

GROWING IN GOD PODCAST



GIG318 – The Day of Trumpets – Yom Teruah

Hello, I am so glad you are joining us today. During this podcast, we are going to be talking about the Day of Trumpets. I want the Lord to speak to us that which is really on His heart for us as His people to walk in during this year. I believe that the season of the feasts, or the celebrations biblically that the Lord gives, always have a purpose in His heart. The Day of Trumpets, of course, will launch us into the Fall season of biblical feasts, celebrations, and the perpetual statutes which the Lord has established in the Scriptures. I think that these prescribed times that the Lord has commanded us to observe are really like portals into the realm of spirit; they are windows of opportunity that we have to meet the Lord in, and through which we can enter into His Presence. I don't think that God just tells us to do this year after year after year without there being an intention in His heart and determination that He is going to meet us during these times. Therefore, I believe we should be observing these times. And as we do observe them, we are following the admonition in Isaiah 55 that we "seek the Lord while He may be found."

I want to read those two verses to us. Isaiah 55:6-7 says, "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." In my mind and in my heart, during these times that God has directed us in the Scriptures to observe these feasts, or these convocations before Him, they are with the intention that He has to meet us; and we are in fact seeking God while He has established in His own heart that He may be found by us. We are calling upon Him while He has chosen to be especially near. And so, I encourage us once again as we enter the Fall season of the feasts and celebrations that the Lord has prescribed, that we really give ourselves in our hearts to participate in what the Lord is looking for.

I am going to read a couple of verses about this Day of Trumpets. Many, many times we have referred to it as the Feast of Trumpets, and of course, in the Jewish tradition, it is celebrated as the New Year's Day. And yet what I want to do is focus on the verses of Scripture where this celebration is prescribed, and take it at biblical value for what God is saying in His Word that this time can mean to us. I do not think there is any prescription for it being a celebration of the new year. However, that is fine; I recognize that it really is proclaiming a new time in God, and that is one of the things I am feeling during this year for us to recognize.

I am going to Leviticus the twenty-third chapter, verses 24-25. It says, "'Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'In the seventh month on the first of the month you shall have a rest [that is a Sabbath], 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.'''"

Let's also go to Numbers 29, verse 1. It says, "Now in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall also have a holy convocation; you shall do no laborious work. It will be to you a day for blowing trumpets." Now that is the way the Scripture voices it, but that is the translation out of the Hebrew into English. In the Hebrew it says, if you would translate it, "It will be to you a day of *teruah*." That is the

word that is translated as trumpets, and that is a valid translation; but it is also a limited translation. There are other translations of the word that I think become significant to us, and I feel they are significant to us in this year.

I want to read a definition of *teruah* out of the *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*,¹ a trusted lexicon for understanding the definition of Hebrew words. *Teruah* is,

Alarm, signal, sound of a trumpet. This is a feminine noun formed from the root *rûa'*. It is a purely Hebrew formation and occurs thirty-six times in the OT, mostly in the singular. There are four distinct senses in which it is used [this is what is important for us – what is the sense of the word in its meaning for us]. It is used for “signal” (Lev 25:9), the “sound of the trumpet” for the blowing of the *šoar* on the day of atonement.

So we see that it was used as a signal. It was used to announce the Day of Atonement, which is tremendously significant as we are getting ready following this day to go into the celebration of Atonement. In a sense, the blowing of the shofar on the first day of the month is also alerting us to the fact that the Day of Atonement is just around the corner, and coming up in a few days. So that is one sense of the word, that it is a signal, as it was used in Leviticus 25, verse 9.

“It is also used for alarm...” It means an alarm. Sometimes I think of an alarm clock, because in our day and age, I think this is part of the significance now for us; it is to wake up and see what is going on around us and what the Lord is doing. It is used as a sense of alarm “as in case of attack.” It is used that way in Joshua 6:5 and Jeremiah 4:19: “‘I hear the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.’” In addition, it is used for the trumpet in the tumult of the battle [in the middle of the battle, it is used as an alarm], ‘And Moab shall die amid uproar, amid shouting, and the sound of the trumpet.’” This is in Amos 2:2. So we get the sense, and we must have this understanding of *teruah*, that it is a shouting. In other words, you do not have to have a trumpet; you can shout and yell and make a lot of noise, and that technically is *teruah*. This is why we many times have associated it with the idea of prophecy, of speaking prophecy, pronouncing what we want to see transpire in the realm of spirit. So that is a very valid use of the word.

