# Yom Teruah: Pictures Jesus' return to rule

Feast of Trumpets Sept 26, 2022



**Reposting** for Sept 26, 2022, from 2020 original sermon *Philip Shields*<u>www.LightontheRock.org</u>

All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

**KEY WORDS:** Feast of Trumpets, Yom Teruah, Rosh Hashanah, return of Christ, Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming, America, Israel, second coming, Wedding of the Lamb, Mount of Olives, Deuteronomy 28, Deut. 28, first fruits, resurrection, Rev.16, Revelation 19.

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Summary: This sermon is a reposting from 2020 with a few updates. God's word is timeless. Feast of Trumpets has been greatly misunderstood. Many believe that it pictures the day of the first resurrection, rising to meet Christ in the clouds and then – on the same day – returning to Mount. of Olives. This sermon shows how scripture does NOT actually support that impossible timing. Find out when the resurrection occurs and when Christ returns to Mount of Olives. Why is Messiah pictured returning on a cloud in Matt.24 – but also on a horse (Rev. 19)? What does Revelation 16 show will happen after the resurrection? This sermon will make you think and ponder many old assumptions.

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Sunset of Sept 25 thru 26, 2022 will be the Feast of Trumpets on the Hebrew calendar. So we're starting the Autumn holy days. Many also wait for the sighting of the new moon in Jerusalem, expected to be 2 days later. Whichever day you keep, may YHVH bless you and your family as we get into the fall holy days.

When will Jesus – I call him by his Hebrew name Yeshua – finally return to the Mount of Olives to set up his millennial rule on this earth?

Many traditionally believed that when the seventh trumpet sounds, the dead in Christ are risen/resurrected, we are taken to meet Christ in the clouds above and then we all return to Mount of Olives – like **Acts 1 and Zechariah 14** state – <u>all on the same day</u> in a future year – maybe even relatively soon.

I will show how that timing scenario is simply NOT what scripture shows. <u>All of that simply cannot all happen on one day only</u>. **This sermon is not the traditional Feast of Trumpets sermon**, so please listen and I'd love your feedback. <u>Spring holydays picture</u>

the firstfruits and the Fall holydays pictures God working with the rest of creation. WE are first-fruits and a part of the spring-summer harvest, not the Fall great harvest.

Now before we get into the discussion of the mechanics and timing, I hope we can all agree that however and whatever timing is involved, when the Messiah does return in glory and power one day hopefully soon, with hundreds of millions of his holy battle angels in glory – it's going to be ONE unprecedented GRAND day! We can all agree on that, right?

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# We are to keep the Feast of Trumpets, or blasts:

## **Leviticus 23:23-25**

Then YHVH spoke to Moses, saying,

24 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh [Hebrew] month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation.

25 You shall **do no customary work** on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to YHVH."

<u>Young's Literal Translation</u> says, "a memorial of shouting". Holman says, "A day of jubilation" and their note says, "literally shouts or blasts".

**That day in 2022 is Sept 26.** In other years it will still be likely September, but a different date. So let's talk about the Feast of Trumpets.

The words 'blowing of trumpets' is NOT actually even in the original Hebrew, though shofars and silver trumpets were undoubtedly blown on this day.

(In video – I recount my discussion with a top Jewish rabbi in front of Mount of Olives, who seemed unaware of the prophecies of Zechariah 14.)

<u>Jews keep this day – but miss the BIGGEST POINT BECAUSE they reject</u> <u>Yeshua as their Messiah. They ARE looking for their Mashiach (Messiah) to</u> <u>return.</u> Their (and our) very own Messiah IS returning to Mount. of Olives on this very day, very likely, and they miss it.

<u>Jews</u> celebrate the creation on this day, and the new year on **Rosh Hashanah**, what they call this day, and they begin their <u>10 days of Awe</u> of repentance so that they're included in God's book of Life for another year.

But most Jews MISS the biggest meaning of all! If they don't have their eyes opened, they'll miss him again! It's likely to be on this Day when Christ and his Bride return to Jerusalem to take over the reins of government over the entire world.

So let's back up and get a running start at it all.

This world is in a mess – and it apparently will get a lot, lot worse before it gets better. There will be intermittent periods, apparently as well, of peace and prosperity – which throws everyone off guard. But how should WE children of God react to all the unwelcome news – which will, I promise, for a time just get worse and worse?

