiyahu*** (Matthias)

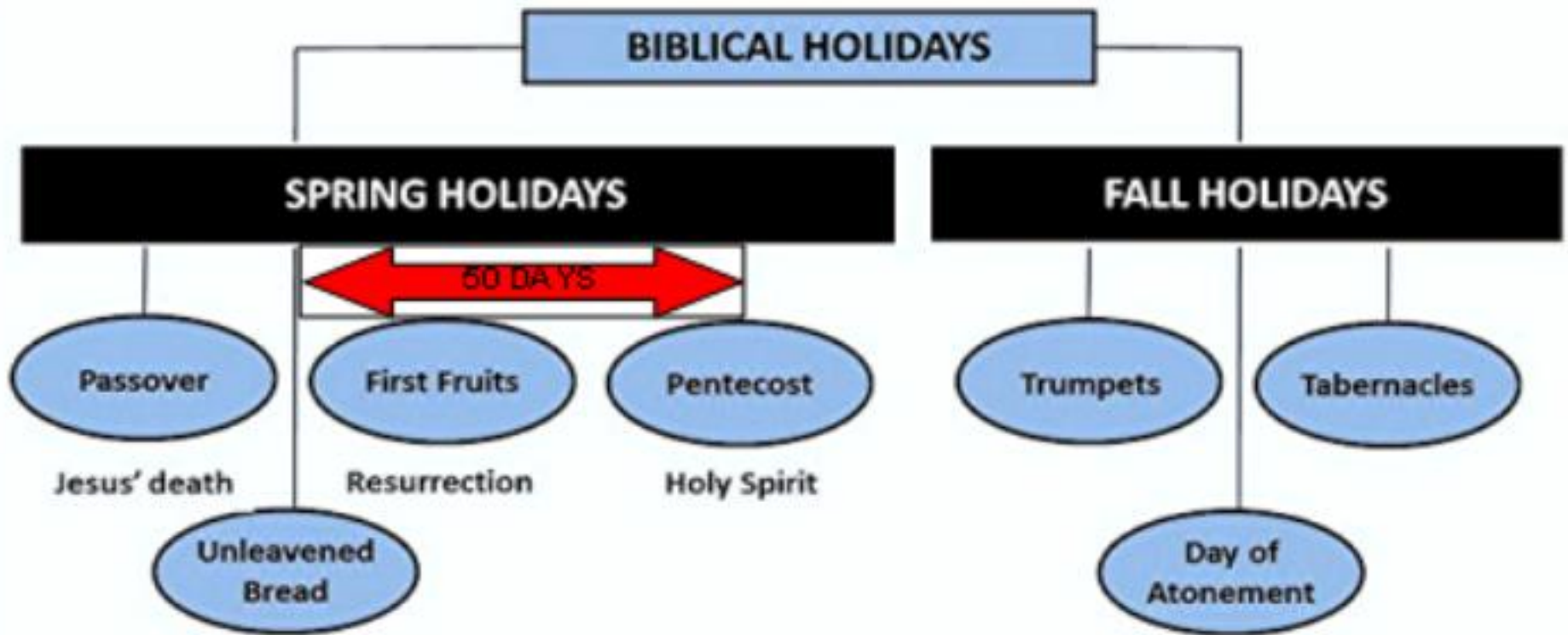




# ACTS CHAPTER 2: WHAT THE FATHER PROMISED



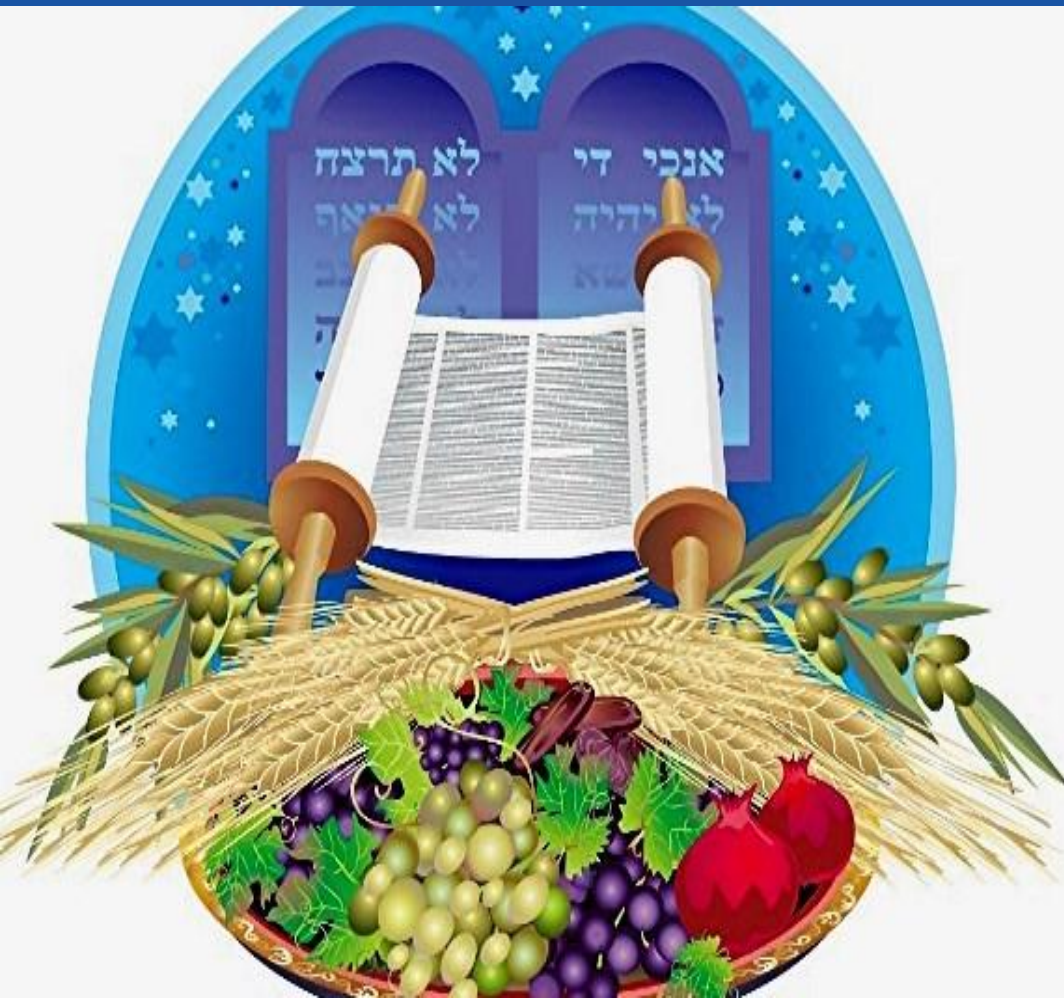
- Probably 1 week to the day from Ascension to Pentecost
- This is the starting point to establish context for understanding Peter & Paul
- ***Pentekostes*** = 50
- ***Shavuot*** = weeks
- Pentecost not a new holiday created by Christians
- ***Shavuot*** (Pentecost) was 1300 years old!



- ***Shavuot*** (Pentecost) part of a system of holy days
- 1<sup>st</sup>: ***Pesach***      2<sup>nd</sup>: ***Matza***      3<sup>rd</sup>: ***Bikkurim***
- First 3 happen in quick succession in Nissan
- Then a 7 week lull until ***Shavuot***
- Both Bikkurim and Shavuot are “firstfruits” festivals
- ***Bikkurim*** = Barley harvest      ***Shavuot*** = Wheat harvest
- Tishri starts with ***Yom Teruah***, then ***Yom Kippur***, and finally ***Sukkot***



# DUAL MEANING OF SHAVUOT



- Ex. 19:1 Torah given on 3<sup>rd</sup> month after leaving Egypt
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries A.D. Talmud tractates Shabbat & Pesachim
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries B.C. Book of Jubilees
- At time of Christ Judaism BELIEVED that the Torah was given at Mt. Sinai on Shavuot
- Book of Acts written according to that same premise



