

The Feast of Trumpets:



A Turning Point for Human History & for Us Individually

by Robert Curry

If You Don't Know When the Feast of Trumpets Is ...

You probably won't be ready for the imminent return of Jesus Christ.

If ever there'd be a coming event not to miss, that would be it!

All of us need to be shocked into action!

“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will *the coming of the Son of Man be*” (Matthew 24:37-39, emphasis added throughout).

“Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to *stand before the Son of Man*” (Luke 21:36).

The Bible warns that people will be asleep, spiritually drunk, unaware, robbed, deceived—thinking they stand.

The Feast of Trumpets for 2023 will be Sept. 16

A huge key that most Christians know nothing about is that the Holy Days of God (listed in Leviticus 23 but taught and kept throughout the Bible from cover to cover) teach God's plan of salvation. Jesus Christ was the God who dealt with people in the Old Testament who sanctified those as His Holy Days; so it shouldn't be surprising that He kept and taught them when He lived on earth; and His one true Church He started has taught them and kept them on down to the present.

And the point I'll keep repeating over and over in love, because human experience proves it's true: we have to be keeping them to understand them—and God's plan of salvation (Psalm 111:10).

In Leviticus 23:23-25, God calls the Feast of Trumpets one of His “holy convocations.” The New International Version says, “a *sacred assembly* commemorated with trumpet blasts.”

Critics call them “Jewish.” Verse 2 says they are “the feasts of the LORD ... My feasts.” The Hebrew word for “feasts” is *moed* and means “appointed times.” God expects His people to show up for His Feast of Trumpets!

Numbers 10 explains how trumpets can communicate to a large group by attracting attention. The sons of Aaron, the priests, would blow two silver trumpets—one trumpet to call just the leaders; two to gather all the people. Verse 9 notes they would call the nation to war, and verse 10 that they will be blown “in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months.”

Psalm 81:3 refers to blowing “the trumpet” (Hebrew *shophar*) at the time of the New Moon, which occurs on the Feast of Trumpets.

Although the Feast of Trumpets is not mentioned by name in the New Testament, its theme certainly is mentioned prominently---in Matthew 24:27-31; 1 Corinthians 15 (the Resurrection Chapter); 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; and Revelation 11:15. This is similar to the word Millennium not being in the Bible, but Revelation 20:4-7 states four times that Christ will usher in 1,000 years of peace on earth.

A turning point of history

Huge turning points in history include:

- Re-creation week when two eternal Beings, God and the Word, began working with humans to reproduce Themselves;
- The 10 Commandments from Mt. Sinai when God codified His eternal law so we’d know what sin is;
- Jesus’ birth when God came to earth to live as one of us;
- His temptation when He qualified to replace satan as ruler of the earth;
- His crucifixion when He died for our sins;
- His resurrection without which we couldn’t be resurrected to eternal life;

- The giving of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost which we must have and be led by in order to be a child of God (Romans 8:9, 14);
- The Second Resurrection when all who have ever lived without having their opportunity for salvation will be raised back to physical life;
- The New Heaven, New Earth and New Jerusalem when God Beings will go on to pleasures forevermore (Psalm 16:11).

As important and amazing as all of those turning points are,

Could any event in all of history be more important or more glorious than the return of Jesus Christ!

“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” (Revelation 11:15). There will be a new sheriff in town! You can be one of His new deputies!

Jesus Christ’s second coming is at *the center* of God’s ultimate purpose for our living!

It’s hardly surprising that Jesus Christ is at the center of the meaning of all of God’s Holy Days. It’s interesting that the Feast of Trumpets, as the fourth of the seven Holy Festivals, is at the center of them!

The Feast of Trumpets introduces the four autumn (northern hemisphere) festivals—the third and final of the “three seasons” in Exodus 23:14 and Deuteronomy 16:16).

The Feast of Trumpets depicts nothing less than the return of Jesus Christ *to earth* to establish the Kingdom of God. To earth! Why don’t we believe Jesus when He said during the Sermon on the Mount that “The meek will inherit the earth” (Matthew 5:5). Psalm 115:16 confirms, “The earth He has given to the children of men.” Eventually, the new Heavenly Jerusalem will come down to the New Earth (Revelation 21:1-3). With all sin gone (Isaiah 59:2-3), God the Father will feel free to then relocate down to Mount Zion which has always been His desired home for eternity (Psalm 132:13-14).

