

PENTECOST SUNDAY: DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 2:1-21

Jn. 14:15-20



The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity.

As we celebrated Christmas, which is the birth of the son of God Jesus, today we are celebrating the birth of the Church in Pentecost, on the 50th day after Jesus' resurrection.

Last Sunday we celebrated the ascension feast day, it happened 10 days before the Pentecost event.

The Descent of God the Holy Spirit came after of the Ascent of God the Son. God doesn't leave us, Jesus said: "I will not leave you orphaned."

The Holy Spirit is the advocate, the lawyer who pleads on our behalf, the consoler, the comforter and the Paraclete. We are not orphaned, deprived and abandoned by our parent. We are well taken care of, well surrounded.

This Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. And what else is the lawyer's job than defending the truth. What else is the parent' role other than teaching their kids the truth.

From the beginning of creation, the Father was the God behind the scene. You can realize his presence by the beauty in nature and its creatures. When Jesus came, he was the God seen in body, in his miracles and heroism dying for our sins. Now after Jesus' ascension is the time of the Holy Spirit, the Pentecost, the God form

now on is seen only in us, the believers, the ones who love Jesus and keep his commands.

Our passage from John states: “you know the Holy Spirit, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.” Not only God the Holy Spirit is in us but God the Son and God the father as well.

John Continues saying: “On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.”

Do you know what feast we celebrate next Sunday? It is the Holy Trinity feast day. It is your feast day believers. As I said, Pentecost is the birth of the Church, of us, me and you.

Today we should bring cake inside of each church celebrating its birthday.

The world is trying to take you from your parents, the Holy Trinity family, your home, the Church, leaving you orphaned. Stealing your childhood rights, deceiving you by replacing the right with wrong, stepping on the truth.

So, it is the time of the Advocate, to turn back your rights, to defend you in this battle, to reveal the truth and bind with chains your abusers (whoever and whatever will be).

Let me compare it using this example. God the Father is the legislator, the one who makes the laws, God the Son is the laws itself, the New one, given by the Father and the Holy Spirit is the defender of the law.

The laws, that which is right and wrong, the Truth is given already. However Jesus is crucified, the truth slaughtered and the disciples martyred and we see this scenario is repeating itself again and again but in different ways. Now is the time to set up everything in its place, it is the advocate’s time.

He is going to do his work through you and me the believers.

I believe that the Holy Spirit phase is the last part in our world, to our human life. From here we understand what our reading from Acts said:

“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and I will show warnings in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky

mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day."

This is what had happened in the upper room. All the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to prophesize, speaking in other languages. Tongues of fire appeared on their heads and blowing of a rush wind was heard.

Two important elements in nature, for our lives are present at this event, fire and wind. The fire cannot work without the wind. The strength of the fire depends on the strength of the wind, is this not what we saw in California, and what we experience here in Alabama from the destructive tornado that are formed by wind.

A flame of fire is given to each one of us baptized, but its strength depends on how much wind it receives.

What does this tell us?

All the powers of the earth will be under our service when we obey and follow the Truth. You will be Tornado; you will be a burning fire to the people whom you encounter. But not destructive ones, these powers are constructive. This fire doesn't hurt the disciples even though it was on their heads.

After this, many Jews were in the area celebrating the festival of harvest, the feast of Ingathering and it was also the Memorial Day of the giving of the law to Moses on Mount Sinai, you remember what had happened at this mountain with Moses? There was booming thunder and bolts of lightning.

Kind of the same things happened but now at the New Pentecost. The commandments are no longer engraved on stones but are inscribed on flesh and bones, on the hearts of the believers. It is now your turn guys.

So, when the big crowd heard the blowing wind, they ran and gathered outside the home where the disciples were, being surprised how these Galileans disciples can speak their many languages.

This is totally the opposite of what had happened, building the tower of Babel.

Same race, one language but they couldn't understand each other, they were confused. Here at Pentecost, different races, nationalities, many languages, they understood from A to Z what St Peter said, the most illiterate apostle of the twelve.

Our world is full of confusion, wonder why? We want Babel not the Pentecost.

After that Peter, the one who denied Jesus 3 times, made a talk and three thousand souls were converted after his speech. 3 multiplied by 1000.

He became a tornado a fire that encircled them saving their souls

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