## Luke 21:25-28

"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming <u>in a CLOUD</u> with power and great glory.

28 <u>Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near</u>."

He explains the first of two returns when he collects the Bride. The first time he comes in a cloud – but he's finally here at that time! *So instead of getting down, anxious and depressed* – we believers need to look up, see past all the hard times, sing our hallelujahs and rejoice, for our Redeemer is coming! And soon. We're certainly two thousand years closer than in the apostles' day!

#### WHY Christ has to return soon:

- If he didn't, nobody would be saved alive (Matthew 24:22)
- So Christ has to come to once and for all establish God's RULE on the earth. Since America and the world has kicked God out of society, out of government, out of schools we see the resulting rot and decay and all the foul evils happening.

This is **the root reason** our beloved America is completely falling apart, as it rots before our eyes, right to the core. It's because we have departed from our living God. <u>We were once the shining light on the hill</u> that the world could look to. <u>What happened? We banned God himself</u> from public discourse and as the basis for what should be our morality and values. (More info is given in the video)

#### The TWO HOUSES: House of Israel; House of Judah

What's been happening in America is the very reason Yeshua has to come back! What we see happening right now happened before to Israel and Judah.

After Solomon, <u>the twelve tribes of Israel split into two "houses"</u> – the House of Judah and the House of Israel, composed of the northern ten tribes led by Ephraim. **Gen 48:16 says the name "Israel" was to be predominantly given to Joseph's sons**.

Today, I believe strongly that Ephraim, the younger son of Joseph, is America. Genesis 49 prophesies what happens to each of the twelve tribes in the Last Days, so we have to be in the Bible – just under a different name. Ephraim is composed of a multitude or company of nations. <u>USA is composed of fifty "states" – the same word meaning "country"</u>. We might say "the state of France" or the State of Israel, for example.

<u>Our country was started on the foundation of the Bible</u>. I was just reading, for example, about George Washington's first inaugural address, and he made it very clear that our nation owed its blessings entirely to GOD. After that, he led all of Congress – the senators and congressmen – on a short walk in New York City to a church where they dedicated the country and themselves to the God of the Bible. How far have we strayed from that kind of foundation! The chapel they went to, was the chapel still left standing at Ground Zero, where 9-11 happened!

Jonathan Cahn is heading up "the Return" to God, in prayer, on Sept 26, sabbath, 2020. He speaks to America as if we are "Israel" of Deut 28, but doesn't seem to realize that indeed we ARE the descendants of ancient Israel!

You should re-read Deuteronomy 28 to see how America and Britain became world leaders – and how and why they are beginning to lose that dominance.

The United States is composed of fifty united states, or nations and no country has ever, in the earth's history, been more powerful and blessed since World War 2 especially. **Genesis 48:19 – Ephraim, Joseph's younger son, would be the greater son**. The past century in fact has been called "The American Century". Joseph's other son – Manasseh, in my view – is UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The other tribes make up most of northwestern Europe. I will have to a give a couple of sermons on this soon to show why I believe this.

I know well that many of you believe America may be Manasseh, the older brother of Ephraim, but USA is so much more powerful than Britain, and it leads the other nations now. And Britain is "older" than America. So I believe UK is Manasseh and USA is Ephraim.

Though imperfect, America was founded on the Bible and as long as we were led by people who all – for the most part – read and lived by the Bible the best they knew how, <u>God</u> <u>blessed America</u>. This was also due to the promises made to Abraham.

In time, the Jews became the **House of Judah**, and the ten northern tribes, led by Ephraim, were the **house of Israel**. House of Israel went into captivity before Judah did, and disappeared because they had rejected God, rejected his sabbaths and the signs God gave them – so they lost the knowledge that they were also God's people, not just the Jews.

So the promises of blessings and cursings that were made to Israel in <u>Deuteronomy</u> **28** apply predominantly today to America and Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand – and then by extension also to the northwestern European countries – who make up present-day house of Israel, led by America for the past century. So when you read **Deuteronomy 28** – the blessings and cursings – apply that especially to today's USA the most.

But over the past 50-60 years, and especially in the past 15 years, America has pushed God out of the government, out of the schools, out of the media, out of our lives and we're seeing

the results as we lose God's hedge of protection and the Almighty's blessings. Plus we've embraced so many things God says is abominable to him – like abortion and the destruction of the traditional family.

