



GOD'S FALL FESTIVALS—PART 1: FEAST OF TRUMPETS

A STUDY GUIDE FOR PARENTS TEACHING THEIR CHILDREN GOD'S WAY

Artist: Diego Villafañá - Santiago, Chile

WHAT IS TRUE PEACE? Where does it come from? This world is not peaceful, but will it ever be? God knew from the beginning that mankind would not be able to find peace without His help. He wants everyone to enjoy true peace, but He knows it will only work if people made the right choices, without Him forcing them. The people would have to *want* true peace. So God prepared a plan to help people make the right choice to experience the blessings of peace and harmony.

So, how do the Fall festivals fit into this plan? *Let's find out!*

THIS STUDY GUIDE is written for the purpose of helping parents teach their children vital Biblical topics in a focused, easy-to-follow format. Each section is not meant to be taught in one lesson, rather the topics are organized so parents can choose specific areas of focus and gear lessons toward the learning styles and ages of their children. Each topic is presented in a straightforward manner with accompanying verses for study.

The main study should always come from the Scripture itself, while these lessons can act as a guide for reading passages from the Bible. Each lesson packet includes memory verses, questions for meaningful discussion, and activities (added at the end of the packet).

Also, though some things may be labeled as Level 1, 2, or 3, the activities, questions, and scriptures for memorizing can be used to fit the needs and learning levels for children of all ages. Enjoy!





ANNOUNCING THE FALL FEASTS WITH TRUMPETS!!

After the Feast of Pentecost, we have to go through the long summer months before we get to keep the next holy day on God's calendar. Summer is usually a very busy time, often filled with many activities and lots of traveling. If you're a farmer, you usually spend the summer cultivating and watering your fields to make sure you will have the best harvest possible when autumn comes. Sometimes, with all the activities and work, the days can seem to fly by, and suddenly we realize a new season has come. What does God use to proclaim that the end of summer has come and His autumn holy days have begun? The sound of trumpets! And what better way could there be to announce such an exciting time?

Have you ever heard the sound of a trumpet? The sound of trumpets can be very loud and bright, which makes it an ideal instrument for getting people to pay attention. In the Bible, we read that at some time in the future, God will use the blast of trumpets to make an announcement to the whole world!

So, what is this special announcement that God will want everyone to hear? Wait and see!

OLD TESTAMENT

Leviticus, the third book in the Bible, gives us a clear outline of God's feast days. After He brought the people out of Egypt, God gave the Israelites His own "holy day calendar" along with particular directions for how to keep each one. We find the Feast of Trumpets mentioned as the fourth annual holy day in the list—"annual" meaning they are kept once a year. God describes this feast as "a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation."

Read Leviticus 23:23-25

What are the important elements we can take away from these verses about the Feast of Trumpets?

- This holy day happens on the first day of the seventh month (on God's holy day calendar)
- It is a sabbath-rest
- It is a memorial
- It is to be kept with a holy convocation
- We are commanded to rest from work on this day
- A special offering is given



Think for a moment:

God told His people not to work on this special holy day. Many of the other holy days are the same. Why do you think God doesn't want us to work on this day?



LIVING EDUCATION

WHY A MEMORIAL?

We learn from Leviticus that the Feast of Trumpets is a memorial of blowing of trumpets, but what is a memorial? Take a moment and look up this word in a dictionary. You'll find that a memorial is a dedication to remember someone or something that has happened, or in this case, something that will happen! Just like all the other holy days, the Feast of Trumpets represents an event or period of time in history.

Unlike the spring holy days and Pentecost, which remind us of events that have already occurred, the fall holy days help us remember events which will happen in the future. So what is the big event that God wants us to remember with the blowing of trumpets? The return of Jesus Christ to this earth! Christ's return will change the lives of every single person on the planet, so of course it is important to remember that it is coming, and soon!



Artist: Jose Zamora—Mississauga, ON

NEW TESTAMENT

In the Old Testament, we read that Christ will return with the blast of a trumpet, just as this day pictures. (Joel 2:1). The New Testament also includes examples of this in the books of 1 Corinthians and Revelation.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Read Revelation 11:15-19

We know from the book of Revelation that there will be seven trumpet blasts which lead up to Christ's return. (Read Revelation 8-11 if you want to learn more about these trumpet blasts.) Each of them announce warnings of events and terrible things that must happen before Jesus Christ can come back. But when the last trumpet sounds, *finally* Christ will make His grand and exciting entrance! When He does He will begin setting up His kingdom, and all those who have been called and remained faithful to Him will be changed into spirit beings (1 Corinthians 15:23, 50-54)!

Those who are changed into spirit beings will get to help Him set up His kingdom and will be leaders and teachers in that exciting new world. This could include us if we choose to live and follow Him and have received His Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11)! What an incredible thing to think about! No wonder God wants us to remember this important event and keep the Feast of Trumpets!

