

NINTH TESHUVAH 2013 PRAYER GUIDE

FORTY DAYS OF REPENTANCE

The World Gregorian Calendar
August 6 – September 14, 2013

The LORD'S Hebraic Calendar
Elul 1 - Tishri 10, 5773/5774



ACKNOWLEDGING OUR INDEBTEDNESS

Jesus, the Messiah of Israel, said to the Samaritan woman, *Salvation is from the Jews* (Jn 4:22). The Apostle Paul teaches that the Gentiles were without hope, a covenant or a promise, but through the Messiah we are grafted into the Olive Tree (Eph 3:6 NIV; Rom 11:24). *This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel..* (Eph 3:6 NIV). Everything Christians hold dear, we received through the Jewish People. With deep gratitude we acknowledge our indebtedness to our Father for making us one with them through His Son, the Messiah of Israel. *Blessed be His Glorious Name forever.*

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TESHUVAH PRAYER GUIDE

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NINTH TESHUVAH 2013

Return & Repent



FORTY DAYS OF REPENTANCE

What is the Spirit saying to the Church?

Teshuvah 2013 will be *Ministries of New Life's* ninth 40-day call to prayer. Nine is the number uniquely associated with the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul called us to live by the fruit of the Spirit which comprise nine graces: 1) love 2) joy 3) peace 4) longsuffering 5) gentleness 6) goodness 7) faith 8) meekness 9) temperance (Gal 5:22-23). Paul also defined nine gifts of the Spirit when writing to the Corinthian believers: 1) the word of wisdom 2) the word of knowledge 3) faith 4) healing 5) working of miracles 6) prophecy 7) discerning of spirits 8) divers kinds of tongues 9) the interpretation of tongues.

Our Savior told His disciples before going to the cross that if He went away, He would pray to the Father to send them the Holy Spirit Who would comfort, guide them into all truth, and tell them things yet to come (Jn 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7, 13). The Prophet Amos said, *For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets* (Amos 3:7). Amos received a treasure, revelation of our Father's ways. That is, our Father speaks prophetically, declaring events before they happen which sets Him apart from all others, for idols cannot tell the future. The Holy Spirit is the Revelator of our Father's ways, times and seasons (Isa 44:6-8; 48:3, 5, 16).

In addition to nine being the number associated with the Holy Spirit, the number nine also dictates finality or judgment. E.W. Bullinger points out that nine is the last single digit; therefore it marks the conclusion of a matter, the end—as with the end of all things relating to man, judgment of man and all his works.

In 2005, the Spirit called Ministries of New Life to walk out Teshuvah, the forty days of repentance. In 2006, He gave greater clarity through Luke 1:17, "To make ready for the Lord a people prepared." The Spirit is aligning our Father's Hebraic calendar with signs of the times and fulfillment of prophecies pointing to Messiah's Second Coming. As it was at His First Coming, so it will be at His Return—repentance prepares the way for Him and the people.

PART ONE

THE LORD'S BIBLICAL (HEBRAIC) CALENDARS

HIS CIVIL CALENDAR WAS ESTABLISHED AT CREATION

HIS SACRED CALENDAR WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT

The Prophet Isaiah tells us our ways do not align with the LORD'S ways; hence man is on a continuous learning curve (Isa 55:8-9). The world operates by the Gregorian calendar while the LORD orders His times and seasons according to His Biblical calendars. To better understand *Teshuvah*, one needs a working knowledge of the Biblical (Hebraic) calendars—the *Civil* and *Sacred*. A brief review of historical events will help explain Our Father's calendars.

At Mt. Sinai, the Jewish People were given the Torah (five books of Moses), the LORD'S land, festivals and calendars sealed by covenant (Mosaic). The Israelites also understood His festivals, times and seasons. For centuries the Jewish people have followed the LORD'S calendars, walking out His ways and prophetic time line.

The Hebraic *Civil* and *Sacred* calendars are governed by the sun and moon. In Genesis 1:14 the LORD said, *The sun and the moon are for signs and seasons, days and years*. The Hebraic day begins after sunset, "the evening and morning were the first day" (Gen 1:5). The Hebraic month is determined by the new moon. The Gregorian calendar day begins after midnight and the months and years are governed by the sun.

- **The Hebraic Civil Calendar** relates to *creation* and begins **Tishri 1-2** (September/October on the Gregorian calendar) announcing the New Year called Rosh Hashanah (head of the year). Two of several major focuses of Rosh Hashanah are: crowning the LORD King of the earth and celebrating the creation of Adam. In Jewish eschatology, the first Adam was created on Tishri 1, hence Messiah (the last Adam) will come on Tishri 1 or 2 at the sound of the *Last Shofar* to raise the righteous dead. Though it is a day of celebration, the rabbis teach it is also a day of solemnity, a *Day of Judgment* (Yom HaDin) when each person passes before the LORD and decrees are written for the coming year. During the ten High Holy Days (Tishri 1-10), the decreed judgments can be altered through repentance and acts of charity (discussed more fully under Defining Teshuvah).

