

## SHARING THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS

### Leviticus 23:23-25

“ Again, the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘In the seventh month on the first of the month you shall have a rest, a reminder by blowing *of trumpets*, a holy convocation. You shall not do any laborious work, but you shall present an offering by fire to the LORD. ”

What might you share with your Jewish friends, concerning this feast?

The “Jewish” New Year has arrived. You may have seen trumpets (shofar in Hebrew), honey and apples, pomegranates advertised relating to the Jewish New Year, but how might we make inroads with our Jewish friends?



You can start off by telling him/her “Happy New Year” and how impressed you are with the strong traditions and family ties that you see in the Jewish community and in family circles.

Perhaps you can point out that you have been reading the Hebrew Bible, and in Leviticus 23:23-25 you remarked that this feast (the blowing of Trumpets) was to be celebrated in the 7<sup>th</sup> month of the year. You can then explain that in Exodus 12:2 it says that the month of Abib, when Passover is celebrated, was to be the 1<sup>st</sup> month in the Hebrew calendar.

You can explain that this first month, the biblical new year is very connected to the moment God took Israel out of slavery and made her into a new and free nation. God wanted them to recognize how important an event this was (their freedom!) and chose to make it the first month of the year. And in Scripture, the months were always numbered in relationship to the first month. This means that each time an Israelite would use their calendar, they would think about the Passover and the freedom and blessing they received at that very special time. Perhaps you can then ask them why they celebrate the Jewish New Year in the 7<sup>th</sup> month of the Hebrew calendar. You might also mention that you read in Leviticus 23:24 that this feast is called a “memorial”, a time of remembrance. Interestingly enough, the Scriptures do not give any details at all as to what they were to remember.



And what about this shofar, this very loud sounding blast of the ram’s horn? What significance did that play? Perhaps it was to remind the Israelites of the giving of the law on Sinai, as this

event coincided with the first time usage of the word *shofar* in the Hebrew bible. Perhaps they were to remember here as well, the exile and their freedom.

Because Feast of Trumpets is a special time of the year when some Jewish people are actively seeking God, searching inwardly, and looking to forgive and seek forgiveness, it might be a great time to bring in our need to repent, to get right with God, to listen to that shofar blast and get woken up from our sleep of complacency. Perhaps the shofar can shake us as it did the people at Mount Sinai. In fact, the rabbis say that the blowing of the shofar was also used for the coronation of a king. Perhaps they can think of who their true king is, who they really worship since everyone has to serve someone or something. As believers, we can appreciate what it means to continue in obedience to God, having been set free from sin (in Yeshua, Jesus) and having become slaves of righteousness instead (Romans 6:15-18).



Here is a chart of the *Seven Feasts of Israel*, including each one of its biblical fulfillments as understood through the New Testament (Brit Chadashah).

**FROM LEVITICUS 23**

<b>THE SEVEN FEASTS OF ISRAEL</b>	
<b>THE 1<sup>st</sup> COMING OF THE MESSIAH</b>	
<b>1-PASSOVER</b>	<b>The Death of the Messiah</b>
<b>2-UNLEAVENED BREAD</b>	<b>His Holiness</b>
<b>3-FIRSTFRUITS</b>	<b>His Resurrection</b>
<b>4-PENTECOST</b>	<b>His Body</b>
Church Age / Dispensation of Grace	
<b>THE 2<sup>nd</sup> COMING OF THE MESSIAH</b>	
<b>5-TRUMPETS</b>	<b>The Rapture</b>
<b>6-DAY OF ATONEMENT</b>	<b>The Tribulation</b>
<b>7-TABERNACLES</b>	<b>The Millennium</b>

Questions? Contact us: [info@bethariel.ca](mailto:info@bethariel.ca)

Have a blessed week.