

“Feast of Trumpets”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Sept. 9, 2023.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Feast of Trumpets.” Following are some of the ideas and some of the scriptures from that Bible study.

Accepting Christ as Savior

Christians are often criticized for religious practices that appear Jewish.

Let me go on record about how much I admire the Jewish nation. I admire the many accomplishments that the Jewish people have contributed to the modern world. Following are the four of their accomplishments that came to my mind—(1) technology and inventions; (2) scientific research; (3) health research; and (4) economics and finance.

Why did I mention those accomplishments? Very succinctly—although I do not accept the Jewish religion, I maintain a strong appreciation for the Jewish people.

I do not accept the Jewish religion, because I believe that the Son of God came to this earth and I accept Him as my Savior.

Observing the Feast of Trumpets

Are you aware that there are Christians (meaning that they believe that the Son of God came to this earth years ago and they enthusiastically accept Him as their Savior) who observe the Feast of Trumpets?

The Jewish religion observes “Rosh Hashanah” and some Christians observe the Feast of Trumpets.

- Rosh Hashanah means “beginning of the year,” marking the new year as the beginning of the civil year.
- Christians celebrate the Feast of Trumpets as a fall festival.

Those days are not exactly the same. From my perspective, the Feast of Trumpets began long before Rosh Hashanah.

When did Rosh Hashanah start in history?

According to 18doors.org: “The history of Rosh Hashanah can be traced back to the sixth century B.C.E., though the holiday was never mentioned in the Torah. The phrase ‘Rosh Hashanah’ was first mentioned in the Mishna (the first major written collection of the Jewish oral laws) in 200 C.E.”

When did the Feast of Trumpets begin?

Deuteronomy 16

Deuteronomy 16:1-16 mentioned three different seasons of observances.

- Deuteronomy 16:1-15 mentioned "Passover," "Feast of Weeks" and "Feast of Tabernacles."
- Deuteronomy 16:16 mentioned "Feast of Unleavened Bread," "Feast of Weeks" and "Feast of Tabernacles."

The Feast of Trumpets is one of the fall festivals—lumped together with the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles.

Blowing of trumpets

Did you notice that less is mentioned in the Torah about the Feast of Trumpets than the other Feasts?

- Leviticus 23:23-25 mentions a memorial of blowing of trumpets.
- Numbers 29:1 mentions a day of blowing trumpets.

Calamity precedes restoration

What is the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets?

There are some general lessons found in Bible prophecy that are also reflected in a specific understanding about the Feast of Trumpets.

In the general studies of prophecy and in a specific study of the Feast of Trumpets, there is the understanding that "calamity precedes restoration."

- Joel 2:1-12—The Day of the Lord has much calamity.
- Joel 2:12-17—There was a call to repentance.
- Joel 2:18-32—There was a promise of restoration.
- Zephaniah 1:14-15—The Day of the Lord has much calamity.
- Zephaniah 3:14-17—There was a promise of restoration.

Two main themes

In the general studies of prophecy and in a specific study of the Feast of Trumpets, there are two themes to consider.

- Alarm of war
- Sound of victory

Alarm of war

- Revelation 8:13—The last three trumpets were called the three woes.
- Revelation 9:1-12—The fifth trumpet is the first woe.
- Revelation 9:13-14—The sixth trumpet is the second woe.
- Revelation 11:14—The seventh trumpet is the third woe.

Sound of victory

- Revelation 11:15—However, the seventh trumpet is also announcing of the Kingdom of God.
- Matthew 24:31—He will send His angels with the sound of a trumpet.
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-52—The trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17—The trumpet will sound and the dead in Christ will rise first.