- **The Hebraic Sacred Calendar** relates to *redemption* and begins **Nisan 1**, the seventh month on the Civil calendar. In preparing to leave Egypt, the LORD gave the Israelites this new calendar 2448 years after the creation of Adam. Just before the final plague, He spoke to Moses (Exodus 12) that Nisan would be a month of new beginnings. This calendar is associated with the Israelites' redemption/deliverance out of Egyptian slavery. After the blood of the lamb was put on the door post, they were set free from Egypt. Fifty days later, the Israelites arrived at Mt. Sinai where the LORD gave Moses His seven Festivals. The fifth Festival, Yom Teruah (Trumpets) occurs Tishri 1, the same day as Rosh Hashanah. On this day, the *Civil* and *Sacred* calendars unite, calling the Jewish people and the Church to *awaken* and *prepare* for the coming of the Messiah. For the Jewish people it is His anticipated *first* coming, while for the Church we await His *second*. 6

Jewish & Gregorian CALENDAR

Make ready for the Lord a people prepared
Ministries of New Life

Jewish Civil Calendar Months

Tishri	Sept / Oct
Cheshvan	Oct / Nov
Chislev	Nov / Dec
Tebeth	Dec / Jan
Shebat	Jan / Feb
Adar	Feb / Mar
Nisan	Mar / Apr
Iyar	Apr / May
Sivan	May / Jun
Tammuz	Jun / Jul
Av	Jul / Aug
Elul	Aug / Sept

Gregorian Calendar Months

PART TWO
DEFINING TESHUVAH

A 40-Day Call to Repentance

The Hebrew word *Teshuvah* means to *Return/Repent*. Christians understand repentance to be a 365-day call for those seeking an abiding relationship with our Savior. The rabbis also teach daily repentance while helping us understand our Father has an *appointed season for Repentance*. His *appointed times, seasons, cycles* are called *moedim*. *Teshuvah* is one of His annually appointed seasons (*moedim*), a *40-Day Call to Repentance*. While the concept of a season for repentance may be new to Christians, the principle can be illustrated by our season of Thanksgiving. While every day is a day to give “*thanks,*” in America, November is thought of as an *appointed time or season* for giving *Thanks* to the Lord, family and friends.

True repentance is accompanied by acts of charity. It is the principle “*faith without works is dead*” (James 2:17). Our Father values acts of charity so highly because they reflect genuine repentance as seen in Leviticus 26:40-42, *If they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers...that they committed against Me...and they make amends (acts of charity) for their iniquity then I will remember My Covenant with Jacob...Isaac and ...Abraham and I will remember the Land.*

Thus in repentance, acts of charity can mitigate future judgments from being visited on us and/or our children caused by sins of our fathers. This Scripture also illustrates the *Teshuvah Principle (Return/Repent)* is primary in renewing relationships, both with Him and each other and for moving our Father’s Heart to fulfill His promises to us, to our children and even to our land. Hence individuals, families, churches, nations and even the entire world are given an opportunity to reverse His judgments and alter their future during the annual 40-day grace period of *Teshuvah*.

Knowing the Hebrew word *Teshuvah* is translated *return/repent*, the LORD’s exhortation through the prophet in Malachi 3:7 can be translated *teshuvah* (return) *to Me and I will teshuvah* (return) *to you*. In Isaiah 55:6-7 the prophet instructed Israel: *Seek the LORD while He may be found ...return (teshuvah) to the LORD, that He may have compassion...and...abundantly pardon*. This is His desire and purpose for creating *Teshuvah!*

As we can see, **Teshuvah is the act of returning to the LORD through repentance**. The Spirit confirms through the prophets Malachi and Isaiah that doing *teshuvah* in the season of *Teshuvah* moves our Father to compassion which causes Him to release tangible waves of forgiveness, healing power and love. The Apostle Peter also emphasizes the power of teshuvah / repentance when he said, *Repent therefore, and turn (teshuvah) again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the Presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus* (Acts 3:19-20).

The 40 Days of Teshuvah - Two Parts

To grasp the LORD’S Biblical Calendar, it is necessary to remember the Biblical day begins after sunset of the previous evening, Genesis 1. The first 30 days of *Teshuvah* are preparation for the last 10 days. In the Jewish communities these 10 days are known as the *High Holy Days* or *Days of Awe*. The first 30 days begin the evening preceding Elul 1 and end at sunset on Elul 29. The second 10 days begin the evening preceding Tishri 1, Rosh Hashanah, and close after sunset on Tishri 10, Yom Kippur.

