

THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS AND THE RAPTURE



by Rev. Moshe Elijah

1 Corinthians 15:51–53

Behold, I shew 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 last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. [53] For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality



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PREFACE

There is a lot of wealth of information to be gained from studying carefully with much prayer (and sometimes with fasting) the 7 major Feasts of Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of Israel, the only true God, Creator of heaven and earth, the supreme, sovereign governor of the Universe.

In these Feasts the Lord God of Israel has put his blueprint with chronological events, for the salvation of mankind.

Psalm 89:15-16 - Indicates the spiritual blessings to be gained from understanding these Feasts.

Psalm 89:15-16 – Amplified Bible

Blessed – happy, fortunate (to be envied) – are the people who know the joyful sound (my comment – shofar blowing?) (who understand and appreciate the spiritual blessings symbolized by the Feasts); they walk, O Lord in the light and favour of your countenance. In your name they rejoice all the day, and in Your righteousness they are exalted.”

The first 4 feasts point to the First Coming of Christ in a prophetic way.

Similarly, the last 3 Feasts point to the Second Coming of Christ in this Last Generation.

My previous seminar, titled “Signs of the Last Generation”, explains with scriptures from the Word of God that we are now in the final stages of the Last Generation.

The Feasts of Yahweh, the God of Israel, give many clues about major events and their chronological progression of God’s plan of salvation for mankind.

A. **First 4 Feasts: First coming of Christ.** This shows the 4 stages involved in exact chronological sequence.

1. **Feast of Passover (Hag Pesach):** This points to the divine appointment for the death of the sacrificial Passover Lamb of God, the Jewish Messiah, the Saviour of mankind, the Lord Jesus Christ (Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah), to atone for the sins of mankind.

John 1:29

The next day John (the Baptist) seeth Jesus (Yeshua) coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world.

2. **Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag Ha Matzah):** This points to the burial of the Messiah, the Bread of Life with no leaven (a symbol for sin).
3. **Feast of First Fruits (Hag Yom Ha Bikurim):** This points to the resurrection of Christ – the First Fruits of those who will rise from the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:20

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and the First Fruits of them that slept.

4. Feast of Pentecost (Hag Shavuot): This points to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, with the birth of the church.
- B. Last 3 Feasts: Second Coming of Christ.** This shows the 3 stages involved, and maybe we can assume they will happen in a similar chronological sequence as for the first 4 Feasts. If so, this is a fantastic clue. It means that the Rapture will occur at the END of the Great Tribulation; More on this later.
1. Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah): This prophetically points to the Rapture, with the Resurrection of the dead.
 2. Feast of Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur): This points to the Messiah's Second Coming, to land on the Mount of Olives, at the end of the 7 year Tribulation (the last 3.5 years being "The Great Tribulation").

The Nation of Israel will see the Messiah they pierced, and will mourn for Him in repentance. It will be the National Day of Repentance (Teshuvah in Hebrew).

Zechariah 12:10

And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Zechariah 13:1

In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

Zechariah 13:6

And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

Zechariah 14:4

And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

3. Feast of Tabernacles or Booths (Sukkot): This points to the Millennial Reign of Christ.

(a) Leviticus 23:33-36

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [34] Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the Lord. [35] On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. [36] Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an

offering made by fire unto the Lord: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.

(b) Season of rejoicing before the Lord

(i) Leviticus 23:39-40

Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath. [40] And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days.

(ii) Deuteronomy 16:13-15

Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine: [14] And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates. [15] Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose: because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.

The last 3 Feasts give clues about the End Times, such as:-

- (a) The time of the Rapture
- (b) The duration of the wrath of God mentioned in the Book of Revelation as the “7 bowls of Wrath”.
- (c) The forth-coming millennial reign of Christ from Jerusalem.

This seminar will concentrate mainly on the Feast of Trumpets, which point to the forth-coming Rapture of the saints of God (i.e. “hot”, not luke warm, Christians).

The Rapture is the catching up into the air of the saints, to be with Christ, when He comes in this Last Generation.

A previous seminar that I gave, titled, “Check that you are in the Faith,” explains the need to know and believe the true Gospel of Christ with total repentance.

This is necessary to be truly saved, and to not be under a delusion of believing you are saved, when you believe and follow a false Gospel.

Christ and the Apostles fore-warned that in the last days there would be false teachers, false prophets and false Apostles, teaching false gospels which would be wide spread. Christ said that at His Second Coming, genuine faith in Him would be scarce.

Luke 18:2 - (Christ speaking)

.... Nevertheless when the son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?

There are many Protestant Christian Pastors / Leaders preaching different gospels today. For example, the chief Arch Bishop of a mainline Protestant denomination publicly declared that he does not believe in the Resurrection of Christ. What does the Word of God state about this?

1 Corinthians 15:12-19

Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? [13] But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: [14] And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. [15] Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. [16] For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: [17] And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. [18] Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. [19] If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

This chief Arch Bishop also declared publicly that Christ is not the only way to Heaven. He said people can go to Heaven through other religions as well (seems similar to Catholic doctrine?).

Another example of a false gospel, is the ordination of practising homosexuals as Christian Ministers/ Pastors in mainline Protestant denominations.

Coming back to this present seminar, “The Feast of Trumpets and the Rapture”, there is much controversy about the timing of the Rapture, whether Pre-Tribulation, Mid-Tribulation, or Post-Tribulation. Although Christ stated that no one will know the exact day or hour of His Second Coming, He did give us a number of signs to look for, to know about the beginning of the Last Generation (the sign of Jerusalem going back to Israeli sovereignty), and about certain world events to happen before His return. This is explained in my previous seminar, titled “Signs of the Last Generation”.

The Feasts of Yahweh, the God of Israel, gives important clues about the Second Coming of Christ.

The Feast of Trumpets is about blowing the shofar, a ram’s horn (trumpet).

At the time of the Rapture, the shofar (trumpet) will be blown. This is the Last Trump, or Last Trumpet – a long, loud, continuous blast. In Hebrew, it is called “Tekiah Gedolah” – the great blast.

It is interesting that the “Tekiah Gedolah” was blown by the 7 priests marching around the walls of Jericho, in the time of Joshua, to bring down these walls, especially:-

Joshua 6:2-5

And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. [3] And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. [4] And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. [5] And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

The Book of Revelation gives an account of 7 Trumpet judgements of God. The 7th Trumpet judgement is the “Last Trump” or “Last Trumpet” event.

This could point to the Rapture occurring at this time, as indicated by the following scripture:

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

Behold, I shew 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 last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. [53] For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Isn't it amazing about the clues and wealth of information in the 7 major Feasts of Yahweh, the God of Israel?

May you be blessed and be rejoiced in the study of this seminar on "the Feast of trumpets and the Rapture".

Shalom.

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. Other names:-

- (a) "Yom Teruah" - Hebrew for Day of blowing trumpets.
This points to the Rapture when the shofar (trumpet) is blown.
- (b) Rosh Ha Shanah - Hebrew for "Head of the Year", or "Jewish New Year", the Civil New Year. See later for two different New Years.
- (c) Yom Ha Din - Hebrew for "Day of Judgement".
The day when God will judge those who are pure and acceptable, from the others. That is "Hot" Christians selected for the Rapture.
- (d) Yom Ha Zikaron - Hebrew for "Day of Remembrance or Memorial".
A day to remember God and worship Him.

2. Relevant Scriptures for the Feast of Trumpets

- (a) Leviticus 23:23-25
And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [24] Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. [25] Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord.

