

# 8.Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)



Today the *Feast of Trumpets* is celebrated as *Rosh Hashanah* or the Jewish New year. Biblically the name Rosh Hashanah does not appear in the Bible, the Hebrew means "*Head of the Year*". Following the destruction of the Temple in A.D. 70, the Feast of Trumpets could no longer be literally celebrated. Rosh Hashanah took the place of this feast. Rosh Hashanah today combines elements of the Feast of Trumpets as the nation awaits the redemption of Messiah. The feast of Trumpets is listed as the fifth feast designated by the Lord for Israel to follow.

<sup>23</sup> Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>24</sup> "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. <sup>25</sup> You shall do no customary work *on it*; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.'" Leviticus 23:23-25

The trumpet plays a significant role in both Old and New Testaments. The Fall Feasts in the seventh month begin with the Feast of Trumpets. These are final feasts God established with the nation of Israel in Leviticus Chapter 23. From the first four feasts, *Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits* and *Weeks*, we see literal fulfillment in the work of Messiah at His *First Coming*. The Fall Feasts, *Trumpets, Atonement* and *Tabernacles* also corresponds to the work of Messiah. These feasts correspond to the *Second Coming* of the Messiah as foretold in the scriptures.

Jesus reminded his followers in Luke that His suffering and rejection was foretold in the words of Moses and the prophets. Jesus fulfilled, Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits in death, burial and resurrection. The Feast of Weeks was fulfilled as the Holy Spirit of God fell upon the believers in the upper room.

<sup>25</sup>He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Did not the Christ<sup>[b]</sup> have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup>And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.....<sup>44</sup>He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, **Luke 24;25-27,44-45** 

In the Feast of Trumpets we see God's plan of Redemption completed in the Second coming of the Messiah.

### The Meaning of Rosh Hashanah/ Feast of Trumpets

The Biblical Hebrew name for this feast is Zikhron *Teruah* (Memorial of blowing [of trumpets], Lev. 23:24) or *Yom Teruah* (Day of Blowing [trumpets] Num. 29:1). The term Rosh Hashanah was not applied to this feast until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D., when the Temple was destroyed and the Jewish people scattered after the Roman destruction of Jerusalem observation of the day had to be changed.

### The Time of Rosh Hashanah

The Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) takes place on the first day of the month of Tishri, the seventh month on the Hebrew calendar, this corresponds to mid-September to early October of our calendar. The Bible calls for a one day holiday, except today it is celebrated as a 2-day feast.

The reason for the two days is the result of trying to find the exact time the feast occurs. Since the feast occurs on the first day of the seventh month, the new moon was the start of the month. Many times because of clouds and weather it was hard to spot a new moon. Once a "New Moon" was spotted distant Jewish communities would be notified via bonfires. Since it took time to notify and certify, Rosh Hashanah was celebrated for two days.

#### Record of Rosh Hashanah

The celebration of Trumpets is simple, Israel is told to memorialize the first day of the seventh month with the blowing of trumpets and sacrifice. Israel is to keep the day as a Sabbath day of rest (Lev. 23:23-25; Num. 29:1).

Regarding the Temple service, Israel was to offer additional sacrifices for the seventh month (Num. 29:2-6). A young bull, ram and seven lambs were offered as a burnt offering and kid goat as a sin offering. These sacrifices were in addition to "New Moon" (Nu. 28:11-150 and "Daily" offerings (Num. 28:1-8) Israel was required to offer.

Only once is scripture, is it recorded that the Feast of Trumpets was celebrated. After Israel returned from the Babylonian captivity, the Temple altar was rebuilt. During this time on the first day of the seventh month Ezra read from the law and the people celebrated the feasts of the seventh month. (Ezra 3:1-6, Neh. 7:73-8:13).

Neh 8:1-3 And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. (2) So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. (3) And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

#### The Importance of Rosh Hashanah

The number plays a significant role in scripture. God created the heavens and the earth in sixdays and rested on the seventh. God assigned the seventh day as a day of rest to his people. Even the years were broken down into seven-year periods, with the celebration of Jubilee on the 50<sup>th</sup> year, after seven periods of seven-years (Ex. 20:8-10; Lev. 25:4).

- 7 days in the week
- 7<sup>th</sup> day a day of rest
- 7-years in a sabbatical year

7<sup>th</sup> month is set aside

#### Types of Trumpets

Scripture lists two types of Trumpets Israel was to use. One trumpet was made from silver and fashioned into long into trumpets with a flared tip at the end (Num. 10:1-2) the *Silver Trumpets*. The

priest would sound these trumpets over sacrifices as a memorial to the Lord. (Num. 10:10). These trumpets were also used to mark the beginning and end of the Sabbath.

The other type of Trumpet was called the **Shofar** made from a ram's horn. This trumpet was used historically for the celebration of the feast of Trumpets. The ram's horn trumpet, the Shofar was also designated as the trumpet for the year of Jubilee (Lev. 25:9).

