

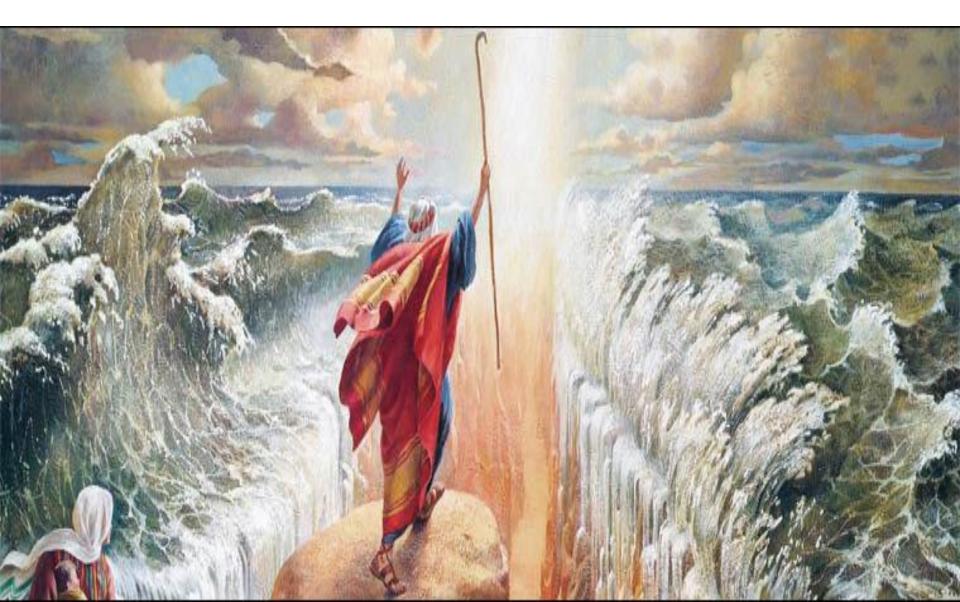
That fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you; in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of its own accord, nor gather *the grapes* of your untended vine.

- As of today this congregation of the Lord's Church situated in South Logan turns 50 years old.
- Over the last half-century this congregation has been committed to faithful service to Jesus Christ.
- Because of the work and effort to teach and proclaim the gospel of Christ, many souls have been saved.

 While we celebrate the past fifty years, and pray for many more today, let us consider the number 50 and its Biblical significance.

- That the number fifty sin the Bible has seen God's
  - 1. Deliverance
  - 2. Salvation
  - 3. Beginning of the Church of Christ

# Deliverance



• The 50<sup>th</sup> year of Jubilee was a time of celebration:

And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout *all* the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you; and each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.

 It was a time to remember God and all that He had done for His people:

So you shall observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them; and you will dwell in the land in safety.

 A time to remember that God is still in control:

The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me.

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.

# Salvation



- Abraham, who is now advanced in years is visited by three men in white (Genesis 18:1-8).
- We are told that the Lord was with these heavenly visitors:

Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, As he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day.

~ **Genesis** 18:1

 The men wished to see Sodom and Gomorrah in behalf of God because their sin in those cities was great (Genesis 18:20-22)

 Abraham's nephew Lot lived in Sodom (Genesis 13:12) and Abraham was about to petition God on behalf of his nephew.

And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? "Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it? Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" So the LORD said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes."

~ Genesis 18:23-26

But what if....

There were forty-five?

There were forty?

Suppose there were thirty?

Suppose there were twenty?

Suppose there were ten? (Genesis 18:29-32)

-God said yes every single time, God's Will all along was to spare righteous Lot and his family (2 Peter 2:7)



 Jesus Christ was crucified and killed on a Friday afternoon.

 He was buried before the Passover which occurred on Saturday and rose from the grave on Sunday.

 Exactly seven weeks from Passover (Seven Saturdays later) was 49 days.

- On the fiftieth day (Which would have been Sunday according to Roman rendering) was the day of Pentecost or the Jewish Feast of Weeks.
- This is how we know that the Church began, and met on Sunday, the first day of the week.
- It was fifty days following the Passover, in which Jesus was buried, that the church began with these words:

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ ... Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.

~ Acts 2:36,38-39

• It was on this fiftieth day, the first day of the week that the Lord's church began.

 It spread to Judea and Samaria, and we saw many Samaritans converted (Acts 8:5ff)

 The Ethiopian Eunuch was converted by Philip (Acts 8:26ff)

 Saul of Tarsus who went on to write 12 of our New Testament books (Acts 9:1ff)

 The Outer most parts with Cornelius the First Gentile Baptism (Acts 10:30ff)

 The Baptism of Lydia who sold purple (Acts 16:13ff)

- The conversion of the Philippian jailor and his household (Acts 16:26ff).
- Congregations of the Lord's church were established in Galatia, Ephesus, Corinth, Colossi, Philippi, Asia Minor and Rome.
- The gospel spread to Europe, the Far East, and ultimately was brought to the shores of our great nation the United States of America.

Today, as a result of the day of Pentecost, there sits a congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ in Logan, OH that has been serving God for 50 Years...



The Lord's Church is not a physical building.

 It is made up of people who belong to the Body of Christ (Colossians 1:18).

 We, here in Logan, for the past fifty years have been a part of the whole, the body of Christ.

 There have been ups, there have been downs, there have been deaths and loss, and yet there is new life sitting among us right now, both physical and spiritual.

 Fifty years may seem like a long time, but we are just getting started.

God has more for us to do...

# May Our Next Fifty Years...

Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!

~ John 4:35

Bring Glory to God, and Many Souls to Christ!