

**HOPE OF
ISRAEL
MINISTRIES**

BIBLE

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE



Blowing the Shofar at Synagogue Service

**The Feast of Trumpets -- Return and Enthronement
of YEHOVAH God and His Messiah!**

Lesson 16

An Open Letter from the Staff...

Yeshua the Messiah promised that he would come again! (**Acts 1:11.**) He was born over 2,000 years ago and became a humble AMBASSADOR of YEHOVAH's Kingdom, but when he RETURNS in the near future it will be with all the POWER and SUPER-NATURAL GLORY of that Kingdom!

Instead of submitting to death as the Passover sacrifice for our sins -- Yeshua is returning to PUT AN END to human sin, FORCIBLY! With the awesome power of YEHOVAH God's angelic hosts, the Messiah will punish those who would DESTROY the earth and all those in it.

The Feast of Trumpets reflects YEHOVAH's desire to SUMMON His people to REPENTANCE so that He can VINDICATE them on the day of His judgment. The name of the feast is derived from the BLOWING OF TRUMPETS (shofar) which was its distinctive characteristic.

The MASSIVE blowing of the shofar on the first day of the seventh month (Tishri) was understood by the Judeans as the BEGINNING of their TRIAL before the heavenly court where books would be opened and the destiny of each individual would be decided. The Trial lasted TEN DAYS until the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) when YEHOVAH God would dispose of their sins in a PERMANENT way.

In the New Testament, the themes of the feast are frequently found in the book of Revelation. The themes of the Feast of Trumpets are evident in the SEVEN TRUMPETS OF REVELATION which serve to announce YEHOVAH's FINAL JUDGMENT like the blowing of the shofar during the feast in Old Testament times.

The blowing of the SEVEN trumpets in Revelation corresponds to the blowing of trumpets at the SEVEN NEW MOON festivals in the Old Testament! Each NEW MOON trumpet blowing was understood as a day of judgment in MINIATURE, which WARNED people to prepare for the FINAL JUDGMENT ushered in by the Feast of Trumpets.

Correspondingly, the blowing of the FIRST SIX trumpets in Revelation WARNS people to prepare for the FINAL JUDGMENT inaugurated by the blowing of the SEVENTH trumpet.



HOPE OF ISRAEL MINISTRIES BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE LESSON 16

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About Our Cover...

While the "Jews" today still blow the shofar during services, it is no longer required of true New Testament Christians.

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The Feast of Trumpets -- Return and Enthronement of YEHOVAH God and His Messiah!

Lesson 16

The Meaning of Trumpets

Turn in your Bible to the central passage which gives the complete outline of YEHOVAH God's Holy Days -- **Leviticus 23**. Let's learn about the Feast of Trumpets.

1. When is the Feast of Trumpets held? **Leviticus 23:23-25**.

COMMENT: Seven is YEHOVAH's special number signifying COMPLETION and PERFECTION. The seventh month of YEHOVAH's sacred calendar contains the FINAL Feast Days in His Holy Day plan. The beginning, or first day of this month (Tishri), MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE FINAL PHASES of YEHOVAH God's Plan.

2. Isn't the Feast of Trumpets one of YEHOVAH's ANNUAL SABBATH DAYS? **Verse 24**. Are YEHOVAH's people permitted to work on this annual Sabbath? **Verse 25**.

3. Are we commanded to come together before YEHOVAH God in HOLY CONVOCATION on this Holy Day? **Numbers 29:1**.

4. What is UNIQUE about this fourth Holy Day? **Leviticus 23:24**. Wasn't this day to be a memorial of BLOWING OF TRUMPETS? **Same verse**.

COMMENT: It is from this ceremony that the Festival of Trumpets draws its name. The Hebrew statement, "a memorial of blowing of trumpets" is better translated, "A MEMORIAL OF TRIUMPH, OR SHOUTING FOR JOY, WITH TRUMPETS" (*The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*, Bagster and Sons, Ltd., London).

5. Did King David understand that the Feast of Trumpets was to be a day of SINGING AND CHEERING FOR JOY? **Psalms 81:1-4**.

COMMENT: **Verse 1 of Psalm 81**,

should be translated, "make a SHOUT or CHEER OF PRAISE unto the God of Jacob."

6. How were the trumpets to be blown on the Feast of Trumpets? **Numbers 10:1-10**. Were silver trumpets to be used to announce the Feasts, as well as call YEHOVAH's people to assemble? **Verses 2 and 10**. Was the Feast of Trumpets A DAY OF GLADNESS, A DAY OF SOLEMN ASSEMBLY and the beginning of the month? Then, these silver trumpets were blown specifically on the Day of Trumpets! What else was blown on the Day of Trumpets?

