## **DAY OF TRUMPETS**

Blow Trumpets Songs of Praise Opening Prayer

The Day of Trumpets, also known as the Day of Shouting, points to our Messiah Jeshua's return to glorify His followers and take control of the Earth. This Day marks the beginning of the seventh month, which includes the rest of God's Annual Holy Days. They are the Day of Atonement, the week-long Feast of Booths and the Great Last Day. They are all connected by God's Promises of yet-future events which are clearly taught in the Bible.

The Day of Trumpets is also a Holy Day commanded by Jehovah more than thirty-five hundred years ago: (Leviticus 23:23-25)

Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh new moon, on the first day of the new moon, you will have a Sabbath observance, a memorial of shouting, a holy convocation. You will do no customary work on it; and you will offer an offering made by fire to Jehovah."

This holy day is on first day of the seventh month, which reminds us of other cycles of sevens such as:

Creation Week—when God worked for six days and rested on the seventh (Genesis chapter 1).

Jericho—when the Israelites marched around the city for seven days – the city wall collapsed on the seventh circuit on the seventh day by Jehovah's hand. All of the anti-God occupants were killed except Rachab's family, who were spared because she had helped God's people (Joshua chapter 6). This is symbolic of the coming of Christ's

Kingdom in a cycle of six millennia under Satan followed by one millennia of Peace. In a similar way, Trumpets marks the beginning of the seventh month, another echo of the seventh-day of peace. Satan's earthly kingdoms will never exist again.

## Compare Jericho with Rev 11:1-19:

And a reed was given to me, like a rod. And the envoy stood, and he said, "Rise and measure the palace of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. But the inner court of the palace, leave it out and do not measure it, for that is given to the gentiles, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. And I will give authority to my two witnesses to prophesy for one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

These are the two olive trees and the two menorahs<sup>1</sup> who stand before the Lord of the whole earth. And whoever seeks to harm them, fire comes out from their mouths and consumes their enemies. And those that choose to harm them, so it is given to them to be killed. These have authority given to them to shut up heaven, so that the rain does not fall in the days of their prophecy; and they have authority given to them to change water to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

Now when their witnesses are complete, the beast that ascends from the sea<sup>2</sup> will make war with them, and will conquer them, and it will kill them. And their corpses will come into the street of the great city where their Lord was impaled, which spiritually is called Sodom and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exo 25:31-37: The menorah is a seven-branched lampstand that burns olive oil. It reminds us of God's seven day Creation and His seven Spirits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Greek says the beast ascends from the abyss. The Aramaic shows that it comes from the sea, which symbolises the human nations.

Egypt. Then those from the peoples and generations and languages and nations will look upon their corpses for three and a half days,<sup>3</sup> and they will not allow their corpses to be put in tombs. And the inhabitants of the earth will rejoice over them, and they will celebrate and send gifts to each other, because of the two prophets who tormented the inhabitants of the earth.

Now after the three and a half days the living spirit from God entered into them, and they stood on their feet, and the Spirit of Life fell upon them and great fear came over those who saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven that said to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies gazed at them. And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and one-tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand named men were killed, and the rest were afraid and they gave glory to the God who is in heaven.

Behold! Two woes are gone. And behold, the third woe is coming at once.

Then the seventh envoy sounded, and there were great voices in heaven that said, "The kingdom of the world has become our God's and His Messiah's, and He will reign for ages of ages!" And the twenty-four elders who sit before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God, saying: "We praise You, O Lord Jah, Almighty God, who is and who was, because You have taken Your great power and You have reigned. And the nations were wrathful, and Your wrath has come, and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This is like Jeshua, who was dead for just under three and a half days.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Aramaic shows a two step resurrection: first they are brought back to life as they were just before they were killed, then they are transformed into spirit beings before the eyes of the world. This may be the beginning of the First Resurrection of the saints. Mar 10:25-31, Rev 20:5-6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Greek adds "and who is to come"

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time to judge the dead, and You will give the reward to Your slaves, the prophets and to the saints, and to those who fear Your Name, to the small with the great, and You will destroy those who have corrupted the earth."

Then the palace of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His palace. And there were lightnings and thunders and voices and earthquakes and great hail. Revelation 11:1-19

Note the match in Revelation's seven seals and seven trumpets within the seventh seal with Jehoshua's trumpets at Jericho. Forty-two months is three and a half years of judgements, similar in some ways to the judgments made on Egypt resulting in the Exodus. Yet all of this is only the lead-up to Jeshua's Return.