First 30 Days

The evening preceding Elul 1 to Elul 29 = Days of Preparation
(Jewish month Elul occurs in August/September)
2013 - August 5 - Sunset September 4

Last 10 Days

Begin the evening preceding Tishri 1-Rosh Hashanah to Tishri 10-Yom Kippur
These 10 Days are *High Holy Days / Days of Awe*
(Jewish month Tishri occurs in September/October)
2013 - After Sunset September 4 - After Sunset September 14

First 30 Days

Many rabbis teach Messiah will come on Tishri 1, hence, some segments of Judaism annually observe the first 30 days of *Teshuvah* Elul 1–29, preparing themselves through fasting should this be the year Messiah comes, initiating the Birthpains of Messiah (Tribulation). The rabbis know these seven years will be a time of great judgment. Therefore the 30 days of repentance, confessing sins, prepares one to be hidden in the Day of Trouble. During *Teshuvah*, Psalm 27:5 is quoted daily in the synagogues: *He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble...* Each year that Messiah tarries becomes a rehearsal, a preparation for *that Day* (the Tribulation).

Last 10 Days

As stated, Jewish scholars believe Messiah will come on Tishri 1, Rosh Hashanah, the Biblical New Year which is also the day of the first Fall Festival, **Yom Teruah**, *Day of the Awakening Blast* (Feast of Trumpets). On Tishri 1, Rosh Hashanah, the Biblical New Year, the rabbis teach the heavens open, the books are opened and each person passes before our Father. At this time He writes decrees and judgments for the coming year based on our obedience to Him and our actions towards other people. In His mercy He gives the last 10-day grace period so each person has the opportunity to alter the decrees and judgment(s) against them by repenting and doing acts of charity.

After sunset on the 10th day, Tishri 10, Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) on the Biblical calendar, the Great Shofar is blown (Isaiah 27:12-13; Matthew 24:31). On this day the books are closed, the heavens close and the decrees and judgments for the coming year are sealed. *Teshuvah* requires a sincere heart poised to respond by repentance coupled with action. When the heart is rightly positioned, Yom Kippur, the 40th day, becomes a glorious day of celebration with sins confessed, debts forgiven and relationships renewed.

PART THREE

BIBLICAL PRECEDENT FOR TESHUVAH

As we understand our Father's Hebraic principles, patterns and ways, we can discern the *Teshuvah Call* is recorded in several Biblical passages. In each *Call* the Father's Heart is for people to repent so they will not suffer His just judgments. Each Biblical account of the *Teshuvah Call* required a servant leader whose heart's desire was to obey the Father's will. As the leader's heart aligned with the Father, the *Teshuvah Call and Message* went forth with power and authority, changing lives and locations. Among Biblical leaders chosen to herald the *Teshuvah Call* were: Moses, Jonah, Daniel, Haggai and John the Baptist preparing the way for Christ the Messiah.

Moses Receives the Teshuvah Call

A 40-Day Window of Grace Restores Israel

Moses was the first to experience *Teshuvah, the 40 Days of Repentance*. After the Israelites were confronted by Moses with the great sin of the Golden Calf, scripture says "*they mourned greatly.*" Their repentance and Moses' intercession ministered to the LORD. Once again He invited Moses to ascend Mt. Sinai to meet Him for another 40 days, thereby introducing Moses to our Father's appointed season of Teshuvah. Moses ascended the mountain on Elul 1 on the Biblical calendar (August/September on the Gregorian) descending 40 days later on Tishri 10, Yom Kippur /Day of Atonement (September/October), with the second set of tablets. This assured the Israelites of His forgiveness for their great sin of idolatry, enabling them to continue to be His chosen channel through which His Word would flow.

Jonah Carries the Teshuvah Call To Ninevah

A 40-Day Window of Grace

The Prophet Jonah heralded the LORD's message to the city of Ninevah: in 40 days judgment was coming. The inhabitants of the city responded according to the principles and patterns our Father requires for mercy to triumph over judgment. We see Jonah's call was likely during the season of *Teshuvah, the 40-Day Call to Repentance*, our Father's appointed season.

Jonah began to go into the city, (a three-days journey in breadth) going a day's journey. And he called out, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown! And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The king of Nineveh arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn (teshuvah) from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands...When God saw what they did, how they turned (teshuvah) from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He 10

would do to them, and He did not do it (Jonah 3:4-8,10).

Upon hearing this call, **the People** and **the King**:

- Received the Word of the LORD that the Prophet delivered,
- Repented and Turned from their evil ways,
- Diverted the LORD'S Judgment, and thus
- Received His Mercy and Compassion.