This occurs for one day – the first day of the 7th month of Tishri.

- (b) Numbers 29:1
And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have a holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you.

3. Relevant Scriptures for the subsequent Two Feasts

- (a) Day of Atonement - Yom Kippur

Leviticus 23:26-32

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [27] Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord. [28] And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a Day of Atonement, to make an atonement for you before the Lord your God. [29] For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. [30] And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. [31] Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. [32] It shall be unto you a Sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your Sabbath.

It is one day and occurs on the 10th day of Tishri.

(b) Feast of Tabernacles (Booths) - Sukkot

(i) Leviticus 23:33-36

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [34] Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the Lord. [35] On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. [36] Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.

It occurs on the 15th day of Tishri and lasts for 8 days.

(ii) Season of rejoicing before the Lord

(1) Leviticus 23:39-40

Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath. [40] And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days.

(2) Deuteronomy 16:13-15

Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine: [14] And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates. [15] Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose: because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.

4. Prophetic fulfilment of the Feast of Trumpets

This Feast points to the Rapture, when the shofar (trumpet) is blown.

5. New Testament Scriptures on the Rapture

(a) 1 Corinthians 15:51-53

Behold, I shew 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 last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. [53] For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Special note: The Last Trump is mentioned.

(b) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. [15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. [16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Special note: Trump of God is mentioned.

B. BASIC CONCEPTS OF THE 7 FEASTS OF YAHWEH

There are 7 major Feasts of Yahweh. These Feasts point prophetically to the First and Second Comings of Messiah Yeshua, giving prophetic messages of the plan of salvation of God.

These 7 Feasts are not the Feasts of Israel but the Feasts of Yahweh and they give a blue print, a basic outline of God's plan of salvation, beginning with the First Coming of Christ and ending with the Second coming of Christ and the Millennial reign of Christ over the Earth from His throne in Jerusalem.

1. The First 4 Feasts – First Coming of Christ

The first 4 Feasts occur in the Spring season in Israel, the time of the former rain, paralleling the Messiah's First Coming. They are:-

- (a) Passover (Hag Pesach): This points to the divine appointment for the crucifixion death of the Passover Lamb of God, the Lord Jesus Christ (Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah)

John 1:29

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

- (b) Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag Ha Matzah): This points to the burial of the Messiah.

- (c) Feast of Firstfruits (Hag Yom Ha Bikurim): This points to the Resurrection of Christ - the Firstfruits of those who will rise from the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:20

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

- (d) Pentecost (Hag Shavuot): This is the birthday of the Church through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and widespread preaching of the Gospel.

2. The Last 3 Feasts – Second Coming of Christ

The Last three Feasts of Yahweh point to the Second Coming of Christ. They take place within the 7th month, Tishri, in the fall season in Israel – the time of the Latter Rain. They are:-

- (a) Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah – Rosh Ha Shanah)
This prophetically points to the Rapture, with the Resurrection of the dead.
- (b) Feast of Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
The Messiah's Second Coming to land on the Mount of Olives, at the end of the 7 year Tribulation, will fulfil this Feast when Israel will see the One they pierced and will mourn for Him. The National Day of Repentance (Teshuvah) for Israel will occur on this Day of Atonement.

Relevant Scriptures:

(i) Zechariah 12:10

And I (God Yahweh the Son – the Jewish Messiah of Israel) will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications (the Holy Spirit): and they shall look upon me (Messiah Yeshua – Holy One of Israel) whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

(ii) Zechariah 13:1

In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

My Comments:

Israel shall be cleansed from sin and all unrighteousness through the atoning blood of Christ.

(iii) Zechariah 13:6

And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

(iv) Zechariah 14:4

And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

(c) Feast of Tabernacles or Booths (Sukkot)

This points to the Millennial Reign of Christ

C. THE 7 FEASTS WERE SET BY GOD HIMSELF

The 7 Feasts were set by God according to God's divine plan of salvation with appointed times. They are sacred assemblies.

Relevant Scriptures:

1. Leviticus 23:1-2

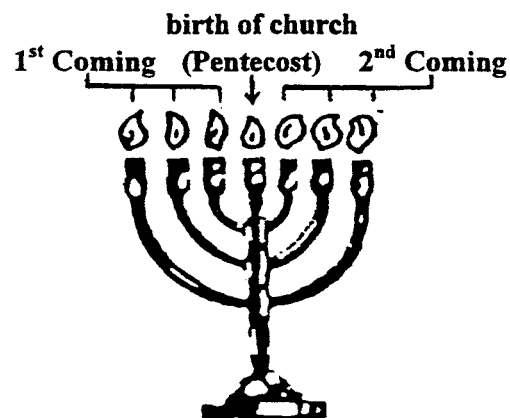
And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [2] Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the Lord, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

2. Leviticus 23:4

These are the feasts of the Lord, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

D. THE 7 TIER (BRANCH) MENORAH (CANDLE-HOLDER)

7 is God's number and is used a lot in the Bible, including the Book of Revelation.



The 7 branches can also point to the 7 Feasts as shown on the diagram

E. THE FIRST 4 FEASTS – FIRST COMING OF CHRIST AND THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

1. Passover

This Feast occurred on Nisan 14 and is a fore-shadow of Christ's death – the sacrificial blood atonement for the sins of mankind. Christ is the Passover Lamb of God.

John 1:29

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

2. Feast of Unleavened Bread

This begins the next day after Passover (Nisan 15). Unleavened bread points to Christ, the Bread of Life without leaven (symbol of sin). For 7 days the worshippers partook of unleavened bread.

3. **Feasts of Firstfruits**

This occurs within the 7 days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It occurred the next day after the occurrence of the normal Sabbath within this span of 7 days. Hence it occurred on a Sunday. It points to the Resurrection of Christ, the firstfruit to rise from the dead. It also starts a New Covenant day of worship on the Lord's Day of Resurrection (not a new Sabbath).

1 Corinthians 15:20

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

4. **Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)**

This occurred on the first day of the week, 50 days after the regular Sabbath, which occurred after Passover. It pointed to the birthday of the Church with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

F. **CHRONOLOGICAL PROGRESSION OF THE FEASTS**

The first 4 Feasts were fulfilled literally in chronological progression, pointing to the First Coming. Hence we can expect the final 3 Feasts, which point to the End Times, to be fulfilled in a similar literal chronological progression. Hence the Rapture occurs at the end of the 7 years Tribulation.

G. **TWO NEW YEAR DAYS**

The Jewish calendar has two days for the new year.

1. **The biblical or religious New Year – Passover: month of Nisan or Abib**

This starts with the month of the Feast of Passover (Pesach in Hebrew). This month is called Nisan or Abib in Hebrew.

(a) Leviticus 23:5

In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the Lord's passover.

My Comments:

The Lord's Passover begins at twilight on the 14th day of the first month (Nisan or Abib).

(b) Exodus 12:1-2

**And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
[2] This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.**

2. **The Jewish New Year – Rosh Ha Shanah: month of Tishri**

It is also the civil new year. It is the Feast of Trumpets, which occurs on the first day of the 7th month of Tishri. This is considered to be the anniversary of the Day of Creation of Genesis 1:1. It also points to the Rapture, the gathering of "hot" Christians into the air to meet Christ.

H. SHOFAR

1. Genesis 22:12-18 - Basic Scripture

A ram (male sheep) was caught in the thicket and was sacrificed by Abraham, in the place of Isaac. That is, it was a substitutionary sacrifice, pointing to Christ dying for us for the atonement of our sins.

