

Pentecost Quiz

1. The word “Pentecost” comes from what language? (Greek)
2. What does the word “Pentecost” mean and refer to? (“Fiftieth,” referring the fiftieth day after Passover in the Old Testament)
3. What Christian holiday does Pentecost follow, and how long afterwards? (Easter—the seventh Sunday after Easter)
4. In what book and chapter of the New Testament do we find the account of the celebration of Pentecost? (Acts 2)
5. Where does this celebration of Pentecost take place? (Jerusalem)
6. How many days after Jesus ascended into Heaven did the disciples celebrate Pentecost? (10)
7. What sound did the disciples hear all around them while they were gathered together in a room to celebrate Pentecost? (The sound of rushing wind)
8. What rested on each one of the disciples as they heard this sound? (Flames/tongues as of fire)
9. What did the sound represent, and what does the day of Pentecost celebrate? (The giving of the Holy Spirit to the disciples)
10. What did the disciples do when the Holy Spirit entered them? (They spoke in languages that were not their own to the crowd gathered from throughout the Roman world, so that every person could hear them in his or her own language.)
11. What does the New Testament word “glossolalia” refer to? (speaking in tongues, i.e., a language you do not know)
12. What did some witnesses who heard the disciples accuse them of? (Being drunk)
13. Which one of Jesus’ disciples spoke to the entire crowd? (Peter)
14. What Old Testament prophecy did he declare was being fulfilled on this day of Pentecost? (Joel’s prophecy that God would “pour out [the Holy] Spirit on all humankind” in Joel 2:28)
15. How many people believed the disciples’ message about Christ and were baptized on this day of Pentecost? (about 3,000)
16. Historically, Pentecost is related to what Jewish holiday, and what does it commemorate? (Shavuot, which commemorates the giving of the 10 Commandments to Moses on Mt. Sinai)
17. What were some other Old Testament names for Pentecost? (Feast of Harvest, Feast of Weeks, and Feast of Firstfruits; see Exodus 23:16; 34:22; Numbers 28:26)



18. What is another name for the Christian day of Pentecost in some English-speaking countries? (Whitsun, or Whitsunday)
19. What is the traditional liturgical color for Pentecost? (Red)
20. In many Christian traditions, what is the name of the liturgical season following Pentecost? (Ordinary Time)
21. Each year on Pentecost, what items representing tongues of fire of the Holy Spirit fall through the oculus atop the Pantheon in Rome? (Rose petals)
22. In the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, Methodist, and some other traditions, what is the first Sunday after Pentecost called? (Trinity Sunday)
23. Pentecost is one of how many Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church? (12)
24. What is the day-of-Pentecost-inspired name of a 1970s Christian musical group? (Second Chapter of Acts)
25. Which Shakespeare play mentions Pentecost? (Romeo and Juliet—"What, man, 'tis not so much, 'tis not so much. 'Tis since the nuptials of Lucentio. Come Pentecost **as** quickly as it will . . .," spoken by Capulet in Act 1, Scene 5)