

Blow the Trumpet in Zion – Iran attacks Israel

Joel 2

Rosh Ha Shanna Overview - Today is the 2nd day of Rosh Ha Shanna.

(Leviticus 23:25).

Hebrew – (זִכְרוֹן תְּרוּפָה - zikrôn t'êrû'âh) means memorial of blowing the trumpet.

It is referred to commonly as the Feast of Trumpets. The only recorded observance is in Nehemiah 8:1-12. The reading of Deuteronomy by Ezra brought repentance. Nehemiah interrupted their mourning and said - later. Amazing. Then he told them to celebrate with a feast because the joy of the Lord is their strength. (8:10) According to Leviticus 23, the Day of Atonement came 10 days later is the day for fasting and repentance. (Leviticus. 23:26-32). There is a custom of eating apple slices dipped in honey from the command to eat the fat and drink the sweet. The apple is symbolizing, To your good health and have a sweet year. It's like "an apple a day..." + honey. The traditional greeting is La Shanna/year, Tova/good, U'Mekuta/sweet, or in short Shanna Tova.

Judaism teaches that for the next 10 "awesome days" one is to get right with others to prepare to get right with God by repentance – *tshuvah*, repaying debts, prayer – *tallit*, to forgive and ask forgiveness, do good deeds – *mitzvot*, and to give to charity - *tzedakah*. These things are believed to make atonement for sin according to Judaism, but not according to scriptures. It is clear in Leviticus 17:11 that it is only the blood that makes Atonement for the soul. Faith in Jesus the Lamb of God alone brings Atonement Forgiveness and internal joy and peace.¹ Rabbinic writings have substituted these good works due to the absence of a Temple, priesthood and sacrifices since 70 AD.

It is a memorial of blowing the trumpet, memorial of what? Remembering that the ram that was caught in the thicket when God tested Abraham, with the offering of his son Isaac. There the name of God is used as Jehovah Jirah, Hebrew – (יְהוָה יִרְאֵה יְהוָה יִרְאֵה) The Lord will provide. Thus, it is a prophecy of not only of Israel but of the Messiah. God said "In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen" or provided, and that "God will provide Himself a lamb." (Genesis 22:8,14)

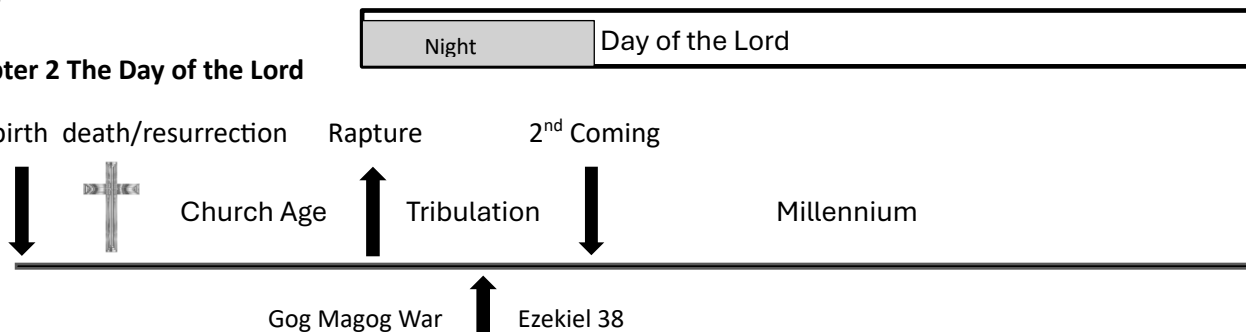
The Feast of Trumpets in Nehemiah's day "And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading. Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength. So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be ye grieved. And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them." (Nehemiah 8:1,5,8,10-12)

Prophetic News On April 13, 2024, 350 projectiles were launched by Iran and again on September 31, 181 ballistic missiles were launched at the State of Israel who used all 3 air defense systems. The level and sophistication was incredible. It's like a bullet hitting a bullet. The Iron dome has the ability to hit targets within a 42-mile range. David Sling has a target range of about 182 miles. The Arrow system has the range of about 1400 miles. All 3 systems were activated and with the assistance of the US and UK naval air defense systems, most missiles were destroyed or were allowed to fall in empty areas. Several hit the ground and a few hit near military installations, even one near the Mossad HQ. If, one of those missiles had hit an apartment building or shopping center, the casualties would have been in the hundreds.

