

# “The Day and Hour Which no Man Knows...”

By William Schnoebelen © 2012

**And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you.**  
– Numbers 29:1

There is a LOT of confusion out there among folks who want to keep the feasts of Yahuwah about this upcoming festival. On Jewish sites, it is invariably called **Rosh Hashanah** (literally “the head of the year”). Most Jews count it as their new year. However, we need to remember that this is NOT what it’s called in the Torah. It is called **Yom Teruah** (or the Day of Blowing Trumpets).



There is evidence that rabbinical authorities obscured the true, Biblical name and meaning of this feast some time after the destruction of the temple in 70 AD. During the first and second century there was a gradual and unfortunate “falling out” between **Messianic Natzarim Believers** (Jews who believed Yahushua was the Messiah) and the Jews who followed the Pharisees. The term “Natzarim” can be translated to mean either “**branch**” (as in our Savior’s statement, “**I am the vine, ye are the branches**” – **John 15:5**) or “watchman” (**Ezek. 3:17**) Even to this day, the Hebrew word for “Christian” (*Notzer*) is rooted in this word.

Originally, there were many Pharisees in the Natzarim faith (**Acts 15:5**), but a major cause of the rift was the Bar Kochba rebellion which occurred around 132-135 AD. Bar Kochba (“Son of the Star”) was a false messianic figure that led the last rebellion against Rome in the Holy Land. Because he claimed to be THE Messiah, Messianic Believers would not follow him or fight against Rome. This caused non-Messianic Jews to view them as traitors. Tragically, this created a fracture that still exists today.

Because of this animosity the successors to the Pharisees (the rabbinical authorities) decided to stop referring to The Day of Trumpets by that name to conceal the identity of the Messiah, Yahushua Ha Mossiach (Jesus Christ the Messiah). Instead, they erroneously called it Rosh Hashanah and claimed it was a New Year day. **This CANNOT be, because as anyone can see, the Torah says that this feast takes place in the seventh month (Num. 29:1 above).** Obviously, the seventh month cannot be the first month!

The rabbis did their best to obscure the prophetic, eschatological meaning of the feast! It has always been called the “*day and hour which no man knows.*” The rabbis try to avoid using that phrase any more. Why was it called that?

Remember, the Father’s (Yahuwah’s) calendar (**not** just the Jewish calendar) is **LUNAR**. That means every Hebrew month begins on the New Moon (**Rosh Chodesh** in Hebrew – “head of the month”). That is why our calendar is never in sync with the secular Gregorian (Roman) calendar. Yom Teruah (Day of Trumpets) *always* falls on the New Moon beginning the seventh month (called *Tishrei*).

The new moons are all prophetic shadow pictures of coming events, but this new moon day of the seventh month is extraordinary, because it begins the fall festivals of Yahuwah.

Yom Teruah was determined according to the Torah by the first sighting of the sliver of the New Moon over Temple Mount. It needed to be sighted by at least two witnesses (**Matt. 18:16**). When this

occurs, the trumpet is blown and the feast officially starts! While any sufficiently advanced society can predict the New Moon with reasonable accuracy, this stipulation throws a Spanner in the works.

*If the sliver of the New Moon rises and it's cloudy that evening over Jerusalem, it cannot be seen. Since it cannot be seen, it cannot be "called!" Therefore, no one knows **for sure** when this feast will take place- no one knows the "day" or "hour" of it's onset.*

In this sense, Yom Teruah is akin to the coming of Messiah. Yahushua taught us that:

<sup>33</sup> So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

<sup>34</sup> Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

<sup>35</sup> Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

<sup>36</sup> **But of that day and hour knoweth no man**, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

<sup>37</sup> But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. – Matt. 24:33-37

Also, like the New Moon, the Second Advent of Messiah will be in the clouds:

Behold, he cometh with **clouds**; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. – Rev. 1:7

From time immemorial, a nickname for Messiah among observant Jews has been "cloud man." This is mostly due to a reference in Daniel 7:

<sup>13</sup> I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came **with the clouds of heaven**, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

<sup>14</sup> And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. – Verses 13-14

We see here the eschatological title "Son of Man" (which Yahushua repeatedly used of Himself) is applied to a Being coming with the clouds of heaven.

A further element which concerned the rabbis is that fact that it can be categorically proven that Yahushua, our Messiah was likely **conceived** around Hanukkah and **BORN** right around the season of Sukkot (Tabernacles) which follows close behind Yom Teruah! (Sorry, no December 25 here)! Many students of the Bible, including myself, believe that when He comes again it will also be on Yom Teruah. But remember, we NEVER know the exact time or date of that feast. Nor do we know the year when He will come. But we always must live and be prepared because this MIGHT be the year (**Mark 13:35**)! This is also the meaning behind His parable of the ten virgins! (**Matt. 25:1-13**)

So what makes THIS New Moon feast so special? Well, it is the only one designated as a high Shabbat, or day of rest from work. See **Numbers 19:1** (above). You see, in the Torah there are *two* sorts of Sabbaths. There is the weekly Shabbat which most recognize (Sundown Friday to Sundown Saturday). But there are ALSO several High Sabbaths like Yom Teruah and Pesach (Passover).