Jeshua also gives us some other insights into the times leading up to His Return in Matthew 24:3-39:

And while Jeshua sat on the Mount of Olives, His disciples came and said to Him, among themselves, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what is the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the world?"

Jeshua answered and said to them: "Beware! Let no one deceive you. For many will come in My Name, and they will say "I AM! I am the Anointed,<sup>6</sup> and they will deceive many. And you are certain to hear of revolutions and rumours of wars. Be careful, but do not be troubled; for it is necessary that all these things happen, but it is not the end yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines and plagues and earthquakes in different places.<sup>7</sup> All of these things are the beginning of sorrows.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Literally, "I am Messiah" from the Aramaic, meaning they are claiming to be the Anointed Son of God. Also see Jer 29:8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Psa 18:1-13, Rev 6:12

"Then they will deliver you over to tribulation and they will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My Name. Then many will stumble and will hate one another and will betray one another. And many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because of the growth of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold. But whoever endures patiently to the end will have life.

"And this Good News of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

"And when you see the sign of uncleanness and desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (let he who reads this understand),<sup>8</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. And he who is on the housetop, do not let him come down to take that which is in his house. And he who is in the field, do not let him go back to get his clothes. And woe to the pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight will not be in winter nor on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, nor will ever be again.<sup>9</sup> And if those days had not been limited, none in the flesh would live; but because of the chosen those days will be limited.<sup>10</sup>

"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look! Here is the Anointed!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false Messiahs and lying prophets will arise and they will produce signs and great wonders in order to deceive, if possible, even the chosen. Behold, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Dan 9:27, Dan 11:31 and Dan 12:11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 2Pe 3:12, Rev 7:14, Rev 16:18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Zec 12:1-14:16

room!' do not believe it. For as the sunlight comes from the east and is seen even in the west, thus will the coming of the Son of Mankind be. Wherever the carcass may be, there the eagles will gather.

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and light will not shine from the moon; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Mankind will be seen in heaven, and then all the branches of the earth will mourn and will see the Son of Mankind coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His envoys with a great trumpet, and they will gather His chosen from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other end.<sup>11</sup>

"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branches become tender and it brings forth its leaves, you know that summer is arriving. So you also, when you have seen all these things, know that it is arriving at the door. Truly, I say to you, this branch will not pass away until all these things happen. Heaven and earth may pass away, but My word will not pass away. But which day and which hour no person knows, not even the envoys of heaven, but My Father alone.

But as the days of Noah, so will the coming of the Son of Mankind be. For as they were before the Great Flood, <sup>14</sup> eating and drinking, and taking their women and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Dan 7:13, 1Th 4:13-18, Rev 14:12-16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Based on Paul Younan's 'this branch' in his Peshitta translation. It probably refers to the branch of Judah, which is still with us today. Alternatively, it is 'this generation' and probably refers to the generation which sees all of these end-time things happening and then sees Jeshua return as King of Kings, not to the generation that was alive when He spoke to the Apostles. Jeshua is pointing out how rapidly all these things will happen once they begin.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> As in the Peshitta. The Greek inserts "nor the Son," here.

giving them in marriage to men,<sup>15</sup> until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the Great Flood came and took them all, so also will the coming of the Son of Mankind be.<sup>16</sup> Matthew 24:3-39

So we need to watch, stay alert and keep obeying Jeshua. Like the Great Flood, Trumpets will be a time of both death and joy, an ending and a new beginning.

Here are some precious details of our Messiah's Return: (1 Thessalonians 4:13 to 5:11)

But I want you to know, my brethren, that you should not be sorrowing for those who sleep like the rest of mankind who have no hope. For if we believe that Jeshua died and rose up, even so God will bring those who have fallen asleep in Jeshua with Him. For this we say to you by the word of our Lord, that we who have life which remains until the coming of our Lord will not overtake those who are asleep. For our Lord, with a command and with the voice of the head envoy and with the blast of the trumpet of God, will descend from heaven. And those who died and are in the Messiah will rise first. And then we who remain and who have life, we will be carried away with them, as one in the clouds, to meet with our Lord in the air. And in this way we will always be with our Lord. Therefore, comfort one another with these words. 17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> From the Aramaic tawphana בֵּוֹפְּנָא, meaning the Great Flood, and used exclusively throughout the Peshitta Old and New Covenants to refer to the world-wide Flood of Noah's day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> As in the Peshitta: unclear, but probably means the women were being given in marriage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Gen 6:1 to 8:2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Mat 24:29-31, Rev 14:12-16

