

Jesus Christ
In All The Scriptures

Luke 24:27

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Priority of God's Word

Luke 24:32

They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

Tonight: September 12, 2018

Feast of Trumpets

Feasts of the Lord



Summary of First Three Feasts

- **Passover** – pictures the substitutionary death of the Messiah as the Passover Lamb
 - We have the promise that Christ was slain on our behalf (He has died in my place)
- **The Feast of Unleavened Bread** – pictures the burial of the Messiah (we see Christ as the Holy One that did not see decay / corruption)
 - We have the promise that God will make us clean through the process of sanctification (called to holy living)
- **Firstfruits** – pictures the resurrection of the Messiah (pictures Christ who was ‘**raised**’ up as firstfruits in the resurrection)
 - We have the promise that in Christ, those who are asleep will be made alive (join Him in resurrection)

Pentecost: Pouring Out of Holy Spirit

Peter's Sermon at Pentecost (Acts 2:14-21)

¹⁶ But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ““And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, ...

²¹ And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

Christ's Witnesses

- Peter's sermon is a model sermon in that it was centered on the Bible (Joel and two Psalms), it centered on Christ (His ministry, the crucifixion, the burial, the resurrection, His ascension, and Christ's present ministry by the Spirit), and it was fearless and reasonable.
- The Holy Spirit then used that preaching to convict and save 3,000 people.
- God poured out his Spirit upon the people, building the "Church" / the "Body" of Christ
- Acts 1:8, **"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."**

Remaining Feasts

Fall Feasts

- Feast of Trumpets (Sept 10, 2018)
- Day of Atonement (Sept 19, 2018)
- Feast of Tabernacles (September 24, 2018)

Introduction to the Fall Feasts (Christ's Return)

- We currently live in a time between Fulfilled Feasts (First Coming of Jesus) and Unfulfilled Feasts (Second Coming of Jesus).
- With the Spring Feasts, fulfilled at the time of Christ's First Coming, we have great assistance from the Greek Scriptures (New Testament that so often interprets the Hebrew Scriptures)
- With the Fall Feasts, we ought to come with expectation that these feasts will again be shadows that point forward to fulfillment in Jesus, albeit at a future time as we do not yet have a literal, in time, fulfillment.
- The New Testament sets out the fulfillment of the Spring Feasts; however, with the Fall Feasts we have less or at least less clear biblical instruction as to how and when these feasts will be fulfilled.
- Nevertheless, Scripture is sufficient and so we have an expectation that His Word supplies enough to know how these feasts are fulfilled.
- We will see tonight and in the next two Wednesdays that all of the Fall Feasts have in common a theme of the gathering of God's people when Jesus returns.

Feast of Trumpets

Leviticus 23:23-25

²³ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
²⁴ “Speak to the people of Israel, saying, ‘In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe a day of solemn rest, a memorial proclaimed with blast of trumpets, a holy convocation. ²⁵ You shall not do any ordinary work, and you shall present a food offering to the LORD.’”

Context: The Silver Trumpets

Numbers 10:1-10

10 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Make two silver trumpets. Of hammered work you shall make them, and you shall use them for summoning the congregation and for breaking camp. ³ And when both are blown, all the congregation shall gather themselves to you at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁴ But if they blow only one, then the chiefs, the heads of the tribes of Israel, shall gather themselves to you.⁵ When you blow an alarm, the camps that are on the east side shall set out. ⁶ And when you blow an alarm the second time, the camps that are on the south side shall set out. An alarm is to be blown whenever they are to set out.

⁷ But when the assembly is to be gathered together, you shall blow a long blast, but you shall not sound an alarm. ⁸ And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets. The trumpets shall be to you for a perpetual statute throughout your generations. ⁹ And when you go to war in your land against the adversary who oppresses you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, that you may be remembered before the LORD your God, and you shall be saved from your enemies. ¹⁰ On the day of your gladness also, and at your appointed feasts and at the beginnings of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings. **They shall be a reminder of you before your God: I am the LORD your God."**

What is the Command to Israel in relation to the Feast of Trumpets?

Lev. 23:24b

“... you shall observe a day of solemn rest, a memorial proclaimed with blast of trumpets, a holy convocation.”

Trumpet Use in Hebrew Scripture (Specifically)

- Exodus 19 & 20: trumpet blast made the people tremble at Mount Sinai (Heb. 12:19);
- Joshua circling the city of Jericho;
- Used in Judges 3 and 6 to alert the people to follow Gideon and in the defeat of Midian;
- Used in the historical books to signal the troops of Israel;
- in worship (including before the Ark of the Covenant of God);
- in the Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel) describing war as well as the prophetic use of a “trumpet” to proclaim God’s Word;
- Revelation 1:10 and 4:1, a voice like a trumpet;
- Angels and the Seven Trumpets (of Judgment) in Revelation 8 to 11

Revelation 11:15

[*The Seventh Trumpet*] Then the seventh angel blew his **trumpet**, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”

How are Trumpets Used in the Bible ?

(Generally)

- calling together of solemn assemblies
- signal that they were moving camp
- signal for time of alarm / use in battle
- arrival of the new moons / feasts

Application: We Need to Sound the Alarm / Blow the Trumpet

- Common denominator of all the uses of the trumpet is to get the attention of God's people.
- **This feast is intended to sound an alarm or blow a trumpet.**

Isaiah 58:1

Cry aloud; do not hold back;

lift up your voice like a trumpet;

declare to my people their transgression,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

What Shall We Cry?