Daniel Delivers the Teshuvah Call To King Nebuchadnezzar

A One-Year Window of Grace

Our Father warns us of coming judgments because He desires to exchange His just judgments and consequences we deserve for His mercy and grace. In Daniel chapter 4, King Nebuchadnezzar had a prophetic dream that a tree was cut down followed by a sequence of ensuing judgments. Daniel was summoned before the King to give the interpretation of the dream (4:19-27). Immediately Daniel recognized the dream was King Nebuchadnezzar's personal call to repentance, a warning regarding his future. He encouraged the King to repent and do acts of charity that these pending decrees might be changed that LORD could grant him mercy instead of judgment.

King Nebuchadnezzar's dream was a *Call to Repentance* according to the principles and patterns of Scripture. The encounter most likely occurred during the season of *Teshuvah, the 40-Day Call to Repentance*, as decrees are issued on Tishri 1 for the coming year and sealed on the 10th day if there is no repentance. The King did not heed Daniel's exhortation to repent. The text states, 12 months later as the King was boasting of his great accomplishments, the decrees and judgments foretold in his dream came to pass as Daniel had seen and warned the King (Daniel 4:28-33).

Haggai Receives the Teshuvah Call On Behalf of the Children of Israel

In Haggai chapter 1, the Word of the LORD came to the prophet "*in the sixth month on the first day of the month.*" This date on the Biblical Sacred Calendar is Elul 1; each year Elul 1 begins the *40 Days of Teshuvah*, His appointed season of grace to help His people confess their sins and return to Him. The LORD warned His people, they had strayed from His Heart and were building their own houses rather than His. On Elul 1, the Prophet Haggai instructed them to repent and issued the LORD'S call and correction, "*Consider your ways.*" He gave them the solution: they were to stop building their own houses, return to the LORD and begin building His House. They repented and obeyed His command. In response He spoke through the Prophet Haggai saying *I am with you declares the LORD* and sent forth His Spirit to move upon Zerubbabel and other leaders to build His house. They feared the LORD and repented which brought a refreshing of His Presence and promises. 11

John the Baptist & Elijah - Heralds of the Teshuvah Call



A Time to Prepare for Messiah's First Coming; A Time to Prepare for Messiah's Second Coming

John the Baptist, who prepared the way for the Messiah's First Coming, had one central message: *a Call to Repentance*, to be addressed more fully in *The Elijah Voice*, p.17. Since our Father's Biblical / Jewish Calendar provides only one season called *Teshuvah* which focuses on a personal and corporate *Call to Repentance*, we see from the consistent principles and patterns in Scripture it was in this season the Spirit released John the Baptist. He was an Elijah Voice, a trumpet *Calling for Repentance* to prepare the way for the coming forth of the Messiah. **Therefore we know that at His First Coming, our Savior the Messiah of Israel began His earthly ministry in the season of *Teshuvah*, at the time of the Fall Festivals.** (Those who have eyes to see, this is a key for discerning the season of His Return).

In Acts 3:19-21 the Apostle Peter clearly reveals that without *Teshuvah* (*Return/Repent*), the Messiah will not come. *Teshuvah* is intricately and indispensably connected to the *Messiah's First and Second Coming*.

PART FOUR

TESHUVAH AND THE FESTIVALS PREPARE

FOR CHRIST THE MESSIAH'S FIRST AND SECOND COMING

The Jewish teachings concerning the 40 days are profound and enlightening. Since many Christians have never had the privilege of hearing these teachings, it takes time to process and assimilate them. In considering His appointed times and seasons, we are reminded of His Word, *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD* (Isa 55:8). Our Father chose the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for the honor of bringing forth His Written and Living Word for the nations. Through their teachings we gain greater clarity of our Father's thoughts and ways, times and seasons, as well as His End time purposes for His Beloved People and Land, Israel.

Galatians 4:4 says *when the fullness of time had come* or other translations say *At the appointed time...God sent forth His Son*. Scripture always emphasizes the perfection of our Father's timing. Christians need greater understanding of His seasonal timeframe which He designates by the cycles of the sun and the moon. This is especially true for the Messiah's visitation to Jerusalem, both in the past and future, which will be discussed further on.

In Genesis 1:14 it is written: *And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons (moedim) and for days and years...*

Our Father established these two great lights to reveal His appointed times and seasons, His moedim. Unlike the Gregorian solar calendar, the Biblical day begins when the sun goes down, as recorded each day in the Genesis account of Creation, *the evening and the morning were the first day*. It is important to know the renewed moon has a vital role in our Father's Biblical Calendar. His Calendar is a lunar calendar; the hidden/renewed moon marks the beginning of each Biblical/Jewish month. This is relevant for our study of *Teshuvah* because the 40 Days of Repentance begin on Elul 1 with the renewed moon. Even more significant, *the High Holy Days* or *Ten Days of Awe* also begin with the renewed moon on Tishri 1, the month following Elul.