COMMENT: Judean tradition preserves the record that in addition to the silver trumpets (*Chatsotserah* in Hebrew), a RAM'S HORN (*Shophar* in Hebrew) was blown on the first day of the seventh month -- the Feast of Trumpets (*Talmud*, "Rosh Hashana," Mishnah 26b)! The silver trumpets could produce a variety of musical notes, but the ram's horn produced only a PIERCING BLAST. This piercing blast is often referred to in the Bible as a SHOUT, or NOISE -- it did not have a musical connotation.

7. Is the TREMENDOUS NOISE of the VOICE OF YEHOVAH GOD compared to the sound of the ram's horn? **Exodus 19:16-19; 20:18**.

8. Didn't this BLAST of the ram's horn give greater SOLEMNITY to the Day of Trumpets? Were trumpets blown specifically on solemn days and at the beginning of months -- including the SEVENTH month? **Numbers 10:10**.

COMMENT: The Feast of Trumpets was closely associated in Judean thought with the NEW MOON festivals that were celebrated at the beginning of EACH MONTH. Since YEHOVAH's calendar begins with the month of NISAN, there is a sense in which the Feast of



The Shofar -- a trumpet made from a ram's horn -- was anciently used as an instrument of warning.

Trumpets comes as the CLIMAX of a seven-month series of MINI-FEAST OF TRUMPETS!

9. Read **Joel 2:1-2**. Is the trumpet used to sound alarm? **Verse 1**. What is the subject of these verses?

COMMENT: Here we see the REAL symbolism of trumpets! Trumpets were blown as an ALARM -- they signified a WARNING BLAST of impending danger, peril, calamity, destruction! They are a warning to GET READY -- GET PREPARED -- for the day of judgment is coming soon!

Trumpets an ALARM of WAR!

Since it is the use of the Shofar or ram's horn on the Feast of Trumpets that makes that Feast Day unique, what did the sound of the ram's horn sometimes mean to Old Testament Israel?

1. How was the ram's horn used, and what did its PIERCING SOUND signify to those who heard it? What was Jeremiah's reaction when he heard the sound of the ram's horn? **Jeremiah 4:19-21**.

COMMENT: The ram's horn trumpet

was used as an ALARM OF WAR! Its terrifying sound filled the people of Palestine with fear and mental torment knowing the HORROR OF WAR was imminent! It is this WARNING OF WAR that sets apart the Feast of Trumpets from YEHOVAH's other Holy Days. It is this warning of war which gives the JOYFUL Feast of Trumpets its CONTRASTING NOTE OF SOLEMNITY.

2. Was this ram's horn sounded when news of an approaching enemy was received? How was this done in Old Testament Israel? **Ezekiel 33:2-6**.

3. Who were commissioned by YEHOVAH God to blow these trumpets? **Numbers 10:8**.

COMMENT: YEHOVAH's priests in the Old Testament were the sons of Aaron. Only they were allowed to blow the trumpets. Today, Yeshua the Messiah is OUR High Priest (**Hebrews 6:20**), and therefore it IS NOT NECESSARY for New Testament Christians to actually blow a trumpet on this Feast Day.

4. Will Yeshua the Messiah, as our High Priest, cause the trumpet to be blown on the Feast of Trumpets? Read **Revelation 11:15-18**. Notice, particularly, **verse 18**.

COMMENT: The seventh trumpet is unique because it announces the consummation of redemption. The angel informs the apostle John that at the sounding of the SEVENTH trumpet "there should be time no longer [no more delay]...the mystery of God should be finished, as He hath declared to his servants the prophets" (**Revelation 10:6-7**). What the angel is announcing here is that there will be no more

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time intervening before the coming end. In other words, the consummation will no longer be delayed. The reason being that the SEVENTH TRUMPET is the antitypical FEAST OF TRUMPETS which ushers in the FINAL JUDGMENT which outcome is the rewarding of the righteous and the retribution of the ungodly at the coming of the Messiah.

The Seven Trumpets

In Old Testament times the approach of the final judgment was announced IN ADVANCE by the blowing of trumpets on the first day (NEW MOON) of the FIRST SIX MONTHS leading up to the month of Tishri. The blowing of trumpets served to WARN the people to prepare themselves for the FINAL JUDGMENT that would begin on the FIRST DAY OF THE SEVENTH MONTH. The latter was known as the Feast of Trumpets, because on that day the SHOFAR was blown in a MASSIVE way throughout the land to announce to the people that the Day of Judgment had arrived and they should prepare themselves to stand trial before the heavenly court.

1. What is the general setting of the seven trumpets in the New Testament? **Revelation 8:2-5.**

COMMENT: The general setting of the seven trumpets is the offering of the INCENSE at the golden altar of the Holy Place.