So God has to send his Son – and if he didn't come in time – there would be no flesh saved alive (**Matthew 24:22**). If he didn't come – all life would be wiped out. That's how bad it's going to get.

## So WHEN and HOW does Yeshua (Jesus) come back to earth?

If you heard my series on the Wedding of the Lamb, you know the Bible is clear that God in heaven puts on the wedding for his son (Matthew 22:1-2) as Jesus said in his parable.

#### **Matthew 22:1-2**

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like <u>a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son..."</u>

We know the king is God the Father and the son is Yeshua. And where is God the Father? He's in heaven. The Bridegroom typically went out to get the bride and her bridesmaids and then they all would return to the Father's house.

Since we are the FIRSTFRUITS of the Kingdom of God (<u>James 1:18</u>), it makes sense for this first resurrection and wedding to take place – <u>not on</u> Feast of Trumpets – but on PENTECOST, which is all <u>about the first fruits</u>. The Fall holydays are NOT about the first fruits but about how the King Yeshua is going to work with the REST of humanity.

- Spring-early Summer holydays picture Christ and the first fruits
- The 4 Fall holydays picture God working with the rest of humanity.

**So it** *makes no sense, therefore,* **for the first resurrection, for those who are firstfruits -- to happen in the Fall.** It will be on Pentecost. It's the same holy day when God married Israel at Mount Sinai. Pentecost pictures the wedding! It pictures the first group God works with.

**SO yes, at the last trump of 7 trumpet blasts that are sounded**, indeed we who have God's spirit will be changed, in a moment, in the blink of an eye –to glorious spirit beings, shining like the sun in power. Remember, silver trumpets were blown <u>on each and every</u> holy day, new moon, and days of your gladness – not just the feast of Trumpets (**Numbers 10:10**).

On your own, **you should read 1 Cor. 15:35-58**. Let's read the main verses 51-53. So our resurrection and change happens on or about Pentecost! Then we're in heaven a few earthmonths – and then come back with Christ to land on the Mount of Olives probably on Trumpets. So let's first read about our change to spirit bodies:

# <u>1 Corinthians 15:51-53</u>

"Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, **but we shall all be <u>changed</u>**—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the <u>last trumpet</u>.

For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, <u>and this mortal must put on immortality</u>".

Will you and I be resurrected back into a fleshly body again? No! Let's read it.

## 1 Corinthians 15:42-45

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. 43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

**44 It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.** There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. 45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a **life-giving spirit**."

So at our resurrection, called the First Resurrection, will be immortal spirit beings who will reign with Messiah for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:4).

# **Daniel 12:1-3**

# "At that time Michael shall stand up,

The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;

And there shall be a time of trouble,

Such as never was since there was a nation,

Even to that time.

And at that time your people shall be delivered,

# Everyone who is found written in the book.

2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,

Some to everlasting life,

Some to shame and everlasting contempt.

3 Those who are wise shall shine

Like the brightness of the firmament,

And those who turn many to righteousness

Like the stars forever and ever."

Turn many to righteousness: we have to be actively preaching Christ and the kingdom of God -- and do it mostly by the testimony of our changed/changing lives.

So why do I teach the seventh trumpet sounds on *Pentecost*, but we return to the earth with King Yeshua (Jesus) on Feast of Trumpets?

# Here's the SEQUENCE of the Messiah's coming.

- Since we are first fruits of God's harvest (**James 1:18**), the symbolism of first fruits puts our redemption in the spring holydays
- Scripture shows Christ returns first **on the <u>clouds</u>** to collect his Bride and then **returns on <u>a white horse</u>**. He obviously is coming TWO separate times to take power over the earth; two different descriptions because it's describing two different returns. First to collect his Bride. Second to return to rule with his Bride.
- **Christ is proclaimed king at the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet**, the last trump.

## Revelation 11:15

Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

After we are resurrected at the seventh trumpet, there are still 7 more Bowl Plagues, or 7 <u>Last</u> Plagues -- to go through (Rev 15-16) – and during this same time the <u>WEDDING of Christ</u> and his Bride is taking place in heaven (Rev. 19:1-9), and then he returns with his bride and angels to conquer (Rev. 19:11-21).