# MIDRASH

- Means to discuss, comment, interpret Scripture
- Ex. 20:18
- Targum Pseudo Jonathan says giving of Torah came with flames of fire
- Ex. 20:10 HEBREW says: “...saw the thunderings”
- The Mekhilta also speaks of this event







- ***Midrash Tanhuma: “...the voice went out and was divided into 7 voices....(then) into 70 tongues, so that all nations would hear....”***
- Rabbis taught that the Torah was given on Mt. Sinai with flames and thundering
- Thundering in the Bible was depicted as God’s voice
- Genesis 10 says that there were 70 nations





- Luke portrays the coming of the Holy Spirit on Shavuot as the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of the Torah
- Visible, noisy, flames and fire, many languages!
- Jeremiah 31:30 ***“I will put my Torah within them...”***
- Isaiah 2:3 ***“...out of Zion will go forth Torah....”***
- Disciples were at Mt. Zion in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came upon them



# THE RENEWED COVENANT

- Holy Spirit came on Shavuot, in Jerusalem, with same signs and miracles as at Mt. Sinai
- It all happened within the framework of Jewish thoughts and culture
- This time the Holy Spirit embedded the same Torah internally in humans
- Christ's worshippers can now have a deeper devotion to following the Torah and obeying the Lord



Pentecost  
and the  
Renewed  
COVENANT