HOW DO WE KEEP THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS TODAY?

Go back and have a look at what it says in Leviticus 23 about this feast day. (You can revisit the list of elements under the "Old Testament" on page 2.) Looking at these instructions, we see that God's people still follow what God commanded the Israelites to do. To begin with, we continue to keep this day on the first day of the seventh month (based on the Hebrew calendar). Go have a look at your calendar and the Holy Day Calendar.

What day will we keep the Feast of Trumpets this year?

We keep the Feast of Trumpets as a sabbath rest, just like God commands! On this day, we rest from doing our “customary” work, and we focus on God.

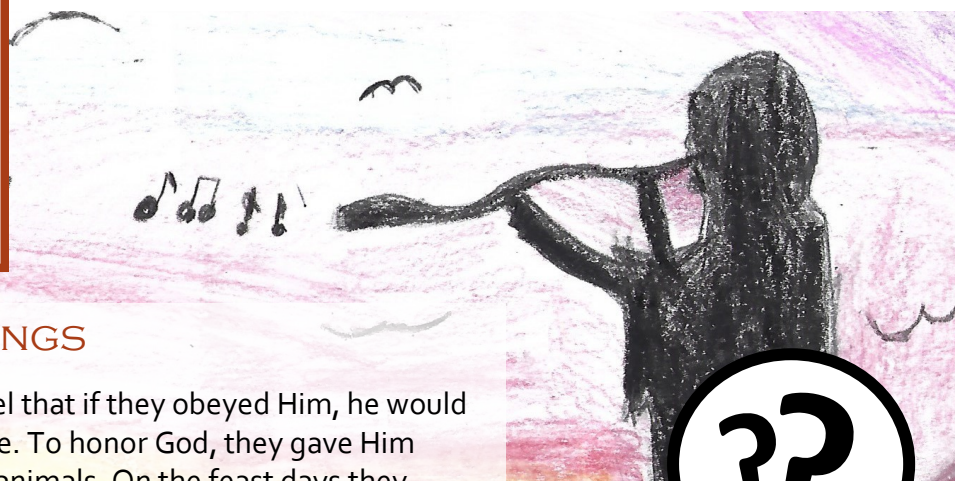


Pause and consider:

What activities or types of labor would we want to avoid on a day of sabbath rest? On the other hand, what would be some good choices of activities or things to do? Remember, God doesn't want us to just sit around doing nothing on His special days. There are many wonderful and exciting things we can do that would be pleasing to God!

In Leviticus, God tells us that we should keep the day as a memorial. God wants us to think about and remember what the Feast of Trumpets means. That's why when we go to services, the sermons are about the meaning of the day. The ministers are following God's command to help us remember. Leviticus also tells us that the Feast of Trumpets is a “holy convocation.” A convocation means a “sacred assembly” or a “calling together”—a time to read or rehearse something. This is why we have church services on the Feast of Trumpets. God wants His people to come together to worship Him, and to remember why God commanded us to keep the feast.

Artist: Gabriella White—Lafayette, LA



THE HOLY DAY OFFERINGS

At Mount Sinai, God promised Israel that if they obeyed Him, he would bless them with physical abundance. To honor God, they gave Him physical offerings of grain, oil, and animals. On the feast days they would give special offerings.

Today, we don't give physical offerings in the same way, but we are still commanded to give an offering.

Even though we don't sacrifice animals, nor bring grain to the altar, if you think about it, we do give many types of offerings on holy days. First, our prayers are a kind of offering to God. He calls our prayers “sweet smelling incense” (Psalm 141:2; Revelation 8:3-4). Another kind of offering is the special music during the services. The music should give praise and honor to God, in addition to inspiring our brethren. A third kind of offering on the holy day is our gift of money. It is a free-will offering from the blessings that God has given us over the past weeks and months. Considering how much God gives us every day, our special Holy Day offering is a great way to show our appreciation.

Once the Feast of Trumpets, picturing Jesus Christ's return, is over, we begin preparing for the next special holy day on God's calendar. We'll take a look at it in the next lesson.



Stop and think:

God gives us so much! Sometimes we don't think about all the things that God has given us, and we forget to thank Him.

What are some amazing blessings that God has given you today? What about in the last week? How about in the last year? Can you think of some ways that you could thank God for what He does for you?



QUESTIONS FOR MEANINGFUL DISCUSSION



Level 1

1. What does a trumpet sound like? Why do you think God would use a trumpet to announce Jesus Christ's return?
2. Have you ever had to remember anything? What kind of things can help us remember something? (For example, a picture can help us remember something that we have seen)
3. Why does God want us to remember the Feast of Trumpets?

