

## Growth Hour Study

Feast of Trumpets    Sept. 20, 2020

### ENGAGE

- There are seven holy feasts in the nation of Israel. This week we enter into the Feast of Trumpets. I will be looking at this feast in light of God's word to observe it and the fulfillment of Christ within it.
- I will also be suggesting that there is something here that may relate to the second coming of Christ.
- The purpose of the Lesson is to encourage the class to commit to the following:
  - Give thanks to God for Creation and the blessings He provides
  - Examine their hearts and repent of anything that is not pleasing to the Lord that they may walk as a holy people
  - Open their eyes to the reality of His return and seal in their hearts that they will love the Lord and be ready for His return

### EXAMINE

#### The Feast of Trumpets: background and fulfillment

by Jews for Jesus | September 01 2000

*Rosh Hashanah means, "The head of the year" and thus the holiday is referred to as the Jewish New Year. However, in the Bible it is known as "the Feast of Trumpets." In this article, Lev Leigh presents a unique perspective on this holiday's meaning and fulfillment. We hope you will find his interpretation to be of interest.*

The last three holy convocations or "festivals" that the Lord commanded the Jewish people to observe are the Feast of Trumpets, [the Day of Atonement](#) and the Feast of Tabernacles. Each occurred in the seventh month of the Jewish calendar, the month called Tishrei. The Feast of Trumpets heralded the arrival of that seventh month. It also began what is known as the Ten Days of Awe between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement, wherein the penitent humble themselves in preparation for the great Day of Atonement.

But besides announcing the arrival of the seventh month and introducing the final cycle of festivals, the Feast of Trumpets had a meaning in its own right. What was that meaning?

#### The Original Meaning of the Feast of Trumpets

[Leviticus 23:23-27](#) maps out God's commandments concerning this festival:

*Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel, saying: "In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord."'*

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Verses 23-25 **Day of Trumpets.** Today we make trumpets from a metal called brass. And we use them to make music. The Jews did not use brass. They made their trumpets from the horns of animals like cows. Horns grow on the heads of these animals. Numbers 10:1-10 also mentions silver trumpets. The Jews used the trumpets to sound an alarm. Also, they sounded trumpets on any important national occasion.

The Day of Trumpets was at the beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> month in the Jewish calendar. As the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week was special and holy, so was the 7<sup>th</sup> month. The Day of Atonement, Tent Parties and Final Harvest happened during this month. The trumpets reminded people about these things:

The trumpets should remind the Israelites that, in the future, God will rule his people as their king. Each year, God dealt with his people's sins on the Day of Atonement. But at a future time, God will deal with all sin. He will come to live among his people.

For Christians, this should remind them about Jesus' return. He has promised to come back to this world. He will overcome sin, death, and the devil's power. And Jesus will rule with the authority and power of God the Father.

The only other reference to this festival in the Torah (Pentateuch) is [Numbers 29:1ff](#). Neither passage provides much information regarding the original meaning of this feast. But, by examining the text in [Leviticus 23](#), we note that the day was to be a *memorial* with blowing of trumpets. This is our only clue. The word "memorial" indicates that the event to be remembered had taken place prior to this ordinance.

To solve the puzzle, we must ask ourselves what extremely significant event, involving the blowing of trumpets, took place in the national life of Israel? What spiritual event was of such great importance that God commanded the people to remember it every year? I believe the Bible points to one outstanding event—connected to the blowing of trumpets—that required memorializing.

*When the ram's horn sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain. So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder. (Exodus 19:13b, 16-19)*

In [Exodus chapters 19](#) and [20](#) we read the account of God's appearance on Mount Sinai and the initial giving of the Ten Commandments. [Exodus 19:5](#) depicts God inviting the children of Israel [into a covenant](#): the Mosaic Covenant. In a spectacular revelation, God manifested His presence in the smoke and fire on Mount Sinai—as He came to covenant with His people amidst the sound of a trumpet that caused the people to tremble. They promised to do everything that the Lord commanded.

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This cataclysmic event was to be stamped indelibly upon the memory of the people of Israel. Every year, at the Feast of Trumpets, those same-sounding trumpet blasts reminded Israel that they were a people under covenant; a nation who had accepted the responsibilities of being God's people. By doing so, the nation also prepared herself for the Day of Atonement, eight days later, when they would repent and find atonement for all they had done to break this covenant.

### BE SURE TO READ THE VERSES BELOW

#### The Fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets

1. One fulfillment of this festival is Jesus' offer of the New Covenant to all who would receive it. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. (Luke 22:20b) We who have accepted the New Covenant remember this fact every time we take communion. The bread and the cup remind us of the cataclysmic events of the Lord's death and resurrection. They remind us of our responsibilities in being New Covenant-people. We repent and show remorse for our sin in falling short of this high and holy calling. Through faith in the shed blood of Jesus, we receive the full and final atonement provided by the New Covenant.
2. A second fulfillment of this festival is marking the Day of Jesus's Second Coming. The trumpet will sound and the dead in Christ shall ascend. Then those of us who are alive in Christ will meet Him in the air. The festival marks the end of the harvest and a time of thanks. It calls for preparation till the Day of atonement which separates the righteous from the unrighteous.
  - a. 1 Corinthians 15:52: *...in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.*
  - b. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 ESV: *For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.*
  - c. Revelation 11:15 ESV: *Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."*
  - d. Revelation 10:7 ESV: *But that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.*
  - e. Matthew 16:27 ESV: *For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.*

#### QUESTIONS

- This festival was at the end of harvest. Why does God desire us to give thanks for what we have been given?
- If you look back at the last year, what things can you give thanks to God for?

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- The greater thanks is given to God for all creation. What can we do to show our gratitude to God for His creation?
- The Festival calls for a national and individual repentance of our sins. Do you see a value in an annual personal and national review and a call for all to confess their sins and ask for forgiveness? Explain
- The festival of the end of Harvest is done with the blowing of the trumpet (shofar). What are your thoughts on the correlation between this festival and the future fulfillment of the last trumpet sounding and the end of the harvest of souls takes place?
- What are doing or how are you behaving in light of His coming? Are you seeing the biblical signs of His return taking place today? Explain.