***Shavuot and Pentecost (Tikkun Global)***

Jewish tradition marks the holy day of Shavuot (Weeks) as the time of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.

Christians mark the holy day of Pentecost as the time of the giving of the Holy Spirit on Mount Zion.

Of course, these are the same day, one by the lunar calendar and one by the solar calendar. Understanding the connection between the two can be a source of great inspiration.

Shavuot literally means “sevens”, for 7 times 7 equaling 49; while Pentecost means 50. Both are connected to the end of the counting of the Omer which began during Passover.

The date of the giving of the Torah, noted in Exodus 19:1 as being “in the third month” is not exact, so the counting of the day may or may not be correct.

In any case the parallels are striking. On Mount Sinai the Torah was given in fire and lightning in the presence of the Angel YHVH; the people literally “saw the voices” of God, just as the disciples saw the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire from Messiah Yeshua. Exodus 19:18-19; 20:18; Acts 2:1-4

There is even a rabbinic tradition that while the Torah was given on Mount Sinai in Hebrew, it contained within it 70 languages representing all the nations of the world. (Midrash Exodus Rabbah 5:9) The disciples in Jerusalem received supernatural tongues from heaven that were heard in different languages (at least 15 listed in Acts 2:5-11), also representing every nation of the world.

Another Jewish tradition related to the grain offering that is commanded on Shavuot, is to stay up all night studying the book of Ruth. For us, this story clearly points to the One New Man, the grafting in of the Gentiles to God’s Olive Tree, Israel. This began on a world-wide scale on the day of Pentecost.

(To be continued.)