But about the times and the seasons, my brethren, you do not need to be written to. For truly, you yourselves know that the Day of our Lord comes like a thief in the night. When they say there is peace and quiet, then from the silence, destruction will rise upon them, as labour pains upon a pregnant woman. And they will not escape. But you, my brethren, you are not in darkness, that this day, like a thief, should overtake you. For all of you are children of light and are children of the day and you are not children of the night nor children of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as the rest do, but let us be watchful and prudent. For those who sleep are sleeping in the night, and those who drink are drunk in the night.

But we who are children of the day, let us be vigilant in our minds, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and let us take the helmet of the hope of Life. <sup>19</sup> For God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation in our Anointed Lord Jeshua; He died for our sake, so if we are awake or if we sleep, we will live as one with Him. Therefore comfort one another and build one another up, just as you also are doing. 1 Thessalonians 4:13 to 5:11

—Again, there is life or death, joy or pain. We must remain diligent and encourage each other.

What happens when God's Anointed returns? (Revelation 14:1-20)

And I looked, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, who have His Name upon them and His Father's name written between their eyes.<sup>20</sup> And I heard

<sup>18</sup> Mat 24:35-44

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Isa 59:17, Eph 6:14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Literally 'on between their eyes', suggesting that this time God's mark might be visible as well as internal.

a sound from heaven, like the sound of many waters, and like the sound of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of a harpist playing on his harp. And they sang a new hymn of praise before the throne, before the four beasts, and before the elders; and no one could learn that hymn except the hundred and forty-four thousand redeemed from the earth. These are those who have not been defiled with women, for they are virgins. They follow the Lamb everywhere He goes. They were redeemed from men, the first-fruits to God and to the Lamb, for in their mouths no lies are found, for they are without fault.<sup>21</sup>

And I saw another envoy flying in the midst of heaven, and he had the everlasting Good News with him, to preach to those who dwell on the earth, and to every people and nation and language and generation; saying with a great voice, "Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgement has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and the springs of water."<sup>22</sup>

And another, a second envoy, followed him and said, "The Great Babylon is fallen, is fallen, she who from the passion of her fornication gave drink to all the nations."<sup>23</sup>

And another, a third envoy, followed them, saying in a great voice, "Whoever worships the beast and its image, and receives its mark between his eyes, 24 he will also drink of the wine of the passion of Lord Jah, 25 which is mixed full strength in the cup of His wrath. And he

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> The Greek adds 'before the throne of God'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Gen 1:1-2:4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The Greek has 'of the wine of the wrath of her fornication'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> The Greek has 'on his forehead or on his hand', as does Rev 20:4. Rev 20:4 has in 'on between their eyes or on their hand' in the Aramaic manuscripts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> As in the Peshitta.

will be tormented by fire and brimstone before the holy envoys and before the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. And there is no rest, day and night, for those who worship the beast and its image, and him who takes the mark of its name."<sup>26</sup>

Here is the patience of the saints; those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jeshua.

Then I heard a voice from Heaven that said, "Write of the blessings of the dead, to those who are departing in our Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "because they rest from their labours."

And behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat the likeness of a man, and on His head He had a gold crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another envoy came out of the palace and shouted with a great voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Send in Your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come." So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle onto the earth, and the earth was reaped. <sup>29</sup>

Another envoy came out of the palace which is in Heaven, having a sharp sickle with him. And another

The phrasing of this verse makes it clear that is those who are worshipping the beast and its mark who are being punished. It leaves open the possibility that they may be able to later repent of their false worship and seek forgiveness through Jeshua. God warns us here: this is not a punishment that anyone could desire, even briefly. Never submit to the beast!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Some Greek manuscripts add "and their works follow them." The Peshitta does not contain this additional phrase.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> This is the First Resurrection of the Righteous! This confirms Paul's statement that this resurrection could not have already happened when he wrote 2Ti 2:18. If we accept the timeline shown here, the resurrected saints will be able to watch God pour His Seven Plagues on those who have rejected Him and persecuted them. The Greek replaces the last phrase with 'the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Mat 24:30-31, Mat 25:31-34, 1Th 4:13-18

envoy came out from the altar, who had authority over fire, and he shouted with a great voice to him who had the sharp sickle with him, "Send your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vineyards of the earth, for its grapes are ripe." So the envoy thrust his sickle into the earth and he gathered the vines of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the passion of God. And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand two hundred stadios.<sup>30</sup> Revelation 14:1-20

