

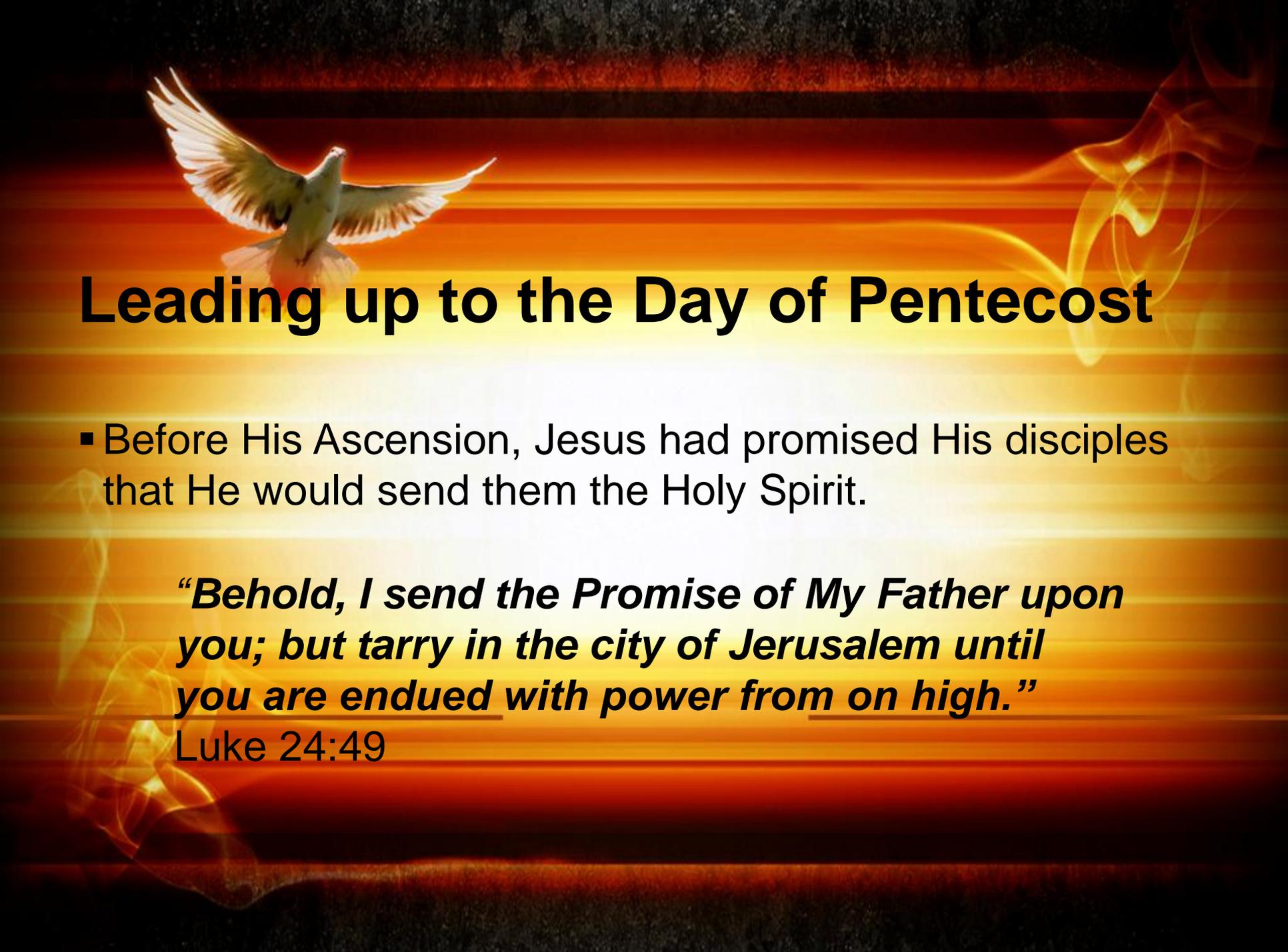


THE DAY OF PENTECOST

The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2

Sunday 12th June, 2011



Leading up to the Day of Pentecost

- Before His Ascension, Jesus had promised His disciples that He would send them the Holy Spirit.

“Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

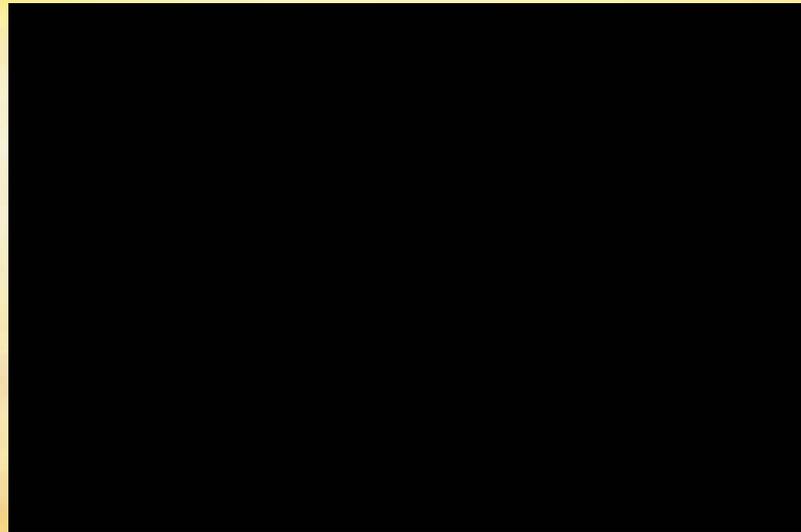
Luke 24:49

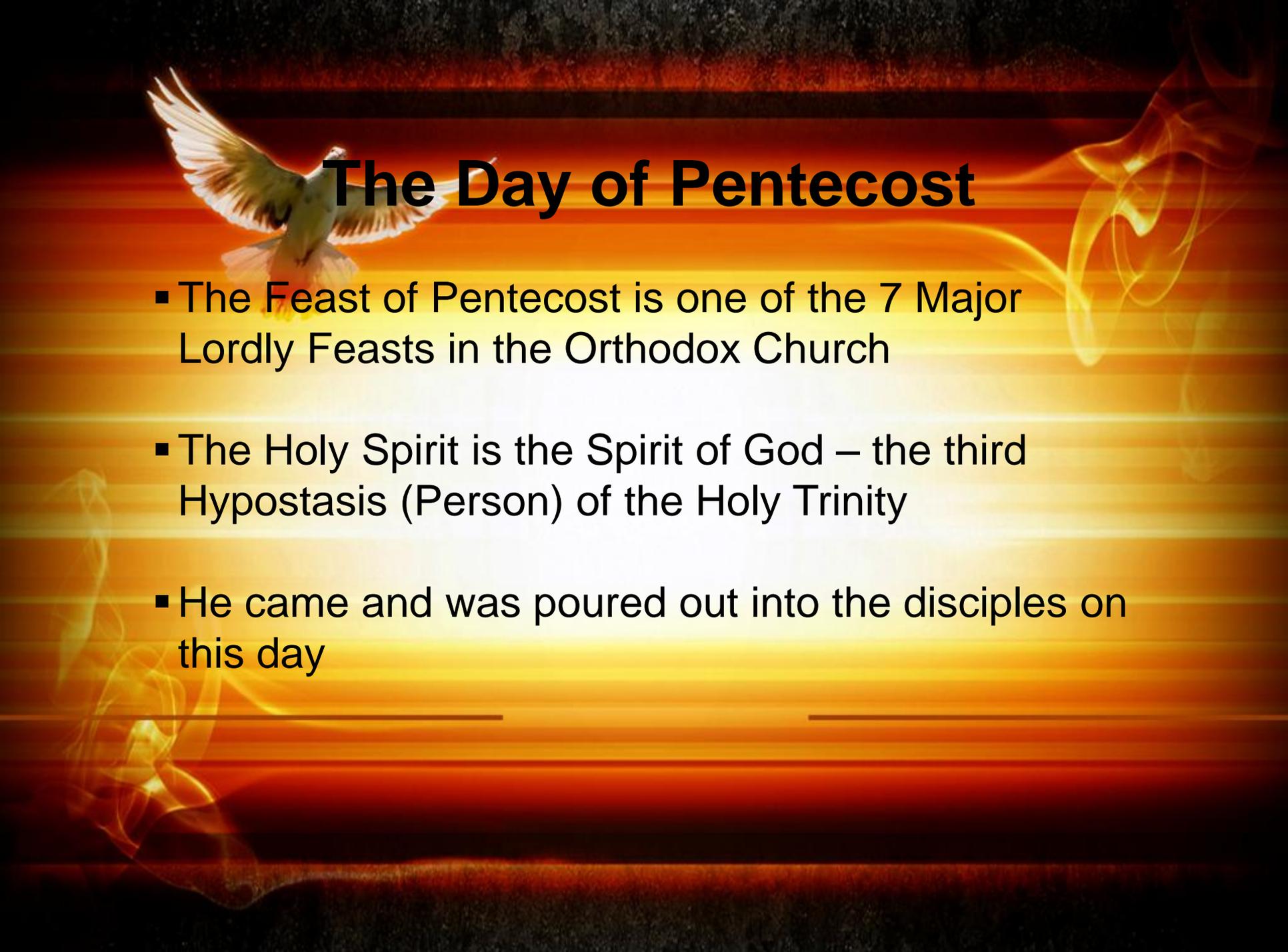


On the Day of Pentecost

- Fifty days (hence the word “Pentecost”) after