Going back to this reading out of the *Theological Wordbook*, “Lastly, the noun is used for the exultation of praise to God, ‘Praise him with trumpet sound, praise him with lute and harp’ (Ps 150:3).”

So again, we see these four very distinct senses of this word *teruah*, which is the word that is used here. This is a Day of *Teruah*. It could be a day of shouting unto the Lord. It could be a day of alarm. It could be a day announcing the warning of battle that is coming. It could be a day of praise unto God, making a joyful noise unto the Lord, if you will. So we see these different uses of the word.

If we go to Numbers the tenth chapter, we see another proclamation where the trumpet itself is used. These are the silver trumpets that were created (Numbers 10), but a lot of the use of them is for the same fulfillment of the sense of *teruah*. Starting at verses 8-9 in Numbers 10, it says, “‘The priestly sons of Aaron, moreover, shall blow the trumpets; and this shall be for you a perpetual statute throughout your generations. When you go to war in your land against the adversary who attacks you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, that you may be remembered before the Lord.’” Now when we read originally about this day, remember it is a day of Sabbath and a day of remembrance. Well, part of

¹ White, William. [“תְּרוּעָה 2135”](#). Ed. R. Laird Harris, Gleason L. Archer Jr., and Bruce K. Waltke. *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, 1999, p 839. Print.

that remembrance is we are crying out to the Lord, we are making a noise before God, asking for Him to remember us in the time of battle and save us. That is what it is saying here. That is what God was declaring the use of the trumpets for, "that you may be remembered before the Lord your God, and be saved from your enemies." This is a good thing for us to be aware of now in these days of battle. In these last days as we are going through many things, we should be crying before the Lord that He remember us and fulfill His Word over His people.

In verse 10 it says, "Also in the day of your gladness and in your appointed feasts, and on the first days of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; and they shall be as a reminder of you before your God. I am the Lord your God."

I am trying to convey to us the sense of what this day is really about. To just say it is a "Day of Trumpets" is missing something; there is a lot of depth and meaning and sense to this word *teruah* that is used. It can be the blowing of trumpets. It can be proclamation through our prophetic pronouncement. It can be yelling before the Lord. It can be worshiping before Him. And I feel, personally, for this year, the thing the Lord has put on my heart is two areas of emphasis during this Day of Teruah. That is, number one, we need to wake up to what is happening around us. We need to wake up to the day that we are living in. We need to wake up and take account of our own personal walk with the Lord, and make sure that we are doing what the Lord is directing us to do. Remember what Christ said about the times of tribulation: He said, "Look up, look up." And I think that we need to wake up to God and His moving during these days that we are living in.

I think so many people get caught up in the idea of tribulation, or in the news of what is going on, which is very negative. And there is no question that we are finding ourselves in days of just anger, and the loss of love in the hearts of people, and violence; and these days have been spoken of. But that does not mean that is our reaction to the days we are living in. Our reaction is to look up. Our reaction is to wake up. Our reaction is to cry out to God and bring ourselves before Him, so that we are walking in a way that is pleasing to Him during this time. That is one of the main things I feel in my heart for us as the Lord's people.

The second is that there is this cry for Him to remember us, to remember Israel, to remember His Word to fulfill it in this day. This is the day when He will fulfill His Word. Again, these days are not about a focus on tribulation or difficult times. They are a focus upon the Lord and the fact that the Lord is coming through in this time to fulfill and to finalize His plan for mankind and for the world, and to establish His Kingdom on the earth. And so, we ask for the Lord to remember us; remember Israel; remember Your Word. He says that His Word will not return to Him void, without accomplishing what He sent it for. (Isaiah 55:11) This is a day of reminder: "Lord, we remind You of the promises. We remind You of the prophecies that You have spoken. We remind You about Your Kingdom. We remind You that Christ taught us to pray, 'Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on this earth as it is in heaven.' Come, Lord, establish Your Kingdom. Come and fulfill all of the good Words that You have given to us and spoken to us."

