

Jesus at The Feast of Trumpets/Rosh Hashanah
Israel's call to Repentance, Redemption, and Reconciliation
Leviticus 23:24; Nehemiah 8, John 5



Jesus at the Fall Feasts	Month	Day	Modern Calendar	New Testament
1 Rosh Ha Shanna/ Feast of Trumpets	7	1	Sept. 15/16	John 5:1
2 Yom Kippur/ Day of Atonement	7	10	Sept. 24/25	John 5:21
3 Sukkot / Tabernacles	7	15-22	Sept. 29 - Oct. 15	John 7:2

Prophetic Significance

We can make applications practically from the order of these fall feasts -Trumpets, Atonement, and Ingathering/ Booths. Jesus was crucified on Passover. He was raised on the Feast of First Fruits. The Church was born on Pentecost, therefore some feel the parallel is prophetic. Though it cannot be interpreted to divine the future, its resemblance to events prophesied is remarkable. A popular parallel is made:

- The Feast of Trumpets = The Rapture trumpet.
- The Day of Atonement = Israel's judgment and national conversion in the Tribulation.
- The Feast of Tabernacles equates to the Millennial reign of Messiah Jesus on earth.

However, these feasts are God's appointed times **for Israel**, therefore the fulfillment of them is by the Messiah with Israel, **not the Church**. It would be more consistent to parallel the Feast of Trumpets with the Trumpets of Judgment in Revelation which are followed by grievous days of repentance and then parallel the Day of Atonement with Israel's salvation by the Atoning Messiah.

Meaning

Zikhron Teruah memorial "day of blowing" [of trumpets]

By the 13th century AD, The Feast of Trumpets became combined with the New Year and is now referred to as "Rosh Hashanah" – literally the Head of the Year. 2023 = Jewish year 5784

Customary Greetings

It is customary for Jewish people to greet one another with "May you be inscribed in the Book of Life." [*Shanah tova*] *Some add u'metukah* "for a good sweet year!" Sending a card, a gift of apples and honey, or speaking this greeting is always appropriate. *G'mar chatima tova* means may you be inscribed. (in the Book of Life)

Time

1st of Tishri (September/October) the seventh month like the seventh day and the seventh year are holy times. This month following the harvest contains all three fall feasts. Numbers 29 lists all the sacrifices of these three feasts.

Purpose

Sabbath of rest, rejoicing, and feasting. (Lev. 23:24, Numb. 29:1, Nehemiah 8:9-12)

In the only recorded observance of the Feast of Trumpets in scripture, Nehemiah instituted a day of joyous feasting. The days that followed were spent listening to scripture. Traditional celebrations include **eating apples dipped in honey** and or a sweet fruit that wasn't the normal variety. "Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet." Neh. 8:10

Trumpets to announce the beginning of the new civil year. (Passover in Nissan begins the religious calendar)

Priests used two long tapered silver trumpets "*hatzotzera*" (Numbers 10:1,2) as verified by the depiction on the victory arch of Titus in Rome. This style is the basis of the newly replicated trumpets in the Temple Institute in Jerusalem for use in the next Temple. Solomon used 120 of these trumpets. (2 Chron. 5:12) Historically, rabbinic traditions indicate that the ram's horn "*shofar*" was used for this synagogue ceremony.

Trumpet blast sequence - "*tekiah*" – a long unwavering blast, "*shevarim*" – three short blasts, "*treuah*" – nine part staccato blast, (symbolizing weeping), and "*tekiah*" – the concluding blast. Rabbinical tradition purports that all the blowing of the shofars is believed to confuse Satan who is the accuser of God's people in Heaven. The blasts are said to lead him to believe that Messiah has come and announced his kingdom thus ending the authority of Satan.

Holy convocation to worship – gathering at the tabernacle/temple for singing praises, offering prayers and sacrifices. They were to sacrifice a young bull, a ram, seven lambs, and a kid goat (Numbers 29:2-6) in addition to the daily sacrifices (Numb. 28:1-8) and the sacrifices of a new moon. (Numb. 28:11-15) This was in conjunction with a Levitical choir singing. (Psalm 81) Ezra 2:65 records 200 singers, men and women. The high holy day liturgy covers over 150 pages, lasting 4 to 5 hours. It is divided into three parts punctuated by benedictions "*bruchas*" and one hundred blasts of the shofar in sets of blasts - 1 + 3 + 9 + 1. The three sections emphasize God's majesty, remembering his covenant faithfulness, and his trumpet blast on Sinai that preceded the giving of the Torah. The "*malkhiyot*" – his majesty, the "*zikhronot*" - Remembering his covenant, and the "*shofarot*" - announcement of his Holy Law and the date of creation and giving of the law.

Commence the Ten Days of Awe

Although it is a day of rejoicing, it also marks the days of repentance preceding the Day of Atonement, "Yom Kippur". For that reason, Rosh Hashanah is also called the "Yom Ha-Din" or Judgment Day. It is taught that preceding the National Day of Atonement, three books are opened in Heaven. The Book of the Wicked, the Book of the Righteous, and the Book of Those in Between. All of those entered in the Book of the Righteous by "Yom Kippur" will be inscribed in the Book of Life. Those remaining in the book of the wicked will die prematurely within the next year.

Three Books opened on the Yom Haddin Day of Judgment according to Rabbinic tradition.

- Book of the Wicked
- Book of the Righteous
- Book of the In-Between

Four Things can atone for your sins according to Rabbinic tradition.