But even after this, God's Judgements are not finished: (Revelation 15:1 to 16:21)

Then I saw another great and marvellous sign in heaven: seven envoys having the last plagues with them, for in them the wrath of God is finished. And I saw a sea of glass as if mingled with fire, and those who are victorious over the beast and over its image and over the number of its name, standing on the sea of glass, having God's stringed instruments with them. And they sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvellous are Your works, Lord Jehovah God!<sup>31</sup> Your works uphold all that is just and true, O King of the world! Who will not revere You, O Lord Jehovah, and glorify Your Name?<sup>32</sup> For only You are holy. Therefore all the nations will come and worship before You, because You are True."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Both harvests are in Mat 13:24-50. This second sickle is the harvest of the wicked. The Greek has 1600 stadia. 1200 stadia is about 211 km. If the stream of blood was 1.5m deep by 1.5m wide and full the whole length, it would require the blood of more than 90 million people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> As in Exo 6:3; Jehovah is rendered as Lord Jah (MarJah) in the Peshitta.
<sup>32</sup> As in Jer 10:6-7; Jehovah is rendered as Lord Jah (MarJah) in the Peshitta.

After these things I looked, and the palace of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened. And seven envoys came out of the palace, who have the seven plagues with them, clothed in pure and bright linen, and bound around their chests with gold bands.

Then one of the four beasts gave to the seven envoys seven vessels full of the wrath of God, who is the Life forever and ever. Amen.

And the palace was full of the smoke of the glory of God and of His power, and no one could enter the palace until the seven plagues of the seven envoys were finished. Then I heard a great voice from the palace say to the seven envoys, "Go and pour the vessels of the wrath of God on the earth."

So the first went and poured his vessel upon the earth, and severe and painful abscesses came upon those people who had the mark of the beast and on those who worshipped its image.

Then the second envoy poured his vessel into the sea, and the seas became as dead;<sup>33</sup> and every physical soul in the sea died.

And the third envoy poured his vessel into the rivers and into the springs of water, and they became blood. And I heard the envoy of the waters saying: "You are righteous, who is and who has existed, and are holy, You who have decreed these things. Because they have shed the blood of the prophets and of the saints, and You have given them blood to drink. They are worthy. And I heard the altar saying, "Yes, Jehovah God, true and righteous are all of Your judgements."<sup>34</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> The Greek has 'it became blood as of a dead man'. Blood in this verse is likely a mistranslation from the Aramaic for sea.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> As in Psa 19:8-10, Psa 119:137; Jehovah is rendered as Lord Jah (MarJah) in the Peshitta.

Then the fourth envoy poured his vessel over the sun, and power was given to it to scorch the children of men with fire. And the children of men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the Name of God who has authority over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

Then the fifth envoy poured his vessel over the throne of the beast, and its kingdom became darkness; and they gnawed their tongues from the pain. And they blasphemed the Name of the God of Heaven because of their pains and because of their sores, and they did not repent of their works.

Then the sixth envoy poured his vessel over the great Euphrates River, and dried up its waters, so that the way of the kings from the rising sun would be prepared.

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons who perform signs, which go to the kings of the whole world, to gather them to the war of that great Day of God Almighty.

"Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessings to him who watches and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." 35

And He gathered them to the place called Megiddo<sup>36</sup> in Hebrew.

And the seventh envoy poured his vessel into the air, and a great voice came from the palace before the Throne that said, "It is done!" And there were lightnings and thunderings and there was a great earthquake; its like has not occurred since there were the children of men on the earth, this is so great an earthquake. Then the great city

<sup>35</sup> Mat 24:35-44, 1Th 5:1-6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Meaning a 'rendezvous or gathering place'. Rendered as Armageddon in the Greek.

became three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. The Great Babylon was remembered before God, to give the cup of the wine of His passion of His wrath to it. Then every island fled, and the mountains were not found.<sup>37</sup> And great hail, weighing a talent,<sup>38</sup> fell from heaven upon the children of men. And the children of men cursed God over the plague of hail, because His plague was exceedingly great.<sup>39</sup> Revelation 15:1 to 16:21

Now let us **Break for the Eucharist** (Thanksgiving) of Bread and Wine as Jeshua established at the Last Supper, and rejoice that Jeshua has provided a far better life for us than for those who oppose Him: (1 Corinthians 11:23-32)

For I received from our Lord that which I also handed down to you: that our Lord Jeshua on the night in which He was betrayed, He took bread; and He blessed and He broke it and He said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for yourselves; you will do this for my memorial."