1. Proclaim the Gospel to the Dead

- Only God can breathe life into the dead;
- Our job is to proclaim the Good News of the Saviour who came to rescue sinners

2. Trumpet Truths to the Living

- As new creatures we need to stir one another up to good deeds and Sanctification
 - Encourage one another to live by faith
 - Against false teaching
- We tend to blow a lot of trumpets regarding temporal things (with limited eternal significance). I do not downplay the position of politics, we want to take the gospel into every realm, but whether there is a Parkway extension or a casino in Peterborough, we have even greater trumpets to blow.

How Shall We Cry (Sound the Trumpet)?

- We are to cry out with urgency and with a measure of volume, fully expecting that fruit and life will only result if the Holy Spirit is at work. But we must sound the trumpet with boldness – that is our part.
- The trumpet is an alarming, shrill instrument. We would not seek to put our children to sleep at night by playing the trumpet; however, it may be useful in arousing the troops for 7 AM family devotion.
- That is a little bit of application for us at Braidwood in 2018. At a minimum we could consider this feast a reminder to wake up and remember that **we are in a spiritual battle** and we do not want to be either bogged down or distracted by civilian affairs - but rather to be about, more than anything else, our Father's business.

But what about the Israelites 3000 years ago? How did they treat the Feast of Trumpets?

This was the beginning of the last month of the yearly feasts.

The trumpet sounded and ushered in these three Fall Feasts in a matter of 15 days. The trumpets served to stir up the people to pay attention to the spiritual significance of these Fall Feasts.

Application:

As An Introduction to the Fall Feasts

- In the Hebrew calendar, and I am speaking outside of the biblical text in this regard, the 10 days following the Feast of Trumpets leading up to the Day of Atonement are referred to as the Days of Awe. This is a time of repentance. Not a time to work harder, but it time to acknowledge one's failures and to look by faith to God.
- Day of Atonement – the most solemn of all feasts. The only day of the year that the people were commanded to fast.
- Feast of Tabernacles – the most joyous of all feasts. A celebration of the presence and glory of God, dwelling among His people.

So, the Feast of Trumpets it is preparatory in nature in that it serves to awaken the people to the remaining two Fall Feasts. To be reminded, once again, that our sin must be atoned for and that this requires repentance and faith. And then on the heels of the work of our faithful covenant keeping God, the wonderful truth that God has promised to accept his people and to dwell with his people. The fall feasts will not merely leave us in a place of repentance, but one of acceptance by our God. The fulfilment of this will occur at the end of the age when we will be with our Lord in heaven, seeing him face-to-face.

Repentance begins in solemnity, but always moves to joy. As Jesus stated, blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted. Our repentance turns to joy when we realize that we are accepted because of the righteousness of Christ and his atoning death on the cross in our place. Tears turn to joy.

When?

- Earlier I reminded us that we live at a time before the fulfilment of these Fall Feasts - and for that reason we have to be careful about specific application as well as the timing of these events.
- But that is not to say that there is not some scriptural help as we do have several.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (13-18)
- 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Christ's Return

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

- For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the **trumpet** of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

- ⁵¹ Behold! I tell 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 **trumpet**. For the **trumpet** will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

Matthew 24:30–31

³⁰ Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud **trumpet** call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets

Thus, the ultimate fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets, on a day that we do not know in advance, is the Second Coming of Christ. The New Testament repeatedly warns that Jesus will return unexpectedly “like a thief” (e.g., [Matt. 24:42–44](#); [1 Thess. 5:2](#); [2 Pet. 3:10](#)). Each of these passages indicate the coming in question is Christ’s public, triumphant return in glory on the Day of the Lord.

Participation in His Triumphant Return

Even more, not only will Jesus visibly and bodily return, He will be lifting us up to participate with Him in His triumphant return. When Jesus comes back in conquering power, believers, both dead and alive, will be caught up in the air to meet Him, not to stay up there, but to join His return in triumph, to participate in His exaltation. This is a celebration of the resurrection of the saints (1 Cor 15:51-52).

Application: Expecting Christ's return ought to motivate us to service

1 John 3:2-3 is helpful in this regard:

² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Final Exhortation (Application)

There is never a day that we are called to be nonchalant or apathetic to the Lord. So, let us:

- Make the Feast of Trumpets be an alarm to your soul.
- Wake Up once again to the Lord (do not get used to “the gospel”);
- Wake Up to being about the work of the gospel and disciple the nations;
- Wake Up and live in view of Christ’s imminent return – this is a call to be watchful and ready.
- **Take up the Trumpet. Take up the Word of God as a Trumpet to ourselves, our brothers and sisters in the Lord, and to the Lost and Dying World around us.**

Closing Thought

- The primary “take home” of the Feast of Trumpets is being renewed in our knowledge that Jesus Christ has promised to, and he will, return again.
- It will be a triumphant return, but it will be life and joy for those “in Christ” and fear, trembling, and eternal punishment for those who suppress / reject the truth and do not obey the Son.
- The return could happen at any time, such that we need to be vigilant and alert. Time is short and the days are evil, so we must make the most of the time that God has given. Jesus will come as a thief in the night – so be awake to this truth!