2. With the blowing of the SEVENTH trumpet there is a MOVEMENT from the Holy Place to where? **Revelation 11:19.**

COMMENT: The movement is from the Holy Place to the Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies) where the ark of the covenant is seen. This is an obvious allusion to the ritual of the Day of Atonement when the High Priest ministered before the ark of the covenant. The transition from the Holy to the Most Holy Place suggests a movement from the typology of the Feast of Trumpets to that of the Day of Atonement.

3. What did the blowing of the shofar on

the Feast of Trumpets serve the purpose of? **Numbers 10:9-10.**

COMMENT: It served the purpose of REMINDING the people to REPENT of their sins. It also reminded YEHOVAH God to be MERCIFUL toward His people.

4. Where, in the New Testament, are these same THEMES found? **Revelation 8:3-5.**

COMMENT: These themes are found in the SEVEN TRUMPETS which are found in the setting of the offering of incense at the golden altar together with the PRAYERS of the saints.



High Priest with Censer

The RESPONSE to their prayers is the casting down of the censer and the BLOWING OF THE TRUMPETS. The seven trumpets are unleashed in ANSWER to the prayers of the saints.

5. What simple TRUTH does this convey? **Revelation 6:9-11.**

COMMENT: The vision of the angel

casting the censer filled with fire upon the earth (**Revelation 8:5**) and the seven angels readying themselves to blow the SEVEN TRUMPETS shows that YEHOVAH God's response to the prayers of the souls of the martyred saints under the altar is to COMMENCE HIS JUDGMENT! In Revelation the censer of prayer becomes the censer of JUDGMENT.

Writes Jon Paulien -- "This is a remarkable PARALLEL to **Numbers 10:8-10**. There the sounding of a trumpet was understood as an act of PRAYER reminding God of His covenant with His people. God's RESPONSE would be to DELIVER them militarily and cultically. In Revelation the trumpets are unleashed by the PRAYERS of the saints and signal God's RESPONSE to those prayers. This strong thematic parallel with **Numbers 10** argues that the trumpets in **Revelation 8-11** are to be understood in relation to WORSHIP and PRAYER as is the case in much of the Old Testament" (*Decoding Revelation's Trumpets*, p. 223).

6. As well as on the Feast of Trumpets, at what other times were the trumpet blown? **Psalm 81:3**.

COMMENT: The association of the NUMBER SEVEN with trumpets should remind us of the SEVEN NEW MOON FESTIVALS, each of which was accompanied by the blowing of trumpets to REMIND the people of the forthcoming Feast of Trumpets. Thus, the seven trumpets represent the SEVEN NEW MOONS from the beginning of the religious year (Nisan) to the first day of the SEVENTH month (Tishri). The blowing of trumpets AT EACH NEW MOON was in anticipation of the Feast of Trumpets that served to remind people to be prepared for the day of judgment that would be inaugurated by the MASSIVE blowing of trumpets at the new moon of the seventh month.

7. What do we find mentioned within the SEVENTH trumpet? **Revelation 11:18**.

COMMENT: The seven trumpets of Revelation represent the ongoing sequence of SEVEN MONTHS with the seventh trumpet

representing the Feast of Trumpets itself. It is within the SEVENTH trumpet that we find the first explicit use of JUDGMENT terminology in the book of Revelation. In Judean thought the seventh-month Feast of Trumpets ushered in the time of JUDGMENT that led up to the Day of Atonement.

The blowing of trumpets at each New Moon was understood as a DAY OF JUDGMENT IN MINIATURE warning people to PREPARE for the FINAL JUDGMENT ushered in by the Feast of Trumpets. Correspondingly, the blowing of the FIRST SIX trumpets in Revelation WARNS people to prepare for the FINAL judgment inaugurated by the blowing of the SEVENTH trumpet.

8. The plagues unleashed by the blowing of the FIRST SIX trumpets are JUDGMENTS of grace designed to lead people to what? **Revelation 9:20-21**. Did they accomplish their goal? **Same verse**.

COMMENT: We are told TWICE that the people "did not repent" in spite of the judgments that accompanied the blowing of the first six trumpets. The judgments of these six trumpets are the FINAL WARNING of YEHOVAH God -- His summons to REPENTANCE!

9. Does YEHOVAH God WARN people through BOTH calamities (plagues) and PREACHING to REPENT before it is too late? **Ezekiel 33:2-4**.

COMMENT: YEHOVAH God is not in the business of punishing but of SAVING! Consequently, He WARNS people through BOTH calamities and preaching to REPENT. The trumpet judgments become a call to repentance when they are COMBINED with oral warnings, or, we might say, with the preaching of the Good News of the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God.