Level 2

1. The Feast of Trumpets helps us remember that Christ is returning to this earth. For what reasons does Christ have to come back?
2. Discuss what will happen to true Christians when Jesus Christ returns. Who are you looking forward to seeing again?
3. In the Bible, trumpets were often used as a sound of war or alarm. What will Christ be warning the world about with the sound of the trumpet at His return?

Level 3

1. In the Old Testament, this feast is referred to as a memorial of blowing of trumpets. What trumpet blasts does God want us to remember? The book of Revelation holds the answer.
2. Leading up to the return of Christ, a lot of terrible things are going to take place. There will be six trumpet blasts before the final blast of the great trumpet which will announce the return of Christ. What are these trumpets announcing? Discuss why God is going to allow these things to happen and what the result will be for human beings.
3. What are the things that will happen when the seventh trumpet sounds? What are you especially looking forward to about that time?
4. The Bible describes what Christ will look like when He returns (Revelation 19:11). What are some of the things He will be called at that time? What do those names mean?

MEMORY VERSES

FOR THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS

Level 1

Leviticus 23:23 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord.'"

Level 2

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Level 3

Revelation 11:15-18 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!"

And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying:

"We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,
The One who is and who was [and who is to come,
Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.
The nations were angry, and Your wrath 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."

ACTIVITIES

FOR THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS

Activity 1: Trumpet Craft

Give your child an opportunity to learn about the trumpet and the shofar. This activity includes two hands-on crafts and learning about the sound of this wonderful instrument!

Related Verses: Numbers 10:1-10; Leviticus 23:23-24; Leviticus 25:9

Make a "Silver" Trumpet!

Supplies needed:

- Paper Towel Tube
- Paper or Styrofoam Bowl
- Glue Gun
- Aluminum Foil

Follow link for directions:

<https://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-gideon.html#trumpet>

Make a Shofar!

Supplies needed:

- Party Horn
- Tissue paper
- White glue (diluted) or liquid starch
- Paintbrush for glue
- Masking tape - to hold middle fold before wrapping

Follow link for directions:

<https://biblebeltbalabusta.com/2014/09/13/dollar-store-shofar-craft/>

For Fun: Look up and listen to different trumpet and shofar sounds. Can you tell the difference between the sound of a silver trumpet and a shofar? Describe their sounds. For more info on trumpets, check out an exclusive video of Mr. Dylan King giving a demonstration of different trumpet and animal horn sounds in our online course "The Feast of Trumpets". (Link included on website blog post)

Activity 2: Where will His feet stand?

Christ is going to return on the Feast of Trumpets! When He returns, to where will He be returning? Discover and discuss the answers in this research activity.

Related Verses: 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Zechariah 14:4; Acts 1:9-11

Supplies:

- Bible
- paper/pencil
- Map of Israel, and Jerusalem

Internet or encyclopedia with images

1. What do we know about where Christ will return? Write down the place on which Christ will first stand when He comes back. Write down things that will happen when He does.
2. Look on a map of the world and find Israel. Now find Jerusalem. Next, look for the Mount of Olives.
3. Look up pictures of the Mount of Olives today. What is on the Mount of Olives today? What will be different about it once Christ comes back?

Activity 3: The Seven Trumpets Timeline

In this activity you will be making a pictorial scroll of the chronology of events that will take place on the Day of The Lord—the time which the Feast of Trumpets pictures.

Related verses: 1 Thessalonians 4; Revelation 8-9, 11

Supplies:

- 1 piece of white or tan paper (11x16)
- 4 Popsicle sticks, 2 wooden dowels (about 6" long)
- Pencil or pen
- Colored pencils or washable markers
- **Printable trumpets timeline sheet (download PDF on website blog)**
- 2 sheets sticker paper (8 1/2x11)
- Craft glue
- Clear tape
- Scissors

Directions

1. Fold paper in half lengthwise. Cut along the fold. Using clear tape, attach the two pieces together on the short end (to make one long piece of paper).
2. Attach wooden dowels to the short ends of the paper using glue or tape. (If you are using popsicle sticks, glue two sticks together per side of the scroll before attaching them to the ends. This will reinforce the strength of the sticks and make it easier to roll up the scroll.
3. Print the "Seven Last Trumpets Timeline - Printable Sheet" onto the sticker paper
4. Using the Bible as a reference fill out and color the timeline sheet in the spaces provided as directed on the sheet. Be creative!
5. Using your scissors, carefully cut out the items on the timeline sheet, including the round seal.
6. Carefully remove the sticker backing of each item one at a time and place in order on your prepared scroll paper. Set aside the round seal sticker
7. Finish decorating your scroll! Add lots of color, your own artwork, or other decorations of your choice to make it unique.
8. Once you are all finished decorating, roll up the scroll from both ends. Use the seal sticker to keep the two sides rolled up and together.