The whole earth will clap its hands (Psalm 47) after “God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet [Hebrew *shophar*]” (verse 5).

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For *the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God*. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. (Romans 8:18-22).

Talk about the Feast of Trumpets representing a turning point on a global scale!

Yet it also should have huge meaning for us individually.

Individually, the Feast of Trumpets represents an incredible turning point

Could there be a bigger change than suddenly in the twinkling of an eye (1 Corinthians 15:52) going from a physical, corruptible, mortal human to an all-Spirit, incorruptible, immortal Son or Daughter of God! Talk about a turn for the better!

“We also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body” (Romans 8:23).

To be ready for that glorious change, now we must surrender completely to God’s calling, repent, be baptized, have a minister of God lay hands on us so that we receive the Holy Spirit as a down payment, and then grow faithfully and endure to the end.

If God is calling you now, which is certainly indicated if you are understanding this eBook and growing excited about the incredible opportunity it presents, you will feel the need to keep God’s amazing Feast of Trumpets.

As 2 Peter 1:10 exhorts, “be even more diligent to make your call and election sure.”

Right now can be a turning point for us so we can participate in the turning point that is soon coming at Jesus Christ’s return!

The Mighty One Is Coming!

This year on Sept. 16, 2023, God's people will observe the Feast of Trumpets. This Holy Day pictures the six trumpet plagues that will blast the earth and then especially the Seventh Trumpet which includes the Seven Last Plagues.



Plagues? And more plagues? That doesn't sound like a Feast! And who wants to eat trumpets anyway! With just one shallow look, it can sound like a real downer day to avoid at all cost!

But it's not like it sounds. Not if we seek and obey God. Read about the Great Revival under Ezra in Nehemiah 8:1-12 which involved the first day of the seventh month of Tishri [the Feast of Trumpets]:

“Do not mourn nor weep”

“This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep . . . Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our LORD. Do not sorrow, for *the joy* of the LORD is your strength . . .’ And all the people went their way to eat and drink, to send portions and *rejoice greatly*, because they understood the words that were declared to them.”

Messianic prophecies

New Testament writers cite Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Messiah more than 130 times. There are 300 prophecies in the Old Testament about the coming of the Messiah. The Scofield Study Bible III lists most of these in a very organized way in a chart on pages 952-953, as probably some other Bibles do. Most of these are about Jesus' first coming as a human, later working with disciples, starting His Church, dying for the sins of all mankind, and being

resurrected.

The first time “God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved” (John 3:17).

Psalm 50:1-6 is one of the powerful scriptures about Christ’s second coming: “The Mighty One, God the LORD . . . shall come, and shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him . . . that He may *judge His people*: Gather my saints together to Me.”

The saints who want to be gathered together in the First Resurrection will heed the instructions in Hebrews 10:24-25: “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, *not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together*, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

On the weekly Sabbaths and on the Holy Days—as health, money and distance make possible—we must gather together now. Webcasts are a modern technical wonder but lack the fellowship of meeting in person.

“I will thank the Lord with all my heart as I meet with his godly people” (Psalm 111:1, New Living Translation).

“Lift up your voice like a trumpet”

Notice Psalm 85:13 (NLT): "*Righteousness goes as a herald* before him, preparing the way for his steps."

Jesus Christ has commissioned His Church to not only live a righteous life as an example to the world but also to: "Cry aloud, spare not; *lift up your voice like a trumpet*; tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." The Church of God must fulfill Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the nations, and then the end will come." Also these marching orders from Jesus Christ: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of

the Holy Spirit, teaching the to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).

Paul noted, "For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle? (1 Corinthians 14:8).

We're not called to dodge, to not make waves, stay out of trouble. We must not deny God before man (Matthew 10:33). Like Daniel, though he was being closely watched by enemies, opened his windows! (Daniel 6:10). He was not living a life of stealth. We talk about what we love.

