

We are embarking on a special study tonight to understand God's prophetic calendar that He has laid out for all of us to comprehend: God gave unto the nation of Israel in the days of Moses seven Feasts of the LORD: **SPRING FEASTS: 1. Passover** – Nisan 14th; **2. Unleavened Bread** – Nisan 15th for 7 days; **3. Firstfruits** – on the next day after the Sabbath after Passover (a Sunday) **SUMMER FEAST: 4. Weeks (Pentecost)** – 50 days after Firstfruits. **FALL FEASTS: 5. Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)** – Tishri 1st; **6. Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)** – Tishri 10th; **7. Tabernacles** – Tishri 15th an 8-day Feast

LEVITICUS 23 (vv1-4) “Feasts of the LORD” (NASB “appointed times”/ NIV “appointed festivals”); Hebrew word is “**MOWED**” {*mow-ade*} – a fixed time or appointment. Each Feast was to take place exactly on the day God assigned it to occur. (v5) Passover (v6) Unleavened Bread (vv9-11) Firstfruits (vv15-17) Weeks or Pentecost,

To more fully understand the mighty hand of our God, not only do these Feasts commemorate actual historic events (the Jews leaving Egyptian slavery); they also prophetically looked forward to the redemptive ministry of Messiah Jesus:

LUKE 24:25-45 the Bible is truly written about Jesus, what He has done, and what He will do for those who are saved by His grace. **1 CORINTHIANS 5:6-8** “*Christ our Passover...ye are unleavened*”; **1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-23** “*Christ the Firstfruits*”; **ACTS 2:1-4** “*the day of Pentecost had fully come.*”

The first four Feasts of the LORD all find astonishing fulfillment at Jesus' First Coming. Jesus died **ON** Passover; Jesus lived a **sinless** life (an ‘unleavened life’); Jesus rose **ON** Firstfruits; the church was born **ON** Pentecost! Incredible! What makes God's calendar so exciting is that the three remaining fall Feasts will all find fulfillment at events surrounding Jesus' 2nd Coming.

THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS:

Many believe that this Feast speaks prophetically of the Rapture (no date setting PLEASE), and also when Israel will be re-gathered into their land and will nationally repent at the time of the Tribulation.

LEVITICUS 23 (vv23-25) “In the seventh month in the first day of the month...” the Feast occurs in the fall, on the first day of the month, it was a day of the sounding of trumpets in the Temple in Israel's past history. This coincides today with Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year; but this designation was not applied to the Feast until the second century AD, some 1500 years after God instituted this Feast with Moses.

Let's look again at the timetable we are on today: **Feast #4 Pentecost** was fulfilled in 32 AD with the giving of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. On the Biblical calendar, after the Feast of Pentecost, comes three long months of harvest before the 5th Feast (Trumpets) occurs; no gathering of God's people in that three-

month time frame. This is representative of the ‘church age’ today, the long interval between 32 AD and the fulfillment of Pentecost, and the time of Trumpets when the church will be raptured, and Israel re-gathered.

‘...in the first day of the month...’ Trumpets is the only Feast to begin on the first of the month when the New Moon is out; this is when the moon is dark and only a thin crescent of light is visible. All the other Feasts occur later in the month when the moon is full and bright. Trumpets was not a complicated Feast; it simply commanded the Israelites to memorialize the day by blowing trumpets and keeping a Sabbath day of rest.

NUMBERS 10:1-10 The trumpet in Israel was used for two things:

#1) The calling of God's people to an assembly before the Lord

#2) Under Divine direction, Israel was to go to war to unleash God's judgment

NEW TESTAMENT REVELATION ON THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS FULFILLMENT:

#1) God's people called to assembly before the LORD: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-54. Both passages include the trump of God; not to be confused with the 7th Trumpet judgment of REVELATION which is blown by an angel

#2) Divine Judgment: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-9; right after the chapter 4 rapture passage, chapter 5 speaks of the Tribulation judgment to come.

In Israel, the week before Rosh Hashanah is marked by prayers of repentance and forgiveness as Israel prepares for the Day of Atonement. Trumpets occurs on the first of the month, a very dark day when the moon is only a sliver.

Israel's future dark day of judgment is foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament: **AMOS 5:18-20; ZEPHANIAH 1:14-16; JOEL 2:28-32; REVELATION 6:12-17; JEREMIAH 31:31-37** The day is coming when the Lord Jesus will switch off the natural lights of heaven and pour out His wrath with relentless fury upon the earth. As the ‘Day of the LORD’ begins, the trumpet will sound, Jesus will reveal Himself in great wrath, and He will prepare Israel to be brought into the New Covenant. –

WRAP UP: the Feast of Trumpets will accomplish several purposes when the trumpet is sounded:

#1) **it will gather an assembly to the Lord** – the rapture! The righteous will be delivered from God's wrath

#2) **Israel will be re-gathered into their land**
MATTHEW 24:29-31

#3) **the sound of the trumpet will be God's battle alarm against Satan and an evil world**

Jesus may return at any moment; none need go through the Tribulation! Are you in Christ tonight? Are your sins forgiven? Ask Jesus into your life by faith right now! **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21** Jesus makes you new!