The blowing of the trumpets was understood by the Judeans to be a call to REPENT and PREPARE oneself to STAND TRIAL before YEHOVAH God who would execute HIS JUDGMENT TEN DAYS later on the Day of Atonement. The importance of the

feast is indicated by the fact that the Judeans ANTICIPATED ITS ARRIVAL on the first day of each month (NEW MOON) through SHORT BLASTS of the shofar (**Numbers 10:10; Psalm 81:3**). These short blasts were an anticipation of the LONG ALARM BLASTS to be sounded on the new moon of the SEVENTH MONTH (Tishri).

Return and Enthronement!

1. Read, once again, **Revelation 11:15**. What does it say about the “kingdoms of this world”?

COMMENT: The SEVENTH trumpet (shofar) is depicted quite differently from the preceding six. While the blowing of the first six

Outline of YEHOVAH’s Trumpet Warnings

- 1) NISAN 1 -- **first trumpet** -- warning to repent and prepare for the Judgment Day
- 2) IYAR 1 -- **second trumpet** -- warning to repent and prepare for the Judgment Day
- 3) SIVAN 1 -- **third trumpet** -- warning to repent and prepare for the Judgment Day
- 4) TAMMUZ 1 -- **fourth trumpet** -- warning to repent and prepare for the Judgment Day
- 5) AB 1 -- **fifth trumpet** -- warning to repent and prepare for the Judgment Day
- 6) ELUL 1 -- **sixth trumpet** -- warning to repent and prepare for the Judgment Day -- 30 days to examine ourselves and come to deeper repentance
- 7) FEAST OF TRUMPETS (Tishri 1) -- Day of Blowing -- pictures FINAL WARNING of YEHOVAH God symbolized by the **seventh trumpet** of Revelation -- call to repentance -- RETURN OF THE MESSIAH
- 8) DAYS OF AWE or REPENTANCE -- **final warnings** to prepare for the Day of Judgment

For the Judeans the FINAL JUDGMENT that determines the destiny of every human being OPENED on the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) with the blowing of trumpets and closed TEN DAYS LATER on the Day of Atonement. For this reason, these ten days are still called by the “Jews,” “DAYS OF AWE” or “DAYS OF REPENTANCE.” It is important for us to note that the Feast of Trumpets was viewed as the BEGINNING of a judgment process that lasted TEN DAYS until the Day of Atonement.

trumpets unleash WARNING judgments on the earth, the blowing of the seventh trumpet ANNOUNCES THE MESSIAH’S RETURN AND ENTHRONEMENT and his soon-coming judgment upon the inhabitants of the earth!

2. In the Old Testament, does the blowing of a trumpet announce the enthronement of a new king? **I Kings 1:34 and 39**.

COMMENT: This was the exact day on which many of the ancient kings and rulers of Judah reckoned as their INAUGURATION DAY OF RULE. This procedure was followed consistently in the time of Solomon, Jeremiah and Ezra. The Day of Trumpets was

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acknowledged as the time for counting the years of their kingly rule. In fact, it was customary that the FINAL CEREMONY in the coronation of kings was the BLOWING OF TRUMPETS.

3. Do we see the same thing in the case of Jehu? **II Kings 9:13**.

COMMENT: The Old Testament clearly shows that the blowing of trumpets was the SIGN that kings could then BEGIN TO RULE. The “Jews” have long acknowledged this ROYAL IMPORT to the Day of Trumpets.

4. What about Joash -- was his rulership announced by trumpets? **II Kings 11:14**.

COMMENT: The themes of Judgment and KINGSHIP are closely related because the king was enthroned to JUDGE over his people. The anointment of a new king to the throne was announced by the blowing of the shofar. In a similar fashion, the sound of the shofar on the Day of Trumpets should be understood as a symbol of the Messiah’s soon-coming enthronement in Jerusalem!

5. Is this theme developed by the apostle Paul in **I Thessalonians 4:16**? What sounds at the Messiah’s coming? **Same verse**. And what rise first?

COMMENT: Writes Alfred Edersheim: “As of old the SOUND OF THE TRUMPET summoned the congregation before the LORD [YEHOVAH God] at the door of the Tabernacle, so ‘His elect’ shall be summoned BY THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET in the day of Christ’s coming, and not only the living, but those also who had ‘slept’ -- ‘the dead in Christ.’ Similarly, the heavenly hosts are marshalled to the war of SUCCESSIVE JUDGMENTS [starting on Nisan 1], till, as ‘the seventh angel sounded,’ Christ is PROCLAIMED KING UNIVERSAL: ‘The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our LORD [YEHOVAH], and OF HIS CHRIST, and He shall reign for ever and ever” (*The Temple*, p. 291).