The shofar is the horn of a ram which points to Christ and is blown at the festivals of Yahweh and at other important events.

And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. [13] And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. [14] And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen.

[15] And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, [16] And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: [17] That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; [18] And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

2. Uses of the shofar

- (a) On Rosh Hashanah the shofar is blown to call people to repent of their sins before Yom Kippur, which occurs 9 days away, occurring on the 10th day of Tishri, the Day of Atonement.

Relevant Scripture for Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement

Leviticus 23:26-32

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [27] Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord. [28] And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the Lord your God. [29] For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. [30] And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. [31] Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. [32] It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath.

(b) Walls of Jericho

In Joshua chapters 5 and 6, there were 7 priests with 7 shofars, with the Ark of God in their midst, who marched around the walls of Jericho for 6 days. On the seventh day they marched around 7 times. At the close of the march, the 7 shofars were blown, with the people shouting. God's power then came down and collapsed the walls of Jericho. (Joshua 6:2-5)

(c) The Ark of the Covenant

The Ark was carried into the Tabernacle of David with the blowing of shofars.

Relevant Scripture:

1 Chronicles 15:25-28 - (NIV)

So (King) David and the elders of Israel and the commanders of units of a thousand, went to bring up the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord from the house of Obed Edom, with rejoicing So all Israel brought up the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord with shouts, with the sounding of ram's horns (shofars) and trumpets (made of silver), and of cymbals, and the playing of lyres and harps.

1 Chronicles 15:25-28 - (KJV) - Repeating above Scripture in KJV

So David, and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the house of Obed-edom with joy. [26] And it came to pass, when God helped the Levites that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord, that they offered seven bullocks and seven rams. [27] And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites that bare the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers: David also had upon him an ephod of linen. [28] Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.

3. Digression – Notes on Trumpets

In the Bible, there are two kinds of trumpets.

- (a) Those made from the horns of rams (male sheep), called shofars.
- (b) Those made of silver.

Sometimes both types of trumpets are blown together, and sometimes only the shofar is blown, or the silver trumpet, depending on the occasion. In 1 Chronicles 15:25-28 above, both were used.

4. Other uses of the Trumpets (Shofar, or silver trumpet, or both)

- (a) To call the tribes of Israel together as one nation

- (i) Numbers 10:1-10

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, [2] Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. [3] And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall assemble themselves to thee at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. [4] And if they blow but with one trumpet, then the princes, which are heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves unto thee. [5] When ye blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the east parts shall go forward. [6] When

ye blow an alarm the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall take their journey: they shall blow an alarm for their journeys. [7] But when the congregation is to be gathered together, ye shall blow, but ye shall not sound an alarm. [8] And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the trumpets; and they shall be to you for an ordinance for ever throughout your generations. [9] And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppreseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the Lord your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies. [10] Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the Lord your God.

(ii) Isaiah 27:13

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

(b) To call the Israelites to move camp

During the 40 years in the wilderness, the Israelites camped at different places, under the leadership of the prophet Moses. When the cloud of God moved, then the trumpets were blown, to call the people to move with God.

(i) Numbers 10:2-4

Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. [3] And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall assemble themselves to thee at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. [4] And if they blow but with one trumpet, then the princes, which are heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves unto thee.

(c) For the great year of Jubilee, every 50th year

This is a year of liberty, release, restoration and reunion.

(i) Leviticus 25:8-14

And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years. [9] Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubile to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. [10] And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family. [11] A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed. [12] For it is the jubile; it shall be holy unto you: ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field. [13] In the year of this jubile ye shall return every man unto his possession. [14] And if thou sell ought unto thy neighbour, or buyest ought of thy neighbour's hand, ye shall not oppress one another:

(ii) Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; [2] To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; [3] To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

(d) Call to worship

Isaiah 27:13

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

(e) To sound the alarm for important events

eg. 2nd Coming of Christ, war and other dramatic events

(i) Joel 2:1

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand;

(ii) Amos 3:6

Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?

(f) For calling God for help in times of war and other forms of distress

When God heard the trumpet blast in times of war, He would fight for Israel and give them the victory.

(i) Numbers 10:9-10

And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the Lord your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies. [10] Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the Lord your God.

(ii) Jeremiah 4:19-21

My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trump, the alarm of war. [20] Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled: suddenly are my tents spoiled, and my curtains in a moment. [21]

How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?

(iii) Judges 3:27

And it came to pass, when he was come, that he blew a trumpet in the mountain of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mount, and he before them.

(iv) Judges 6:34

But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abi-ezer was gathered after him.

(v) Judges 7:19-22

So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands. [20] And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon. [21] And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled. [22] And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the Lord set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Beth-shittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abel-meholah, unto Tabbath.

(vi) Numbers 31:6-7

And Moses sent them to the war, a thousand of every tribe, them and Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, to the war, with the holy instruments, and the trumpets to blow in his hand. [7] And they warred against the Midianites, as the Lord commanded Moses; and they slew all the males.

(g) For joyful festivals

Trumpets are blown as the Israelites rejoiced before God.

(i) 1 Chronicles 13:8

And David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with cymbals, and with trumpets.

(ii) 1 Chronicles 15:24-29

And Shebaniah, and Jehoshaphat, and Nethaneel, and Amasai, and Zechariah, and Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, did blow with the trumpets before the ark of God: and Obed-edom and Jehiah were doorkeepers for the ark.

[25] So David, and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the house of Obed-edom with joy. [26] And it came to pass, when God helped the Levites that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord, that they offered seven bullocks and seven rams. [27] And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites that bare the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers: David also had upon him an ephod of linen. [28] Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord

with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.

[29] And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of the Lord came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looking out at a window saw king David dancing and playing: and she despised him in her heart.

(iii) Psalm 47:4-5

He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. Selah. [5] God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

(iv) Psalm 150:3

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

(v) 2 Samuel 6:13

And it was so, that when they that bare the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings.

(h) For solemn assemblies

For occasions of prayer and fasting.

(i) Joel 2:1-17

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand; [2] A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. [3] A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. [4] The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. [5] Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. [6] Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. [7] They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: [8] Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. [9] They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. [10] The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: [11] And the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? [12] Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: [13] And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. [14] Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord your God?

[15] Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: [16] Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go

forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. [17] Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

(ii) Psalm 81:3

Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

(i) For the beginning of months and Feasts

To announce the first day of the month and Feast days

(i) Numbers 10:10

Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the Lord your God.

(ii) Psalm 81:3

Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

(iii) Leviticus 23:24

Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation.

(j) At sacrificial offerings to God

2 Chronicles 29:27-28

And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the Lord began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel. [28] And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded: and all this continued until the burnt offering was finished.

(k) For the anointing of kings

(i) 2 Kings 9:13

Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with trumpets, saying, Jehu is king.

(ii) 2 Kings 11:14

And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason.

(iii) 2 Samuel 15:10

But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.

(iv) 2 Chronicles 23:13

And she looked, and, behold, the king stood at his pillar at the entering in, and the princes and the trumpets by the king: and all the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments of musick, and such as taught to sing praise. Then Athaliah rent her clothes, and said, Treason, Treason.

(l) For the dedication of King Solomon's Temple

2 Chronicles 5:11-14

And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place: (for all the priests that were present were sanctified, and did not then wait by course: [12] Also the Levites which were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:) [13] It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord; [14] So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God.

5. Types of shofar blasts

There are 4 different kinds of shofar blasts. They are:-

(a) Tekiah - a single long blast.

The sound is a plain, continuous note.