The prophets and the Messiah emphasized that signs would be seen in the sun and the moon before His Return. At appointed times, eclipses occur when the sun is darkened and the moon turns a blood red color. The Jewish scholars teach a lunar eclipse is a sign or warning to Israel while a solar eclipse is a sign or warning to the world. Thus we see from the beginning of Creation, our Father designated the sun and moon to reveal His appointed times and seasons.

*..the sons of Issachar had understanding of the times,
to know what Israel ought to do* (1 Chronicles 12:32).

For those who have ears to hear, *Teshuvah* is a *sons of Issachar call* for discerning the times and ways of our Father. We His people are to discern His will, times and seasons to know when and what He is bringing forth for His Glory. In this light, *Teshuvah* is a yearly cycle of grace designed by our Father to renew and enable us to always move with Him and toward Him. *Teshuvah* is the grace period for making ourselves ready for the Messiah's Coming.

PART FIVE

ISRAEL'S SEVEN FESTIVALS - THE LORD'S PROPHETIC TIMELINE REVEALING CHRIST THE MESSIAH

The *40 Days of Teshuvah* occur between August and October on the Gregorian calendar. Presently the Spirit is opening the eyes of the Bride of Christ the Messiah with new understanding of His ways, calendars and festivals. Even in a brief overview, we see that *Teshuvah* annually connects us to our Hebraic roots and our Hebrew Messiah in order to better prepare us for His Return. At Mt. Sinai the LORD revealed His Festivals to Moses to give to the children of Israel. In Leviticus 23 He appoints His Seven Festivals to occur in three appointed months on His Biblical / Jewish Calendar. The Hebrew word for *festival* is **mikrah**, translated convocation in most Bibles, but rehearsal gives greater understanding. This is because the Seven 13

Festivals prophetically point to the Messiah's First and Second Coming. The Jewish People around the world walk through a rehearsal every year as they annually enact His Seven Festivals. Though the Jews are awaiting Messiah's First Appearing and Christians are looking for His Second, from either view the Festivals and the 40 Days of *Teshuvah* that relate to them prepare us for Christ Messiah's Appearing. Hence, to better understand *Teshuvah, the 40-day Call to Repentance*, we need a working knowledge of our Father's seven appointed festivals and how they relate to His Calendar. The Festivals provide tremendous insights into His redemptive plan and prophetic program for mankind and the earth.

Understanding how Messiah walked out the four Spring Festivals will help us awaken to the pattern of His Return to fulfill the three Fall Festivals. Once we grasp how the Spring Festivals foreshadowed Christ the Messiah's First Coming, we will better understand how *Teshuvah* is preparatory for the three Fall Festivals that foreshadow His Second Coming.

A key to His First and Second Coming is to remember that *Teshuvah, a Call to Repentance* announces and prepares us for the Messiah's Coming.

The **Seven Festivals** occur in two seasons, **Spring and Fall**. There are **Four Spring Festivals** and **Three Fall Festivals**.

Four Spring Festivals

Walked Out at Messiah's First Coming

- 1) **Passover** - Christ Messiah our Passover Lamb
- 2) **Unleavened Bread** - Christ Messiah the One Without Sin
- 3) **Firstfruits** - Christ Messiah the Firstfruits from the Dead
- 4) **Shavuot/ Pentecost** - Mt. Sinai Experience Holy Spirit Descended—the Church Age Birthed

Three Fall Festivals

Prophetic of Messiah's Second Coming

- 5) **Yom Teruah (Trumpets)** - Christ Messiah's Appearing
- 6) **Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)** - Christ Messiah's Second Coming
- 7) **Tabernacles (Booths)** - Christ Messiah reigning as King over Israel (the Kingdom Age)

The Four Spring Festivals Were Fulfilled By The Messiah at His First Coming

- 1) **Passover** – The Messiah of Israel is the Passover Lamb that takes away the sin of the world. His Kingdom is not of this world. Being/living in Him, we walk out His Kingdom principles (Jn 1:29; I Cor 5:7; Jn 18:36; Gal 2:20).
- 2) **Unleavened Bread** – The Messiah of Israel is the Unleavened Bread, the One without sin Who came down from heaven. Unleavened Bread is a 7-day festival. Abiding in Messiah in the Father, we eat of Him seven days a week (Jn 6:51; I Cor 5:7-8).

3) **Firstfruits** - The Messiah is the Firstfruits from the dead (I Cor 15:20).