<u>So again, what will we be doing after we're resurrected –which makes more sense to probably be on Pentecost, not Trumpets? (Trumpets were sounded on all the holydays).</u>
<u>The seven last plagues will surely last several MONTHS at least.</u>

We're not just going to hover over Jerusalem after the seventh trumpet and wait for the seven last plagues to play out. Those 7 Last Plagues will take months.

Those seven last plagues after we're resurrected -- take several months. They're all listed in Revelation 16.

**Bowl Plague 1** -- dreadful, painful sores (Rev 16:2)

**Bowl Plague 2** -- Sea turned to blood; all sea life dies (Rev 16:3)

**Bowl Plague 3** – all rivers and springs turn to blood, all their life dies

**Bowl Plague 4** – Sun turns scorching hot, burning men (Rev 16:8)

**Bowl Plague 5** – extreme darkness and pain (Rev. 16:10-11)

**Bowl plague 6** – Euphrates dried up so the armies of millions from the East could gather over weeks to battle Yeshua Rev. 16:12-16

**FINAL Bowl plague** 7 – massive worldwide earthquake destroying many cities, hail as much as 100 lbs each; tsunamis that make islands disappear; mountains are laid flat! (HUGE earthquake) Rev. 12:17-21

No, we're not just hovering over Jerusalem that whole time but we're going to go to heaven first to get married. We then play out what **Rebekah** pictured when she left her country to go to Isaac, who was a type of Christ – and who was with his father Abraham (**Genesis 24:59-67**), who was a type of God the Father.

The Bridegroom – Yeshua – is coming for his Bride the *ekklesia*, the called-out ones – and then he takes her to his father in heaven for the wedding. The parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25 also shows this.

# Matthew 24:30-31

"Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they <u>will see the Son of Man coming ON THE CLOUDS</u> of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And **He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet**, **and they will gather together <u>His elect</u>** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

The "elect" are those who are led by God's spirit. They are NOT from any one corporate church group. They are individuals scattered all around the world who have and are led by God's spirit.

<u>So I believe that's the first thing we'll be doing</u> once we're resurrected and meet Christ in the clouds: <u>go to Heaven to meet God the Father</u> and get married to Yeshua. That's all carefully and fully explained in the 3-part sermon series I gave on the Wedding Supper. And in heaven, apparently time is immaterial. On earth about 3 months will be going by.

Remember also **the two** *leavened loaves* **of PENTECOST** that are raised up by the High Priest, and then brought back down. I believe pictures US, the first fruits, from Abel to the last convert filled with God's spirit.

## Leviticus 23:17

"You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; **they shall be baked with leaven**. *They are the firstfruits* to *YHVH*."

<u>Why two loaves?</u> Probably to represent the two categories Paul uses in 1 Thess 4 – those who have died in Christ and those who remain in Christ at his coming. But they all are flawed humans made perfect by God's grace and who now let God's Spirit lead them.

# <u>Resurrection and change to spirit – then up to Heaven for the Wedding</u> (Pentecost) – and then what?

In Rev. 19:1-10- the wedding of the Lamb in heaven is described. I covered that in detail in the 3-part sermon on the wedding of the lamb. THIS TIME will be so exciting, and you'll want to be part of it! Those with Christ are the "Called, chosen and faithful" (Revelation 17:14).

**NOW AFTER the wedding**, the majestic Son of God, the King of kings – will now return to earth, to destroy armies arrayed against him – **and land on the Mount of Olives**, with millions of his holy angels and this time with His bride – all riding on spirit <u>angelic white horses</u>. Remember the first time Christ came was on the clouds. This time, on white horses – which are probably actually powerful, intelligent spirit angels. **Revelation 19:11**, **14**.

Now let's pick up after the wedding:

# Revelation 19:11-16 (this is right after the wedding)

"Now I saw <u>heaven</u> opened, and behold, a white HORSE. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and <u>His name is called</u> **The Word of God**. [So this is clearly Jesus – John 1:1-3, 14, not God the Father]

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, <u>followed</u> Him on white horses.

15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Several scriptures indicate the saints, the BRIDE, will also be with Christ – Zech 14:5; 1 Thess 3:13 "...at the coming of Jesus Christ with all his saints"; Deut 33:2; Jude 14-15 – "with ten thousands of his saints".

So this day is about us as well; returning with our Husband Yeshua the Word of God. How intimate, how powerful, how exciting that will be! (There's always more on the video)

# Back to Revelation 19, now v 17-21

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God,

18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."

19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh."