the Lord’s glorious resurrection, the disciples were gathered together in Jerusalem....
- Read Acts 2:1-13

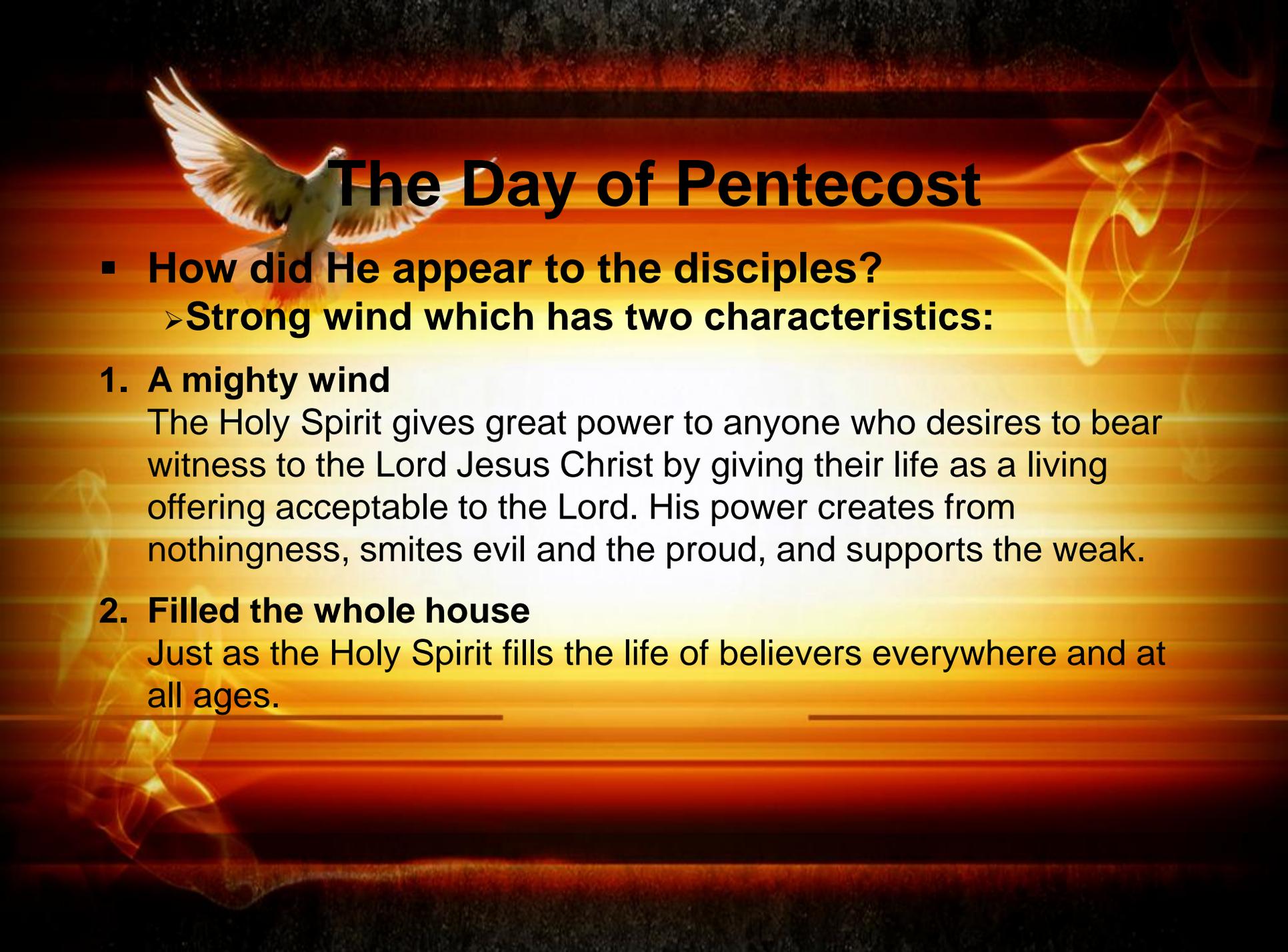
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The Day of Pentecost