(b) Shevarim - three short blasts

(c) Truah - extremely short blasts consisting of several staccato notes.

(d) Tekiah Gedolah - this is Hebrew for great (or big) blast. It refers to the Last Trump. It is a single sustained note, to conclude the blowing of the trumpets.

I. BLESSINGS FOR KEEPING THE FEASTS OF YAHWEH

There are Scriptures to indicate the blessings of God for those who remember and celebrate the Feasts. This is because they point to the First Coming of Christ to bring salvation, and to the Second Coming of Christ, to start a new millennium, with Christ the Emperor of the world.

1. Psalm 89:15-16

Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance. [16] In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.

My Comments:

The "joyful sound" is the shofar blast sounded at the Feast. See the Scriptures below about this.

- (i) Psalm 98:6
With trumpets and sound of cornets make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King.
- (ii) Psalm 81:1-3
To the chief Musician upon Gittith, a Psalm of Asaph.
Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. [2] Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery. [3] Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.
- (iii) Psalm 89:15-16 – Amplified Bible Version
Blessed – happy, fortunate (to be envied) – are the people who know the joyful sound (my comment – shofar blowing?) (who understand and appreciate the spiritual blessings symbolized by the Feasts); they walk, O Lord in the light and favour of your countenance. In your name they rejoice all the day, and in Your righteousness they are exalted.

J. RAPTURE TO OCCUR BEFORE THE DAY OF THE WRATH OF GOD

Christ indicated this by stating that He will come again like in the day of Noah and in the day of Sodom and Gomorrah. He indicated that the righteous would be saved just before the wrath of God would be poured down on earth.

1. Example of Noah's Flood

Noah and his family (8 altogether) got into the Ark (analogous to the Rapture) then the wrath of God came in the form of worldwide flood to destroy the whole population of the world (except the 8 of Noah's family). Countless millions of people drowned in the flood.

2. Example of Sodom and Gomorrah

As soon as Lot and his family left Sodom and Gomorrah, the wrath of God came down in the form of fire and brimstone to destroy all the inhabitants of the two cities.

3. Relevant Scriptures:

- (a) Luke 17:(26-30), (34-36) --- Christ speaking about Noah's Flood & Sodom & Gomorrah

And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. [27] They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. [28] Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

[29] But the same day (note well – the same day) that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. [30] Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

[34] I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken (into the Rapture), and the other shall be left. [35] Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. [36] Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken (into the Rapture), and the other left.

- (b) Romans 5:9 - saved from wrath of God

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

- (c) 1 Thessalonians 1:10 - delivered from the wrath which will come upon the world

And to wait for his Son (Christ) from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus (Yeshua), which delivered us from the wrath (of God) to come.

- (d) 1 Thessalonians 5:9 - not appointed to wrath of God

For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

K. THE 21 JUDGEMENTS OF GOD DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION

1. They are:

- (a) 7 seals
- (b) 7 shofarim (trumpets). Shofarim is plural for shofar in Hebrew. Of course the English plural form is shofars.
- (c) 7 bowls of wrath (wrath of God)

Now 7 is the number of God, the number of perfection. The number 3 points to the triune God – the Holy Trinity.

2. Relevant Scriptures on the Holy Trinity

- (a) 1 John 5:7 – The Holy Trinity

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

My Comments:

The Word is the Almighty Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, as indicated in the following Scriptures.

- (i) John 1:1-3 – The Word of God

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] The same was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

(ii) Revelation 19:11-16 – The Word of God

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. [12] His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. [13] And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. [14] And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. [15] And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. [16] And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.**

(b) Matthew 28:19 – The Holy Trinity

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

(c) Isaiah 48:16 - 3 divine beings

Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord God, and his Spirit, hath sent me.

(d) Isaiah 6:3 - Three “holy” words are mentioned. The word “holy” is not repeated two or four or five times, but thrice

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

(e) Isaiah 63:9-10 - 3 divine beings, the “angel of His Presence” being Christ

In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the Angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

[10] But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

My Comments:

The Angel of His Presence is the Son of God and thus three divine beings are mentioned here pointing to the Holy Trinity.

3. My Comments:

The number 21 is made up of 3 x 7.

The Rapture must occur before the wrath of God occurs, as exemplified by Noah’s Flood and the rain of fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah.

Hence the Rapture must occur before the 7 bowls of wrath, which is the wrath of God being poured upon the earth, at the end of the Great Tribulation.

The Rapture occurs with the blowing of trumpets (shofars), as prophesied by the Feast of Trumpets.

The seventh trumpet is the Last Trump or Last Trumpet of;

1 Corinthians 15:51-53.

“Behold I shew you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 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. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality”.

4. My Comments:

This is the Rapture which will occur at the Last Trump. There is the clue.

The Rapture will occur at the 7th Trumpet of the 7 trumpet judgements of God.

Now let us look at the book of Revelation on the 7th Trumpet judgement.

(a) Revelation 11:15-18 – 7th Trumpet judgment of God.

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. [16] And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, [17] Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. [18] And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come (ie. the forthcoming 7 bowls of wrath after the 7th trumpet judgement), and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

(b) My Comments:

In this Scripture of the 7th Trumpet judgement, that is when the Last Trump is sounded, the dead will be resurrected (reward to prophets, saints and other God-fearing people of God).

Then the wrath of God will come (the 7 bowls of wrath). God would then destroy the enemies of God.

Thus this 7th Trumpet judgement, which occurs at the Last Trump, is the time of the Rapture. Incidentally, the Rapture of the 2 witnesses in Revelation 11:11-12 occurs just before the Big Rapture of above.

(i) Revelation 11:11-12 - The Resurrection and the Rapture of the two witnesses

And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. [12] And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

(c) Revelation 14:14-16 - Another Scripture in the Book of Revelation on the Big Rapture (Reaping the good harvest)

And I looked, and behold a **white cloud**, and upon the cloud **one** sat like unto the **Son of man** (Christ), having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. [15] And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for **the time is come for thee to reap** (ie. the Rapture); for the **harvest of the earth is ripe**. [16] And he that sat on the cloud (Christ) thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

(d) My Comments:

This is the first harvest of the Rapture of the saints.

Immediately after this comes the second harvest – the destruction of the enemies of God with the wrath of God, which is stated in this same chapter, and subsequent verses, that is:

Revelation 14:17-20

And **another angel** came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also **having a sharp sickle**. [18] And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the **vine** of the earth; for **her grapes are fully ripe**. [19] And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the **vine** of the earth, and cast it into the **great winepress of the wrath of God** (this is the 7 bowls of wrath). [20] And the **winepress was trodden** without the city, and **blood came out of the winepress**, even unto the **horse bridles**, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

(e) My Comments:

The wrath of God is the second harvest, with the destruction of the enemies of God, which number in many millions.

(f) Old Testament Scripture on the wrath of God

Isaiah 13:9-13

Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. [10] For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. [11] And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. [12] I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. [13] Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.

L. DURATION OF THE WRATH OF GOD

The 7 bowls of wrath in the Book of Revelation indicate the wrath of God. This will be very quick, as indicated by the sudden destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (one day), and the quick flooding of Noah's flood (after a number of weeks, countless millions of humans were killed).

In the Book of "Israel, the Church and the Last Days", by Dan Juster and Keith Intrater, it is stated that the wrath of God will last between one to three weeks.

If we look at the time interval between the Feast of Trumpets (first day of the 7th month of Tishri) and the Day of Atonement (tenth day of the month of Tishri), the time is 9 days. The Day of Atonement points to the Second Coming of Christ, with Christ landing on the Mount of Olives, to destroy the enemies of Israel at Armageddon.