Individually and collectively as the Church of God, "Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, *will find so doing*" (Matthew 24:46).

Here Come Da Judge!

A comedy singer named Dewey Pigmeat Martin is credited with creating this phrase, which was then popularized by comedian Flip Wilson and Sammy Davis, Jr. on *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In* (1967-73).



But if you've ever had occasion to sit in a courtroom, it's no laughing matter. The robed jurist enters the hushed room with awesome power to change your life! It should shake up our life to do our best to make it a good turning point.

The seven trumpets are trumpets of justice.

At Jesus' Second Coming, here comes da Judge!

"The Father judges no one, but has committed *all judgment to the Son*" (John 5:22). That's good for us because Jesus lived as a human being and knows us intimately. "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 5:15).

God the Father and Jesus Christ are Master Timers. They "choose the proper time ... [and] will judge uprightly" (Psalm 75:2). The Father decides when it is the best time to call each person so they will have the best opportunity to make it into Their eternal Family of God (John 6:44).

Notice in Isaiah 27:12-13 that when God brings back the 12 Tribes of Israel to the Holy Land, they will be gathered "one by one." God the Father will choose each of the individuals who will live on into the Millennium and have their opportunity for salvation there. Who survives the chaos of the end-time will not just be time and chance or clever survival skills.

For you now, the Father must open your mind and give you eyes to see (Luke 24:31-32).

Their Holy Days reveal Their plan of salvation and the timing for when They will judge ... YOU!

Where does that leave you?

If you're understanding this eBook and responding to God's call to you, you have the astounding opportunity to be in the First and Better Resurrection (Hebrews 11:35).

Deuteronomy 21:17 says a firstborn receives a double portion, because of having increased family responsibilities. Those resurrected then will be part of the Bride and will receive the top service responsibilities in Christ's administration. What a blessing to be in the ground floor of the Family and Kingdom of God!

What will that entitle you? "Do you not know that the saints will judge the world ... [and] angels?" (1 Corinthians 6:2-3)?

Are you grasping it: When the Seventh Trumpet blows and "Here come da Judge," that could include you!

You won't have to fear the coming of the Judge! Hebrews 9:28 relates how God's people can look forward to the fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets: Jesus "will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him" (New Living Translation).

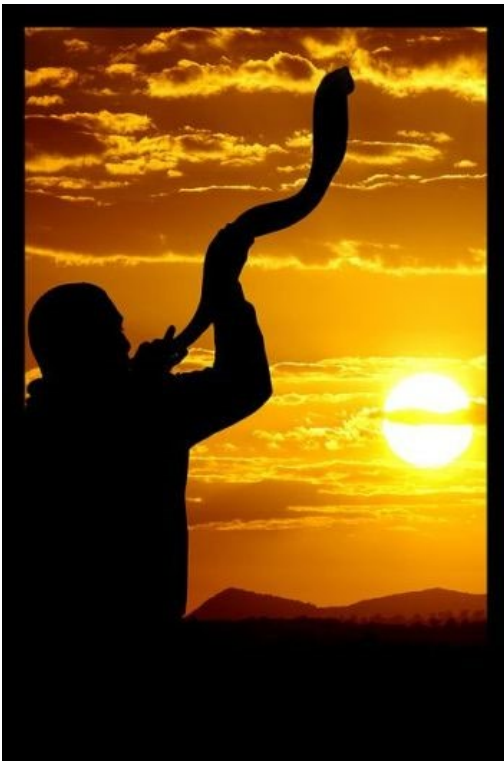
The only hope for this collapsing, corrupting world is the return of Jesus Christ pictured by the Feast of Trumpets. Jesus plainly states in Isaiah 43:11, a scripture speaking of His return, "I, even I, am the LORD, and *besides Me there is no savior.*"

You can be one of the saints serving with Jesus Christ for eternity. The Bible mentions service opportunities God will reward His saints with for their works (Revelation 22:12): kings, priests, teachers, mayors and judges. Some feel these overlap and you may wear many hats. God the Father and Jesus Christ have wonderful thoughts for you (Jeremiah 29:11) and a glorious destiny (Psalm 73:24)!

