

Yom Teruah / Festival of Trumpets



Introduction

One way to determine the real interests of a person is to note the festivals that he or she attends. Festivals are generally happy events when people with similar interests assemble to celebrate something.

At a festival all the age-old barriers of race, color and class are usually swept aside as people give themselves over to the "spirit of the occasion". And so we have *music festivals, sports festivals, film festivals, wine festivals, carnivals, fetes, fairs, religious festivals and Festivals* of various kinds. Indeed, there's a festival to suit almost every kind of event and they are all normally well attended.

Festivals are often held to commemorate some important event, and in this connection they may be referred to as **memorial festivals**. Many religious festivals fall into this category; they are 'memorial festivals' held to commemorate the actions of the various G_ds that people worship.

This study is of the **Festival Days of Yahweh the Holy One of Israel**, the Creator of the mighty universe, the Yahweh Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; the One who is intensely interested in the welfare of every soul on earth. Yes, the Almighty has certain memorials. He calls them '**My Festivals**', **His Sacred Memorial Banquets** commemorating His greatest acts in the Program of Salvation; banquets to which all His subjects are invited.

Leviticus 23:1-4 יהוה spake unto Moses, saying. "Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the the **Festivals of יהוה**, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even **these are MY Festivals!** ... These are the **Festivals of יהוה**, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons." (RNKJV)

Note the Almighty's words "**These are My Festivals**" and "**These are the Festivals of Yahweh.**"

Undoubtedly Yahweh's festivals were initially given to the people of Israel, for it was His plan that through them salvation was to be proclaimed to the world. But the Festivals themselves are the Yahweh's, not Israel's or Judah's, but Yahweh's. Remember this vital fact.

Unlike the popular festivals of Ash Wednesday, Easter, Hallowe'en and Chr_stmas, whose observance is nowhere commanded in the Scriptures, the Festival Days of Yahweh are described in the Bible in considerable detail. They are to be **proclaimed to** and **observed by** all true believers in Yahweh Elohim of Israel. Read about these sacred memorials in **Leviticus 23, Numbers 28 & 29** and **Zechariah 14**. There you will see overwhelming evidence of their origin and everlasting nature. Our aim is to draw faithful assemblies' attention to these appointed Festivals of the Most High; to proclaim them to all the world in accordance with this direction:

Leviticus 23:4 *"These are the Festivals of Yahweh, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons."*

A holy convocation is a **commanded assembly**. In other words, you are commanded to attend and join with fellow worshippers of Yahweh.

Q: What do these sacred Festivals actually commemorate?

A: *They are the spiritual anniversaries of Yahweh's mightiest deeds; each and every one of them being an eternal memorial of some distinct, divine accomplishment in the great Program of Salvation.*

Let's consider Yahweh's Festival days in turn by opening our minds to the profound spiritual realities they represent.

Festival of Trumpets

The Festival of Trumpets is celebrated on the first day of Ethanim (Tishri) the seventh month in the sacred calendar. (Lev. 23:24)

Trumpets were used by Yahweh's command in ancient Israel:

- To assemble the congregation and to start journeying (**Numbers 10:2**)
- To call the leaders of Israel together (**verse 4**)
- To sound the alarm for war and to signal an attack (**verse 9, Judges 3:27, Job 39:25**)
- To accompany the praises of Israel at the appointed festivals and the days of the new moon (**Numbers 10:10**)
- To proclaim the accession of kings (**2 Sam. 15:10, 1 Kings 1:34, 2 Kings 9:13**)
- And to announce the Jubilee year of freedom (**Lev. 25:9**)

The Festival of Trumpets is a memorial Sabbath, a day of special significance, designed to bring the faithful into remembrance before the Almighty. The two silver trumpets mentioned in **Numbers 10** were types of the great originals in the heavens - the **Trumpets of Yahweh & His Son**. Those divine originals are mentioned several times in the Scriptures and at their sounding events of awesome importance have and **still will** take place. We read about the trumpets past and future used in:

- The giving of the Ten Commandments (**Exodus 19:14-19**)
- **The world wide warning still scheduled for the future when Yahweh Himself will blow the trumpet. (Zech. 9:14, Isaiah 18:3, Zeph. 1:14-16)**
- Signalling the events scheduled for the close of this age. (**Revelation chapters 8 & 9**)
- The Second Advent of **Yeshua Messiah**; at which the resurrection will take place. (**Matt. 24:31, 1 Cor. 15:51-52**)

A study of the texts listed above will show how Yahweh Himself has planned to use His heavenly trumpets again. **He and His Son will blow them** to gather His people as in days gone by; gather them for the climatic events scheduled to take place at the Messiah's return. Did he not say:

Isaiah 18:3 "All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when He lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and **when He bloweth a trumpet, HEAR YE.**"

Zechariah 9:14 "And יהוה shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Sovereign יהוה shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

The prophecy of the Revelation tells of the sounding of heavenly trumpets - possibly starting at a Festival of Trumpets - which will probably coincide with the gathering of Yahweh's people in the last days and the final war in heaven between the forces of good and evil. (Rev 12).

No one will doubt but that the Festival to Trumpets has still to find even partial fulfilment; and it is because of this fact and the many texts which tell of the use of the Trumpets of יהוה in the future that believers should beware of ignoring this important Festival day.

On some future Festival of Trumpets the mighty **Trumpet of יהוה** will sound. It will be heard **throughout the world!** and will reverberate with tones as awesome as the rushing sound which filled Jerusalem on the **Day of Pentecost** some 2000 years ago (**Acts 2:2**). All of mankind will hear the Trumpet, for the Bible says:

Zechariah 9:14 "And יהוה shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: **and the Sovereign יהוה shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with the whirlwinds of the south.**"

Isaiah 18:3 "All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; **and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.**"

Only when that event happens can we justifiably say that the Festival of Trumpets has found fulfilment.

Addendum

The last trump

And I saw the **seven angels** which stood before יהוה ; and to them **were given seven trumpets.** (Rev 8:2)

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Elohim, and of his Messiah; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before יהוה on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped יהוה , Saying, We give thee thanks, O יהוה El-Shaddai, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, **and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great;** and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth. **And the temple of יהוה was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.** (Rev 11:15-19)

Yeshua Messiah's return

And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven

*with power and great glory. **And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Matt 24:30-31)***

*For Yeshua himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of **יְהוָה** : and **the dead in the Messiah shall rise first: (1Thess 4:16)***

*In a moment, **in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and **the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. (1Cor 15:52)***

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