- *Tshuva* -repentance
- *Shlicot* – forgiveness
- *Tzedeka* – Charitable gifts
- *Mitzvot* – Keeping the commandments

Your name will be in the Book of Life if your sins are atoned for.

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.” Dan. 12:1,2

The Observance of the Days of Awe

The only scriptural record of these days of repentance following Rosh Hashanah is recorded in Nehemiah 8:9-12. This repentance was led by Ezra’s woeful prayer. (Ezra 9:1-10:1)

The following excerpts from scriptures are read in the daily services between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. These Psalms are for the daily “malkhiyot” - praising God’s Royal Majesty.

Day 1: Psalm 15:1-2 LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.”

Day 2: Psalm 48:1,2 “Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, *in* the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, *is* mount Zion, *on* the sides of the north, the city of the great King.”

Day 3: Psalm 82:1-4 “God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods. How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah. Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid *them* out of the hand of the wicked.”

Day 4: Psalm 94: 12-14 “Blessed *is* the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law; That thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked. For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.”

Day 5: Psalm 81:3-4, 8 “Blow the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. For this *was* a statute for Israel, *and* a law of the God of Jacob. Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;”

Day 6: Psalm 93:1-2 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, *wherewith* he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved. 2 Thy throne *is* established of old: thou *art* from everlasting.

Day 7: Psalm 92:1-4 “*It is a good thing* to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy loving kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night, Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound. For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.”

Day 8: Psalm 27:4-8 “One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD. Hear, O LORD, *when* I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me. *When thou saidst*, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.”

Day 9: Psalm 32:1-6 “Blessed *is he* whose transgression *is* forgiven, *whose sin is* covered. Blessed *is* the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit *there is* no guile. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.”

The Trumpet Calls for Personal Repentance and National Repentance.

“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.**” (Joel 2:1) “Oh that Israel will heed the call to repent. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.” (Joel 2:31,32) See also (Acts 2:20)

“For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? Wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.” (Jer. 30:5 -7)

As for the nation of Israel, certainly, The Days of Awe await them. For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? (Revelation 6: 17) John tells of the final preachers of repentance, 144,000 Jewish virgin male evangelists (Revelation 7:8) who will travel the globe preaching the Gospel and harvesting an innumerable multitude of disciples. (Revelation 7:9) Many have become martyrs for their faith in Jesus the Messiah appearing in white robes in Heaven. (7:14) Israel will also have the opportunity to hear the almost superhuman witnesses in the streets of Jerusalem for 3 ½ years in addition to the witness of the 144,000 evangelists. In Revelation chapter 8 the seven staccato blasts of God's trumpets cry out that their last days to repent and receive Jesus as Messiah are numbered. They are in the final Days of Awe known as The Day of the Lord.

The Trumpet Calls for Redemption

“Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Jeremiah 31:32,33) Messiah **will provide “reconciliation for iniquity”** (Daniel 9:24).

The Trumpet calls for Reconciliation

“And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them; And it shall come to pass, *that* in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off *and* die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.” (Zechariah 10:6-9)

The only two times in scripture when God blows the trumpet himself is at Sinai (Ex. 19:18-20) and the rapture of the Church. (I Thess. 4:13-19) Rabbis for centuries have quoted (Zechariah 9:14) “and the Lord GOD shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.” Their Talmudic interpretation is “And it is the ram's horn that The holy One, Blessed be he, is destined to blow when the son of David, our righteous one, will reveal himself,” (Tanna debe Eliyahu Zutta XXII)

Inscribed or blotted out?

David said, “Let them be blotted out of the Book of the Living, and not be written with the righteous.” (Psalm 69:28)

God said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot Him out of My book.” (Exodus 32:32-33)

Daniel was told, “thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book.” (Daniel 12:1)

John records, “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” (Revelation 20:12)

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” (Rev.20:15)

Final ceremony

Jewish congregations gather by a body of water or a fountain or well on the afternoon of Rosh Hashanah. There they will recite the “**Tashlikh**” prayer including these scriptures, Psalm 118:5,9; Psalm 33; Psalm 130:7,8. “tashlikh” is from the word “cast” in (Micah 7:19) “He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.”

Personal Considerations of Faith

- Since there is no Temple, no Priesthood nor sacrifices, how are sins permanently atoned for? Leviticus 17:11
- How does one know their sins are forgiven and their name is inscribed in the Book of Life? Dan. 12:1-3
- When the Messiah comes how will he be recognized? Psalm 22:16; Zechariah 12:10 (pierced, hands and feet)
- Have they read Jeremiah’s promise (31:31) of a new covenant to be placed in hearts by the Messiah?
- Did they know that Messiah was to come and was to be cut off before the Temple was destroyed? Daniel 9:24-27
- Have they read Isaiah’s prophecy (53) of a lamblike suffering Messiah?

“Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: 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. Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly” Joel 2:12-15

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. 7 And *there is* none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.”

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”

Jesus the Messiah spoke of our atonement for sin, coming judgment and resurrection.

“For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation...” (Daniel 12:1,2 “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?” “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am *he*, ye shall die in your sins.” (John 5:24-29, 39,40, 46, 47; 8:24)

Research sources: The Gospel in the Feasts of Israel, Victor Buksbazen, The Friends of Israel Gospel ministry INC., 1954
The Feasts of the Lord, Kevin Howard, Marvin Rosenthal, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994
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(3 types of shofar blast - Youtube -Jerusalem Shofar at Western Wall #2)