Hence we may theorise that The Great Tribulation of 3 ½ years ends just before the wrath of God starts, which lasts only 9 days to the Second Coming of Christ at Armageddon.

The Rapture occurs just before the wrath of God, which is at the end of the Great Tribulation.

M. TRIBULATION IS THE FURNACE OF PURIFICATION FOR CHRISTIANS

The word of God teaches that the faith of a Christian is tested, refined, and purified, through trials and tribulations, just like gold is refined in a furnace (fire).

A classic example is the testing of the faith of Job in the book of Job.

Relevant Scriptures

1. The need for Refinement of Faith

(a) New Testament

(i) 1 Peter 1:(6-7), 9 - Trial of faith more precious than gold.

Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: [7] That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: [9] Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

(ii) 1 Peter 4:12-13 - Suffer fiery trial

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: [13] But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that,

when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

(b) Old Testament

(i) Malachi 3:(2-3), 5 – About the Second Coming of Christ

But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: [3] And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. [5] And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts.

(ii) Isaiah 48:10-11 - Refinement in the furnace of affliction is necessary so as to be chosen of God

Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. [11] For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another.

(iii) Deuteronomy 4:20

But the Lord hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.

(iv) Isaiah 13:9-13 - The Second Coming of Christ - The wrath of God; to compare with the refinement of faith

Behold, the day of the Lord (the Second Coming of Christ) cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. [10] For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. [11] And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. [12] I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. [13] Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.

2. “Hot” Christians will suffer Tribulation

Relevant Scriptures:

(a) 2 Timothy 3:12 – Godly Christians will suffer persecution

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

- (b) 2 Timothy 2:12 – If Christians suffer, they shall also reign with Christ
If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:
- (c) 1 Peter 4:12-13 — Repeated from previous section and relevant here
Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: [13] But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.
- (d) Roman 8:17-18 — If Christians suffer with Christ, they shall be glorified with Him
And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. [18] For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
- (e) Galatians 5:22 — Long-suffering is a fruit of the Holy Spirit.
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- (f) 2 Corinthians 1:5-7 – As Christians partake of the sufferings, they will also partake of the consolation (blessings)
For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. [6] And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. [7] And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.
- (g) James 5:10-11 – Job is mentioned here as an example
Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. [11] Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.
- (h) John 15:19-20 – The servant will be persecuted, as the Master was
If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. [20] Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.
- (i) John 16:33 – Christ said Christians will have tribulation
These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.
- (j) Matthew 5:10-12 – Christians persecuted for Christ will be blessed
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [11] Blessed are ye, when men shall

revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. [12] Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

(k) Romans 5:3 – Tribulation produces patience

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

(l) 2 Thessalonians 1:4-5 – Endure persecutions and tribulations with patience and faith

So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: [5] Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

(m) Acts 14:22 – Christian enter the kingdom of God through much tribulation

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

3. Christians going through the Great Tribulation

Revelation 7:13-15

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? [14] And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. [15] Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

4. My Comments

Trials and Tribulations refine the faith of a committed Christian. Long – suffering is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, to build a faithful, Christ-like character. We have to share in the sufferings of Christ to share in His glory. A “hot” Christian will suffer much persecution.

If someone professes to be a Christian and has had no persecution, then there could be some doubt that he is a true, committed, disciple of Christ, because Christ said that since He suffered trials and tribulations, so will his genuine disciples – like the Master, so the servant.

Tribulation is for the Christian, but the wrath of God is not. Hence Christians will go through the Great Tribulation.

In the past 2000 years countless millions of disciples of Christ have been martyred. In the time of the Roman Empire before Constantine, millions of

Christians were killed, including those fed to the lions: -- It was a shocking death.

During the Spanish Inquisition, countless millions of true Christians were killed. Today many Christians are killed in Sudan and other parts of Africa, as well as in Arab countries and China.

There has been Tribulations and distress for Christians continuously for 2000 years, with some periods worse than others.

The church today is like the Laodicean church – Luke warm.

Relevant Scripture:

Revelation 3:14-22

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; [15] I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. [16] So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. [17] Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: [18] I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. [19] As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. [20] Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. [21] To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. [22] He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Note that this is the last of the 7 churches mentioned in the book of Revelation in chapters 2 and 3 which points to the condition of the church in this last generation just before the Second Coming.

My Comments:

Hence the need for Great Tribulation to refine the church.

There is widespread apostasy as prophesied by Christ and the Apostles.

We are in the Last Generation. (See seminar titled "The Signs of the Last Generation" -- by Moshe Elijah). Actually we are coming to the end of the Last Generation with the Great Tribulation being imminent. Christ said that when He would come again, would He see Faith?

Relevant Scripture:

Luke 18:8

I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

This Scripture points to widespread apostasy in the last days as well as many other similar Scriptures (See the seminar titled "Check that you are in the Faith" -- by Moshe Elijah).

N. REVELATION 12: NATION OF ISRAEL

This is a parenthesis about the birth of Yeshua (Jesus) from Israel, the "woman" described in this chapter.

Analysis of some verses in this chapter.

1. Revelation 12:5 – Resurrection and Ascension of Yeshua.

And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

2. Then the chapter describes Israel in the Great Tribulation, with the Church, for 3½ years

(a) Revelation 12:6

And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

(b) Revelation.12:13-16

And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. [14] And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. [15] And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. [16] And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

(c) The devil persecuting the church

Revelation 12:17

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

O. "LAND OF GOSHEN" PROTECTION DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION.

In the time of Moses, with the 10 plagues unleashed on Egypt, the children of Israel, living in the Land of Goshen, were protected.

Also as the Angel of Death passed over Egypt in the last plague, to kill all firstborn creatures (humans and animals), when the Angel saw the blood of the lamb (the "mark" of God) on the door posts and lintels, the Angel passed over that house with all its inhabitants protected from this plague (hence the name Passover was given to the Feast to celebrate this redemption). In the time of the Great

Tribulation, the people of God will have the Seal of God, and will have protection when the judgements of God (7 seals, 7 trumpets) come down on earth, like the children of Israel in the land of Goshen in the time of the 10 plagues.

The other people will have the Mark of the Beast (666), and will suffer the judgements of God, in a tragic way.

1. The Scriptures on the Mark of the Beast.

(a) Revelation 13:16-18

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: [17] And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. [18] Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

(b) Revelation 14:9-11

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, [10] The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: [11] And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

(c) Revelation 16:1-2

And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. [2] And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

2. The purified, refined, restored Body of Christ

The purified, refined, restored Body of Christ – the Tribulation church – will be protected from the judgements of God, like Israel in the land of Goshen in Egypt at the time of the prophet Moses.

The Exodus of Jews from Egypt, with the 10 plagues raining on Egypt, is analogous to the Book of Revelation. The Pharaoh of Egypt fore-shadowed the Anti-christ. Some of the 10 plagues of Egypt are similar to those in the Book of Revelation.

The Exodus of the Jews through the sea, with the destruction of Pharaoh and his army, is analogous to the Rapture of the Christians, with the final destruction of the Anti-christ and the enemies of God, with their big armies, in the 7 bowls of wrath of God, after the Rapture.

P. SIMILARITY BETWEEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT AND BOOK OF REVELATION JUDGEMENTS OF GOD

Below are some examples

1. Book of Revelation Judgements

(a) Revelation 8:7 - First Trumpet - Hail and fire mixed with blood

The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.