4) **Pentecost** – After His resurrection the Messiah walked on earth for 40 days. After praying and asking His Father to send the Holy Spirit, He instructed His disciples to wait until they received the promised answer to His prayer. When the Day of Pentecost came, the Holy Spirit descended upon them (Acts 1:4-5; 2).

Three Fall Festivals To Be Fulfilled At Messiah's Return

- 5) **Yom Teruah – The Day of the Awakening Blast (Feast of Trumpets)**
Yom Teruah in Hebrew translates into *The Day of the Awakening Blast*. This is **The Last Shofar** the Apostle Paul refers to as the trumpet blast that announces: the Resurrection of the Righteous Dead, which begins the *Tribulation*; **all occur at Christ the Messiah's Appearing** on Tishri 1, Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year (Isa 18:3; 26:19; I Cor 15:51-52; I Th 4:13-17).
- 6) **Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) Day the Shofar Ha Gadol is Blown**
The holiest day of the Jewish year; The Great Shofar closes Yom Kippur. This is the Day when the **Shofar Ha Gadol (Great Shofar)** is blown at **Christ the Messiah's Return on the Mt. of Olives** (Isa 27:12-13; Mt 24:31). This day marks the 40th day of *Teshuvah*, ending the Ten Days of Awe.
- 7) **Tabernacles (Sukkot)** prophetically foreshadows the Great Ingathering of souls & the Presence of the Father tabernacling with the Messiah among His people during the Kingdom Age (Rev 20:4-6; Zech 14:16).

TESHUVAH AND THE FIFTH FESTIVAL, YOM TERUAH



Yom Teruah is the **Fifth of Seven Festivals** given to the Jewish People. As seen above, Yom Teruah is also the **First of the Fall Festivals**. In His wisdom our Father designated the season of *Teshuvah (Return and Repent)* to correlate with the Fifth Festival of Yom Teruah which He designed to herald and prepare us for the Messiah's Coming. Most Christians know this Fifth Festival as *Feast of Trumpets* but this term does not reveal its full meaning and hence can prevent us from knowing key information about the Endtimes.

From our study we see Teshuvah's final ten days, called High Holy Days, begin on Tishri 1 at the time of the Renewed/New Moon. This is also the Jewish New Year **Rosh Hashanah**. Amazingly our Father scheduled two key events, Yom Teruah (The Day of the Awakening Blast) and **Rosh Hashanah** (the Biblical New Year), to occur the same day, Tishri 1, at the new moon. Why would He do this?

1) Judaism teaches the first Adam was created on Tishri 1. Before he sinned he was given the high calling to rule the earth and crown the LORD as King of the universe. The Apostle Paul identifies Jesus the Messiah as the Last Adam.

2) The rabbis teach Messiah will come on the Fifth Festival, **Yom Teruah**, Tishri 1. Since this festival occurs at the time of the New Moon which was an unpredictable day or hour, it became known as *the Day that no one knows the Day or the hour*. Keep in mind this festival occurs on Rosh Hashanah, the New Year, a new beginning.

3) Each year **Yom Teruah** is a rehearsal for the *Day of Christ*, the Day Messiah will appear at the sound of the Last Shofar raising all the righteous dead to begin the Tribulation. On Yom Kippur of the seventh year of the Tribulation at His Second Coming, He will ascend the Throne of His father David to rule the earth for the LORD, His Father (I Chronicles 29:23; I Corinthians 15:24-28).

The Last Ten Days of Teshuvah

The First Day of the Ten Days of Awe - (High Holy Days)

Rosh Hashanah (New Year) - Day of Judgment - (Yom HaDin)

- The Heavens Open
- The Books are Opened and
- The Decrees are Written for the Coming Year

And

Yom Teruah - The Day of the Awakening Blast (Prophetic of Messiah)

The First Fall Festival (each year is a Rehearsal for His Appearing)

The Last Shofar on *that day* will announce:

- The Messiah's Appearing
- The Resurrection of the Righteous Dead
- The Beginning of the Tribulation

The Last Day of the Ten Days of Awe - Yom Kippur closes the Teshuvah Season

Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement (Prophetic of Messiah)

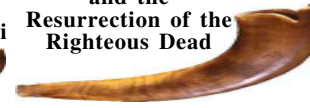
- The Great Shofar is Blown - (Announcing Messiah's Second Coming)
- The Books are Closed
- Decrees are Sealed for the Coming Year
- The Heavens Close

The Three Shofars in Judaism Two Relate to the Last Ten Days of Teshuvah

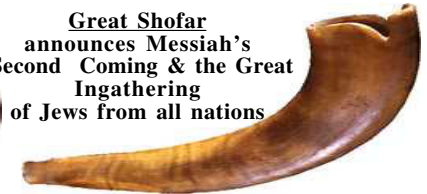
First Shofar
left horn of
the ram caught in
the thicket
Sounded at Mt. Sinai