According to Exodus God blew the Shofar on the mountain.



shôphâr

ענה

'ânâh

**BDB** Definition:

1) (Oal) to be occupied, be busied with

16 On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. 17 Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, the whole mountain [b] trembled violently, 19 and the **sound of the trumpet** grew louder and louder. Then Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him. [c] **Exodus 19:16-18** 

Jewish tradition believes the First trumpet sounded on Sinai and the Second trumpet (Shofar) will sound when the Messiah comes.

 <sup>14</sup> Then the LORD will appear over them; his arrow will flash like lightning.
 The Sovereign LORD will sound **the trumpet**; he will march in the storms of the south,

<sup>15</sup> and the LORD Almighty will shield them. They will destroy and overcome with slingstones. They will drink and roar as with wine; they will be full like a bowl used for sprinkling <sup>[a]</sup> the corners of the altar.

> <sup>16</sup> The LORD their God will save them on that day as the flock of his people. They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown. Zechariah 9:14-16

to afflict, oppress, humble, be afflicted, be bowed down
 (Qal)
 to be put down, become low
 to be depressed, be downcast
 to be afflicted
 to to stoop

shôphâr

The Types of Blasts

When the Temple was destroyed in AD 70, the rabbis debated the type of trumpet blasts to be used. They concluded a compromise that included all possibilities, a rhythm was created with all types of blasts:

A long trumpet blast (*tekiah*) ...then.. three short blows (*shevarim*) ...then.. nine staccato blows (*teruah*)...then ...one long blast (*tekiah*)

#### Uses of the Trumpets

- 1. Trumpets were used for the ceremony of worship in the Temple sacrifices
- 2. Trumpets were used to gather the nation for assembly (Numbers 10:2-4)
- 3. Trumpets were used to sound the battle alert (Numbers 10:9, Judges 3:27, 7:19-22, Neh 4:18)
- 4. Trumpets were used to announce the crowing of a new king (I Kings 1:34,39. 2 Kings 9:13)

#### The Service of Rosh Hashanah

When Israel had the Temple Israel was commanded to blow the trumpet over the burnt offerings.

Num 10:10 ESV

(10) On the day of your gladness also, and at your appointed feasts and at the beginnings of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings. They shall be a reminder of you before your God: I am the LORD your God."

**Modern Observation** 

The Feast of Trumpets is now known as the Rosh Hashanah (Head of the Year), it is celebrated different the biblical feast because there is no Temple. This period is known as the *Days of Awe*.

## The Days of Awe

This is a 10-day period starting with *Rosh Hashanah* to *Yom Kippur*, known as the high holy days in Judaism. Tradition holds that during this time, judgment is determined whether a person will live or die in the year. God reviews the books, and this period is the last opportunity to repent before judgment is finalized.

In Jewish tradition there are 3 books opened on Rosh Hashanah:

- 1. The Book of Life for the wicked
- 2. The Book of Life for the righteous
- 3. The Book of Life for the in-between

God inscribes the name of every individual in one of these 3 books, those recorded in the first book will be given another year of life and prosperity. Those not recorded in book 1 or 2, their fate will not be determined until Yom Kippur, if they repent during the Days of Awe, God will grant them life until the following Yom Kippur. This is where the term (*May you be inscribed for a good year*) "*Leshanah tovah tikatevu*" comes from. Tradition finds it origins in the following scriptures

Psa 69:28 ESV(28) Let them be blotted out of the book of the living; let them not be enrolled among the righteous.

Exo 32:32-33 ESV(32) But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written."(33) But the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book.

### Prayers of Repentance

The Week before Rosh Hashanah people ask the Lord for forgiveness *Selihot*, in preparation for the Days of Awe.

### The Casting Ceremony

This ceremony arose during the Middle Ages, people will gather near a body of water and pray this event is known as *Tashlikh* (Casting Off). This symbolizes casting off all your sins into the depth of the sea. (Mic 7:19)

### The Shofar

Rosh Hashanah has often been referred to as Judgment Day by the Rabbis since it began the Days of Awe, the tradition of God's Judgment.

Application:

The Feast of Trumpets is a call for Israel to return to the land in preparation of the final two feast days, the Feast of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles. The *Feast of Atonement* takes place on the **10 of Tishri** and lasts for one day. All Israel is called to the assemble before the Lord, it is a feast of mourning,

Lev 23:27-32 "Now on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be for you a time of holy convocation, and you shall afflict yourselves and present a food offering to the LORD. (28) And you shall not do any work on that very day, for it is a Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God. (29) For whoever is not afflicted on that very day shall be cut off from his people. (30) And whoever does any work on that very day, that person I will destroy from among his people. (31) You shall not do any work. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. (32) It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. On the ninth day of the month beginning at evening, from evening to evening shall you keep your Sabbath."