The Seven Trumpets Blow

Seven is the number of perfection and completion in the Bible.

The Seventh Seal includes the Seven Trumpets (Revelation 8-9). Most of Revelation—about 2/3—is devoted to the Seventh Seal. This seal and its trumpets is called the Day of the Lord.



More precisely, this will be the great day of the Lord's wrath (Revelation 6:17). Read the three chapters of the book of Joel: "The day of the LORD is near, the day when destruction comes from the Almighty" (1:15, NLT). "Sound the trumpet in Jerusalem! Raise the alarm on my holy mountain! Let everyone tremble in fear because the day of the LORD is upon us. It is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick clouds and deep blackness . . . Nothing like it has been seen before or will ever be seen again" (2:1-2).

"Blow the ram's horn in Jerusalem! Announce a time of fasting; call the people together for a solemn meeting. Gather all the people . . . Let them pray, 'Spare your people, LORD!'" (2:15-17).

The Bible interprets itself that this "day" will likely last one year (Isaiah 34:8; Numbers 4:34; Ezekiel 4:4-6). Backing up that timetable, the Bible specifies that the Fifth Trumpet plague will last five months (Revelation 9:1-12).

Since the events pictured by a Holy Day seem to end up occurring on that Holy Day [for example, our Passover Lamb is crucified on a Passover], the Church of God has understood that the pattern suggests that the yearlong Day of the Lord ends on a Feast of Trumpets, and it looks like it would begin on the previous one.

The Fifth Seal is the Great Tribulation that will last 3-1/2 years (1,260 days, times-time-half a time). This will be the time of satan's wrath, especially on the Tribes of Israel (modern English-speaking nations) and the Church of God (spiritual Israel—Galatians 6:16).

So it appears that this Day of the Lord with Seven Trumpets (Seventh Seal) begins about 2-1/2 years into the 3-1/2-year period. God's year of punishing wrath will overlap satan's final year of wrath. That's double wrath which would really be nice to be protected from! Take heart at what Christ promised His Philadelphia Church in Revelation 3:10.

- The first four Trumpets will be aimed at the earth's environment. They will bring the devastation of the world's food and water supply. God Himself will cause this climate change which will painfully obviously not be a hoax!

The Fifth Trumpet doesn't kill people. Called the First Woe (Terror), it will torment them for five months so they wish they were dead. Kind of like the upcoming 2024 election! Thankfully, as with all the trumpets, God will control in mercy and love what occurs and how long it lasts.

The Sixth Trumpet will unleash a 200 million-man army from the east counter-attacking European Beast-led forces from the Fifth Trumpet. This Second Woe will result in unimaginable carnage likely from nuclear war, killing one-third of the earth. Since only three-fourths were left after the Four Horsemen ride, that would kill another one-fourth, leaving only one-half of the original.

As bad as all these punishments are, the Seventh Trumpet blast commands the most attention.

The Seventh Trumpet is called the 3rd Woe and includes the Seven Last Bowl Plagues—another seven!

Dilemma: Timing & Details But Without Causing Division

The various flocks of the spiritual Church of God agree on the basic big events pictured by the Feast of Trumpets:

- The Seventh Trumpet sounds and Jesus Christ returns to earth;
- The dead and live saints rise to meet Him in the clouds;
- The saints receive their reward for their works, a crown and a new name;
- Christ marries His Bride;
- Christ, His angels and His saints ride down from the clouds where Christ stands on the Mount of Olives and then conquers the armies of the world that have assembled at Megiddo and then moved over to the Valley of Jehoshaphat (Kidron Valley) to fight Him;
- Israel and Judah make a Second Exodus to the Promised Land and become the example to the Gentiles they were always meant to be. The two “sticks” become one, where they will never be divided again. The resurrected David will shepherd them (Ezekiel 37:15-28); and
- Jesus and the saints begin the millennial rule of the Kingdom of God on earth.

But there is some truth to the old joke that if you ask two Jews, you’ll get three opinions! And the same goes for God’s spiritual Jews regarding the exact timing and details of the Day of the Lord.

