**March 15, 2023**

**BIBLE STUDY**

**Refuge Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.**

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**“IT IS A DAY OF BLOWING THE TRUMPETS UNTO YOU”**

**Numbers 29:1-40**

***Numbers 29:1 KJV "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."***

This is a continuation of reminding the new generation of Israelites (those born in the wilderness) of the various sacrifices and offerings given to the previous generation (those born in Egypt). The Lord gave Moses instructions for offerings associated with three more holy observances: the Festival of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Festival of Shelters. The Feast of Trumpets marked the beginning of ten days of consecration and repentance before God. It is one of seven Jewish feasts or festivals appointed by the LORD and one of three feasts that occur in the autumn.

***Leviticus 23:24 KJV “Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation.”***

In the Leviticus passage, the words trumpet blasts are a translation of the Hebrew word teruah, which means “a shout” or “a blowing.” Jewish tradition indicates that both the shofar (ram’s horn) and the priestly silver horns (hazozerah) were used in the Feast of Trumpets. The Feast began on the first day (at the new moon) of the seventh month. Seven means spiritually complete. All throughout the religious calendar the number seven is celebrated (i.e., Sabbath offerings were presented in sevens or multiples of seven). Here on the first day of the seventh month a special convocation marked by the blowing of trumpets was called for with its requisite offerings. The seventh month, Ethanim, was approximately the same as October for us. Sometimes, this fell at the last of our September. It is also called Rosh Hashanah, which means “Head of the Year,” because it marks the beginning of the Jewish civil calendar. On this date no daily work was allowed. A key feature of the event was the blowing of trumpets. In the New Testament, we see that the Lord’s Second Coming will be accompanied by the sound of a trumpet. Each of the judgments in Revelation 8-9 is also signaled by a trumpet.

***1 Corinthians 15:51-52 KJV***

***51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,***

***52 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 Thessalonians 4:16-17 KJV***

***16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:***

***17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.***

Just as the shofar called the Jewish nation to turn their attention to the Lord and ready themselves for the Day of Atonement, so will the “trump of God” call us to heaven and warn the world of coming judgment.

***Numbers 29:2-5 KJV***

***2 "And ye shall offer a burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the LORD; one young bullock, one ram, [and] seven lambs of the first year without blemish:"***

***3 "And their meat offering [shall be of] flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals for a bullock, [and] two tenth deals for a ram,"***

***4 "And one tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs:"***

***5 "And one kid of the goats [for] a sin offering, to make an atonement for you:"***

During this celebration, no kind of work was to be performed, but burnt offerings and a sin offering were to be brought before the Lord. The offering is very similar to the offerings, we read about in the previous chapter. The elements offered symbolize the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. This offering is to be made because it is celebrating the harvest. The crops are in, and it is time to rejoice. Certainly, there will be a harvest of believers someday, from the earth. The lamb was used in offering to symbolize the innocence of the one offered. It is the blood of the precious Lamb of God that saves us all. The word "atonement" means cover or cancel. This offering is to cover the sin. Only Jesus {our atonement} can cancel our sin.

***Numbers 29:6 KJV "Beside the burnt offering of the month, and his meat offering, and the daily burnt offering, and his meat offering, and their drink offerings, according unto their manner, for a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD."***

This offering is in addition to the others. An offering equal to the regular New Moon offerings was to be made, along with the monthly and regular burnt offerings. Notice that the requirement for acceptable worship never decreases with the addition of special days and even weeks; it always increases.

***Numbers 29:7 KJV "And ye shall have on the tenth [day] of this seventh month an holy convocation; and ye shall afflict your souls: ye shall not do any work [therein]:"***

The Feast of Trumpets was followed by the Day of Atonement (“Yom Kippur” in Hebrew); it was and still is the most sacred day on the Jewish calendar. It was to be a day of confession and mourning for sin. It was also the one day of the year when the high priest entered the most holy place to sprinkle blood on the mercy seat of the ark of the covenant to make atonement for the people as described in Leviticus 16:1-34. It was a day of self-denial in the form of fasting.

***Numbers 29:8-10 KJV***

***8 "But ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD [for] a sweet savour; one young bullock, one ram, [and] seven lambs of the first year; they shall be unto you without blemish:"***

***9 "And their meat offering [shall be of] flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals to a bullock, [and] two tenth deals to one ram,"***

***10 "A several tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs:"***

The burnt offering symbolized the man's body being purified from his sins. This symbolized the justification that we receive through the great sacrifice of Jesus. We see the perfect system of sacrifice. It does not vary at all. Somehow, the repetition of these offerings was to sink into their memory, so there would be no excuse not to keep them.

***Numbers 29:11 KJV "One kid of the goats [for] a sin offering; beside the sin offering of atonement, and the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering of it, and their drink offerings."***

Also, on the Day of Atonement, a male goat was to be sacrificed for a sin offering. Importantly, for believers in Jesus Christ, full atonement for sin was made in his substitutionary death on the cross, which is why such sacrifices as those we read about here no longer need to be offered.

***Hebrews 9:28 KJV “28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”***

***Numbers 29:12 "And on the fifteenth day of the seventh month ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work, and ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days:"***

The remainder of the chapter deals at length with the week-long celebration of the Festival of Shelters (or “Tabernacles” or “Booths”). During it, the Israelites were to leave their homes and live in shelters of sticks and greenery as a reminder of their forebearers’ years of wilderness wanderings and as a commemoration of God’s promised deliverance out of that season. This feast of the tabernacles symbolizes the time the Christians will be in heaven during the wrath of God.