Likewise, after they had eaten, He also gave them the cup, and He said, "This cup is the New Covenant in my blood. Every time that you drink this cup, you will do it for my memorial." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, it is our Lord's death you commemorate, until His Coming.

Therefore, whoever eats this bread of Lord Jah and drinks from His cup and is unworthy of it will be guilty of the blood of Lord Jah, and of His body. Because of this, let a person search their soul, and then let them eat of this bread and drink of this cup. For whoever eats and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Zec 14:1-7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> This means the average diameter of these hailstones will be 415 mm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Mat 24:21-22, Eze 38:18-22

drinks while unworthy eats and drinks condemnation to his soul for not discerning the body of Lord Jah. Because of this many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged to be chastened by our Lord, we are chastened lest we are condemned with the world. 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

Let us meditate upon these things and our readiness for taking the Bread and the Wine.

[Quiet time for personal reflection and prayer.]

Now we will take the Bread and then the Wine according to Luke 22:19 and 20 [—using unleavened bread and red wine (or red grape juice).]

And He took bread, and He gave thanks and He broke it and He gave it to them. And He said "This is My body which will be given for your sakes; you will do this for My memorial."

[Rise up and offer the unleavened bread to Jehovah and give thanks for it, using Jeshua's words above. Then break the unleavened bread into pieces and pass them around. Wait for everyone to receive their bread and eat it.]

Then He also took the cup after they had dined. He said "This cup is the New Covenant in My blood, which will be shed for your sakes.

[Rise up and offer the wine to Jehovah and give thanks for it, using Jeshua's words above. Then pour the wine into glasses and pass them around. Wait for everyone to receive their wine and drink it. Then thank Jeshua for offering us His body and blood for our

healing, our salvation and our life, both for now and for everlasting life.]

### **Break for Lunch**

# **Afternoon Service**

Now let us return to our review of Revelations and the time of Tribulation: (Revelation 17:1 to 19:10)

Then one of the seven envoys who had the seven vessels came and spoke with me, saying, "Come, follow me. I will show you the judgement of the prostitute who sits on many waters, for the kings of the earth have fornicated with her. And all those who dwell on the earth have been drunk with the wine of her fornication."

And he took me into the wilderness in the Spirit. And I saw a woman sitting on a blood-red beast full of names of blasphemy, which had seven heads, but ten horns on it. And the woman was wearing purple and scarlet, and gilded with gold and precious stones and pearls, and had her gold cup in her hand and it was full of abominations and the filth of her fornication. And between her eyes was written: Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Prostitutes and of the Filth of the Earth. And I saw the woman drunk from the blood of the saints and from the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> These are the colours and emblems used by the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic 'Church'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Roman Catholicism is based on renamed Babylonian Mystery religion rites. Read <u>The Two Babylons</u> for details. All 'orthodox' and most Protestant churches retain many of her heresies, and are thus her daughters.

blood of Jeshua's witnesses. And I was astonished with great amazement when I saw her.<sup>42</sup>

And the envoy said to me, "Why are you astonished? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that bears her, having seven heads and ten horns on it. The beast which you saw was, and is not, and is about to ascend from the sea and go to destruction. And those dwelling on the earth will marvel, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast which was, and is not, and yet is approaching. Here is the meaning for him who has wisdom: the seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits.<sup>43</sup> And there are seven kings. Five have fallen and one is; there is another who has not come yet. And when he comes, it is given to him to remain a little time. And the dragon and the beast which it brought, it is and it is not the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to destruction. And the ten horns of the beast are ten kings who have not received a kingdom yet, but they receive authority as kings for one hour with the beast.

"These all have one will, and give their power and authority to the beast. These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them because He is Lord of Lords and King of Kings; and because His people are called, chosen, and faithful."