Revelation 1:1 specifies that God gave this mysterious book to “His servants”—His Church (chapters 2-3). Jesus builds one spiritual Church of God (Matthew 16:18) but, regrettably, separated into flocks not in total agreement with each other.

Yet Paul charges the Church of God in 1 Corinthians 1:10, “Now I plead with you [YOU!], brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you *all speak the same thing*, and that there be *no divisions among you*, but that you be *perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment*.”

Impossible! you're thinking. But "with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26) for those growing in *agape* love, "by which all will know that you are My disciples" (John 13:35).

With all that in mind, this eBook aims to present only Bible facts and quote scriptures, refraining from opinion and speculation.

With seven of this and seven of that, it takes diligent continual review to keep the details and the chronology straight.

Revelation flows in chronological order except for inset chapters

The Churches of God seem to agree that the book of Revelation flows in chronological order, except for some inset chapters that describe historical background information, sometimes spanning centuries.

These inset chapters are: 2-3 (the seven churches); 13 (two beasts), 14 (three angel messages); and 17-18 (false church).

This is crucial information to understanding the time flow of the book of Revelation. I recommend you read Revelation in order without the inset chapters. Expect some interesting insights!

Who Thinks Jesus Will Be Proved Right That Only the Father Knows When Christ Will Return?

Okay, this is a no-brainer if there ever was one! It's guaranteed that Jesus will be proved right.

Let's admit it. We all would like to know when Jesus will return. It must be built into human DNA to feel compelled to figure out when Jesus is coming back.

For the above good Bible reasons, Church of God brethren expect Jesus to come down to conquer the rebellious earth on a Feast of Trumpets. The trumpet call to war is one of the chief characteristics that separates the Feast of Trumpets from God's other Holy Days. But in light of what Jesus said, will this be on a Feast of Trumpets?

As Jesus "sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matthew 24:3).

Only the Father knows

Jesus told them, "Of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but *My Father only*" (verse 36). But now that Jesus is resurrected and back in heaven sitting on His Father's throne, wouldn't He be in on the D-Day? Well, They were intimate with each other back when Jesus was on earth, and the Bible delineates that They have different responsibilities. For example, the Father calls. Jesus created. Jesus will judge.

When the resurrected Jesus appeared to the apostles and disciples during the 40 days before He went up to heaven, they couldn't help asking Him again: "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to

Israel?” (Acts 1:6). Jesus’ answer hadn’t changed (Hebrews 13:8, Malachi 3:6): “It is not for you to know times or seasons which *the Father* has put in His own authority” (verse 7).

So though Jesus proclaims that only the Father knows the day and hour, does that stop His people from trying to figure it out? Hardly! C’mon, admit it, haven’t you tried? Are you nursing a theory now?

Let’s see what the Bible shows, especially concentrating on the timing:

- Revelation 11:15: “Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!’”

At the Seventh Trumpet, Jesus Christ will begin taking control of the earth—a must intervention turning point lest there would be no flesh saved alive! (Matthew 24:22).

Verses 18-19 of Revelation 11 give a broad overview of what’s coming. Jesus’ second coming has two main tasks: resurrect the saints to become His Bride and administration; and conquer all evil and rebellion against Him and His Kingdom.

The First and Better Resurrection

- The first order of business will be to resurrect the saints who have died first; then those who are still alive. It looks like the Two Witnesses, who had lain dead in the streets of Jerusalem for 3-1/2 days, will be the first two resurrected (Revelation 11:11-12) at the Seventh Trumpet (verse 15).

Paul backs this up in detail in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18, “We who are alive and remain until *the coming of the Lord* will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, *and with the trumpet of God*. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we

who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And *thus we shall always be with the Lord*. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

Revelation 14:1-5 says 144,000 firstfruits will be redeemed from among men. These are the saints—the spiritual Church of God—from righteous Abel on down, including those honored by name in Hebrews 11, the Faith Chapter. “These are *the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes . . .* they are without fault before the throne of God.” Consider that verse 4 differentiates between the Lamb and God the way John 1:1 does between God and the Word.