News anchor Chris Mitchel for CBN News' Jerusalem bureau quoted Hillel Gould's text from an Israeli Sr. Executive at Microsoft whom he said was not a God-fearing Jew. "I really don't think you understand the absolute miracles that happened here in Israel last night. If you are looking for miracles man, last night I started believing, missiles hitting all around me but none of them hit my house or any house for that matter. Even more miraculous is the lack of damage and low casualty numbers from those missiles that did land. Where did those missiles go? They landed in sand and water and empty spaces. How have hundreds of Iranian ballistic missiles been either detonated by miraculous systems or totally

miss their mark and land in empty spaces causing zero casualties (1 in Jericho was killed by rocket debris) or minimal damage? How? When people say where was God in the terror attack in Jaffa, yesterday, that killed 6 people. I get it? Where was He on October 7 or in the Holocaust? But if you know anything about what happened last night in Israel, you'll know that what we witnessed last night was the equivalent of God splitting the Red Sea right before our very eyes. If you don't want to call what happened yesterday an act of God that's your choice" Hillel, said, "like my Microsoft friend, if you'll look at these events objectively you'll have a really hard time seeing those hundreds of deadly missiles land in empty spaces and not see the hand of God. Last night was an incredible display of the collaboration between two of the powers that protect the Jewish people the IDF and by Ha Shem/God. Last night will go down in history right along-side many of Israel's accomplishments including the beeper explosions. It's a military operation the likes of which the world has never seen, ever. Last night will be analyzed by military strategists and experts for generations. Last night we witnessed history. Last night we witnessed open miracles. Last night we witnessed God in all His glory watching over His children."

Joel Chapter 2 The Day of the Lord



Joel begins with the imagery of the blowing of the Shofar not for a new moon or Sabbath or a celebration but of warning of the coming of the terrible Day of the Lord. It was written 835 years BC. Now in 2024 AD we find ourselves 76 years beyond the reestablishment of the State of Israel and approaching the last days before The Day of the Lord.

Chapter two begins with, "Blow the trumpet in Zion." Archaeologists have uncovered the irrefutable evidence that priests used an official spot atop the southwest corner wall of Jerusalem for blowing the trumpet. Inscribed on the nearly 2000 year old broken capstone found beneath the rubble, were just two complete words. "The first word is translated as "to the place" and the second word "of trumpeting" or "of blowing", giving the phrase "to the trumpeting place."ii There was a time and a place for the trumpet to sound every Sabbath, new moon, and High Holy Day. Joel of Jerusalem now held the prophetic trumpet, calling God's people, to turn from their wicked ways. (2 Chronicles 7:12-15)



Rabbi Alshich in the commentary ArtScroll Torah noted that in verse 15,16 they had "already been exhorted to declare a fast and gather in prayer (1:14) in the hope that they would thereby repent. Now that this has proven ineffective, the situation calls for further measures." The phrase "and sound an alarm" in 2:1 indicates a second trumpet blast. Rabbi Malbim emphasizes "Alternatively, he is outlining two distinct steps that must be taken to avoid catastrophe: First sound a shofar in Zion – throughout the city of Jerusalem – to call the populace together in the Temple area. Once they are assembled there, trumpet [again] upon My holy mountain [with shofar blasts] to arouse them to repentance." Rabbinic scholars comment that the two phrases "Blow ye the trumpet" and "sound an alarm" are both made by the blast of the shofar but are distinctly different sounds. There are three types of shofar sounds observable in the synagogue services. The first, "Tekiah is a single blow. It's a long, loud blast like one to call attention to a king's arrival. The next type of sound made with the shofar is called shevarim. The blast is broken into three staccatos to resemble crying. Jewish scholars say it represents tears of sadness in preparation of the people for the Day of Atonement called Yom Kippur. Its bleating cry commences the ten days of awe to repent of make restitution for debts and for sins. The third type of sound is called teruah, consisting of nine or more rapid fire, or staccato, blows.

