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Trumpets, Cymbals and Shouts of Praise! On Yom T'ruah and Every Day, We Celebrate our God and His Return!

Dear friends,

This year of 2024 the **Feast of Trumpets** or **Yom T'ruah** begins at sunset on October 2 and ends at nightfall on October 4! Later tradition recognizes two days for the celebration; however, the Bible mentions only one day in Leviticus 23:24.

Yom T'ruâh can also be called **The Day of Loud Sound** according to the original Hebrew word *t'ruâh*. In the list of God's Appointed Days in Leviticus 23, verse 24 reads, "Speak to the sons of Israel saying, 'In the seventh month on the first of the month you shall have a rest, a reminder by *t'ruâh*, a holy convocation.'" Some versions italicize the words *shofar* or *trumpets* in place of *t'ruâh* to signify that these words are not actually there in the original text but only implied. *T'ruâh* actually means *sound* or *loud noise*. The sound can be made in many ways and for many reasons:

- In **Numbers 10:5-6**, it was the *t'ruâh* of silver trumpets signifying the time to break camp and move on.
- In **Numbers 31:6**, it was the *t'ruâh* of an alarm calling the people to battle.
- In **Psalm 150:5**, it was the *t'ruâh* of the crash of cymbals in praise to the Lord!

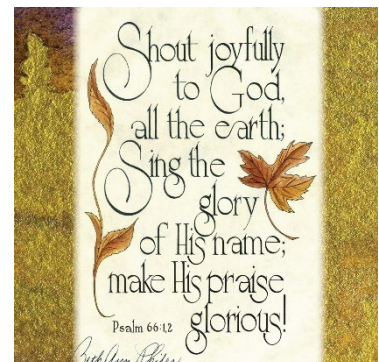
But most often in Scripture, *t'ruâh* refers to loud shouting made with our lips, vocal cords, and lungs:

- In **1 Samuel 4:5**, it was the *t'ruâh* of all Israel shouting when the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord came into the camp. It was such a great, collective shout that "the earth resounded."
- In **Ezra 3:11-13**, it was the *t'ruâh* of the shouts of joy at the re-laying of the foundation of the Temple – "and the *t'ruâh* was heard far away."
- In **Joshua 6:20**, it was a great *t'ruâh* of the Israelites that felled the walls of Jericho.

Yom T'ruâh is a day of loud, raised, sustained sounds – shouting that is raised to the King of Kings filled with praise, thanksgiving, and great joy using voices, lyres, shofars, and every instrument possible!

Whatever our earthly heritage, we are children of our heavenly Father because we have received His Son Yeshua Who gave His life to pay the debt of our gross wrongdoing. Out of His kindness and love, He delivered us from the domain of darkness, gave us a new identity as His sons and daughters, and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son! **So, we have a lot to shout about!**

Yom T'ruah falls on Elul 29 on the Hebrew Calendar which usually puts it very near our first day of Autumn. Like a marker in time, this Day raises a banner between the end of summer and the approaching winter. It is a day for us to pause in remembrance and praise to Him! Let us praise Him with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength! Even in hard times, let us offer a "sacrifice of praise" together:



And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me, and I will offer sacrifices in His tent with **shouts of joy**; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord! (Psalm 27:6)

Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully with a **shout of joy**! (Psalm 33:3)

Clap your hands, all you peoples; **Shout** to God with a voice of joy! (Psalm 47:1)

My lips will **shout for joy** when I sing praises to You, and my soul that You have redeemed! (Psalm 71:23)

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us **shout joyfully** to the Rock of our salvation! (Psalm 95:1)

Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; Be cheerful and sing for joy and sing praises! (Psalm 98:4)

With trumpets and the **sound** of the horn, **shout joyfully** before the King, the Lord! (Psalm 98:6)

They shall praise His name with dancing and sing praises to Him with tambourine and lyre! (Psalm 149:3)

Praise Him with tambourine and dancing; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flute! (Psalm 150:4)

Rejoice greatly, daughter of Zion! **Shout in triumph**, daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is righteous and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey! (Zechariah 9:9)

The wilderness and the desert will rejoice, and the desert will **shout for joy** and blossom like the crocus! (Isaiah 35:1)

And the redeemed of the Lord will return and come to Zion with **joyful shouting**, and everlasting joy will be on their heads! They will obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away! (Isaiah 35:10)

Yom T'ruah is also called **The Ingathering**, because trumpets (or shofars) are blown to gather the people in from their fields into the Temple for accountability and preparation as they look toward the Day of Atonement that comes ten days later.

The Ingathering foreshadows the return of Yeshua the Messiah when He will gather His bride (all those who believed in Him) at the end of the age: "They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory, and He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other." Matthew 24:30-31

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first."
1 Thessalonians 4:16

Let us worship the Lord with whole hearts and voices as we await His return!

Shalom, blessing, and joy in His love,
Beth Ann



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