- The Feast of Pentecost is one of the 7 Major Lordly Feasts in the Orthodox Church
- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God – the third Hypostasis (Person) of the Holy Trinity
- He came and was poured out into the disciples on this day



The Day of Pentecost

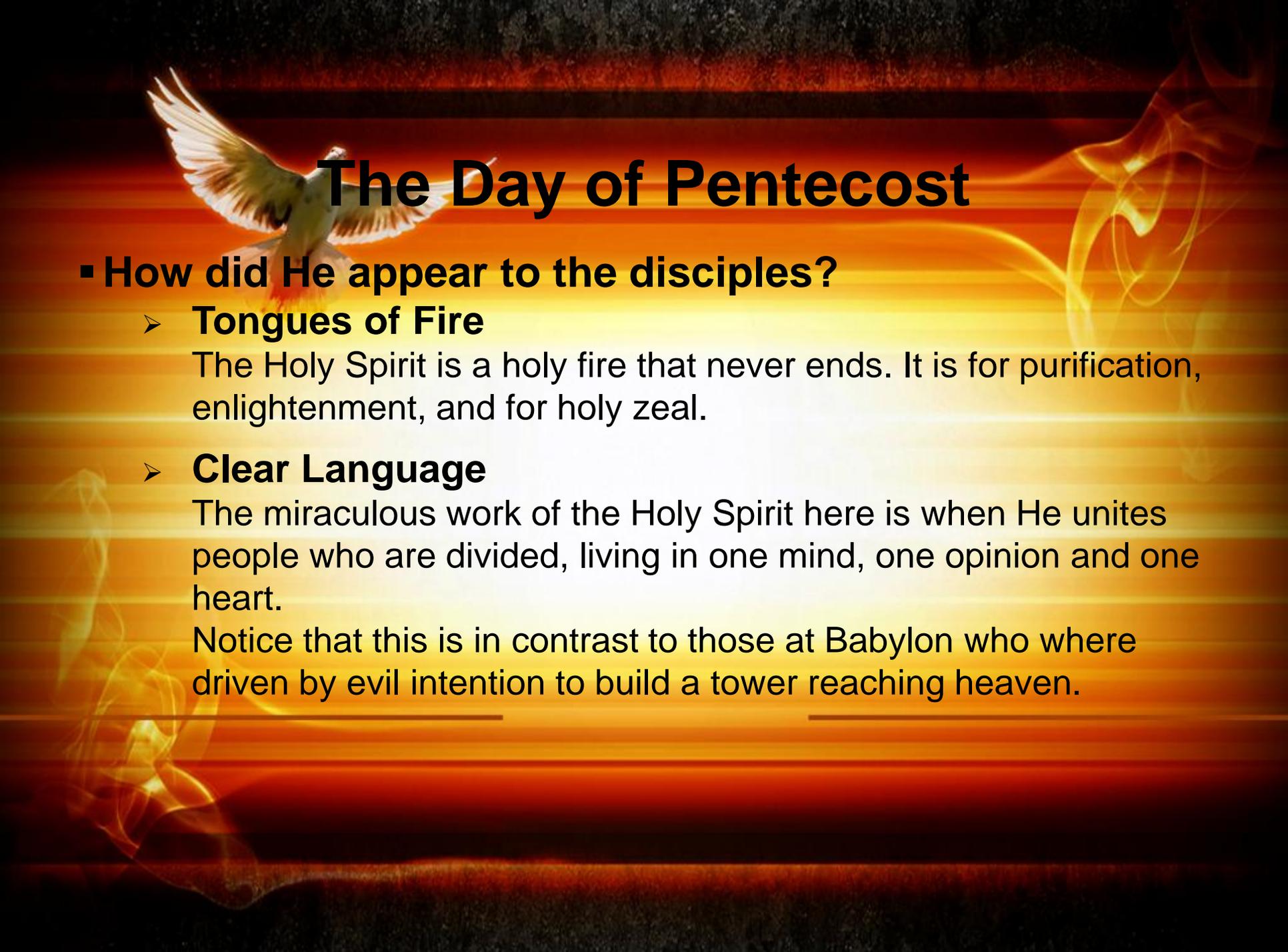
- **How did He appear to the disciples?**
 - **Strong wind which has two characteristics:**