(b) Revelation 8:8-9 - Second Trumpet - A third of the sea turned into blood, killing a third of sea creatures

And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; [9] And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.

(i) My Comments:

The above two judgements are parallel to the first plague, the River Nile in Egypt turning to blood in the time of the prophet Moses, as described in the following Scripture:

Exodus 7:17-18

Thus saith the Lord, In this thou shalt know that I am the Lord: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood. [18] And the fish that is in the river shall die, and the river shall stink; and the Egyptians shall lothe to drink of the water of the river.

(c) Revelation 8:12 - Fourth Trumpet - Darkness for a third of day and night

And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

(i) My Comments:

This plague (judgement of God) is parallel to the plague of darkness in the land of Egypt.

(e) Revelation 9:3 - Plague of locusts like scorpions

And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

(i) My Comments:

This is parallel to the plague of locusts on Egypt.

Q. CONCLUSION

According to my previous seminar, titled “Signs of the Last Generation” we are now in the final stage of the LAST Generation. The Rapture will occur very soon, after an imminent Great Tribulation. Let us prepare for all this by examining our hearts to confess and repent of all sins. The shofar will be blown to prepare us.

R. SHOFAR BLOWING

1. Introduction

The shofars will be blown in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, calling people to repent and prepare for the Rapture. The shofars will also be blown to bring down demonic strongholds over Sydney, NSW and Australia.

We will have 7 shofar blowers, following the example of the 7 shofar blowers in the time of Joshua, to bring down the walls of Jericho, as stated in the following Scripture.

Joshua 6:2-5

And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. [3] And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. [4] And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. [5] And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

My Comment:

Note the long blast (Tekiah Gedolah) at the end of the shofar blowing, to bring down the walls of Jericho. This points to the long blast at the Last Trump to start the Rapture.

We shall also finish our shofar blowing in the same way, with a long blast (Tekiah Gedolah).

2. Prayer for blowing the 7 shofars

“Father God Yahweh, God of Abraham, Issac and Jacob, the God of Israel. We come to you in the Name of your only begotten Son, the Jewish Messiah, the Holy One of Israel, the Saviour of mankind, the Lord Jesus Christ (Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah)

Father God Yahweh, you are the Almighty, all knowing, omnipresent God. You are the Lord of Lords and King of Kings. You are the only true God, the First and the Last – the Alpha and the Omega. Beside you there are no other Gods.

You are holy and just and righteous, with loving kindness and mercy.

I (we) now blow the shofar(s), for the following purposes:-

- (a) To call people to repentance and prepare for Holy Communion and for the imminent Rapture, not only here but all over Australia.
- (b) To break down all demonic strongholds over Australia, like the destruction of the Walls of Jericho

As the shofar(s) is (are) blown, please pour down great anointing and fire of the Holy Spirit upon us and this great South Land of the Holy Spirit, to achieve these two objectives.

We humbly and respectfully make these prayer requests.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah), Amen.

3. Shofar blowing in three stages

- (a) Pastor Moshe Elijah alone – Tekiah
 - (i) says prayer above
 - (ii) blows shofar 3 continuous blasts (Tekiah)
- (b) Pastor leads all 7 shofar blowers – Tekiah
 - (i) says prayer above
 - (ii) leads all 7 in blowing shofars 3 continuous blasts (Tekiah)
- (c) Pastor leads all 7 shofar blowers - Tekiah Gedolah
 - (i) says prayer above
 - (ii) leads all 7 in blowing shofars in only one long blast (Tekiah Gedolah - The Last Trump)

S. EXAMINE YOUR HEARTS

Relevant Scripture:

1 Corinthians 11:23-31

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: [24] And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. [25] After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. [26] For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. [27] Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. [28] But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. [29] For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. [30] For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. [31] For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

T. REDEDICATION UNTO THE LORD/SALVATION

Public confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ with total repentance.

U. HOLY COMMUNION

Relevant Scripture:

Matthew 26:26-28

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. [27] And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; [28] For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

V. AARONIC BLESSING OF NUMBERS 6:24-26 (MODIFIED TO BLESS US)

In the name of Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah, the Jewish Messiah of Israel, the Holy One of Israel, the Saviour of the world, I come to you Father God Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Issac and Jacob, the God of Israel.

Father God Yahweh please bless us and keep us.

Father God Yahweh please make your Face to shine upon us and be gracious to us.

Father God Yahweh please turn your Face towards us and give us peace (Shalom).

W. PRAYER FOR PEOPLE

Individual persons with special needs, then come forward for prayer and anointing with oil.

Relevant Scriptures:

1. James 5:13-16

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The affectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2. Mark 16:17,18 & 20

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. And they

went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the Word with signs following. Amen.

X. THANKSGIVING FOR BLESSINGS OF GOD

Y. END OF SERVICE WITH BLOWING THE SHOFAR

Praise the Lord

{ *Baruch Hashem Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah (Messiah)* }
= *Blessed is the name of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Z. SCRIPTURES OF BLESSINGS AND GUIDANCE

1. Psalm 23

A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. [2] He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. [3] He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. [4] Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. [5] Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. [6] Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

2. Psalm 1

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. [2] But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. [3] And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. [4] The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. [5] Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. [6] For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

3. Joshua 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

SUMMARY OF THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS AND THE RAPTURE

PREFACE

A. First 4 Feasts: First coming of Christ.

1. Feast of Passover (Hag Pesach)
2. Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag Ha Matzah)
3. Feast of First Fruits (Hag Yom Ha Bikurim)
4. Feast of Pentecost (Hag Shavuot)

B. Last 3 Feasts: Second Coming of Christ.

1. Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah)
2. Feast of Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
3. Feast of Tabernacles or Booths (Sukkot)

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Other names:-

- (a) Yom Teruah, (b) Rosh Ha Shanah
(c) Yom Ha Din, (d) Yom Ha Zikkaron

2. Relevant Scriptures for the Feast of Trumpets

- (a) Leviticus 23:23-25
(b) Numbers 29:1

3. Relevant Scriptures for the subsequent Two Feasts

- (a) Day of Atonement - Yom Kippur
Leviticus 23:26-32
- (b) Feast of Tabernacles (Booths) - Sukkot
(i) Leviticus 23:33-36
(ii) Leviticus 23:39-40
(iii) Deuteronomy 16:13-15

4. Prophetic fulfilment of the Feast of Trumpets

This Feast points to the Rapture, when the shofar (trumpet) is blown.

5. New Testament Scriptures on the Rapture

- (a) 1 Corinthians 15:51-53
- (b) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

B. BASIC CONCEPTS OF THE 7 FEASTS OF YAHWEH

1. The First 4 Feasts – First Coming of Christ

- (a) Passover (Hag Pesach): The crucifixion of Christ.
John 1:29
- (b) Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag Ha Matzah): The burial of Christ.
- (c) Feast of Firstfruits (Hag Yom Ha Bikurim): The resurrection of Christ.
1 Corinthians 15:20
- (d) Pentecost (Hag Shavuot): The birthday of the Church with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

2. The Last 3 Feasts – Second Coming of Christ

- (a) Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah – Rosh Ha Shanah) – the Rapture
- (b) Feast of Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
The Second Coming of Christ to the Mount of Olives - The National Day of Repentance for Israel.
 - (i) Zechariah 12:10
 - (ii) Zechariah 13:1
 - (iii) Zechariah 13:6
 - (iv) Zechariah 14:4
- (c) Feast of Tabernacles or Booths (Sukkot) – The Millennial Reign of Christ

C. THE 7 FEASTS WERE SET BY GOD HIMSELF

- 1. Leviticus 23:1-2
- 2. Leviticus 23:4

D. THE 7 TIER (BRANCH) MENORAH (CANDLE-HOLDER)

The seven branches point to the seven feasts.