In this context think of this sound as an alarm clock on which there is no snooze button. Joel's *Teruah* blast is literally the wakeup call." The nation of Israel was found neither weeping nor waking. Therefore, they would recognize all too late the trumpet of the enemy forces descending upon them. "The word "cometh" literally means has come – It's already here! Although the judgment is still future in God's eyes, it has already taken place." Judah was being told that it was as good as done. Yet it speaks of a future time preceding Messiah's deliverance that will shine from one end of the heaven before "The Day of the Lord," the darkest nightfall must yet descend upon planet earth. Jesus was referring to this in the phrase "there hath never been the like, neither shall be anymore after it," and when he said "such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21). Therefore Joel was not just a prophecy that had not been fulfilled before His time. Looking past the certainty of the coming enemy predicted in verses 3-11, God said, "Therefore now," in light of this, "turn ye even to me with all your heart." They had long abandoned the greatest commandment "thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart" (Deuteronomy 6:5). Joel's trumpet calls for fasting, weeping and mourning. It is literally an internal heart-rending experience that God seeks not the outward show as was the custom signifying sadness or sorrow, "he rent his clothes" (2 Kings 19:1).

Although certain judgment had been pronounced, a divine possibility of mercy was proposed in verse 14, "Who knoweth if he will return and repent." God could change his mind about the divinely announced judgment and show mercy, if Judah would change their mindset in heart repentance. Not only could He stop the judgment, His mercy could be followed by the goodness of grace. What was meant by God leaving behind him the blessing of a meat/meal and drink offering? It had been cut off (1:9) and withheld (1:13). Author David Levy asks the obvious, "Would there be an indication from God that Israel's repentance had been accepted? Yes, He would again restore the grain and vineyard that had been cut off (1:9,13,16), in order for Judah to offer a meat/meal and drink offering (vs.14)." In the New Testament this correlates to Jesus' promise to enter the opened door on which He has been knocking that the local church might enjoy His fellowship. "I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20).

After the offer of potential mercy and blessing, God repeats the urgency to blast the shofar alarm calling for a fast of sanctification and a mandatory solemn assembly. No exception is allowed for the newly wed nor for the newly born in verse 16. The Priests and Levites were to stop in their tracks between the porch and the altar, for inside were the symbols of right relationship and fellowship; the table of showbread, the golden menorah, and the altar of incense. For "Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart" (Psalms 24:3,4). It was forbidden to glibly walk in the light of the golden menorah and showbread while walking in the darkness of sin unatoned. The weeping and mourning outside was a requisite before approaching the presence of the holy God of Israel inside, lest He should reject them as He said to Isaiah, "when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear" (Isaiah 1:15). The blessing left behind Him is restored relationship and renewed fellowship with His chosen people.

The prophet relays a divine prescription for prayer. "Let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?" (V. 17) This acknowledges the result of not repenting and not receiving God's mercy. They will be a reproach to the name of their God among the heathen. It is the name and glory of God that is at stake when we stray from our Lord and His commands. In the same way the validity of the gospel of Jesus is trashed in front of the lost when the redeemed, backslide into sin.

The next section is one of the most amazing pronouncements of the goodness of the Lord that follows His mercy towards returning prodigal sons. Notice the cornucopia of blessings the Lord will restore to His land in pity for His people. There is corn, wine and oil enough to satisfy. The enemy will be driven away in disgrace. Israel will no longer fear but rejoice. There will be pastures in the wilderness, fruit trees, and vineyards will flourish because rains will resume a seasonal schedule. Wheat, wine and oil will fill the storehouses. Israel will be so blessed that God's restoration will erase from