Last Shofar
right horn heralds
Messiah's appearing
and the
Resurrection of the
Righteous Dead



Great Shofar
announces Messiah's
Second Coming & the Great
Ingathering
of Jews from all nations



The First Shofar is the smaller Left Horn of the Ram that was caught in the thicket at the sacrificing of Isaac. (Gen 22:13-14) Pirke deR'Eliezer, a Rabbinic work, records the left horn (First Trump) was blown on Mt. Sinai at the giving of the Torah (Five Books of Moses Ex 19:13) on the first Shavuot (Pentecost). The rams right horn (the Last Trump) will be blown to herald the coming of the Messiah. (Pentecost). Ex 19:19; 20:18.

The Last Shofar is the larger Right Horn of the Ram that was caught in the thicket at the sacrificing of Isaac on Mount Moriah. **This Horn, the Last Shofar** will sound only once (until then each year is a rehearsal) on the **5th Festival, Yom Teruah**. It is the Awakening Blast that announces the Appearing of the Messiah calling forth the Resurrection of the Righteous Dead. "I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed...at the **last trumpet (shofar)**. *For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised* (1 Cor 15:51-52; I Th 4:13-17).

In synagogues around the world on Rosh Hashanah, the Shofar is blown one hundred times. Ninety-nine blasts are a call to repentance (Teshuvah), however the one **hundredth blast is a victory shout** referred to in Judaism as the **Last Shofar**. *The Complete Story of Tishrei*, Nissan Mindel, p.49. This *victory shout* connects to the Apostle Paul's teaching in I Corinthians 15 and I Thessalonians 4 the appearing of Messiah and the **Last Shofar** announcing the resurrection of the righteous dead.

The Great Shofar (Shofar Ha Gadol) will sound after sunset on the 7th **Yom Kippur** of the Tribulation announcing the Messiah's Second Coming when His feet touch the Mt. of Olives,. *He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet (Shofar) and they will gather His elect from the four winds...*(Mt 24:31; Isa 27:12-13; Zech 14:4). (Note Saadia Gaon's ninth reason for blowing the Shofar)

THE ROLE OF THE SHOFAR AND TESHUVAH

Sounding the Shofar Exalts the LORD as King of the Universe

The *Shofar*, often translated trumpet, plays a major role throughout the Scriptures. Renowned Jewish scholar, Saadia Gaon of the ninth/tenth century, gave ten reasons *why the Creator, blessed be He, commanded us to sound the Shofar on Tishri 1, Rosh Hashanah*.



HEBRAIC INSIGHTS

Reveal Our Father's Ways and Give Understanding of Messiah's First and Second Coming

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways My ways, declares the LORD” Isa 55:8.

THE ELIJAH VOICE WILL PRECEDE MESSIAH'S RETURN

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the
Great and Awesome Day of the LORD comes” Mal 4:5.

Hebraic Parallels:

1. **That Which Has Been Shall Be Again; What Was Before Is What Will Be,**
Ecclesiastes 1:9; 3:15; 6:10.
2. **A First Before A Second – A Natural Before A Spiritual:**
 - The First Man Adam was son of God – Last Man Adam is the Son of God
 - Isaac Beloved son of Promise – The Messiah, Beloved Son of Promise
 - A Miracle on the womb of Sarah – A Miracle on the womb of Mary
 - Israel receives the Written Torah – The Messiah Jesus is the Living Torah
 - Moses, Israel's great deliverer – Messiah Israel's, Great Redeemer
 - Manna physical bread from heaven – Messiah the Living Bread from Heaven
 - David's son Solomon reigned over the Kingdom of Israel at its zenith –
David's Greater Son the Messiah will reign over Israel in the Kingdom Age

The Elijah Voice at Messiah's First Coming:

John the Baptist was the Elijah Voice calling for repentance in the Teshuvah season that began Messiah's ministry at His First Coming, Mt 3:1-6; 11:7-15; 17:10-13.

The Elijah Voice at Messiah's Second Coming:

Malachi prophetically speaks of Elijah coming before the Return of Messiah and the great and dreadful *Day of the LORD*, Mal 3:1; 4:5.

Once our eyes are opened to our Father's Hebraic pattern of a First preceding a Second, we see John the Baptist was the Elijah Voice tuned to herald the Messiah's First Coming; so our Father will tune an Elijah Voice to herald Messiah's Second Coming.