E. THE FIRST 4 FEASTS – THE FIRST COMING OF CHRIST AND THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

- 1. Passover
- 2. Feast of Unleavened Bread
- 3. Feasts of Firstfruits
- 4. Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)

F. CHRONOLOGICAL PROGRESSION OF THE FEASTS

The first 4 Feasts were fulfilled literally in chronological progression. Hence we can expect the same to happen with the last 3 Feasts. Hence the Rapture occurs at the end of the Great Tribulation.

G. TWO NEW YEAR DAYS

1. The biblical or religious New Year – Passover: month of Nisan or Abib

- (a) Leviticus 23:5
- (b) Exodus 12:1-2

2. The Jewish New Year – Rosh Ha Shanah: month of Tishri

The Feast of Trumpets - Tishri.

The Anniversary of the First Day of Creation, of Genesis 1:1.

The Rapture.

H. SHOFAR

1. Genesis 22:12-18 - Basic Scripture

2. Uses of the shofar

- (a) On Feast of Trumpets - Rosh Ha Shanah – Leviticus 23:23-25, Numbers 29:1
Relevant Scripture for Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
Leviticus 23:26-32
- (b) Walls of Jericho – Joshua 6:2-5
- (c) The Ark of the Covenant - 1 Chronicles 15:25-28

3. Digression – Notes on Trumpets

- (a) Shofars - ram's horns.
- (b) Silver.

4. Other uses of the Trumpets (Shofar, or silver trumpet, or both)

- (a) To call the tribes of Israel together as one nation
 - (i) Numbers 10:1-10
 - (ii) Isaiah 27:13
- (b) To call the Israelites to move camp
 - (i) Numbers 10:2-4
- (c) For the great year of Jubilee, every 50th year
 - (i) Leviticus 25:8-14

- (ii) Isaiah 61:1-3
- (d) Call to worship
 - Isaiah 27:13
- (e) To sound the alarm for important events
 - (i) Joel 2:1
 - (ii) Amos 3:6
- (f) For calling God for help in times of war and other forms of distress
 - (i) Numbers 10:9-10
 - (ii) Jeremiah 4:19-21
 - (iii) Judges 3:27
 - (iv) Judges 6:34
 - (v) Judges 7:19-22
 - (vi) Numbers 31:6-7
- (g) For joyful festivals
 - (i) 1 Chronicles 13:8
 - (ii) 1 Chronicles 15:24-29
 - (iii) Psalms 47:4-5
 - (iv) Psalms 150:3
 - (v) 2 Samuel 6:13
- (h) For solemn assemblies
 - (i) Joel 2:1-17
 - (ii) Psalms 81:3
- (i) For the beginning of months and Feasts
 - (i) Numbers 10:10
 - (ii) Psalms 81:3
 - (iii) Leviticus 23:24
- (j) At sacrificial offerings to God
 - 2 Chronicles 29:27-28
- (k) For the anointing of kings
 - (i) 2 Kings 9:13
 - (ii) 2 Kings 11:14
 - (iii) 2 Samuel 15:10
 - (iv) 2 Chronicles 23:13

- (l) For the dedication of King Solomon's Temple

2 Chronicles 5:11-14

5. Types of shofar blasts

- (a) Tekiah - a single long blast.
- (b) Shevarim - three short blasts
- (c) Truah - very short blasts
- (d) Tekiah Gedolah - Last Trump - long blast

I. BLESSINGS FOR KEEPING THE FEASTS OF YAHWEH

1. Psalm 89:15-16

- (i) Psalm 98:6
- (ii) Psalm 81:1-3
- (iii) Psalm 89:15-16 – Amplified Bible version of 1. above

J. THE RAPTURE TO OCCUR BEFORE THE DAY OF THE WRATH OF GOD

1. Example of Noah's Flood

2. Example of Sodom and Gomorrah

3. Relevant Scriptures:

- (a) Luke 17:(26-30), (34-36) - Noah's flood and Sodom and Gomorrah
- (b) Romans 5:9 - saved from wrath of God
- (c) 1 Thessalonians 1:10 - delivered from the wrath which will come upon the world
- (d) 1 Thessalonians 5:9 - not appointed to wrath of God

K. THE 21 JUDGEMENTS OF GOD DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION

1. They are:

- (a) 7 seals
- (b) 7 shofarim (trumpets). Shofarim is plural for shofar in Hebrew. Of course the English plural form is shofars.
- (c) 7 bowls of wrath (wrath of God)

7 is God's number, the number of perfection; 3 points to the Holy Trinity.

2. Relevant Scriptures on the Holy Trinity

(a) 1 John 5:7 – The Holy Trinity

- (i) John 1:1-3 – The Word of God
- (ii) Revelation 19:11-16 – The Word of God

(b) Matthew 28:19 – The Holy Trinity

(c) Isaiah 48:16 - 3 divine beings

(d) Isaiah 6:3 - Three “holy” words are mentioned. The word “holy” is not repeated two or four or five times, but thrice

(e) Isaiah 63:9-10 - 3 divine beings, the “angel of His Presence” being Christ

3. My Comments:

The Rapture must occur before the bowls of wrath. The Rapture occurs with the blowing of trumpets (shofars), as prophesied by the Feast of Trumpets. The seventh trumpet is the Last Trump or Last Trumpet of:

1 Corinthians 15:51-53.

4. My Comments:

(a) Revelation 11:15-18 – 7th Trumpet judgment of God.

(b) My Comments:

The Resurrection of the dead, and the start of the wrath of God.

Thus this 7th Trumpet judgement, which occurs at the Last Trump, is the time of the Rapture. Incidentally, the Rapture of the 2 witnesses in Revelation 11:11-12 occurs just before the Big Rapture of above.

(i) Revelation 11:11-12 - The Resurrection and the Rapture of the two witnesses

(c) Revelation 14:14-16 - Another Scripture in the Book of Revelation on the Big Rapture (Reaping the good harvest)

(d) My Comments:

This is the first harvest of the Rapture of the saints.

Immediately after this comes the second harvest – the destruction of the enemies of God with the wrath of God, which is stated in this same chapter, and subsequent verses, that is:

Revelation 14:17-20

(e) My Comments:

The wrath of God is the second harvest, with the destruction of the enemies of God, which number in many millions.

(f) Old Testament Scripture on the wrath of God

Isaiah 13:9-13

L. DURATION OF THE WRATH OF GOD

The 7 bowls of wrath = wrath of God.

This will be quick like Noah's flood and Sodom and Gomorrah.

It will last 9 days, as indicated by the duration of time between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). The Day of Atonement points to the Second Coming of Christ, with Christ landing on the Mount of Olives, to destroy the enemies of Israel at Armageddon. It will be the National Day of Repentance of Israel.