6. We see the same event pictured in **I Corinthians 15:52**. What happens at the LAST TRUMP -- the SEVENTH trumpet of Revelation? **Same verse**.

COMMENT: Just as the shofar was sounded to proclaim the freedom and liberation of the Jubilee year, so “the sound of the trumpet” will herald the descent of the Messiah from heaven (**I Thessalonians 4:16**) to gather the faithful and punish the wicked. It is significant that Paul calls this “the last trumpet” (**I Corinthians 15:52**), evidently because it is sounded for the LAST TIME to mark the CONSUMMATION OF REDEMPTION.

The “Last Trump” of the early Judeans was when the dead were remembered; and the “Last Trump” of Paul the apostle was the time for the Messiah’s return to this earth and the resurrection of the dead.

7. Read **Revelation chapters 8 through 11**. What do these chapters deal with?

COMMENT: The Day of Trumpets pictures the LAST trumpet blown in the book of Revelation -- the SEVENTH trumpet-plague of the “Day of the Lord” -- the time when the Messiah returns and is ENTHRONED in preparation for the Judgment Day! The “trumpets” are WARNING blasts, a call to REPENTANCE, and a warning of impending calamities.

Each trumpet blast, starting on Nisan 1, will be accompanied by a divinely sent PLAGUE to convince mankind that YEHOVAH God means business! They are a WARNING, sent by a loving God who doesn’t want to have to punish His people, but Who will not put up with sin and rebellion any longer. The “trumpets” -- plural -- lead up to the soon-coming JUDGMENT, which will occur when Yeshua the Messiah returns to earth to set up the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God in preparation for his Father’s return -- see Revelation 11:15-19.

YEHOVAH God Too?

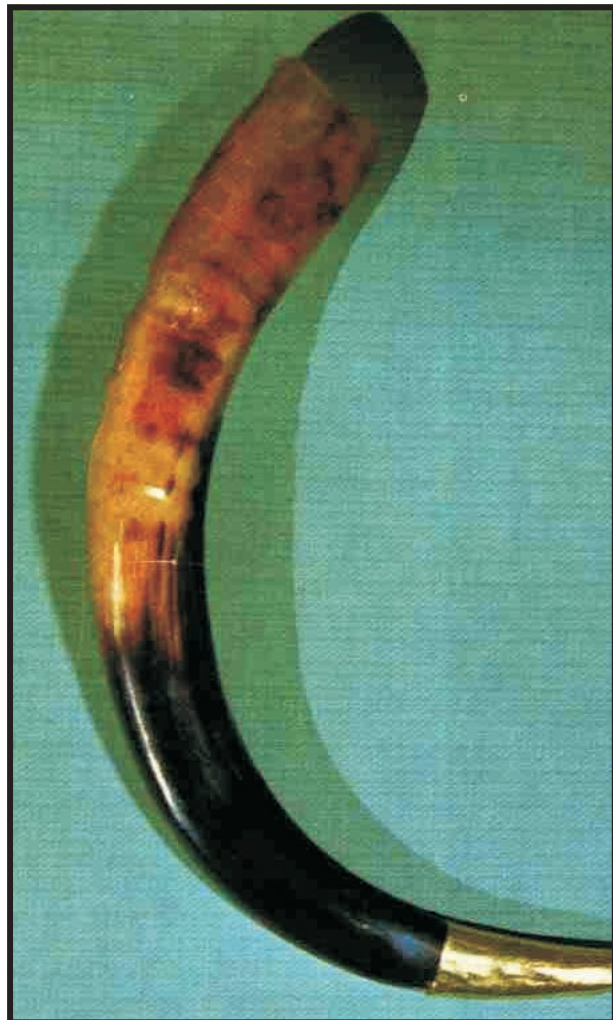
Not only is Yeshua the Messiah returning to this earth, but so too is YEHOVAH God!

1. Notice **Titus 2:13**. Who was Titus admonishing the people to look for?

COMMENT: The *Jewish New Testament* renders this verse in a much clearer fashion: "...while continuing to expect the blessed fulfillment of our certain hope, which is the appearing of the SH'KHINAH of our great God AND the appearing of our Deliverer, YESHUA THE MESSIAH." David Stern, in his *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, makes the following comment -- "v. 13 points to, literally, 'the blessed hope,' meaning the blessed fulfillment of our certain hope, which is the appearing at the End of Days of THE SH'KHINAH (MANIFEST GLORY) OF GOD, AND (AT THE SAME TIME) the APPEARING OF OUR DELIVERER, YESHUA THE MESSIAH" (page 656).

2. Is this verified by the apostle John in

The Shofar or Ram's horn



Revelation 11:15?