**Zechariah 14:12** explains what happens to the armies. Christ dissolves them. Read it yourself.

The second and final return of Christ starts with a massive invasion of angelic armies and The Bride of Christ all behind him. Here's one example:

#### 1 Thessalonians 3:13

"So that *HE may establish your hearts* blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints."

Exciting! Are you thrilled about the prospects of being part of this!? You should be! Don't be in panic or worry – about all the "bad things" that will happen before all this. Focus instead on what's happening positively.

You will have just been resurrected to glory, to perfect spirit being, taken to the clouds to meet your husband the King of Kings – and then to heaven to meet Abba, God Most High, on the Sea of Glass, and see his holy temple in heaven. Then we meet all the Bible greats in person, receive our new names, be shown our new home in your new city – the Heavenly

Jerusalem.... And then participate in the grandest wedding supper the universe has ever seen! All while the seven last plagues are finishing on mostly unrepentant people on earth.

After the wedding in heaven has taken place, then what? Again, we now return with our Husband Yeshua to go back to earth ... to land where?

# Do you remember what two angels said to the apostles as Christ rose up from the Mount. of Olives after his resurrection? Let's read it:

#### Acts 1:9-12

"Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched [from the Mount of Olives- v.12], He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,

11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? **This same Jesus**, who was taken up from you into heaven, **will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven**."

12 Then they returned to **Jerusalem <u>from</u>** the mount called **Olivet**, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey."

So we know it's going to be Yeshua – not the Father -- returning to the Mount of Olives when he returns as conquering King. The angels were just referencing the prophecies of Zechariah:

# Zechariah 14:3-4

"Then YHVH will go forth and fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives..."

<u>An interesting side point</u>: this is one of dozens of scriptures that show YHVH sometimes has to mean the Word of God, and other times – like Psalm 110:1 – YHVH refers to God Most High, God the Father. Context determines which.

We KNOW this time it has to refer to Yeshua, as the angels promised it was Jesus who would return to Mount of Olives (Acts 1:11-12), the One <u>called the Word of God (Rev. 19:13)</u> – so this is NOT the Father coming to earth, but the Word, Yeshua. (There are several ministers teaching it's the Father who returns to land on the Mount of Olives, and that's plainly wrong!)

The year 2020 certainly was a watershed, pivotal year. Don't you agree? And it's continued to be rough since then! On Monday Sept 26, 2022, is the Feast of Trumpets in 2022. In Hebrew it is called <u>Yom Teruah</u> – day of BLASTS, trumpets, and alarms. Jews call is Rosh Hashanah – head of the year.

*I* think he is coming relatively soon — but <u>not</u> in the next 1-5 years. I'll give a sermon sometime soon about all the world events that Yeshua himself said have to happen first, before he will return. There surely have to be at least 7-12 more years, at least, in the way I see it. Perhaps 10 years is possible, but the key is to BE READY, and to be abiding in Christ, more than spending time trying to figure out time charts and "getting ready".

And if you or I die of old age and Christ has still not returned, let's be faithful people who **are BUSY working for the kingdom; who are found "so doing" (Matthew 24:45-51)** and working hard for him, whether he has returned or not... and not be discouraged.

Even in the apostles' days – the return looked imminent! And now once more people think Christ's return is imminent – any time now – but our Savior told his disciples, his <u>disciples</u> – that he would come "at a time <u>you</u> do not expect."

## Matthew 24:42-44

"Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour [or day] your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

44 Therefore you also BE ready, for the Son of Man is coming <u>at an hour you do not expect</u>."

## OK... SO WHAT does the Feast of Trumpets/BLASTS symbolize?

**The Fall holydays – Trumpets** (Rosh Hashanah), Atonement (Yom Kippur) and Feast of Tabernacles and 8<sup>th</sup> day – **all picture how God works next with the rest of humanity,** more than with the first fruits.

# THE upcoming holydays calendar updated for 2022. Remember holy days begin with sundown the day before.

- Sept 26, 2022 is the Feast of Trumpets.
- Then day fasting of the day of Atonement on Weds, October 5, 2022
- Feast of Tabernacles Oct 10-16, 2022
- and the  $8^{th}$  day feast on Oct 17, 2022.