And he said to me, "The waters which you saw, on which the prostitute sits, they are nations and crowds and peoples and languages. And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the prostitute and they will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and burn her with fire. For God has put it into their hearts to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> The Roman 'church' has spent almost two thousand years murdering true Christians, all the time pretending to be preserving Christianity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> The seven hills symbolise seven 'kingdoms'. It is also of interest that ancient Rome was known as the city of seven hills.

fulfil His pleasure and to act with one purpose, and will give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

"And the woman which you saw is that great city which has ruled over the kings of the earth for itself."

After these things I saw another envoy from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he shouted in a great voice, "Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a habitation for demons and a prison for every unclean and detestable spirit!<sup>45</sup> For all the nations have drunk of the wine of her fornication she mixed for them, and the kings of the earth have fornicated with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the power of her infatuation."

And I heard another voice from heaven that said, "Come out from within her, My people, lest you share in her sins, that you do not receive of her plagues. 46 For her sins have touched heaven, and God has called to mind her evils. Pay her just as she has also paid, and pay her double for her deeds. In the cup in which she has mixed, mix a double for her. For that in which she glorified herself and exalted herself, give her suffering and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and I am not a widow, and I will not see sorrow.'

"Therefore these plagues will come upon her in one day; death and sorrow and starvation. And she will burn in fire, for Lord Jehovah who judges her is powerful.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Even today, the leaders of many nations have gone to Rome and bowed to the pope, thus declaring their subservience to him.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> The Greek adds ' and a cage for every unclean and hated bird'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> God clearly tells us that there are some people in these churches that are actually being called by God, and we must remember that every person we speak to in them may be a Christian who is, at this time, deceived enough to be in this false church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> As in Jeremiah 50:34; Jehovah is rendered as Lord Jah God (MarJah) in the Peshitta.

And the kings of the earth will weep and lament for her, those who fornicated and exalted themselves with her, when they see the smoke of her burning. They will stand opposite from fear of her punishment, and will say, 'Woe! Woe! Woe to that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgement has come.'

"And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, and there is not one who buys their cargo again: Cargo of gold and of silver, and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet and every kind of fragrant wood and every vessel of ivory and every vessel of precious wood and bronze and iron and marble; and cinnamon and incense and fragrant oils and frankincense and wine and oil and fine wheat flour and sheep and horses and chariots and the bodies and souls of the children of men. And your own pleasant fruits have gone from you, and everything luxurious and splendid has gone from you, and you will never see them again.

"The merchants of these things will not find them, who became rich by her. They will stand opposite for fear of her punishment, while weeping and wailing, and they were saying, 'Woe! Woe to that great city that wore fine linen and purple and scarlet, adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls! For in one hour this wealth is lost.' And so every ship owner and all who travel by ship and the ship captains and everyone who works at sea, stood at a distance and they lamented her when they saw the smoke of her burning, and they were saying, 'Who is like this great city?' And they threw dust on their heads and cried out as they wept and wailed, and they were saying, 'Woe! Woe to that great city by which those who had ships in the sea grew rich from her magnificence, which in one hour is destroyed.'

"Rejoice over her, Heaven, and saints and apostles and prophets, for God has judged your judgement on her!" Then one of the mighty envoys took up a stone like a great millstone and cast it into the sea and said, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon will be thrown down, and it will not exist again. And the sound of stringed instruments and trumpets and singers and shouting will not be heard in you again. And the light of a lamp will not appear in you again. And the voice of a bridegroom and the voice of a bride will not be heard in you again, because your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and because by your sorceries you deceived all the nations. In her was found the blood of the prophets and saints who were murdered on the earth."

After these things I heard a great sound of many crowds in heaven, saying, "Hallelu Jah! 49 Salvation and glory and power to Jehovah 50 our God! For true and just are His judgements, because He has judged the great whore who corrupted the earth with her whoredom; and He has required the blood of His servants from her hand." Again they said, "Hallelu Jah! And her smoke rises up forever and ever!"

And the twenty-four elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped our God who sits on the throne, saying, "Amen! Hallelu Jah!"

Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and worshippers of His Name.<sup>51</sup> All, the small with the great!" And I heard a sound like that of many crowds, and like the sound of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> The Greek adds 'And no craftsman of any craft will be found in you anymore. And the sound of a millstone will not be heard in you anymore.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Praise Jah, from the Aramaic/Hebrew.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Based on Exodus 6:3, Psalm 97:1, Isaiah 52:7-10 and the usual form of this phrase in the Hebrew. Rendered as 'our God' in the Peshitta.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> The Greek substitutes 'those who fear Him'.

many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Hallelu Jah! For our Almighty God, Lord Jah<sup>52</sup> reigns! We rejoice and we celebrate and we give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His woman has prepared herself." And to her it was granted to wear fine linen, pure and bright, for the fine linens are the uprightness of the saints.

Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."<sup>53</sup>

And I fell at his feet and I worshipped him. But he said to me, "No! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren, those who have the testimony of Jeshua. Worship God! For the testimony of Jeshua is the spirit of prophecy." Revelation 17:1 to 19:10

Those that refuse to repent and obey Jehovah will be punished. But we will be raised from the grave, transformed and become the bride of our glorious Anointed Jeshua.

Our Messiah's Return is a Day of Joy for Christians, alluded to in this account: (Matthew 21:6-9)

So the disciples went and did just as Jeshua had commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt and they laid their garments on the colt, and Jeshua rode on him. And a crowd of crowds spread their clothes on the road; but others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

Then the crowds who went before Him and those who followed behind Him cried out, and they were saying: "Hosanna! The Son of David!<sup>54</sup> 'Blessed is He who

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> As in the Peshitta.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Mat 22:1-14, Mat 25:1-13

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Hosannah is an Aramaic word meaning 'Save Now'.

comes in the Name of Jehovah!'55 Hosanna in the highest!"

The Day of Trumpets also refers to the battle when Jeshua the Messiah returns: (Revelation 19:11-21)

Then I saw Heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on it was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and He makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. And He had a name written that no one knew except Him. He wore a garment soaked with blood, and His Name is called The Word of God.

And the armies in Heaven followed Him on white horses clothed in linen, white and pure. Now from His mouth came a sharp sword, by which He will kill the nations. And He will shepherd them with a rod of iron and He will tread the winepress holding all the wrath of God.<sup>56</sup> And on His garment, over His thigh, a name is written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Then I saw another envoy, standing in the sun; and crying in a loud voice, he said to the birds flying in the midst of heaven, "Come, gather for the supper of the great God, to eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of captains of thousands and the flesh of warriors and the flesh of horses and of those sitting on them and the flesh of freemen and slaves and small and great." And I saw the beast and its armies, and the kings of the earth and their soldiers, who gathered to make war with Him who sat on the horse and with His soldiers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> As in Psa 118:26 and Shem-Tob's Hebrew Matthew. Lord Jah in the Peshitta.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Isa 63:1-4, Joe 3:11-15, Col 10:3-6, Rev 14:14-20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Eze 39:17-22

Then the beast was captured, and the false prophet with it who worked signs before it, by which he seduced those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped its image. And both were taken down and cast into the lake of fire that burns with brimstone. But the rest were killed with the sword of Him who sat on the horse, which came from His mouth.<sup>58</sup> And all the birds of prey were filled with their flesh.

And so our Lord Jah defeats our foes and begins to prepare His Kingdom for the restoration of the earth.

This Day is also linked to Jeshua's Wedding Feast, referred to in this parable He gave to the Pharisees: (Matthew 21:42 to 22:14)

Jeshua said to them, "Have you ever read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This has come from Jehovah, and it is marvellous in our eyes'?<sup>59</sup> Because of this, I say to you that the Kingdom of God will be taken from you and will be given to a people who will produce fruit. And whoever falls on this stone will be shattered; and everyone on whom it falls, it will grind him like dust."<sup>60</sup>

Now when the chief priests and Pharisees heard His parables, they knew that He had spoken against them. And they sought to seize Him, but they were afraid of the crowds, because they upheld Him as a prophet.

And Jeshua answered again in a parable and He said: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a man, a king, who made a wedding feast for his son, and he sent out his

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Isa 49:2, Hos 6:5, Eph 6:17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> As in Psalm 118:22-23, also indicated in the Peshitta and Shem-Tob's Hebrew Matthew.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> The Sinaiticus Aramaic manuscripts omit this verse.

servants to call those invited to the wedding feast; and they chose to not come. Again, he sent out other servants, and he said, 'Tell those invited, "Behold, my banquet is ready, and my oxen and fatted cattle are sacrificed, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.' But they showed contempt and they went, one to his field and one to his business. And the rest seized his servants and abused and killed them.

"But when the king heard, he was angry. And sending his armies, he destroyed those murderers, and he burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, and those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go to the ends of the roads, and everyone who you find, call them to the wedding feast.' And those servants went out into the roads and gathered everyone whom they found, evil and good. And the wedding feast house was filled with guests.

