

FEAST OF TRUMPETS AND THE SECOND COMING OF THE MESSIAH

LEVITICUS 23rd Chapter, verses 23-25: 23 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 24 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. 25 You shall do no customary work on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord.'"

We begin our lesson with this text which is the institution of the Feast of Trumpets. In this passage Moses is instructed by God to tell the children of Jacob, Israel, that the first day of the seventh month (not to be associated with the seventh month JULY) is a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets. Notice that God is revealing that the first day of this seventh month is to be a holy convocation which means the people should come together. Today, Bethel assembles by holding a service, not performing any customary work, and not going to our regular jobs. This day is like unto the regular seventh day Sabbath.

The biblical seventh month is called Tishri which is during our current month of September; however, the numerical days of biblical months do not co-exist with the numerical days on our current monthly calendar. Therefore, the Feast of Trumpets is not to be held on the first day of September (See www.bethelhouseofgod.org for the dates of the Lord's Feast Days or refer to a Jewish calendar).

This 5th feast was instituted by Moses at Sinai approximately 3,500 years ago. In Christendom it would come to be called the 'Feast of Trumpets'. It marks the first day of the Hebrew (civil) New Year. 'Rosh Hashanah' means 'head of the year'. The Feast of Trumpets is the first of the three Fall Feasts of Israel "Ten days of awe" then lead on to Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement which is the most solemn day of the year. Atonement or Yom Kippur is the 10th day of Tishri on the Hebrew calendar. On this awesome day all accounts between YHVH/God and His covenant people are settled. Trumpets are also blown to call God's people to gather themselves together in a solemn assembly before YHVH-God. This has typically occurred during special times of national crisis, or in warfare.

The seventh Hebrew month Tishri is a special month. The number seven is God's number of completion. The seventh month is very like the seventh day of the week, it is a holy month. Sometimes in the future, the Feast of Trumpets will erupt into holy history. It will be an awesome day of mixed celebration and alarm. All of God's covenant people will be called to solemn assembly. During the final trumpet blast in Paul's writing in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17: For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Today, more and more sects of the Christian Faith are coming to observe the Feast of the Lord and to realize the Feast of Trumpets is a for-shadow, as well as the New Testament teaches, that Jesus will return with the sound of a trumpet.