This is the origin of the **unfortunate confusion** about the day of Yahushua's crucifixion. Somebody in the early church did not understand the Torah and assumed because the gospels state in a few places that the day after His crucifixion was a Sabbath or even a high Sabbath (**John 19:31**), that He was killed the day before Saturday. *No, He was crucified the day before Pesach!* See, Yahushua taught *clearly* that He would be in the earth three days and three nights (**Matt. 12:40**)! There is NO WAY that you can have our Savior crucified on Friday afternoon and get three days and nights between then and Sunday morning.

What else makes this New Moon different is that it is a special day when we bring the Almighty offerings (**Num. 19:2-6**). So, Yom Teruah is a strong type of the coming of Messiah! The rabbis who intensely dislike our Master would rather not draw attention to it, so they have changed the name to Rosh Hashanah and have made it a time of partying right before the High Holy days.

That brings us to another "shadow picture" of prophetic significance. For centuries, Jewish teachers have referred to the days following Yom Teruah as the "Ten Days of Awe" because they lead up to **Yom Kippur** (Day of Atonement).

The final service of Yom Kippur is called "*Neilah*." This means, "locked." The idea is that at the end of that service the Creator LOCKS the gates of heaven for the year. If you have not done *Teshuva* (repented) for your sins, you will no longer be admitted after that moment. In terms of Messiah, this strikingly relates His teaching about the ten virgins. The five virgins who were unprepared and lack oil in their lamp experienced this:

<sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and **the door was shut.**

<sup>11</sup> Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

<sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

<sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Again, the emphasis is on not knowing the day nor the hour – and no one will know the day or hour of Yom Kippur because no one knows when (*exactly*) Yom Teruah will be, and Yom Teruah sets the "prophetic clock" for all the fall feasts!

Of course, IF you are a faithful follower of Yahushua, you do not need to worry about Yom Kippur, but that does not mean you should not take Teshuva seriously and *examine* yourselves over the next ten days. Make certain that there are no hidden sins in your life that you would not want exposed if Messiah comes and every hidden thing will be brought to light (**1 Cor. 4:5**).

Since the first coming of Messiah and the writing of the Apostolic Scriptures, the association between Yahushua's Second Advent and the trumpet is so clear – it is unmistakable!

<sup>50</sup> Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

<sup>51</sup> Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

<sup>52</sup> In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump:** for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. – 1 Cor. 15:50-52

The blowing of the trumpets at the beginning of Yom Teruah is literally the “last trump” of the Messiah! Trumpets appear many times in the Torah and the Prophets and are almost always associated with judgment and the Messiah.

**I think the rabbis have made these changes in part to pull the wool (Veil) over the eyes of their disciples and keep them from seeing how perfectly Yahushua fulfills the typology of the Spring and Fall Feasts of Yahuwah.**

But we CAN celebrate the feast, knowing that it is a shadow picture of the Second Advent of our Master, Yahushua the Messiah! As a high Shabbat, Yom Teruah is a day where we should not be doing servile work. It will probably be either tonight, the eve of the 17<sup>th</sup> of September or – failing that – it will begin tomorrow night (the 18<sup>th</sup>).

Several different organizations send out email alerts about the sighting of the New Moons and we will – Yahuwah willing – post a notice on our Facebook page about it.

When the feast begins, if you have a shofar, **BLOW** it! If you do not have one, or find it hard to get a proper note out of it; you can easily find sound or video files on places like YouTube that can provide you with a digital shofar note. It is better than nothing.

Trust us, we have observed that it scares the nightlights out of the devil when he hears that sound. This is because our enemy associates that sound with the **Second Advent of Messiah!** He knows the scriptures better than most Believers. The devil knows that when Yahushua returns, he is going to get stamped into the ground like a bug and then turned into a “crispy critter”:

<sup>17</sup>Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

<sup>18</sup>Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

<sup>19</sup>All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more. – Ezek. 28:17-19

Please understand, the sound of the shofar comes out of a horn made from an animal. It is a *savage, brutal sound!* It can be a **sound of war** or a **sound of repentance** (on the spiritual plane, there is little difference). It cuts through to the very depths of the human soul.

It represents a cry of the deepest, most primitive part of our natures – the part of us we usually keep well hidden. But this period from Yom Teruah to Yom Kippur (which will *probably* be September 26-27) is a time to “release the beast” so it can repent, weep and mourn. It is a time to get into the privacy of our prayer closets and get honest before the Throne of Yahuwah. It is a time to (pardon the expression) get “spiritually naked” before the MASTER of all the Universe.

It is a time to STOP playing games with yourself or with Him. It is a time of authentic, heartfelt *Teshuva* – a Hebrew term which means to turn back to our Creator. The SHOFAR’s sound will help crack through the shells of our own self-deception so that we can really enter these prophetic times ready to do BUSINESS with Yahuwah, forsaking all else (including all our sins) to only follow Him and His Word!

Blow the Shofar and rend the heavens (and our hearts – **Hosea 13:8**) so that He may come down and visit His people in a new and fresh way!

Oh that thou wouldst **rend** the heavens, that thou wouldst come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence, - Is. 64:1

And **rend** your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. – Joel 2:13

**Hag Sameach** - May you have a holy and blessed festival day!