1. A mighty wind

The Holy Spirit gives great power to anyone who desires to bear witness to the Lord Jesus Christ by giving their life as a living offering acceptable to the Lord. His power creates from nothingness, smites evil and the proud, and supports the weak.

2. Filled the whole house

Just as the Holy Spirit fills the life of believers everywhere and at all ages.



The Day of Pentecost

- **How did He appear to the disciples?**

- **Tongues of Fire**

The Holy Spirit is a holy fire that never ends. It is for purification, enlightenment, and for holy zeal.

- **Clear Language**

The miraculous work of the Holy Spirit here is when He unites people who are divided, living in one mind, one opinion and one heart.

Notice that this is in contrast to those at Babylon who were driven by evil intention to build a tower reaching heaven.

The Work of the Holy Spirit

In the Church:

- We, the members, are united as the Body of Christ, by the work of the Holy Spirit
- The gifts & fruit of the Holy Spirit allow us to use our talents to serve the Lord and one another
- The Holy Spirit works in all of the Sacraments of the Church to sanctify & bless us

The Work of the Holy Spirit

In us:

- He reproves us of sin
- He sanctifies us as we struggle in the world;
 - To attain virtues “***But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.***” Galatians 5:22-23
 - To attain gifts “***And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues....***” 1 Corinthians 12:28

The Work of the Holy Spirit

In us:

- He guides us

“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things” John 14:26

- He comforts us

- He defends and intercedes for us

“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words” Romans 8:26

The Work of the Holy Spirit

In us:

- Through the Sacraments

- We are given the gift of new birth through the **Sacrament of Baptism**
- We are established in Christ through His Body & Blood through the **Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist**
- He teaches us what an acceptable repentance is so that we are renewed and sanctified through the **Sacrament of Repentance and Confession**

How Can I Benefit From The Day of Pentecost?

Do Not Oppose the Holy Spirit

What do you think saddens and suppresses the Holy Spirit within us?

- Being constantly occupied and distracted by material matters and affairs of the world. This happens when we get “too busy”
- Hidden sin, irresponsible behaviour and indulgence in lust so that there is no self-examination or accountability
- Laziness in worship, slackness in prayer, fasting, repentance and our lack of partaking in the Holy Eucharist

How Can I Benefit From The Day of Pentecost?

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

The following actions will allow the Holy Spirit to grow within us:

- Personal Prayer
- Daily spending time reading the Bible
- Attending the liturgy and partaking of the Sacraments
- Fasting

How Can I Benefit From The Day of Pentecost?

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Conditions of being filled with the Spirit

➤ **Obey the Spirit**

Through obeying the commandments, the spiritual instruction of the Church, your father of confession

➤ **Love the Lord fervently**

Testify to His Name through words, actions and loving His children (e.g. the poor and needy)

➤ **Be willing to let go of your pride and self-centeredness**

Through fasting and a life of sacrifice and selflessness, we allow the Spirit to soar.

A Prayer



**Holy Spirit of God, let my whole life be Yours.
Grant me the spirit of submission and repentance.
Let my tears be pure and guide me so that I may not be
alone in the wilderness of this world that is full of thorns
and do not leave me in the middle of the road.**

**I need Your kind comfort, acceptable intercession, and
Your precious instructions.
O King of life, I promise that I will worship You and obey
Your commandments all my life.
Holy Father, receive my soul, my life and my destiny....**

A Prayer



**Holy Son, dwell in my heart.
Holy Spirit, sanctify my body which is filled with sin and
purify me of the defilement of both body and soul.
Grant me the spiritual life so that I may walk in the way of
the Spirit and not in the lust of the flesh.**

Amen.

**Glory be to God forever & ever,
Amen!**