**Those of you observing the visual sighting of the new moon in Jerusalem** will have dates that are 2 days later probably. And their Feast of Tabernacles, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the Hebrew 7<sup>th</sup> month, will not likely be a full moon, as it is on the evening of Oct 9, the start of the Feast of Tabernacles on the regular Hebrew calendar.

If you're reading this in future years – of course the dates will be different in those years.

I hope you all are planning to KEEP God's holydays. The early church certainly kept the holy days, including the Gentiles — as proven by the fact all the brethren were all present for the feast of Pentecost in Acts 2. And Paul openly spoke of Passover in 1 Cor 5 and 11 to what was mostly a Gentile, Greek congregation.

**So all the Fall holydays are all about <u>upcoming</u> prophesied events!** I hope you have heard my sermons on "Understanding the Times we are in".

So Trumpets is likely the holy day when Christ and his Bride land on the Mount of Olives to take over and start the 1000-year reign. That's what most of us think.

Yom Teruah is called a day of clouds and gloominess. *It may even be hard – due to all the ash and debris in the air – to even know what day it is!* Zechariah 14:6-7, in describing this day Christ returns to Mount of Olives, says it will be a very unique day!

#### Zechariah 14:6-7

"It shall come to pass in that day
That there will be no light;
The lights will diminish.
7 It shall be one day
Which is known to YHVH —
Neither day nor night.
But at evening time it shall happen
That it will be light".

The Day of the LORD (day of YHVH) is called a day of dark clouds and gloominess (**Ezekiel 30:3**; **Joel 2:1-2**; **Zephaniah 1:14-16**).

"The Day of the LORD" (of YHVH) – what is it? When does it start?

The Day of the LORD will not be an enjoyable time for the world and "woe to those who desire the day of the LORD, we're told in Amos 5:18.

There is a one-year period called "the Day of the LORD" associated with this Feast of Trumpets. Isaiah 34:8 calls it a year-long event. Make yourself a note to read all of Isaiah 34 talking about God's fury when he's finally "had enough" with the world under Satan. But notice how LONG the "Day of YHVH" is:

#### Isaiah 34:8

"For it is the day of YHVH's vengeance, The YEAR of recompense for the cause of Zion".

I believe the Day of the Lord very likely <u>starts</u> on a feast of Trumpets and <u>ends</u> on Feast of Trumpets a year later. It's called several things in scripture. I'll explain as we go along.

The seventh seal has seven trumpets. These trumpets do not and cannot roll out on one day. One of the trumpets, the fifth trumpet, for example, lasts for FIVE months (Revelation 9:4-5). So it takes a while for all seven trumpets to be blown, and then there are seven more bowl plagues at the end of the seventh trumpet – which most of us equate to "the last trump".

Unless you're right with God, it will be a very scary time.

**Amos 5:18-19** goes on to say, "woe to you who desire the day of the LORD... a day of darkness, and not light." That's speaking to people who are not walking God's way. WE should absolutely long for the return of Christ, and the Day of the LORD has to precede that. We are people PRAYING FOR "thy kingdom come".

Since Feast of Trumpets falls on the first sighting of light of the new moon, it may be impossible to be sure when that day is, as the moon won't give its

light probably due to all the debris in the air from volcanic eruptions, wildfires, and war! Think of what that could mean.

Scripture also speaks of near misses of asteroids and meteors. It speaks of the earth reeling to and fro like a drunkard.

So the last year leading up to Christ's return will be a very chaotic time.

**Joel 1:15 calls** this day of YHVH a day of destruction from the Almighty.

"Day of the LORD" is YHVH's WRATH on sinful, unrepentant humanity, but the good news for God's children – he spares them his anger!

<u>The Day of the LORD is the one-year period of God's wrath and anger on the sinful of the world</u> in the 1-year period leading to the return of Christ on to the Mount of Olives. <u>The Day of the LORD is NOT about God's wrath on YOU, however</u>, if you are a child of God led by his Holy Spirit, however.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:8-10

"But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

9 <u>For God did not appoint US to wrath</u>, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him".

Here's another one: In 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 Paul says to focus on the kinds of lives we live now, then verse 10:

#### 1 Thessalonians 1:10

"and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even <u>Jesus</u> <u>who delivers us from the wrath to come</u>."

So we WILL be persecuted by Satan's children during Satan's wrath. Some of God's children will have to go through the Great Tribulation, which is SATAN'S wrath on God's people. Some will be protected in a place of Safety (you can check out my sermon on that – look up "Place of Safety"). But then in the end, God puts a hedge of protection even around some who come through the Great Tribulation as Revelation 7 shows us.

