

SELAH

Newsletter of
MESSIANIC TESTIMONY



SUMMER 2011

www.messianictestimony.com

IN TOUCH

All of you will have received with this issue of Selah an attractive card with the beautiful backdrop of the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem. It's a powerful reminder that 'death is dead, love has won, and Christ has conquered'. Jesus is alive!

Overprinted on the card is some very important information – if you're in Northern Ireland, it contains all the contact details for the Belfast office ... if you live on the UK mainland or elsewhere in the world, it will give you all the info you need to stay in touch with us. Please keep it safe and, when you have a spare moment or two, why not drop us a line, pick up the phone, or send us an email ... we'd love to hear from you!

SHAVUOT AND THE SPIRIT

Jewish people all around the world will be celebrating Shavuot on 8 June this year ... a day not

to be missed. Sometimes called the Feast of Weeks, it is held 50 days after Passover, so it became known as Pentecost. Not the easiest of words to pronounce, it is best spoken as Sha-voo-OTE.

Essentially, it shows immense joy and thankfulness for the Lord's blessing of harvest – you will note from Leviticus 23:15-22 that it is the time to present an offering of new grain from the summer wheat harvest. That's why the book of Ruth is often read on this supremely happy occasion. This is one of three pilgrimage feasts when all Jewish males were required to go up to Jerusalem to 'appear before the Lord' as is clearly indicated in Deuteronomy 16:16 – the other two are Passover and Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles.

As believers, we look back two millennia to that moment 'when the day of Pentecost came, [and] they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the



blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting [and] all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...' (Acts 2:1-2,4). What a day!

Peter preached one of his finest sermons with breathtaking results to Jewish people who had gathered in the city 'from every nation under heaven'. They were astounded with what they heard and, in response to the work of the Spirit in their hearts, we read: 'Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day' (Acts 2:41).

On that Shavuot morning, God initiated a new covenant and he poured out his Spirit ... just as the prophet said it would be (cf. Jeremiah 31:31; Isaiah 59:20-21).



Sharing Yeshua with Jewish People worldwide