- Holy Convocation
- Afflict yourselves
- Sabbath Rest
- Day to make atonement before the Lord
- Must be afflicted
- You shall afflict yourselves

And the *Feast of Tabernacles* on the **15 of Tishri** is joyous time of celebration when Israel rejoices in the presence of the Lord. This feast like the feast of Unleavened Bread is to last 7-days. From the 15<sup>th</sup> of Tishri to the 21<sup>st</sup> of Tishri. Israel is to celebrate by making

- Lev 23:34-43 "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, On the fifteenth day of this seventh month and for seven days is the Feast of Booths to the LORD. 34. On the first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall not do any ordinary work. 40 And you shall take on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, branches of palm trees and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.
  - Holy Convocation
  - 7-days present food offering
  - Gathered in the produce of the land
  - Fruit trees, palm trees and build booths to live in
  - Live in the booths

Israel need to be called into the land to celebrate these feasts before the Lord. Thus the Feast of Trumpet is to call Israel back to the land.

As Israel is called into the land for the final two Feasts, the Feast of Trumpet can also be seen as the time God calls His people "The Church" back to their land Heaven. This can seen in the Trumpet call of the Rapture, while Israel is being called in to the land, the Believers are being called to their home also.

- Exo 19:13-17 No hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot; whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain." (14) So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people; and they washed their garments. (15) And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman." (16) On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. (17) Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain.
- Joe 2:1-2,15-16 <u>Blow a trumpet in Zion</u>; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near, (2) a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. <u>Blow the trumpet in Zion</u>; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; (16) gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber.

- 1Co 15:51-53 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, (52) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the <u>last trumpet</u>. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. (53) For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.
- 1Th 4:13-18 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. (14) For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. (15) For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. (16) For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of <u>the trumpet of God</u>. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (17) 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. (18) Therefore encourage one another with these words.
- Mat 24:29-31 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will
  not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. (30)
  Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and

	Joshua Conquest	Jesus' Conquest
Commanders Name	Joshua (Joshua 5:13)	Joshua (Jesus) (Mat 24:30-31)
Trumpets	7 Trumpets (Joshua 6:6)	7 Trumpets (Rev 8:2)
Days of Conquest	7 days	7 years (Dan 9:27)
Location of Trumpets	Before the Arc (Joshua 6:6)	Before the Throne (Rev 8:2)
Silence	Silence until the sixth day (Joshua 6:10)	Silence in Heaven for ½ and hour (Rev. 8:1)
Invading army	Children of Israel (Joshua 6:1)	Saints with angels (Rev 19; 14,Mat 24:31)
Time of Invasion	End of 7 <sup>th</sup> Trumpet (Joshua 6:15-18)	End of 7 <sup>th</sup> Trumpet (Rev 10:7)
Holders of Trumpets	7 Priests before arc (Joshua 6:6)	7 Angles before Throne (Rev 8:2)
People's reaction to 7 <sup>th</sup> Trumpet	Shout by Israel (Joshua 6:16)	Loud voices in Heaven (Rev 11:15)
Inhabitants spared	Rahab & all in her house waiting for Joshua's invasion (Joshua 6:17)	Inhabitants on Earth waiting for Jesus' Return (Matt 25:31-41)
Description of Rahab & Israel before invasion	Prostitute (Joshua 6:17)	Prostitute (Ezekiel 16:33-36,Ezekiel 23, Hosea 1:2.2:4,4:10)

The Seven Trumpets of Joshua and Revelation

they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (31) And he will send out his **angels with a loud trumpet** call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

### 7 Trumpets on Earth and in Heaven

Joshua & Jericho



<sup>6</sup> Then Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD." <sup>7</sup> And he said to the people, "Proceed, and march around the city, and let him who is armed advance before the ark of the LORD."

<sup>8</sup> So it was, when Joshua had spoken to the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD advanced and blew the trumpets, and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them. <sup>9</sup> The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while *the priests* continued blowing the trumpets. <sup>10</sup> Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, "You shall not shout or make any noise with your voice, nor shall a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I say to you, 'Shout!' Then you shall shout." <sup>11</sup> So he had the ark of the LORD circle the city, going around *it* once. Then they came into the camp and lodged in the camp. <sup>12</sup> And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD went on continually and blew with the trumpets. And the armed men went before them. But the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while *the priests* continued blowing the trumpets. <sup>14</sup> And the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. So they did six days.

<sup>15</sup> But it came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early, about the dawning of the day, and marched around the city seven times in the same manner. On that day only they marched around the city seven times. <sup>16</sup> And the seventh time it happened, when the

priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the LORD has given you the city! <sup>17</sup> Now the city shall be doomed by the LORD to destruction, it and all who *are* in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who *are* with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. <sup>18</sup> And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. <sup>19</sup> But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, *are* consecrated to the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD."

the people should when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people should with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city. <sup>21</sup> And they utterly destroyed all that *was* in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

<sup>22</sup> But Joshua had said to the two men who had spied out the country, "Go into the harlot's house, and from there bring out the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her." <sup>23</sup> And the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. So they brought out all her relatives and left them outside the camp of Israel. <sup>24</sup> But they burned the city and all that *was* in it with fire. Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. <sup>25</sup> And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father's household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. **Joshua 6:6-25** 



#### OPENING OF THE SEVENTH SEAL. Rev. vill. 1-5.

#### **Revelation Seven Angels**

<sup>1</sup> When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. <sup>3</sup> Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. <sup>4</sup> And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. <sup>5</sup> Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

<sup>6</sup> So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. **Revelation 8:1-6** 