"The Day of the LORD" is the day of Yehovah's WRATH on the sinful world – including **the 7 Trumpet Plagues of Revelation 7,8, 11 and the 7 "last plagues" of Revelation 15-16**.

**Joel 2:1-2** calls it a day of trembling, deep darkness, and gloominess. 2:1 says to BLOW the trumpet, sound the alarm—let the inhabitants of the land tremble for the Day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand, a day of darkness and gloominess... v. 2 speaks of a massive invading army coming as never seen before.

**Joel 2:11** calls it a day that is great and "very terrible; who can endure it?"

**Joel 3:9-16**—please read it. *It says the word goes out to all the nations to prepare for war!* So when Yeshua returns as conquering king this time, it's a time of cataclysmic war

such as this planet has never seen before. God calls them to the Valley of Jehoshaphat for decision! **That's the area surrounding Jerusalem!** 

The context is entirely around the "Day of the LORD". There will be so many combatants that they'll **stretch from Megiddo up north in the Valley of Jezreel up there** – down to Jerusalem and the Valley of Jehoshaphat around Jerusalem. Perhaps the 200-million-man army – or whatever kind of army it is!

# Joel 3:12-13

"Let the nations be wakened, **and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat**; For there I will sit to judge *all the surrounding nations*.

13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, the vats overflow —

For their wickedness is great."

Many, many more scriptures call the Day of the LORD a day of wailing, terror, and destruction – not a wonderful time on earth – for it's the time when God himself finally lets us all know about how he feels about what we've done to this earth and to his people. See **Isaiah 13:6-9** for example. A time of YHVH's vengeance (Jer. 46:10). He says He will destroy those who destroy the earth (Revelation 11:18).

#### Revelation 11:18

"The nations were angry, <u>and Your wrath</u> has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

# Christ's 2-fold return to the earth - let me state it again:

The 2- parts to Yeshua's "2nd coming":

1<sup>st</sup>: He appears on the CLOUDS of heaven, and the whole world will see it happen -- To collect his Bride at the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet and take her to heaven to be married to him and to meet Father in heaven in person.

2<sup>nd</sup>: is the return from heaven AFTER the wedding, this time with his Bride and the holy angels, *this time on angelic white chargers* to conquer and take over the world. Very likely on the Feast of Trumpets – and again the trumpets are sounded on each holy day.

Christ's first coming is back at the seventh trump, near or around the Feast of **PENTECOST** – because it's the **time he comes for His Bride** – meaning the resurrected saints and his brothers/sisters who are FIRST FRUITS, pictured by Pentecost, people filled with God's spirit who are resurrected or are still alive when he returns. The true church. *God alone knows for sure who make up his CHURCH* – and it is ONLY the ones being LED by His spirit (**Romans 8:9, 14**).

We then go back to heavenly Jerusalem, get married, while the 7 Bowl Plagues are going on here on the earth (Rev. 15, 16).

But the ascension to heaven is pictured by the 2 LEAVENED LOAVES (Graphic) that are raised by the High Priest on the Feast of Pentecost. I'm repeating some of this because it is significantly different from what most teach and believe without figuring out it takes much more time to go through seven last plagues than just one day! It will take MONTHS.

## Leviticus 23:17

"You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; **they shall be baked with leaven**. *They are the firstfruits* to YHVH."

**Again, WHO are the firstfruits? They** are those God is working with and choosing right now to be the leaders and teachers in the messianic kingdom. Hopefully, that includes you and me. The 144,000 standing on heaven's Sea of Glass are also called "First fruits" (**Revelation 14:1-5**).

So we get married in heaven, because a KING puts on the wedding for his son – **Matthew 22:1-2**—and where is the King? That's God the Father. And he's in HEAVEN.

So I don't teach or believe in the traditional belief on the Rapture, but I DO believe we are going to heaven to receive our new name, get married, see the home God has prepared for us in heavenly Jerusalem, as Jerusalem in heaven will be MY city, YOUR city, the city of the first fruits – as it says about Abraham looking for a city whose builder and maker is God, in Hebrews 11.

Here's the battle scene facing us around Jerusalem...

# Zechariah 14:1-4

"Behold, the day of YHVH is coming,

And your spoil will be divided in your midst.

