

The Formation of the Church

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Hello! This is Dorothy -

How are you today? I want us to think about the awesome formation of the Church. I am not talking about some denomination of what you believe or somebody else believes. I am talking about the Church, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is very important that we understand that everybody who is born-again - who has received the Lord Jesus Christ personally, born of His Holy Spirit - simply means we belong to His body, His Church. Now there is what we call a false church. The idea of a false church is trying to take everything that we hold dear and cut it all up and make it all that we really deny the deity of Christ and the precious work of His Blood and at the same time, all more or less, try to get along together under some religious head. That is a deception, which is not only taking place today, but it will increasingly take place in those evil days that we are yet to see, as the Church heads more and more into difficulty and persecution. Unfortunately, all around we will find those who feel that the real problem is those who are *born-again* and love the Lord Jesus! Isn't that neat? Isn't it wonderful to know that we do not live down here; we do not belong here; we belong to the Body of Jesus Christ and He is the Head of that Body.

This amazing chapter speaks about the Feast of Pentecost and then goes on to show what happened with the baptism of the Holy Spirit which fell upon those who were there gathered, waiting for the giving of the Holy Spirit since our Lord Jesus went to Heaven. Since then, every born-again believer knows that they have received the Holy Spirit, because they were born of the Spirit of the Lord. I want us to think about **wave loaves. (Leviticus 23:15.)** You see, according to the sacrifices, which took place on the feast days and other orders from the Lord, showing from prophecy what was going to happen in the future, always He had a reason for what they had to do, because it is ever pointing to Jesus Christ. That is why some people say, “Oh, I cannot understand the Old Testament!” However, if you look for Jesus Christ in everything that is being said, you will find that you do understand the Old Testament, because all of the prophecies point to what the Lord Jesus will do and to His people for that period of time. Unfortunately, the people went their way and He had to put them, as it were, on probation. At that time, His people, the Jews, to whom He came to be their king, sadly rejected Him. But, out of such a sad occasion came forth a glorious opportunity! When the Church was formed, on the day of Pentecost, it literally means that people of all nations - such as those who gathered at that time in Jerusalem for that feast - people around the world, whatever background, have a chance to belong to the Church, to the Body of Jesus Christ.

Now ***the wave loaves***. **Leviticus 23: 17**. There were two and they were offered fifty days after the wave sheaf. **(verse 16)**. The sheaf we realize is one; the loaves are two. The precise period was between the resurrection of Christ and the formation of the Church by the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This is amazing timing.

The wave sheaf. That is speaking in the singular; speaking of our Lord Jesus Christ. You see, when they were to bring this together at the feast, *no leaven* was to be offered. There was never any evil in our Lord Jesus. Our Lord Jesus Christ, the spotless Son of God, did no evil and thought no evil. I want you to realize that leaven in the Bible always speaks of sin and evil.

The two wave loaves. There were two. After the day Pentecost, they speak of the Church. They were told these had to be baked *with leaven*. In other words, leaven had be put in them. Now, we just learned that leaven speaks of evil, so what does this mean? It means that yes, sadly, in the Church there is still evil. Perhaps you have known of a situation of great difficulty, because of evil in the Church. In **Acts chapter 5, verse 1-10**, we read about Ananias and Sapphira. We read in **verse 3 - Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit?** Ananias and Sapphira were two who lied and deceived not the disciples, but they deceived and lied to the Holy Spirit. That is how serious the Lord views the Church! But He knows that this has

gone on and will go on. That's why He says ***bake with leaven.***
(Leviticus 23:17).

And so we see how God saw those loaves. He knew ahead of time the situation of the Church today, but He still says, *I am the sheaf, the spotless Son of God, in which there is no evil and can alone take care of your sin and your need. Turn unto Me with all your heart and I will receive you.*

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