Now I am going to jump around through some Scriptures here that really came alive to me along these lines, and read them to you. Let's begin at Romans the thirteenth chapter, and I will start with verses 10-11. It says, "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed." See, this idea that we need to wake up. The alarm is being sounded, just like it goes off in the morning next to your bed and it just shocks you out of your sleep. Something today

needs to shock us out of our dullness, out of our passivity, out of our lack of awareness. We need to wake up from our sleep and know that the hour is already very deep into the time of the Kingdom, and now salvation, and fulfillment, is nearer to us than when we first believed.

Going on to verses 12-13, it says, "The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light." It is time for us to take stock of how we are walking. We wake up. We lay aside the deeds of darkness, put aside our walk with God from yesterday, and put on the armor of light. "Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy." These are the things that we definitely see going on all around us in this world, but we are not to be a part of that. We are to do something different in our walk with God. And I encourage you, wake up your walk with God. Get back into a sharpness, a clarity of how you should be walking. Put aside the deeds of the flesh. Do not be conformed to this age.

He goes on in verse 14 to say, "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts." So this is what we are to do: We are to wake up. We are to get right with the Lord. We are to get back into a hunger, into a diligence, into a carefulness of how we must walk before God in these times. And we are to put on the Lord and all His provisions, and make no provision for the flesh, but to walk with Him in a spiritual walk.

Let's go to Ephesians the fifth chapter, verses 14-20,

For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit [we should wake up, we should arise and shine, and we should be filled with the Spirit], speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making melody with your heart to the Lord....

Remember, this is one of the senses of the word *teruah*: the worship to the Lord. It was also used when the King arrived; his coming was announced with trumpets. They did that with King David. So we should be singing with "...psalms and hymns and spiritual songs [that should be part of our noise], making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father."

These verses are specifically relating to this idea of point one: it is an alarm call. God, I think, wants us to wake up. He wants us to get right with Him. He wants us to be waiting on Him, crying out to Him, praying to Him, into the Word, believing for His fulfillment of all that He has spoken.

I want to go now to Isaiah 52. I will start reading at verses 1-3. It says,

Awake, awake, clothe yourself in your strength, O Zion; clothe yourself in your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for the uncircumcised and the unclean will no longer come into you. Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, O captive Jerusalem; loose yourself from the chains around your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. For thus says the Lord, "You were sold for nothing and you will be redeemed without money."

Now remember, part of what the Lord is making real to me is that we are reminding the Lord, we are looking for this remembrance; and we are those that remind Him. Part of what we are proclaiming,

the noise that we are making, the trumpet sound we are speaking before God, is that He intervene against the enemy, that He intervene in the day we are living in. And that is what this is talking about – we are to loose ourselves.

I never want to forget when we read these Scriptures, these promises and these prophecies from the Hebrew Scriptures, that they always have their first fulfillment and their application in our hearts and our minds to Israel, to Jerusalem, to the people of the covenant. And so we are never misappropriating the Word, saying, “Oh, this is something now that belongs to the Christians, and we have inherited these promises because the Jewish people have not picked them up.” That is always a lie. So we are applying it to Israel, we are applying it to the Jewish people, we are applying it to Jerusalem itself, and we are seeing that; and we know that we are grafted in and therefore we receive the fulfillment of these same promises by virtue of our grafting in to the faith of Abraham. So He is telling us to loose ourselves from the chains, the bondage around us, because we have been sold into bondage; and God is saying, “Now I am going to come and redeem My people.”

Verses 5-6 say,

“Now therefore, what do I have here,” declares the Lord, “seeing that My people have been taken away without cause?” Again the Lord declares, “Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually blasphemed all day long. Therefore My people shall know My name [we are seeing the restoration of the name of the Lord and the name of Christ in the original Hebrew; it is coming to light during these times, and His people shall all know His name]; therefore in that day I am the one who is speaking, ‘Here I am.’”