Hence the Rapture occurs at the end of The Great Tribulation of 3 ½ years, just before the wrath of God. Then Christ will land on the Mount of Olives, and Israel's National Day of Repentance will occur, on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

M. TRIBULATION IS THE FURNACE OF PURIFICATION FOR CHRISTIANS

1. The need for Refinement of Faith

(a) New Testament

- (i) 1 Peter 1:(6-7), 9 - Trial of faith more precious than gold.
- (ii) 1 Peter 4:12-13 - Suffer fiery trial

(b) Old Testament

- (i) Malachi 3:(2-3), 5 - About the Second Coming of Christ
- (ii) Isaiah 48:10-11 - Refinement in the furnace of affliction is necessary so as to be chosen of God
- (iii) Deuteronomy 4:20
- (iv) Isaiah 13:9-13 - The Second Coming of Christ - The wrath of God; to compare with the refinement of faith

2. "Hot" Christians will suffer Tribulation

- (a) 2 Timothy 3:12 - Godly Christians will suffer persecution
- (b) 2 Timothy 2:12 - If Christians suffer, they shall also reign with Christ
- (c) 1 Peter 4:12-13 - Repeated from previous section and relevant here
- (d) Roman 8:17-18 - If Christians suffer with Christ, they shall be

glorified with Him

- (e) Galatians 5:22 — Long-suffering is a fruit of the Holy Spirit
- (f) 2 Corinthians 1:5-7 – As Christians partake of the sufferings, they will also partake of the consolation (blessings)
- (g) James 5:10-11 – Job is mentioned here as an example
- (h) John 15:19-20 – The servant will be persecuted, as the Master was
- (i) John 16:33 – Christ said Christians will have tribulation
- (j) Matthew 5:10-12 – Christians persecuted for Christ will be blessed
- (k) Romans 5:3 – Tribulation produces patience
- (l) 2 Thessalonians 1:4-5 – Endure persecutions and tribulations with patience and faith
- (n) Acts 14:22 – Christian enter the kingdom of God through much tribulation

3. Christians going through the Great Tribulation

Revelation 7:13-15

4. My Comments

Trials and Tribulations refine the faith of a committed Christian. Long – suffering is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, to build a faithful, Christ-like character. “Hot” Christian will suffer much persecution.

A professing Christian who does not suffer persecution - there could be some doubt as to the authenticity of his/her commitment to Christ, according to the true Gospel. Christ said His disciples will suffer persecution like Him.

Tribulation is for the Christian, but the wrath of God is not. Hence Christians will go through the Great Tribulation.

In the last 2000 years countless millions of Christians have been martyred.

Examples:

- (a) In the time of the Roman Empire before Constantine.
- (b) During the Spanish Inquisition.
- (c) Today in Sudan, other parts of Africa, as well as in Arab countries and China.

There has been Tribulations and distress for "hot" Christians continuously for 2000 years, with some periods worse than others.

The church today is like the luke-warm Laodicean church.

Revelation 3:14-22 – Church of Laodicea

Hence the need for Great Tribulation to refine the church.

There is widespread apostasy as prophesied by Christ and the Apostles.

N. REVELATION 12: NATION OF ISRAEL

About the birth of Yeshua (Jesus) from Israel, the “woman” described.

1. **Revelation 12:5 – Resurrection and Ascension of Yeshua.**
2. **Israel in the Great Tribulation, with the Church, for 3½ years**
 - (a) Revelation 12:6
 - (b) Revelation.12:13-16
 - (c) The devil persecuting the church
Revelation 12:17

O. “LAND OF GOSHEN” PROTECTION DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION.

A parallel with the 10 plagues on Egypt in the time of Moses, while the children of Israel were protected in the Land of Goshen.

The Angel of Death passed over the houses of the Jews with the blood of the lamb on the door posts and lintels (the "Mark of God")

In the time of the Great Tribulation, the people of God will have the Seal of God, and will have protection from the judgements of God (7 seals, 7 trumpets), like in the time of Moses with the children of Israel in the land of Goshen.

The other people will have the Mark of the Beast (666), and will suffer the judgements of God, in a tragic way.

1. **The Scriptures on the Mark of the Beast.**
 - (a) Revelation 13:16-18
 - (b) Revelation 14:9-11
 - (c) Revelation 16:1-2
2. **The purified, refined, restored Body of Christ**

The Pharaoh of Egypt fore-shadowed the Anti-christ. Some of the 10 plagues of Egypt are similar to those of the judgements of God in the Book of Revelation.

The Exodus of the Jews through the sea, with the destruction of Pharaoh and his army, is analogous to the Rapture of the Christians, with the final destruction of the Anti-christ and the enemies of God, in the 7 bowls of wrath of God, after the Rapture.

P. SIMILARITY BETWEEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT AND BOOK OF REVELATION JUDGEMENTS OF GOD

Below are some examples

Book of Revelation Judgements

- (a) Revelation 8:7 - First Trumpet - Hail and fire mixed with blood
- (b) Revelation 8:8-9 - Second Trumpet - A third of the sea turned into blood, killing a third of sea creatures

My Comments:

The above two judgements are parallel to the River Nile turning to blood, the first plague on Egypt, as stated by the following Scripture:

Exodus 7:17-18

- (c) Revelation 8:12 - Fourth Trumpet - Darkness for a third of day and night

My Comments:

This plague (judgement of God) is parallel to darkness in the land of Egypt.

- (d) Revelation 9:3 - Plague of locusts like scorpions

My Comments:

This is parallel to the plague of locusts on Egypt.

Q. CONCLUSION

According to my previous seminar, titled "Signs of the LAST Generation" we are now in the final stage of the Last Generation. The Rapture will occur very soon, after an imminent Great Tribulation. Let us prepare for all this by examining our hearts to confess and repent of all sins. The shofar will be blown to prepare us.

R. SHOFAR BLOWING

1. Introduction

The shofars will be blown in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, calling people to repent and prepare for the Rapture. The shofars will also be blown to bring down demonic strongholds over Australia.

We will have 7 shofar blowers, following the example of the 7 shofar blowers in the time of Joshua, to bring down the walls of Jericho, as stated in the following Scripture.

Joshua 6:2-5

2. Prayer for blowing the 7 shofars

3. Shofar blowing in three stages

- (a) Pastor Moshe Elijah alone – Tekiah
 - (iii) says prayer above
 - (iv) blows shofar 3 continuous blasts (Tekiah)
- (b) Pastor leads all 7 shofar blowers – Tekiah
 - (iii) says prayer above
 - (iv) leads all 7 in blowing shofars 3 continuous blasts (Tekiah)
- (c) Pastor leads all 7 shofar blowers - Tekiah Gedolah
 - (iii) says prayer above
 - (iv) leads all 7 in blowing shofars in only one long blast (Tekiah Gedolah - The Last Trump)

S. EXAMINE YOUR HEARTS

1 Corinthians 11:23-31

T. REDEDICATION UNTO THE LORD/SALVATION

U. HOLY COMMUNION

Matthew 26:26-28

V. AARONIC BLESSING OF NUMBERS 6:24-26 (MODIFIED TO BLESS US)

W. PRAYER FOR PEOPLE

- 1. James 5:13-16
- 2. Mark 16:17,18 & 20

X. THANKSGIVING FOR BLESSINGS OF GOD

Y. END OF SERVICE WITH BLOWING THE SHOFAR

Praise the Lord
{ *Baruch Hashem Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah (Messiah)* }
= *Blessed is the name of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Z. SCRIPTURES OF BLESSINGS AND GUIDANCE

- 1. Psalm 23
- 2. Psalm 1
- 3. Joshua 1:8

**This is the end of the book on
“The Feast of Trumpets and The Rapture”.**

Shalom in the name of Adonai Yeshua (Lord Jesus),
the Messiah and the Holy One of Israel,
the Saviour of the whole world.
May the Lord God of Abraham, Issac & Jacob – the God of Israel,
bless you and make His Face shine upon you.

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Shalom Bashem Ha Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiah
(Peace in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ)

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