

Come to Understanding

**They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding,
and they that murmured shall learn doctrine. — Isaiah 29:24**

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The Sound of the Trumpets

Trumpets are used to sound an alarm and also to announce the coming of an important event or person. Yahweh used the trumpet sound to tell the people of Israel when they could come near to Him at Mount Sinai. He told Moses that after the people were sanctified and their clothes were washed, that He would reveal Himself to them on the third day:

- 10 And Yahweh said to Moses, Go to the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes,
11 And be ready against the third day: for the third day Yahweh will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. -Exodus 19

Israel could not come up into the mount, or even touch it, under the threat of death. They needed to wait until Yahweh called them with the long sound of a trumpet:

- 13 There shall not a hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether *it is* beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet sounds long, they shall come up to the mount. -Exodus 19

On the morning of the third day, the trumpet began to sound so loudly that the people trembled with fear:

- 16 And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceedingly loud; so that all the people that *were* in the camp trembled.
17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the lower part of the mount.
18 And mount Sinai was altogether in a smoke, because Yahweh descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. -Exodus 19

Finally, there was a long sound of the trumpet, which became louder and louder. Moses then spoke with God, who revealed His law to him:

- 19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by a voice. -Exodus 19

Later, Yahweh revealed to Moses a pattern of the sounding of the trumpets, which He commanded them to keep from year to year as a memorial. Every year the trumpets are to be blown, announcing beginning of the seventh month:

- 24 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first *day* of the month, shall you have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. -Leviticus 23

On tenth day of the seventh month Yahweh offered His people the opportunity to be reconciled to Him by forgiving their sins. It is called The Day of Atonement:

- 27 Also on the tenth *day* of this seventh month *there shall be* a day of atonement: it shall be a holy convocation to you; and you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh.
28 And you shall do no work in that same day: for it *is* a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before Yahweh your God. -Leviticus 23

Furthermore, on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, Israel was to keep the Feast of Tabernacles:

- 34 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* the feast of tabernacles *for* seven days to Yahweh. -Leviticus 23

The Feast of Tabernacles is a time of great rejoicing. The people celebrate the harvest as they safely dwell in booths, or tabernacles, remembering that Yahweh saved them from their captivity in Egypt:

- 39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep a feast to Yahweh seven days: on the first day *shall be* a sabbath, and on the eighth day *shall be* a sabbath.
40 And you shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before Yahweh your God seven days.
41 And you shall keep it a feast to Yahweh seven days in the year. *It shall be* a statute forever in your generations: you shall celebrate it in the seventh month.
42 You shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: -Leviticus 23

**So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense,
and caused them to understand the reading. — Nehemiah 8:8**

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The blowing of trumpets announces the coming of the seventh month. The prophet Joel said the trumpet also announces the coming of the day of Yahweh, which many call the “day of the LORD:”

- 1 Blow you the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of Yahweh comes, for *it is* near at hand;
- 2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there has not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations. -Joel 2

The prophet Amos agrees with Joel. The day of Yahweh is a “day of darkness” rather than a day of light:

- 18 Woe to you that desire the day of Yahweh! to what end *is* it for you? the day of Yahweh *is* darkness, and not light. -Amos 5

The sounding of the alarm signals the time when Yahweh will cut off those who refuse to repent from worshipping Baal, the priests that worship idols, those who blend the worship of Yahweh with that of other gods, those who turn back from Yahweh, and those who have not even sought to know Him:

- 4 I will also stretch out my hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, *and* the name of the Chemarims with the priests;
- 5 And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship *and* that swear by Yahweh, and that swear by Malcham;
- 6 And them that are turned back from Yahweh; and *those* that have not sought Yahweh, nor inquired for him. -Zephaniah 1

We learn in the Book of Revelation that seven trumpets are sounded by seven angels:

- 6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. -Revelation 8

The first six trumpets unleash successive calamities upon the earth to warn an unbelieving world to repent.

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Finally, the seventh angel sounds the seventh trumpet:

- 15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Messiah; and he shall reign forever and ever. -Revelation 11

Many people throughout the centuries have asked, “How can we know when the trumpets will sound?” Yahshua (Jesus) told us that no one knows when they will sound, but through the Word of God we have been shown types or signs that will help us to know when the time is near:

- 32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer *is* nigh:
- 33 So likewise you, when you shall see all these things, know that it is near, *even* at the doors.
- 34 Truly I say to you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. -Matthew 24

We know that the trumpets sound in the seventh month, at the time of the harvest. The seventh month is counted from the beginning of months, which Yahweh designated as the month of Abib (see Exodus 12:2 and 13:4). In the Gregorian calendar (which is commonly used throughout the world), the month of March is most closely related to the Hebrew month of Abib. Counting from March, the seventh month of the year is September.

Although the calendar used today differs significantly from the ancient Hebrew calendar, it is based on the early Roman calendar, which began with March. The last four months of the Gregorian calendar still retain names that count from March. For example, September, October, November, and December mean the seventh (sept), eight (oct), ninth (nov), and tenth (dec) months, respectively.

Yahweh said that the trumpets would be blown at the beginning of the seventh month, which is literally sometime in the month of September. Let’s continue reading the prophecy of Zephaniah:

- 15 That day *is* a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,
- 16 A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. -Zephaniah 1

Isaiah told all of the people of the world:

- 3 All you inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see you, when he lifts up an ensign on the mountains; and when he blows a trumpet, hear you. -Isaiah 18

When can we expect the sounding of the trumpets? Have they already begun to sound? If so, do we have ears to hear them?