That we will “follow the Lamb wherever He goes” and “shall always be with the Lord” is comforting, crucial information.

Paul adds in the Resurrection Chapter (1 Corinthians 15): “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. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (verses 51-53).

**Spirit God Beings will be able to go anywhere Jesus goes,
and anywhere in the universe,
probably at the speed of thought!**

Revelation 14:14 shows the Son of Man sitting on a white cloud, from where His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4). Acts 1:9-11 confirms that Jesus “was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight . . . [He] will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

Jesus gives crucial information in His Olivet Prophecy in Matthew 24 about the resurrection of the saints:

[verse 29] “Immediately after the tribulation of those days [the Great Tribulation, the Fifth Seal] the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken [the Heavenly Signs, the

Sixth Seal].

[verse 30] “Then the sign of the Son of Man [the big showy heavenly sign, like the final burst of fireworks to end the Fourth of July show] will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

[Looking back to verse 27]: “For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.” This is obviously anything but secret!

[verse 31] “And He will send His angels *with a great sound of a trumpet*, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” You would hope that most of the saints who are alive would be gathered from the Place of Safety (Revelation 12:14).

This would seem to be also “the great trumpet” when the physical Tribes of Israel are gathered to begin their Second Exodus [Isaiah 27:13].

These passages lead the Churches of God to agree that the First Resurrection will occur when the Seventh Trumpet blows. That’s sure! The Bible states it!

The Seven Last Plagues

- The Seventh Trumpet includes the dispensation of the Seven Last Plagues (Seven Bowls). Skip the inset chapters 12-14, and you come to the Seven Last Bowls listed in chapters 15-16. “In them the wrath of God is complete” (15:1). Revelation 16:17 confirms that when the seventh angel pours out his bowl, “It is done!” The Day of the Lord ends when all of the events of the Seventh Trumpet and the Seven Last Plagues are completed in 19:21.

Revelation 14:10 says God’s wrath will be poured out “in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.”

The Seventh Trumpet with its Seven Last Plagues cannot possibly occur within one 24-hour period. For example, a good proof of this is how long it would take for the Sixth Bowl (Revelation 16:12-16) when the armies of the world assemble in Megiddo and march down about 55 miles south to fight Christ when He touches down on the Mount of Olives.

This “battle of that great day of God Almighty” is incorrectly called the Battle of Armageddon [Hebrew *har Megiddo*). There’s nothing har-har about it! The armies only assemble in Megiddo. The battle will be engaged in the Valley of Jehoshaphat (Kidron Valley, between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives). The place will be jumpin’!—called “the valley of decision” in Joel 3:12-14. Anyone who assembles in Megiddo or the Kidron Valley to fight Christ has made the wrong decision!

Revelation 14:20 warns that blood will flow up to horses’ bridles for 184 miles! It can’t really be called a battle because “their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths” (Zechariah 14:12).

The marriage of the Lamb

- Revelation 19:7-9—“The marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready . . . And to her it was granted to be *arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright*, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.”

Christ’s armies ride from heaven

- Revelation 19:11-16—Heaven opens and Jesus Christ rides down on a white horse (the all-important Fifth Horseman!). “And the armies in heaven, *clothed in fine linen, white and clean*, followed Him on white horses.

Enoch had prophesied, “Behold, the Lord comes with *ten thousands of His saints*” (Jude 14). Zechariah 14:5 concurs: “The Lord my God will come, and *all the saints with you.*”

"And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" (Revelation 19:16). I hope you are aiming to be one of those Kings and Lords!

Psalm 18:10 pictures Jesus "mounted on a mighty angelic being" (NLT). The white horses will apparently be angel steeds! Hi ho, Michael!

While the Sixth Bowl has the nations assembling to fight Christ, Revelation 19:17-19 indicates this descent from heaven is the time when Jesus actually conquers them.

Psalm 45:3-5 adds details to the conquering Jesus Christ's ride from heaven: "Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, with your glory and your majesty. And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth, humility, and righteousness; and your right hand shall teach You awesome things. Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies; the peoples fall under You."