"Then the king came in to see the guests, and he saw a person there who was not wearing a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'My friend, how did you come in here when you do not have a wedding garment?' But he was speechless.

"Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind his hands and his feet, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, and few are chosen." Matthew 21:42 to 22:14

So we see that many are called, but few chosen. We must be obedient to receive. Isaiah 61:10 &11 explains that it was traditional for the host of the wedding feast to provide wedding garments for their guests. Thus the man without the garment had refused to put on the covering offered by his host, which represented Jeshua's covering for our sins.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Rev 19:6-9

This Day also reminds us of our extraordinary place with our Messiah: (John 15:4-19)

"Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot yield fruit from itself, unless it remains in the vine, neither can you, unless you remain in Me. I AM! I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in Me, and I in him, this one brings forth much fruit; because without Me you are not able to do anything. For unless a person remains in Me, he is cast out like a withered branch; and they gather and throw them into the fire to burn. But if you remain in Me, and My words remain in you, you may ask whatever you desire; it will be done for you. In this My Father is glorified, that you yield much fruit; and you will be My disciples.

"Just as the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you; remain in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be perfect.

"This is My commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, that a person will lay down his soul for the sake of his friends. You are My friends if you will do everything that I command you.

"After this, I do not call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master does; but I have called you My friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have taught to you. You have not chosen Me, but I chose you and I have appointed you that you should also go and yield fruit, and your fruit will remain, so all that you ask My Father in My Name He will give to you.

"These things I command you, that you will love one another. And if the world hates you, know that it hated

Me before it hated you. And if you were from the world, the world would have loved its own. But you are not from the world, for I have chosen you from the world. Because of this, the world hates you. John 15:4-19

It cannot be more intimate than this: Jeshua lives within us, and allows us to live within Him. It is no wonder that we must love each other, and that the world hates us.

Trumpets also reminds us that Jeshua plans to be with us always. This is another astounding Promise: (John 14:1-18)

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, and believe in Me.

"There are many dwellings in My Father's House. If it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you with Me; that where I am, you may be also. 62 And where I go you know, and the way you know."

Thomas said to Him, "Our Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how are we able to know the way?"

Jeshua said to him, "I AM! I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to My Father except through Me. If only you had known Me, you would also have known My Father; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

Philip said to Him, "Our Lord, show us the Father, and that will satisfy us."

Jeshua said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, and you do not know Me, Philip? Whoever sees Me sees the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in My Father, and

<sup>62</sup> Heb 11:13-16, Rev 21:1-22:5

My Father is in Me? These words that I speak I do not speak from Myself; and My Father who dwells in Me, He does these works. Believe that I am in My Father and My Father is in Me; and if not, believe because of the works. Truly, truly I say to you that whoever believes in Me, these works that I do, he will do also; and more than these he will do, because I go to the Father. And whatever you ask in My Name, I will do for you, that the Father may be glorified by His Son. And if you ask of me in My Name, I will do it.

"If you love Me, keep My commandments, and I will ask My Father, and He will give you another Redeemer and Protector,<sup>64</sup> who will be with you forever. He is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it has not seen Him nor does it know Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and He will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; for I will come to you in a little while. John 14:1-18

The Day of Trumpets begins "the Days of Awe", which foreshadow the great Battle at Megiddo, where Satan, supported by all the armies of earth's anti-God governments, fight against Jeshua and His followers—both envoys from heaven and transformed humans. We will look at the Scriptures relating to this Battle on the Sabbath during these Days of Awe. The battle culminates on the next Holy Day, the Day of Atonement, which marks the imprisonment of Satan and the judging of the world's survivors, opening the Way to the Millennium of Peace.

The Days of Awe are also known as the Days of Penitence, during which we should carefully reflect upon our lives and how worthy we

<sup>63</sup> Psa 145:13

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> As in the Peshitta, which is literally 'redeemer-protector'. The Greek misinterprets the Aramaic and renders this only as helper. God's Holy Spirit does help save and protect us from our sinful nature.

are to stand before Jeshua at the Judgement on Atonement. Rephrased, it is an excellent time for us to reassess our sinfulness, repent and move more deeply into serving and being with God.

**Closing Prayer** 

Prepared by the Central Highlands Congregation of God <a href="https://chcpublications.net/">https://chcpublications.net/</a>
Revised 18 September, 2023

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