God is coming down, saying, “Hey, here I am.” And as we read in the beginning, “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.” And He responds with this cry back to us, “Here I am.” And He is here for us.

Verses 8-9, “Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices, they shout joyfully together; for they will see with their own eyes when the Lord restores Zion. Break forth, shout joyfully together, you waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.” These are announcing the day when the Lord will remember. He will remember His people, He will remember His Word, and He will come down to fulfill it. He will comfort His people, and He will redeem Jerusalem. All that He has spoken will be fulfilled.

Verses 10-11 say, “The Lord has bared His holy arm in the sight of all the nations, that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God. Depart, depart, go out from there, touch nothing unclean; go out of the midst of her, purify yourselves, you who carry the vessels of the Lord.” So again it swings back in; you see these two points being mixed together – our cry, our waking up, our walk with God, purifying ourselves, coming into a righteousness before God; and God responding and remembering us, and remembering His Word and fulfilling it. These are the things I believe we will see triggered this year as we celebrate this day with all of our hearts. It shall be a day to you of teruah.

Let’s go to Isaiah 60, verses 1-5:

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples [we are living in that, are we not?]; but the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about... [remember what Christ said, “Look up; when you all these things happen, look up, for your day of redemption is

nigh"]. Lift up your eyes round about and see; they all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, and your daughters will be carried in the arms.

You can say, "Well, how do you know these prophecies are coming to fulfillment right now?" Because of these words right here – the sons are coming home. They are being carried in the arms of the Gentile nations, the Christians. This is one thing we do at Hargrave Ministries, is that we support the Aliyah, the bringing back of the children of Israel to the Land. That is what gives us a sign – these are the days that these words shall be fulfilled. "Then you will see and be radiant, and your heart will thrill and rejoice; because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you."

I love this. Let's look at one more. Isaiah 51, we will start at verse 17. "Rouse yourself! Rouse yourself! Arise, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the Lord's hand the cup of His anger; the chalice of reeling you have drained to the dregs." We have seen the dealings of the Lord on us. We have seen the dealings of the Lord on Israel. But now He is saying, "Wake up. Arouse yourself. It is a new day." It is a day of something different. It is not the day when the Lord's dealings and anger are going to be upon us; it is a day of reversals.

He goes on, and down in verses 22-23 He says,

Thus says your Lord, the Lord, even your God who contends for His people, "Behold, I have taken out of your hand the cup of reeling, the chalice of My anger; you will never drink it again. I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, who have said to you, 'Lie down that we may walk over you.' You have even made your back like the ground and like the street for those who walk over it."

In this day, it seems like we are losing the battle. It seems like wickedness is winning. It seems like the negative is taking over. But this promise is for us: when God remembers and He begins to fulfill His Word, then no longer are we the ones who are drinking the chalice of His anger; but He has taken it from our hands and put it into the hands of the tormentors who have said to you, "Lay down."

That is what this age is saying: "Sit down, shut up. Don't talk. If you don't follow the program, if you don't obey the woke mentality, then you are nothing, and you are going to be dealt with and done away with. We are coming for your children, and we are coming after you, and we are going to win this thing." And God is saying, "No. I am going to take the chalice of My anger out of your hands, and I am going to put it in the hands of your tormentors who have said to you, 'Lay down, that we may walk over you.'" God's people are not going to be walked over anymore. The Day of Trumpets will proclaim it.

"You have even made your backs like the ground and like the street for those who walk over it." God's people are not going to be trampled down by satan, or darkness, or wickedness, or those with evil intent. It is the day of victory.

So I encourage you, celebrate with all of your heart this Day of Trumpets, this Day of Teruah. Let it be a shout to the Lord. Let it be a request for remembrance. Let it be a worship unto Him for all that He has done, and all that He is doing, as He fulfills His Word and brings forth His Kingdom in this hour.

It is being announced and proclaimed by the trumpet blast. Amen.