I have been privileged to stand on the Mount of Olives on my two trips to Israel. I was wearing tennis shoes! I expect to stand there one more time, this time with the returning Jesus Christ in a glorified state! (Zechariah 14:4)



"Open wide, you gates. Open up, you ancient doors. Then the King of glory will come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, who is strong and mighty. The Lord, who is mighty in battle. Open wide, you gates. Open wide, you ancient doors. Then the King of glory will come in" (Psalm 24:7-9, New International Reader's Version).



"The Eastern Gate was sealed shut in AD 1540–41 by order of Suleiman the Magnificent, a sultan of the Ottoman Empire. It's believed that the reason for the

closing of the Eastern Gate was to prevent the Jewish Messiah from gaining entrance to Jerusalem. Jewish tradition states that the Messiah will pass through the Eastern Gate when He comes to rule. The Muslim Suleiman was attempting to thwart the Messiah's plans with sixteen feet of cement. The Eastern Gate has remained sealed for nearly the past 500 years." ([What is the significance of the Eastern Gate of Jerusalem? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)).

Along the same lines of futile human reasoning, a cemetery potentially blocks the path the returning Jesus Christ would likely take on the theory that He wouldn't want to be defiled by the dead bodies. What if resurrected bodies popped up like from toasters in front of Jesus as He walked to the Temple!

Doesn't Jesus say only the Father knows the day or the hour?



“Well, it’s on a Feast of Trumpets but we don’t know which one—which year.

“Besides, Daniel 12:9-13 indicates that the 1,290 days will end when Daniel comes up in the first resurrection so we will know the date of Christ’s return when we see the daily sacrifice taken away and the abomination of desolation set up. We will be able to count 1,290 days. And if we somehow miss that, we can count 1,260 days from the time the Great Tribulation begins, the two witnesses become active, the Beast and False Prophet take over, the Times of the Gentiles begin, and God’s people are in the Place of Safety. So it’s not like God is denying us knowing when Jesus will return. We should know at least 3-1/2 years before.”

That being said, who thinks Jesus will be proved right that only the Father knows!

That anything any human comes up with will be wrong! God could influence every spirit in man [like He did with Cyrus (Ezra 1:1)] to be blocked from guessing the correct one that only the Father knows!

Jesus said nobody but the Father knows the day nor the hour of His return, despite so many being sure they do, and I suspect that will prove to be true! I suspect God will pull off a total “I’m here!” surprise! Like a thief in the night and the people don’t know *when*.

Notice in Revelation 14:14-15 how the Son of Man is shown poised on a white cloud with a sickle in His hand, ready and alert. An angel comes out of the temple and cries with a loud voice to Him: “Thrust in your sickle and reap, for *the time has come* for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” The Father has messaged Christ: it’s time!

The Master Timer has a “set time”

Psalm 75:2 assures, “When I choose *the proper time*, I will judge uprightly.” Psalm 102:13 concurs, “You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, yes, *the set time*, has come.”

There can only be one time that meets all the conditions: ends 6,000 years of satan-influenced man’s misrule to the exact day; begins the Millennium, starts a Jubilee year, cuts short the extinction of all life, yet leaves people thinking God delays His coming.

The Feast of Trumpets obviously pictures the seven trumpets and the earth-shaking events of the second coming of Christ even if it turns out to not be on a Feast of Trumpets! It pictures the Day of the Lord which is guaranteed to be the most thrilling year ever!

Now there are only 19 days until this year’s Feast of Trumpets on Sept. 16. If we should find ourselves ho-hum about that, imagine if there were 0 days until the Seventh Trumpet blows!

There’s still time to email me if you’d like to know how to worship on the Feast of Trumpets at a service nearest you, or online which is amazing technology but lacks the fellowship with brethren.

God’s people must get ready, putting on the heart and mind of Christ, growing in all nine fruit of the Spirit, especially *agape*.

Peter says to put our hope—expectation—in the return of Christ: "Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance . . . And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see . . . on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world . . . So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires" (1 Peter 1:3-5, 7, 13-14, NLT).

Right now can be a turning point for us so we can participate in the turning point that is soon coming at Jesus Christ's return!

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming quickly.' Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20).



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