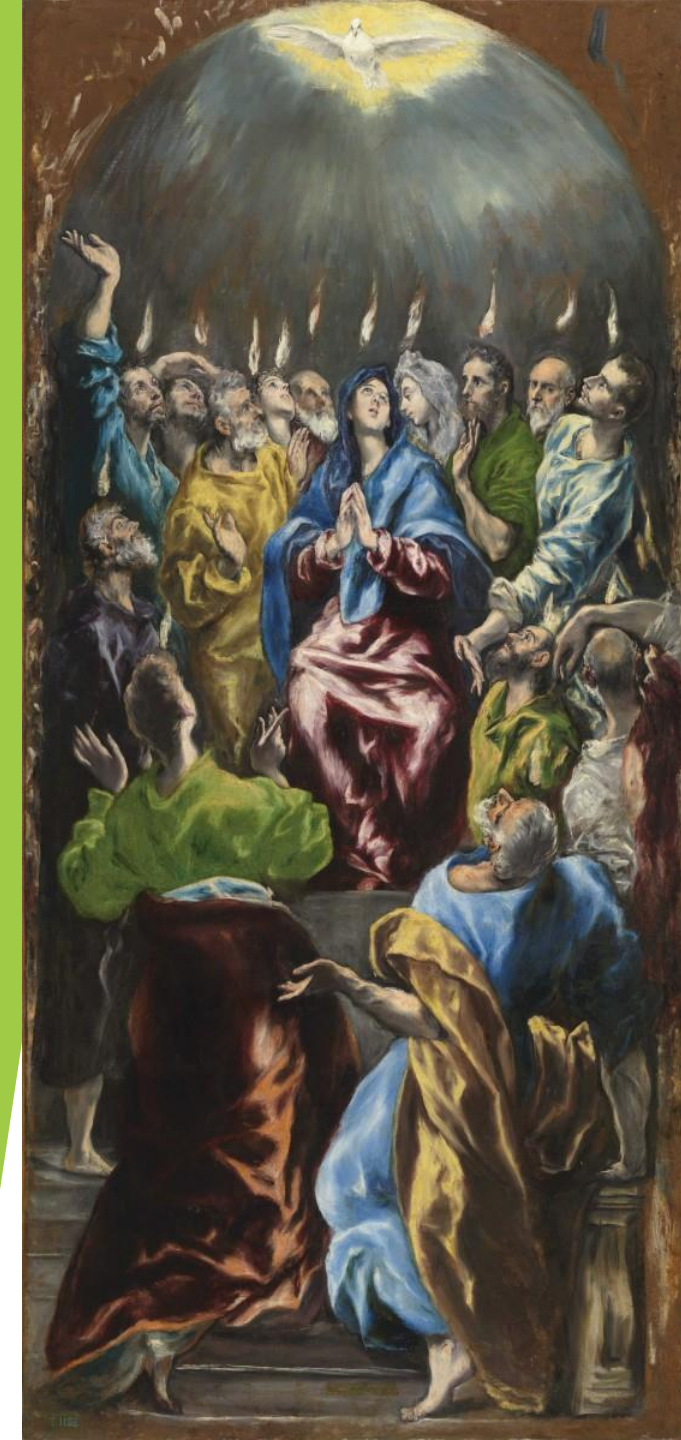




# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

Jesus spent a great deal of time explaining the person and work of the Holy Spirit. This was a change for Jewish people. Jewish people believed in the Holy Spirit as an expression of God's nature, but little thought had been put into understanding who or what the Holy Spirit was. Jesus more than any Jewish teacher before him attempted to explain the work of the Holy Spirit. On 3 separate occasions in the Gospels [*Mark 3:29; Matthew 12:32; Luke 12:10*] Jesus uses the same phrasing to address the Pharisee's accusation that he worked his miracles and exorcisms by the power of Satan. Jesus warns them that they are on the verge of "blaspheming the Holy Spirit" by attributing his works to Satan.



# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

The concept that the Holy Spirit was a person who could be offended was unique in Jewish thought. The Holy Spirit had been generally viewed as the force of God. In John 16:7-15 Jesus lays out the central role of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Christian believer, in the purpose and direction of the Christian Fellowship and his mission in the world. God would choose to initiate this new phase of the Holy Spirit's work on the Day of Pentecost. On that day Peter would say that the promise of Joel 2:22-32 had now been fulfilled...The Holy Spirit was now being poured out upon Christians, the Church and Human Culture. His impact on all three was to be revolutionary.