3. Does the Old Testament give any indication of the return of YEHOVAH God to this earth to rule the nations? **Psalm 47**, especially **verses 2, 7 and 8**.

COMMENT: The name "LORD" in **verse 2** is here translated from the tetragrammaton YHVH (YEHOVAH).

4. Turn now to **Zechariah 14:9**. Who does it say will be King over all the earth?

COMMENT: Once again, the name "LORD" is translated from the tetragrammaton YHVH.

For centuries Christians -- and even the Churches of God -- have been thoroughly confused regarding the setting up of the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God on this earth! They have placed their hope and expectations and yearnings on the return of Yeshua the Messiah while relegating YEHOVAH God and His return to the dust bin! While the return of the Messiah is not to be minimized (his role is VITAL in the Plan of YEHOVAH god) -- the FAR GREATER, earthshaking, awesome mind-reeling event of the end times is that of the SHEKINAH GLORY OF YEHOVAH GOD RETURNING TO THIS EARTH to reside and rule from the newly-built Temple in Jerusalem!

All the prophets of the Old Testament clearly predicted a visible, awesome, LITERAL MANIFESTATION of the Shekinah Glory of YEHOVAH God once again.

5. Read **Isaiah 24** noticing, especially, **verse 23**.

COMMENT: Much too often Christians have allowed themselves to hastily read through the texts, all the while ASSUMING that when the prophets write of YEHOVAH God Himself acting in decisive ways, they actually refer to the Messiah. As surprising as it may sound, the "coming of the Messiah" is definitely NOT the major emphasis of the Old Testament prophets. Writes James Tabor: "Only a dozen or so texts speak of the role of the coming Davidic King. In contrast there are many HUNDREDS of texts in the Hebrew Prophets which deal in the

GREATEST DETAIL with the end of the age, THE GREAT DAY OF JUDGMENT, and the arrival of the Kingdom of God...a more BASIC teaching of Scripture has been TOTALLY IGNORED by millions -- that of the SECOND COMING OF YHVH GOD HIMSELF” (*Restoring Abrahamic Faith*, page 70).

6. The prophet Ezekiel describes the awesome return of YEHOVAH God to His newly-built Temple in Jerusalem. **Ezekiel 43: 1-4, 7.**

COMMENT: Constantly the prophets make the point that YEHOVAH God Himself will intervene, acting personally and directly, to punish the wicked and rule as KING OVER ALL NATIONS on this earth!

7. Read **Isaiah 52:7.**

COMMENT: Other translations render the phrase “good tidings” as “good news.” This is, in fact, the TRUE BIBLICAL GOSPEL -- the GOOD NEWS of the coming reign of YEHOVAH God, the “Gospel of the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God.” The message, of course, includes the AGENCY of the Messiah, who prepares the way for YEHOVAH God. However, the essential focus and EMPHASIS of the Old Testament is NOT on the Messiah, but on YEHOVAH Himself and His reign ON THIS EARTH when He returns!

8. Go, now, to **Ezekiel 37:26-28.** Where does YEHOVAH God say He will set His sanctuary? **Verses 26 and 28.** Where will His tabernacle be? **Verse 27.**

COMMENT: This is another CLEAR Old Testament reference to the FACT that YEHOVAH God is going to return to this earth to take over rulership of the nations. But how does all this relate to the Feast of Trumpets?

9. Read **Zechariah 14:16.** Who are those going up to Jerusalem from year to year worshipping?

COMMENT: The theological thrust of the early Judeans within their synagogue services for the DAY OF TRUMPETS was the fact that YEHOVAH God rules over all and that He is the KING of kings. During services on this

day it was common to quote **Zechariah 14:16.** Some scholars note that psalms which begin “YEHOVAH is become king [or ‘The LORD reigns’]” (**Psalm 93, 97**) were originally intended for recitation on the Day of Trumpets.

The CENTRAL theme of the Feast of Trumpets is CLEARLY that of enthronement of the great King of kings -- YEHOVAH God! This was the general understanding of the day in Old Testament times and it is certainly that of the New Testament. In **Revelation 11:15** the SEVENTH angel sounds his “last trump” and “the kingdoms of this world are become THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD [YEHOVAH], and of His Christ, and He [YEHOVAH] shall REIGN for ever and ever.”

As we have already shown from the Old Testament, the blowing of trumpets was the SIGN that kings could then begin to rule (**I Kings 1:34; II Kings 9:13; 11:11**). Judean authorities long acknowledged this royal import to the Feast of Trumpets. According to Theodor Gaster: “The Sovereignty of [YEHOVAH] God is a DOMINANT THEME of the occasion [and] it is one of the CARDINAL features of New Year’s Day” (*Festivals of the Jewish Year*, p. 115).