The first reason: Because this day celebrates the beginning of Creation when the Holy One created the world and reigns over it. *With trumpets and the sound of the horn (Shofar) make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!* Ps 98:6

The second reason: Because it is the first day of the New Year, *Rosh Hashanah*, the first day of the last ten days of repentance. The *Shofar* is sounded to announce a warning saying: “*Whoever wants to repent, let him repent; and if he does not, let him reproach himself.*”

The third reason: To remind us of Mount Sinai, as it is written: *The blare of the horn (Shofar) grew louder and louder* (Ex 19:19). ... the Israelites accepted the (Mosaic) covenant by stating *we will do and obey* Ex 24:7.

The fifth reason: To remind us of the destruction of the Temple and the sound of the battle cries of the enemies, as it is written: *Because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the horn (Shofar), the alarm of war* (Jer 4:19). Saadia Gaon taught, when we hear the sound of the *Shofar*, we ask God to rebuild the Temple.

The fourth reason: To remind us of the words of the prophets who were compelled to sound the *Shofar*: *If anyone who hears the sound of the trumpet (Shofar) does not take warning, and the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet (Shofar) and did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But if he had taken warning, he would have saved his life* Ezek 33:4-5.

The sixth reason: To remind us of the binding of Isaac who offered his life for the sanctification. [The left horn (*Shofar*) of the Ram that replaced Isaac was used in the giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai.] We should offer our lives for the sanctification of His Name and thus we will be remembered.

The seventh reason: When we hear the blowing of the *Shofar*, we will tremble and will humble ourselves before the Creator for that is the nature of the *Shofar*. It causes fear and trembling, as it is written: *Is a trumpet (Shofar) blown in a city, and the people are not afraid? Does disaster come to a city, unless the LORD has done it?* Amos 3:6

The eighth reason: To recall the *Day of the Great Judgment* and to be fearful of it, as it is written: *The great day of the LORD is near, it is near and hasteth greatly...a day of the horn (Shofar) and alarm,* Zeph 1:14-16. *Rosh Hashanah* is the *Day of Judgment* (Yom Hadin) Acts 17:31.

The ninth reason: To remind us of the *Blowing of the Great Shofar* (Shofar Hagodal) ingathering of the scattered ones of Israel, that we ardently desire, as it is said: *And in that day a great trumpet (Shofar) will be blown, and those who were lost in the land of Assyria and those who were driven out to the land of Egypt will come and worship the LORD on the holy mountain at Jerusalem,* Isa 27:13; Mt 24:31.

The tenth reason: To remind us of the resurrection of the dead and belief in it, as it is written: *All you inhabitants of the world, you who dwell on/in the earth, when a signal (Messiah) is raised on the mountains, look! When a trumpet (Shofar) is blown, hear!* Isa 18:3. Taken from: *The Rosh Hashanah Anthology*, Philip Goodman, *Sefer Avudarham*, Rosh Hashanah, pp. 38-40

Repentance brings refreshing which enables the Presence and Return of the LORD, Acts 3:19-21. For those who have ears to hear, *Teshuvah* is an annual rehearsal for the Body of Christ to be ready and pure for that awesome moment when the Messiah will appear. As each Teshuvah moves us closer to Messiah's Appearing, the Elijah Voice will become more prominent. When this appointed time arrives, it will no longer be a rehearsal but the *Time Appointed by the Father* for His Son's Appearing! As it was in the First, so it shall be in the Second.



Teshuvah The Season Appointed for the Elijah Voice

“He (John) will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah...to make ready for the Lord a people prepared... and to prepare the way of the Lord” (Isa 40:3; Lk 1:17, 3:4).

Teshuvah is the period the Father designed for the Elijah Voice to come forth. The prophet Isaiah gave a clear sign that would introduce the Coming of the Messiah. At an appointed time a Messenger would come forth *Calling for Repentance*. At Messiah's First Coming John the Baptist was that Messenger; he was the Voice of Elijah calling the people to repentance to prepare the way for the Lord, Matt 11:14.

We know that John was filled with the Spirit in his mother's womb. He grew up and was called to a hard life in the desert where he wore different clothes and ate different food. This lifestyle of humility became the anvil of preparation the Spirit used to humble and personally tutor John so he would be ready to meet the Messiah. Now prepared, John's voice was ready to cry “Repent” when the Spirit released him in the *Teshuvah* season of the Messiah's thirtieth year. (It is understood the priests did not begin their ministry until thirty years of age), When the appointed *Teshuvah* season arrived, our Father released John as His instrument to prepare the people for Messiah's coming, Luke 3:2-3.

“As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, The voice of one crying in the wilderness Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God” (Luke 3:4-6).

The people who are made ready for Messiah's Coming become the people who make straight the path for Him to come, a perpetual process.

TESHUVAH 2013 THEME: THE HOLY SPIRIT 40-DAY TESHUVAH PRAYER & REPENTANCE FORMAT

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