

The Reconciler

www.reconciliationoutreach.net Paul & Nuala O'Higgins, P.O. Box 2778, Stuart, FL 34995.

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THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS - TIME TO MOVE

This month the Fall Feasts Of The Lord are celebrated by Jewish people worldwide. Because they are Biblical Feasts, given by God, they are relevant not only for Jewish people but for believers in Yeshua also.

The seven major Biblical Feasts (recorded in Leviticus 23, Exodus 23 and Deut. 16) are: **Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement and Tabernacles**. Each of the feasts has a triple application: (1) They commemorate, or point to, an event in Israel's history. (2) They point prophetically to a dimension of Messiah, Jesus' redemptive work. (3) They also point to a dimension of the believers' personal walk.

The first four feasts were fulfilled by Jesus at His first coming. He fulfilled **Passover & Unleavened Bread** by His death on the Cross as the perfect Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world. He fulfilled **First Fruits** by His resurrection. He fulfilled **Pentecost** (which commemorated the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai as their guide) when He sent the Holy Spirit with flames of fire to write the law of the Spirit of life in their hearts and to guide them continually. (Acts 2.1-3)

The last three Biblical Feasts: Trumpets, Atonement & Tabernacles are

celebrated in the Fall of the year. They were not fulfilled by Jesus at His first coming and are reserved to the end of the age to be fulfilled prior to and at His return.

The Feast of Trumpets,

The Feast of Trumpets (Yom Turah) is also known as **Rosh Hashanah** (the head of the year). It is the Biblical New Year. It recalls the trumpets, blown when Joshua summoned the people of Israel to enter the Land of Promise and lay hold of their God given destiny. It marks a time of New Beginnings because every year can be a new beginning for us. God says:

*"I have made you hear new things from this time,
Even hidden things, and you did not know them.*

***They are created now and not from the
beginning;***

*And before this day you have not heard them,
Lest you should say, 'Of course I knew them.'
(Isaiah 48.6-7)*

Let this year's Feast of Trumpets (Sept. 11th) be a time of great expectations for new things we have never seen or heard before - welcome and expect them.

The present return of the Jewish people to their land, and the return of Jerusalem to Israeli rule in 1967, is a **modern-day fulfillment** of the Feast of Trumpets. Jesus said that His return would

be preceded by recognizable public events so that His disciples would know that His return was soon. Chief among these signs is the return of Jerusalem to Jewish control. *“And they shall fall by the edge of the sword and shall be led captive into all the nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, **UNTIL** the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”* (Luke 21:24) The return of Jerusalem to Israel’s control in 1967 means that the time of Gentile domination of Jerusalem is over and therefore *‘the times of the Gentiles’* is fulfilled.’

Before His Ascension, He assured His disciples that He would return to restore the Kingdom to Israel. They asked *“Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”* He said to them, *“It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.”* (Acts. 1.8)

Atonement (Yom Kippur) recalls the annual Day of Atonement when *the sin of the nation* was covered and removed through the atoning work of the Temple High Priest. This was accomplished by symbolically confessing the sins of the people on the head of a goat and then leading that goat – the Scapegoat – into the wilderness symbolizing the **removal** of sin. The other goat was sacrificed in the presence of the Lord - symbolizing the **covering** of sin. (See Leviticus 16)

Yom Kippur is a day of fasting, national repentance and *“affliction of soul.”* It also symbolizes the fact that, before Yeshua’s return, Israel as a nation will come to faith in Him as Zechariah foretold. *“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplication; and*

they shall look unto me whom they have pierced; and they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son.” (Zech. 12.10)

Believers in Yeshua experience the personal side of the Day of Atonement when we **continue** to turn towards Him, repent and put away sin from our lives. *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Yeshua his Son goes on cleansing us from all sin.”* (1 John 1:7) The Day of Atonement also reminds us that we cannot escape seasons of affliction of soul and tribulation which God uses for our refinement and for our good.

The Feast of Tabernacles recalls that the children of Israel, when living in tents in the wilderness were sustained by God’s faithful provision. This Feast expresses the enjoyment of God’s bountiful provision when they lived in tents in total dependence on Him. This Feast anticipates the fulfillment of God’s plan for Israel and for all nations when He returns to take the throne of David and to rule over all the earth. Then the earth will be redeemed from its bondage to war, unjust systems of government and decay. (See Isaiah 2.4)

(Note the Biblical Feasts are based on a lunar calendar and so the dates of these feasts are out of sync with our 365-day calendar. This year the Feast of Trumpets is on the 12th -13th of September, Yom Kippur is on the 21st of September and The Feast of Tabernacles Sept 25th - Oct. 2nd) (All Biblical Feasts and holidays begin at sundown the evening before.)

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