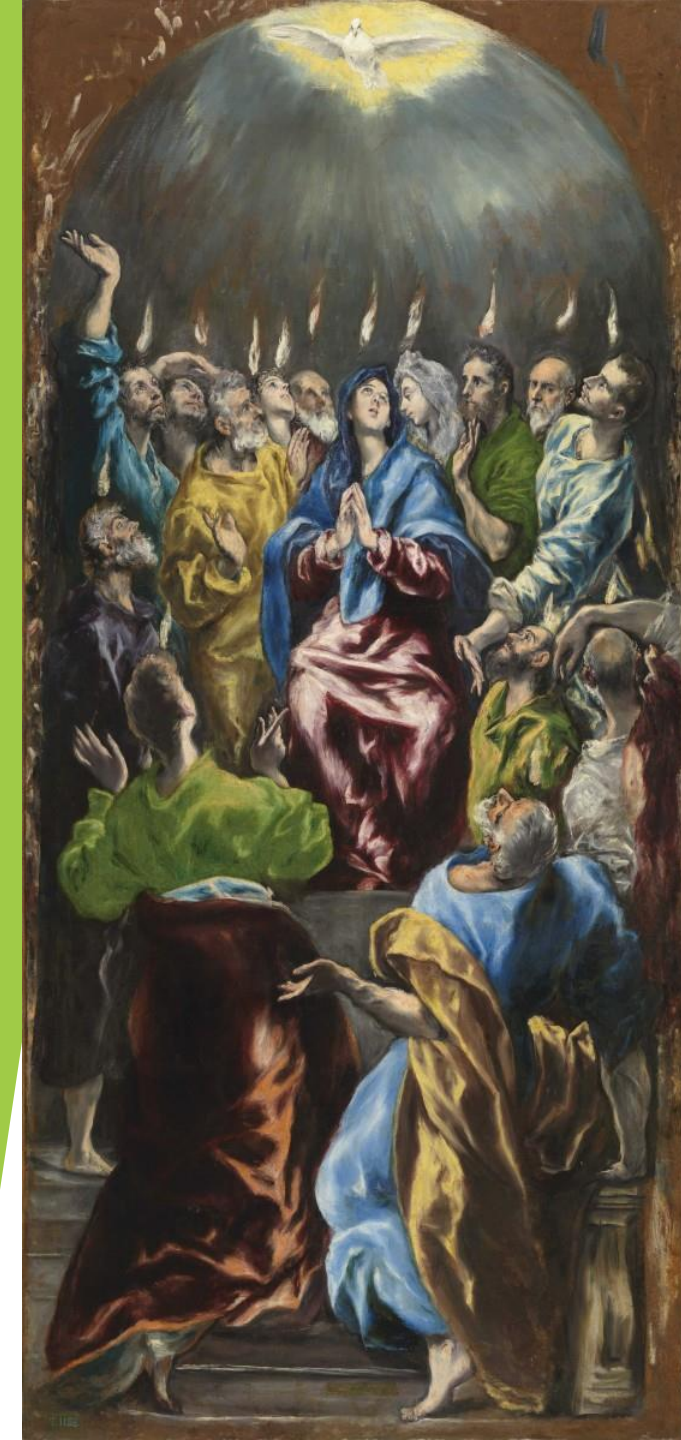
# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

7 “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the **Helper** will not come to you; but if I depart, **I will send** Him to you. 8 And when **He** has come, He will **convict** the **world** of **sin**, and of **righteousness**, and of **judgment**:

9 “of sin, because they do not believe in Me;

10 “of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;

11 “of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.



## Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but **you cannot bear *them* now.** 13 However, when He, the **Spirit of truth**, has come, He will guide you into **all truth**; for **He will not speak on His own authority**, but whatever He hears He will speak; and **He will tell you things to come.** 14 **He will glorify Me**, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.



Cheesecake and all other dairy foods are eaten at Shavuot or “Pentecost” in the Jewish celebration.

## Shavuot



# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

Shavuot or the “Feast of First Fruits” or feast of weeks has only a few mentions in the Old Testament. Unlike Passover and Booths it was single day event. From statements in the New Testament it appears that many Jews living in Palestine did not attend the celebration, though Jews born in foreign parts would intentionally stay over following Passover to celebrate this feast before returning to home.

This feast is celebrated 7 weeks after the barley wave offering on the day after Passover thus it is 50 days after Passover, this is how it got its Greek name “Pentecost” meaning 50. We know little about the Temple celebration of this feast. It appears from references that it was the annual celebration of the tithe in Israel during the Temple period, this may explain its low attendance by Palestinian Jews and why foreign born Jews remained to present their tithe in the Temple. One unique aspect was the offering of 2 leavened loaves in the temple, this was the only time leavened loaves were offered.

# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

Shavuot since the destruction of the Temple has come to be celebrated by Jewish people as a one day festival celebrating the giving of the Law on MT Sinai. It is customary to stay up all night reading and studying the Torah.

Cheese and dairy foods [especially cheesecake] are favored according to Jewish tradition because of their association with the Land of Milk and Honey and that the Israelites did not have time following the giving of the Law to prepare Kosher meat.

In Israel this holiday takes on special significance, especially among the Kibbutz community as a kind of “Founders Day” because many of the early Jewish settlers in the 1940’s arrived around this holiday.

White is favored in clothing as a sign of purity. Sheveas of wheat carried because it celebrated the end of the wheat harvest.

Garrison COG - May 31, 2020



**Celebration of Shavuot on a Kibbutz near Tel Aviv, Israel. Below, the presentation of the “first fruits of harvest”**



# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

Why was Pentecost chosen by Christ to send the Holy Spirit forth as promised in Joel chapter 2?