memory the years of devastation. The heathen will no longer taunt them, and they will never again be in disgrace. That they will never be ashamed is echoed, reassuring them of both His mercy and His grace in verse 26 and in verse 27. In verse 28 Joel gives four time markers. "It shall come to pass afterward," first of all, after they are no longer a reproach, displaced among the heathen vs. 19, and after the tattered northern (Assyrian 2 Chronicles 24:23ff) army is sent back home in disgrace vs. 20, (after the Gog Magog invasion Ezekiel 39:2) and after the revitalization of the land's fruitfulness vs. 22-25. This brings our attention back to "The Day of The LORD," which begins in the darkness that we know as "Jacob's time of trouble," with the Tribulation period. Then in verse 27, Joel prophesies a national spiritual rebirth. During a time of frightening wonders in the heavens before the final act of "the great and the terrible day of the LORD" comes, the entire remaining remnant of Israel will call on the LORD and be saved (Zechariah 13:7-9). But Joel is clear in verse 28 and 29 that even before the catastrophic cosmic events of verse 30

that Spirit-filled children of Israel will prophesy. This is undoubtedly a reference to the 144,000 Jewish evangelists who will win an innumerable host of converts to Jesus from every tongue and tribe and nation (Revelation 7:9-14; 14:1-4). It is entirely possible that we may be witnessing to young Jews who will later be saved and be called to be those very Tribulation witnesses. Imagine the impact of their gospel light in such dreadful darkness.

Iran and Israel war is at the breakout stage

As Israel approaches their 77th Anniversary Year in 2025 she is an exceedingly prosperous source of grain, fruit and produce. Israel is leading the world in technological advancements and energy with newly discovered natural gas. Jeremiah 33:9 reads like the latest economic news out of Israel. "And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honor before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it." But these current blessings are just a foretaste of the prosperity that will burst forth like sunrise as The Day of The Lord dawns, in the millennial kingdom (vs. 2:18-27). The longer the shadows at evening, the sooner the nightfall. Thus the shadows over the world today are being cast by the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7). Night will fall with the rise of the Anti-Christ and his false promise of peace for seven years (Daniel 9:24-27). Why will a peace covenant be needed? Because of the trouble surrounding Jacob/Israel (Zechariah 12:2), and Jerusalem.

This current conflict that began with the October 7, 2023 massacre of over 1200 Israelis and kidnapping of 251 hostages taken to Gaza which has been escalated by Iran through its proxy Hezbollah in Lebanon who has shot over 9000 missiles into Israel and has been escalated by Iran directly attacking Israel twice in 6 months, launching hundreds of ballistic missiles at Israel, now feared to expand into an all-out retaliation by Israel against Iran's oil and nuclear development facilities. US naval battle groups have been sent. US troop presence has swelled to 43,000. Russia is promising to defend Iran. Turkey a NATO ally has sworn allegiance to Russia and Iran as is foretold in Ezekiel 38. When it seems the world is falling apart, it is actually falling right into place. The ageless resounding trumpet of Joel needs to be heeded by Israel and by America. Praise the Lord that born again believers in the Church are not appointed to wrath, but those we know who are left behind after the Rapture especially Jews are in for the most hellish time in history (vs. 30,31). Joel proclaims with urgency; "whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered." Now is the appointed time to receive the Gospel of Jesus the Lamb before He returns as the Lion roaring out of Zion (Joel 3:16).

Endnotes

ⁱ See our online courses and Bible studies on The feast. www.jewishawareness.org

https://m.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4krB_opqO-sWdD1Qxfm_k769OEnmx_wy

https://m.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4krB_opqO-swKJUip1xAs2Wng7C0AOn7

ⁱ The Artscroll Tanach Series TREI ASAR/ The Twelve Prophets Vol. 1, Mesorah Publications, Brooklyn, N.Y., 1995, P.157

ⁱ What Do The Sounds of The Shofar Mean? | PJ Library

ⁱ Joel The Day of The LORD, The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc. Belmawr, New Jersey, 1987, P 19

ⁱ Ibid. P.33

ⁱⁱ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trumpeting_Place_inscription#:~:text=The%20Trumpeting%20Place%20inscription%20is%20an

Watch the YouTube Video of the Timing o the battle of Magog

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2eo2sF6cPk>