The main thrust of the day was the triumph of YEHOVAH God as a KING over all the forces of evil. The symbolic motif of the Feast of Trumpets, as Gaster shows, was YEHOVAH God “continually fighting His way to the Kingdom, continually asserting His dominion, and continually ENTHRONING Himself as Sovereign of creation. At New Year when the world was annually reborn that sovereignty was evinced anew” (*ibid.*, p. 115).

10. Read **Psalm 47** again.

COMMENT: In this psalm YEHOVAH God is depicted as ascending Zion to be ENTHRONED in the TEMPLE as KING of the entire earth. The blast of the shofar is used here to REMIND the people that YEHOVAH God is sovereign -- judges the nations of the earth from His holy throne in the Temple: “God has gone up with a shout, the LORD [YEHOVAH] with the

sound of a trumpet [shofar]" (**Psalm 47:5**). In **Psalm 98:6**, the people are exhorted to "make a joyful noise before the LORD [YEHOVAH], THE KING"...with trumpets and [the] sound of [the] cornet [horn -- shofar]."

A large number of the Psalms were used in conjunction with the Feast of Trumpets to celebrate YEHOVAH GOD'S ENTHRONEMENT.

Saints Gathered at the LAST TRUMPET

1. Why will YEHOVAH's faithful people -- His elect -- REJOICE at the sound of the final trumpet, while the people of this evil age suffer for their disobedience? **Matthew 24:30-31**. Why must YEHOVAH God gather His faithful -- His "elect"? **Matthew 24:22**.

COMMENT: At the final trumpet YEHOVAH God must SUPERNATURALLY INTERVENE to spare the human race from total destruction -- FOR THE SAKE OF HIS ELECT.

2. What happens to those who have FAITHFULLY obeyed YEHOVAH's laws, submitted HUMBLY to His divine Government, and REJECTED the ways of their human nature? **I Corinthians 15:52**. When does this change occur? **Same verse**. Isn't it the sound of the FINAL TRUMPET? **Same verse**.

3. What is this change that must be made? **Verses 53-54**. Who is it that will experience this change from physical human flesh to spiritual immortal life? **Verse 52**.

COMMENT: When the apostle Paul uses the term "we" he is speaking of true Christians who have yielded their lives to YEHOVAH's Government and received YEHOVAH's holy spirit. These include the "ELECT" who are raised to immortal life in the FIRST RESURRECTION and those "elect" who are living at the Messiah's arrival on this earth. It is the small group from the first century (the 144,000) that will become the "FIRST-FRUIT" HARVEST of YEHOVAH's wonderful MASTER PLAN -- along with all those who have died since (the innumerable

multitude).

4. When Yeshua the Messiah returns to this earth with the shout of the archangel and the trumpet of YEHOVAH God, will those who have yielded their lives to Him in humble repentance be resurrected? **I Thessalonians 4:16-18**.

5. What is said of those in the FIRST resurrection? **Revelation 20:6**. See also **Revelation 3:21**.

COMMENT: The resurrection of the elect will occur at the second appearance of Yeshua the Messiah when he returns to prepare the way for YEHOVAH God to rule over the nations as the KING of kings and LORD of lords. Then all TRUE Christians, who have received YEHOVAH's holy spirit, shall be resurrected to immortality, to inherit YEHOVAH's world-ruling Kingdom.

This FIRST resurrection occurs at the LAST TRUMPET! It is PICTURED BY THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS in YEHOVAH's Master Plan.

But understanding the MEANING of these Feast Days IS NOT ENOUGH!

YEHOVAH God expects you to ACT upon the knowledge He has given you through His inspired Word! If you refuse, you are treading on MIGHTY DANGEROUS GROUND.

YEHOVAH God Almighty will NOT RESURRECT ANYONE HE DOES NOT RULE!

If you have not SUBMITTED to YEHOVAH's spiritual Government in this life -- if you are not OBEYING THE LAWS of that spiritual Government NOW -- if you are not KEEPING the Feast of Trumpets, YOU CANNOT EXPECT to be resurrected at the second appearance of Yeshua the Messiah!

You need to begin to KEEP YEHOVAH's Holy Days if you are to escape the terrifying times ahead!

6. Did the leaders of the Old Testament Church know that the blowing of trumpets was VITALLY SIGNIFICANT to the meaning of

this Holy Day -- the Feast of Trumpets? **Nehemiah 8:2**. Did the people hear Ezra READ THE LAW on this Day of Trumpets? **Verses 3-8**. Did YEHOVAH's ministers READ and EXPOUND what they read so the people could understand -- JUST AS YEHOVAH'S MINISTERS DO TODAY? **Verse 8**.