1. Pentecost was the “Feast of First Fruits” - This was seen as God’s expression His grace to the Israelites by providing for them.
2. Part of the Pentecost declaration was that a portion of the fields and vineyards were to remain unharvest to care for the poor orphaned and the stranger.
3. The concept of tithe reminded the Israelites that they were “servants” of God.
4. The offering of 2 leavened loaves on the altar represented the new leaven of the Gospel after the old leaven had been purged during Passover.
5. Jerusalem would be packed with foreign born Jews who would take the message back to their various nations, preparing the way for the Gospel.



# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character. **John 16:7-15**

The Holy Spirit as “Helper” this word in Greek is Paraklatos. In the New Testament it is used only by John 5 times 4 times in his Gospel and once in his 1<sup>st</sup> Letter. The four uses in the gospel refer to the Holy Spirit while the use in 1 John 2:1 refers to Jesus as our “Advocate” with the Father. The noun and its verb seem to originated with another Greek word “parakaleo” which means “to call beside for assistance”. The concept was that this person helped shoulder the load.

The word is translated “Comforter”, “Advocate”, “Encourager”, “Helper” it was often used as a synonym for “lawyer”.





# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character.

## John 16:7-15



Thomas Aquinas  
[1225-1274]

Thomas Aquinas was one of the most influential thinkers in Western Civilization. His philosophy molded the modern world. His concepts of “Just War” still impact International Law today. Aquinas was a Christian scholar and monk.

After his death he was canonized as a saint within 50 years.

The Greek word “convict” in John 16 is a very interesting word, it is generally used in the sense of a strong rebuke causing shame, but it also means to expose evil actions or intent. In a positive sense it can mean a strong expression of support.

The Holy Spirit “convicts of sin, righteousness and Judgement”

# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character.

## Just War Criteria



Thomas Aquinas  
[1225-1274]

Source: TKC Humanities Portal

### Jus ad bellum

(when it is right to go to war)

- ✓ **Last Resort** – all other methods must be tried first
- ✓ **Right intention** - the intention of war is to right a wrong
- ✓ **Just Cause** - there must be a good reason for going to war
- ✓ **Right authority** – only public authorities are legitimate, terrorist organisations are not enough
- ✓ **Comparative justice** – the suffering caused must be less than the suffering that exists
- ✓ **Probability of success** – there is no point in fighting and wasting lives if you're not going to win

### Jus in bello

(how a war should be fought)

- ✓ **Discrimination** – acts of war should be directed at the combatants not civilians
- ✓ **Minimum force** – death and destruction should be limited
- ✓ **Proportionality** – the force used must be proportional to the wrong endured and to the possible good that may come

# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character.



Thomas Aquinas  
[1225-1274]

## John 16:7-15

Aquinas was one of the chief proponents of the concept of “Natural Law”. Natural Law is that central moral principle that sits at the heart of human conscience. C. S. Lewis calls it “the sense of what ought to be”. It is directly associated with another concept of “Absolute Truth”. Jesus in this passage calls the Holy Spirit the “Spirit of Truth”.

This view holds that there are ideas that are absolute and not subject to change. The Natural Law is a sense within humans of this Absolute Truth. It is this “conscience” that all humans have that the Holy Spirit speaks to.

That is why we can not come to Christ unless the Holy Spirit draws us...He must quicken our conscience.

# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character.



The Holy Spirit came to glorify Jesus Christ and sustain His followers in this world and prepare team for God's kingdom.

## John 16:7-15

Jesus uses the word “kosmos” to call attention to the “world” that is convicted. The Greek word indicates “order” or structure. It is used of creation. Jesus’ view is that when sin entered the world, Satan gained control of the structure of this world and began to fill it again with chaos and darkness. In Genesis 1 before God speaks Light and Order into the chaos, the Holy Spirit hovers over it preparing it for the voice of the Father and the purpose of the Son. Human sin allowed chaos to enter creation and make it the “order” of the kosmos. The Holy Spirit came to expose this chaos and begin the work of re-creation. Individual Christians and The Christian community are instruments of the Holy Spirit’s work.

# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character.



## John 16:7-15

Jesus defines:

Sin - the Greek word means to cross the boundaries. Jesus tells us that the ultimate boundary is belief in Him as savior. So the Holy Spirit convinces us that we need salvation.

Righteousness - the Greek word means to do the right thing. Jesus defines this as discipleship. The Holy Spirit helps us in our walk of discipleship.

Judgment - The Greek word here is the word from which we get our word crisis - the point at which a decision must be made. Jesus defines this as the collapse of this world system and the overthrow of the ruler of this world system. The Holy Spirit witness in and through Christians that this world is broken and only Jesus has the answer for it.

The Holy Spirit came to glorify Jesus Christ and sustain His followers in this world and prepare team for God's kingdom.

# Message: The Holy Spirit's Work & Character.

## John 16:7-15

Jesus tells us that we can not bear the full message of the truth until the Helper comes who will reveal the will of God to us through Scripture, our memories and direct insight through Prophecy and dreams.

We must be led by the Holy Spirit. As Pentecostal Christians we need to be especially led by the Holy Spirit.



The day of Pentecost by  
Titian