2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem;

The city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished.

Half of the city shall go into captivity,

But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

3 Then YHVH will go forth and fight against those nations,

As He fights in the day of battle.

# 4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives,

Which faces Jerusalem on the east.

# And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two,

From east to west, making a very large valley;

Half of the mountain shall move toward the north

And half of it toward the south."

Later in **Zech 14:12-13**, we're told <u>how</u> those battling God will die: their flesh will dissolve from their bones and their eyes dissolve in their eye sockets, and their tongues dissolve in their mouths. **This is the battle of Armageddon**. **Rev. 16:16** describes them gathering around the Valleys around Megiddo in the northern part of Israel.

So there's coming soon, perhaps within the coming decade, an invasion <u>of hundreds of millions of powerful military spirit angels</u> of war, backing up their Leader, who will be seen by everyone around the world as he flashes like lightning from one end to the other **(Matthew 24:27, 30).** That spirit-Leader will be Jesus Christ coming in his glory and power returning to save humanity from itself, and to save Jerusalem and the Israelites from extinction. But the deceived evil world will see him as an invader from outer space – kinda like the movie "Independence Day".

As sobering as all of that is, this should be a day of great anticipation and rejoicing by all of us, God's children:

# Hebrews 9:28

"...so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who EAGERLY wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation."

# Philippians 3:20-21

"For our citizenship is **in heaven**, **from which we also EAGERLY wait for the Savior**, **the Lord Jesus Christ**, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself."

Trumpets is to be a day of repentance, of seeking our Father and king. It's a time to re-set our relationships. Our relationship with YHVH, with Yeshua, with one another. We believers have to become one, now, before the Wedding. It's so important that we repent, that God says even if you're getting married – go repent and fast, first.

Notice what God says to his children:

#### Joel 2:15-17

"Blow the trumpet (shofar) in Zion, Consecrate a fast,

Call a sacred assembly;

**16 Gather the people, Sanctify the congregation,** assemble the elders, Gather the children and nursing babes;

Let the bridegroom go out from his chamber, and the bride from her dressing room.

17 Let the priests, who minister to YHVH, Weep between the porch and the altar; **Let them say, "Spare Your people, O YHVH,** and do not give Your heritage to reproach, that the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

**This is A TIME OF REPENTANCE AND RE-SETTING OUR RELATIONSHIP with God.** Now's the time to be sure you are zealous, right with Abba. Right with Yeshua. Be sure you are centering your lives on them. Be sure we are praying often, certainly daily. Be sure you're in His word daily. Be sure you're letting the Spirit of God guide and lead you.

You have a high, high calling, brethren. Don't let anything or anyone distract you. Every day the sun sets means we're one more day closer to the return of our King. Pray His kingdom come. Dedicate yourself to Him. Commit to obeying Him, keeping his promises, keeping his laws – and most of all, repent, turn and go the other way. I've had to.

Sometimes we find ourselves wandering off the path Yah gives us. In those times, I've had to deeply repent and get back on the path. I hope you are doing that too.

The next holyday after Feast of Trumpets is the Day of Atonement – a day of fasting and humbling ourselves. I have sermons about Atonement, but if I can, I'll try to get another one out soon, but I'll be in Washington DC the sabbath day, 2 days away from Atonement, so I might not have a fresh sermon. But scripture and sermons are timeless, and then we have the Feast of Tabernacles and the eighth day.

In the meantime, be abiding in Christ as never before. America's troubles are going to get worse and worse, no matter who's put into office for the next 4 years. . . and yet there will be semblances of peace and safety – and then sudden destruction. So don't fall asleep. Get zealous as never before.

If you're learning from this website, tell others about it. I'm glad to share the good news of His word with you. And please register on <a href="https://www.lightontherock.org">www.lightontherock.org</a> so you can leave comments and let me know you're seeing and hearing these videos and sermons.

Remember also to be watching for the AUDIO sermons – without video – as I'm hoping to be adding many short audios on important topics.

So until next time, this is your brother in Messiah with the good news of our awesome Father Almighty God, and our Savior and of His Kingdom, of which there shall be no end. Hallelujah. Praise His name. May YHVH bless you, smile upon you and bring you joyous peace.

And I want to end with the words of John the apostle – "Even so- COME, Lord Jesus, COME." (**Revelation 22:20**). CLOSING PRAYER.