

A decorative border of purple flowers with yellow centers, framing the text. The flowers are scattered around the edges of the page, with a denser cluster in the top right corner.

The Community Clarion

May 2021

God's Masterpiece is Mother

God's took pieces of everything wonderful to make Mom's.

God took the fragrance of a flower...

The majesty of a tree...

The gentleness of morning dew...

The calm of a quiet sea...

The beauty of the twilight hour...

The soul of a starry night...

The laughter of a rippling brook...

The grace of a bird in flight...

Then God fashioned from these things

A creation like no other,

And when His masterpiece was through

He called it simply - Mother.

Written by - Herman Farnham

Remember your Mom on May 9th!

PASTOR'S PAGE



A Mother's Love

~ Anon

There are times when only a Mother's love can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints and calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a Mother's love can share the joy we feel,
When something we've dreamed about quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a Mother's faith can help us on life's way,
And inspire in us the confidence we need from day to day.

For a Mother's heart and a Mother's faith and a Mother's steadfast love,
Were fashioned by the Angels and sent from God above.

¹² "Honor your father and your **mother**, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. (Exodus 20:12)

All mothers are not and were not perfect, however, there is a bond between a mother and a child that only God understands. For God's purpose we were born into this world, and God gave mothers a heart of compassion and empathy to help us to grow into that purpose.

Pastor Kevin

WHAT HAPPENS IN HEAVEN WHEN WE PRAY?

I dreamt that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked side-by-side to a large workroom filled with angels.

My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received." I looked around in this area, and it was terribly busy with so many angels sorting out petitions written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world.

Then we moved on down a long corridor until we reached the second section.

The angel then said to me, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the people who asked for them." I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally at the farthest end of the long corridor, we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section," my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed. "How is it that there is no work going on here?" I asked? "So sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments." "How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked.

"Simple," the angel answered. Just say, "Thank you, Lord."

"What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked. "If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead, and a place to sleep you are richer than 75% of this world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy." "If you have your own computer, you are part of the 1% in the world who has that opportunity." "If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day." "If you have never experienced the fear in battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 700 million people in the world." "If you can attend a church without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than three billion people in the world." "If your parents are still alive and still married, you are very rare". "If you can hold your head up and smile, you are not the norm. You're unique to all those in doubt and despair."

"Okay. What now? How can I start?"

Have a good day. Count your blessings. Pass the message of "thankfulness" along to remind everyone you know and any strangers you meet how blessed we are to have God in our lives. Thank Him for everything!

ATTN: Acknowledgement Dept.

"Thank you Lord for giving me the opportunity to thank you for everything - the ability to share this message of thankfulness with others and for giving me so many wonderful people in my life with whom to share it."

Pentecost

By Dr. Ray Pritchard

This year, Pentecost will be on **Sunday, May 23, 2021**, observed on the seventh Sunday after Easter (April 4th).

If you go back and read the Old Testament, you will discover that Pentecost was one of the Jewish feast days. Only they didn't call it Pentecost. That's the Greek name. The Jews called it the Feast of Harvest or the Feast of Weeks. It is mentioned several places in the first five books - in Exodus 23, Exodus 24, Leviticus 16, Numbers 28, and Deuteronomy 16.

It was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest. In Palestine, there were two harvests each year. The early harvest came during the months of May and June; the final harvest came in the Fall. Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early wheat harvest, which meant that Pentecost always fell sometime during the middle of the month of May or sometimes in early June.

There were several festivals, celebrations, or observances that took place before Pentecost. There was Passover, there was Unleavened Bread, and there was the Feast of Firstfruits. The Feast of Firstfruits was the celebration of the beginning of the barley harvest. Here's the way you figured out the date of Pentecost. -

- According to the Old Testament, you would go to the day of the celebration of Firstfruits, and beginning with that day, you would count off 50 days. The fiftieth day would be the Day of Pentecost. So Firstfruits is the beginning of the barley harvest and Pentecost the celebration of the beginning of the wheat harvest.
- Since it was always 50 days after Firstfruits, and since 50 days equals seven weeks, it always came a "week of weeks" later. Therefore, they either called it the Feast of Harvest or the Feast of Weeks.

So why Is Pentecost significant to Christians?

Modern Christians observe Pentecost as a holiday, not to celebrate a wheat harvest, but to remember when the Holy Spirit invaded the Church in Acts 2.

- The Holy Spirit filled the Church with power and added 3,000 new believers. The account in Act 2 reports that, after Jesus ascended into heaven, Jesus' followers were gathered together for the Feast of Harvest (aka Pentecost), and the Holy Spirit "*filled the whole house where they were sitting*" (Acts 2:2). "*All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them*" (Acts 2:4).
 - This strange occurrence drew a large crowd, and Peter stood up to speak to them about repentance and the gospel of Christ (Acts 2:14). By the end of the day that the Holy Spirit came, the Church grew by 3,000 people (Acts 2:41). This is why Christians still celebrate Pentecost.
- The Holy Spirit was prophesied in the Old Testament and promised by Jesus. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit in John 14:28, who would be the Helper for his people.

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name. He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

This New Testament event is also significant because it fulfills an Old Testament prophecy in Joel 2:28-29.

"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days."

3 Historical Insights into Pentecost

There are three things you need to know about Pentecost that will help you understand Acts 2.

1. Pentecost was a pilgrim festival. That meant that according to Jewish Law, all the adult Jewish men would come from wherever they were living to Jerusalem and personally be in attendance during this celebration.

2. Pentecost was a holiday. No servile work was to be done. School was out. The shops were closed. It was party time.

3. There were certain celebrations and sacrifices and offerings which were prescribed in the Law for the day of Pentecost. On Pentecost, the High Priest was to take two loaves of freshly baked wheat bread and offer them before the Lord. The wheat bread was made from the newly harvested wheat.

In short, Pentecost in the time of the Apostles was a great and grand harvest celebration. The streets of Jerusalem were clogged with thousands of pilgrims who had come from every point of the compass to celebrate the goodness of God and the bringing in of the wheat harvest.



Celebrations for May



Anniversaries

SENQUIZ, Carlos & Patty	05/06
GODBY, Jacob & Veronica	05/13
HILL, Mike & Laura	05/18
HARTWIG, Dick & Maria	05/26

Birthdays

BAILEY, Londynn	05/01
BAILLIE, Adam	05/01
LARE, Pastor Don	05/08
KISTLER, Val	05/16
MONOS, Jan	05/18
RADABAUGH, Carol	05/23

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:45 Worship	3	4 10:00 Women's Study	5	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day 10:45 Worship	10	11 10:00 Women's Study	12	13	14 11:00 Curbside Food Pantry 4:30 Curbside Hot Meal	15 11:00 Memorial Service for Chuck Costin
16 10:45 Worship	17	18 6:00 Finance 7:00 Admin Council	19	20	21 4:30 Curbside Hot Meal	22
23 10:45 Worship	24	25	26	27	28 11:00 Curbside Food Pantry 4:30 Curbside Hot Meal	29
30 10:45 Worship	31 Memorial Day					