***Numbers 29:13-16***

***13 "And ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; thirteen young bullocks, two rams, [and] fourteen lambs of the first year; they shall be without blemish:"***

***14 "And their meat offering [shall be of] flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals unto every bullock of the thirteen bullocks, two tenth deals to each ram of the two rams***,"

***15 "And a several tenth deal to each lamb of the fourteen lambs:"***

***16 "And one kid of the goats [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

Since this festival lasted longer than most, there were specific instructions for each day’s observance. The Lord required the greatest number of sacrifices, compared to all the festivals, as a token of appreciation of the yearly harvest provided by the Lord. Not surprisingly, the offerings required were huge, since this festival celebrated the end of the harvest year and was designed to express thanksgiving to God. Each day was marked by multiple sacrifices and a decrease of one bull offering, each successive day starting with thirteen bulls and descending to seven on the seventh day and then finally on the last day (a Sabbath day) only one bull, one ram, seven lambs, and one sin offering of a goat were to be sacrificed. The first day’s offerings were thirteen young bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year old, a grain offering, a male goat as a sin offering, and the daily burnt offering. This is the time at the end of harvest when the wheat is gathered into the barn. This started off with the most bullocks offered. These animals offered would be a smaller number each day, and altogether would amount to 70, which is thought to be a sacred number. We can easily see that the amount of the flour and oil varied, to match the number of animals sacrificed. The fourteen lambs were each accompanied by several tenth deals.

***Numbers 29:17-19 KJV***

***17 "And on the second day [ye shall offer] twelve young bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without spot:"***

***18 "And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***19 "And one kid of the goats [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering thereof, and their drink offerings."***

The offerings for the second day were different in two respects, with twelve young bulls being offered instead of thirteen, and drink offerings being specified.

***Numbers 29:20-34 KJV***

***20 "And on the third day eleven bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish;"***

***21 "And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***22 "And one goat [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

***23 "And on the fourth day ten bullocks, two rams, [and] fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish:"***

***24 "Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***25 "And one kid of the goats [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

***26 "And on the fifth day nine bullocks, two rams, [and] fourteen lambs of the first year without spot:"***

***27 "And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***28 "And one goat [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

***29 "And on the sixth day eight bullocks, two rams, [and] fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish:"***

***30 "And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***31 "And one goat [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

***32 "And on the seventh day seven bullocks, two rams, [and] fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish:"***

***33 "And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***34 "And one goat [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

We will take note that it is the young bullocks that decline with every day’s offerings. This reduction in the number of bulls continued at one each day until the seventh day, when seven bulls were sacrificed. We can see the declining number of bullocks each day, in the fact that Jesus was one sacrifice that took care of all of this. This makes me more and more thankful that we are not under the law anymore. Jesus fulfilled all these sacrifices and offerings for us in the one offering of Himself. It would have been next to impossible, just to remember them.

***Hebrews 13:15 KJV "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name."***

***Numbers 29:35-38 KJV***

***35 "On the eighth day ye shall have a solemn assembly: ye shall do no servile work [therein]:"***

***36 "But ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD: one bullock, one ram, seven lambs of the first year without blemish:"***

***37 "Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullock, for the ram, and for the lambs, [shall be] according to their number, after the manner:"***

***38 "And one goat [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering."***

The eighth day of the festival was like the first in that the Israelites were to hold a solemn assembly and refrain from work while still presenting the prescribed offerings. This would be the 22nd day of Ethanim. Eight, in the Bible, symbolizes new beginnings. This would be symbolic of the new beginning for the followers of God. This is a holy day, and no work is to be done on this day.

***Numbers 29:39 "These [things] ye shall do unto the LORD in your set feasts, beside your vows, and your freewill offerings, for your burnt offerings, and for your meat offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings."***

***Numbers 29:40 "And Moses told the children of Israel according to all that the LORD commanded Moses."***

This section concludes with a challenge to present these calendar-related offerings to the Lord at their appointed times but also to remember to bring other non-calendar-related offerings (votive and freewill offerings). Moses fulfilled his responsibility by faithfully relaying all this information to the nation. Vows and freewill offerings were over and above the offerings we have been reading about here. These are of obligation. The many offerings and sacrifices required of the Israelites were costly. But the people’s contributions to God didn’t compare with the grace the Lord had shown the nation by choosing them as his own, redeeming them from bondage, and entering into a covenant relationship with them. Perhaps, these dwindling sacrifices symbolize the fact that the law, itself, will dwindle away, and be replaced by the grace of God.

***John 1:14-17 KJV***

***14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.***

***15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.***

***16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.***

***17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.***

Christians should give praise to God every day, that we are not required to keep up with all these laws and ordinances. We must remember that the laws and ordinances we studied in Leviticus, were given at the beginning of the journey across the wilderness. They had to be repeated, so that people could remember them. It was especially important for Joshua to understand them fully since he was to take Moses' place.

**QUESTIONS**

1. What day and month is the beginning of day of trumpets?
2. Approximately, what month is that on our calendar?
3. The blowing of trumpets symbolizes what?
4. Why is this celebration held?
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ means spiritually complete.
6. It is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the precious Lamb that saves us all.
7. What does the word "atonement" mean?
8. The 15th day of the seven month is feast of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
9. This is a time of holy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
10. What is harvested at this time?
11. How many bullocks {altogether} would be offered ?
12. What is the sacrifice the Christian gives?
13. On the eighth day, we have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. This would be the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_day of Ethanim.
15. Eight means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
16. Why was it necessary to give the laws and ordinances, again, here?