7. What did Nehemiah teach YEHOVAH's people concerning this Day of Trumpets? **Verses 9-12**. Although the people had been WEEPING IN REPENTANCE for not knowing YEHOVAH God's law, and for not keeping YEHOVAH's Holy Day of Trumpets, when Nehemiah explained that Trumpets was a day of GREAT rejoicing, what did they do? **Verse 12**.

What YEHOVAH God Requires of You

You need to realize that you need the PASSOVER sacrifice of Yeshua the Messiah in your life -- without it you are TOTALLY CUT OFF from YEHOVAH God your Creator!

You need to begin to KEEP, PRACTICE and OBSERVE ALL of the VITAL TRUTHS YEHOVAH God, in His mercy, has revealed to you. To thoroughly rid your life of all your old ways, ideas, and practices -- to UNLEAVEN YOUR LIFE!

You need to understand that without YEHOVAH's holy spirit you have NO PROMISE OF LIFE -- NO HOPE FOR THE FUTURE -- nothing more than the chemical existence of physical, human flesh. You must realize that ONLY through YEHOVAH's spirit can you ever hope to fulfill THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN BORN. Only YEHOVAH's spirit can make you one of His spiritual family.

You must be WILLING to HUMBLY OBEY YEHOVAH God the Father, and FOLLOW where the Messiah leads HIS TRUE CHURCH, knowing that only through THIS WAY can you ever find that full, RICH, ABUNDANT LIFE Yeshua the Messiah promised to his followers.

Then -- and ONLY THEN -- will you come under YEHOVAH God's DIVINE PROTECTION. The question you face today is -- are you willing to SUBMIT to the rule of YEHOVAH God in your life and DO WHAT HE SAYS?

You can begin by heeding the words of the apostle Peter who said, "REPENT, and be BAPTIZED...and you shall receive the gift of the holy spirit"! (**Acts 2:38**).

Remember, YEHOVAH god is VITAL-LY CONCERNED with whether or not you are ACTING on the knowledge He has revealed to you.

May YEHOVAH God Almighty help YOU TO HEED HIS WARNING MESSAGE and begin to keep holy the days He made holy.

Recommended Reading...

The Annual Holy Days Reveal the *Awesome Plan* of YEHOVAH God!

The *Return* of YEHOVAH God and His Messiah!

The 144,000 -- Future? Or *Fulfilled?*

Does It Really Matter *What Days We Keep?*

What Do You Mean, "Solemn Feast Day"?

"Your Feast Days My Soul Hates!" Says YEHOVAH God Almighty!

The Temple: Its Ministry and Services As They Were At the Time of Christ, by Alfred Edersheim (Book)

See page 2 for address to order the above articles.

NOTES:**Answers to Questions in Lesson 15**

1. Yes 2. No 3. Vain (empty) worship 4. False 5. Pharisees 6. True 7. Racial indulgence 8. Slaves to tradition 9. Leaven 10. No 11. No 12. Humanist doctrine 13. void 14. Disobedience of YEHOVAH's Law

Check Your Progress...

Question 1: Seven is YEHOVAH's special number signifying what? _____

Question 2: What was the shofar made from? _____

Question 3: What does the seventh trumpet of Revelation usher in? _____

Question 4: Does the first resurrection occur at the last trumpet -- at the Feast of Trumpets? Yes _____ No _____

Question 5: Without YEHOVAH's holy spirit you have no hope of anything more than what? _____

Question 6: Who was it that YEHOVAH God allowed to blow the trumpets in Old Testament times? _____

Question 7: What basic teaching of the Bible has been ignored by millions?

Question 8: Who, in the Bible, is the KING of kings and LORD of lords? _____

Question 9: The Good News of the coming reign of YEHOVAH God on this earth is known as what? _____

Question 10: In what Hebrew month was the fourth trumpet blown? _____

Question 11: Who will soon appear again on this earth and prepare the way for YEHOVAH God the Father? _____

Question 12: The central theme of the Feast of Trumpets is what? _____

Question 13: In what form will YEHOVAH God return to this earth? _____

Question 14: Is it true that the blowing of trumpets in the Old Testament was a sign that kings could then begin to rule? Yes _____ No _____

Question 15: The approach of the final judgment was announced in advance by the blowing of trumpets on the _____ of the first six months leading up to Tishri.

The answers will be found in Test 4. Approximately 3 weeks after receiving Lessons 13 through 16, you will receive a mail-in test that covers these four lessons. The test will be returned to you after grading. Following the completion of the Hope of Israel Bible Correspondence Course you will receive a **Certificate of Completion**. If you complete the course with a grade of 75% or better you will also receive an **Outstanding Student Award**.

