

Hearts of Love

Tom & Debbie Tillman "to touch the world for Jesus Christ"

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Did the Rapture Happen?

If Not... It Definitely Will!

In Acts 20, we see Paul hurrying to arrive in Jerusalem for the Feast of Weeks which is known as Pentecost. Paul is a Born Again Christian and he is also a faithful Hebrew. When God gave the 'Seven Feasts' to Israel, in the Wilderness, in Leviticus 23, they were given as everlasting **observations**; the first four Feasts are in the Spring: **Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits and Weeks/Pentecost** with the final three being observed in the Fall: **Trumpets**/the first day of the spiritual calendar year, **Day of Atonement** and **Tabernacles**.

The reason God gave the Feasts to Israel (not to Gentiles) as everlasting observations is because they all point to their Promised Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ; the Spring Feasts were fulfilled in His First Coming and the Fall Feasts will be fulfilled during His Second Coming.

Passover, the first Feast, harkened back to the final plague in Egypt when Israelite homes were required to sacrifice a lamb and to then apply its blood around the door frame. When they, by faith, obeyed, God's angel of death *passed over* their home but in every other home, the firstborn was killed. Jesus Christ fulfilled that Feast on the very day of Passover; He is our Spotless Passover Lamb Whose Blood has saved us from death unto Eternal Life.

Unleavened Bread was fulfilled in His sinless Body; leaven being a type for sin in the Bible. 'And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger' Jn 6:35

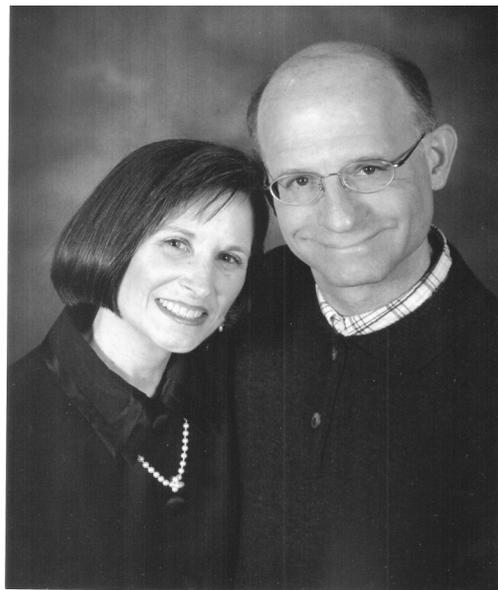
First Fruits was fulfilled by His Resurrection: 'But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.' 1 Cor 15:20

He is the First Fruits of the True Church of which He is the Head and we are His Body.

Pentecost (50th day) is seven weeks after Passover and was fulfilled, again, on the very day when God sent His Holy Spirit to birth and to fill all the new True Church.

Paul was anxious to arrive in Jerusalem for Pentecost because not only is it an important Feast for Israel but it would also have been an important holy day for the new Church... it is a seemingly less important observation in the True Church of today but.. we are naturally more focused on His return for us one day soon in the Rapture. Being filled with His Holy Spirit is an established fact for all Born Again Believers in Jesus Christ while looking for His coming in the Rapture is our Blessed Hope, Titus 2:13, for which we look and wait every hour of every day. If we are not anxiously watching for His soon return, it shows that we do not truly understand the Bible's clear teaching on this ever so important doctrine.

The Feast of Trumpets, the first Fall Feast, looks to the day when the Lord Jesus Christ will come to receive His Bride in the Rapture which is associated with the blowing of a *Great Trumpet blast: the Trumpet of God: '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*



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May God richly
bless you!

Tom & Debbie

in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.'

1Thes 4:16

The Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled the four Spring Feasts on their exact day and there is no reason to doubt that the same will be true of the Fall Feasts beginning with the **Rapture to occur on the day of the Feast of Trumpets.**

Now, you say, but how can that be true because Jesus, Himself, said: *'But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.'* Matt 24:36 Ahhh ... I'm so glad you asked because that very statement **even further links the Feast of Trumpets with the Rapture.**

'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.' Num 29:1

You'll notice the **Day of Trumpets**, Yom Teruah, begins on the first day of the 7th month, Tishri (our Sept/Oct) and is not connected to a Sabbath or to any number of days past a previous Feast. The months of the Hebrew calendar were either 29 or 30 days, depending upon the Moon's cycle; every month begins on the New Moon; then, after a certain number of years, they would actually insert an additional month to then bring it back to a correct yearly cycle but the month's first day was **dependent upon the New Moon's first appearance:** the evening when the first

tiny sliver of the New Moon could be seen but it would happen on one or the other of two days; once two priestly witnesses report seeing that first sliver of the moon, Yom Teruah/Day of Trumpets begins. Trumpets is the only Feast which begins at an uncertain day and, so, certain idioms evolved around that 'day': it is called: **'the hidden day,' 'The day and the hour no man knows;'** Jesus knew this and was giving a very important clue as to His Return for His Bride when He said, *'But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.'* Matt 24:36

Yom Teruah/**Feast of Trumpets** then begins **Ten Days of Awe** leading up to Yom Kippur, the **Day of Atonement** leading to the final Feast, four days later: **Tabernacles.**

100 Trumpet blasts are blown during these 10 Days of Awe; the Last blast being the longest and loudest; Paul hinted at this when he wrote:

'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.' 1Cor 15:52

I believe when Paul was taken up into Heaven to be given so much instruction on Doctrine for the New True Church, he was not given a complete picture. Some things are

not fully explained in a crystal-clear manner; God intended some things to only be understood by those seeking His Wisdom and Understanding... are you one of those seeking His Godly Wisdom? It only begins with regularly praying and asking God for His Wisdom: *'If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.'* James 1:5

The Feast of Trumpets occurs over two days leading to the next Ten Days of Awe, the purpose of which is to lead Israel to Repentance and Confession of sin, culminating in the Highest Holy Day: **The Day of Repentance/Yom Kippur which will be fulfilled during the Tribulation when God finishes His Grand Work in Israel culminating in His Return at Armageddon when all Israel will turn to Him in faith and repentance and be saved.**

Tabernacles will be fulfilled when the Lord Jesus Christ then Tabernacles/lives with His People for 1000 years and then forever.

Israel's entire history and existence is, from God's perspective, centered around their Messiah; He was first promised in the very beginning when God pronounced His curses after Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden, long before there was an Israel: He said to Satan in the serpent: *'And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed (Jesus Christ/Messiah); it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.'* Gen.2:15

Then, throughout Israel's history, all the Law and Prophets pointed to God, the Son, their coming Redeemer/Messiah. In His First Coming, the Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled all four of the Spring Feasts on their very days and there is no reason to disbelieve that the same will be true of the final three Fall Feasts.

The first Fall Feast is Trumpets followed by 'Ten Days of Awe' as trumpets are blown with the final trumpet blast being the longest and loudest which leads into the second Fall Feast: Day of Atonement. Then four days later begins Tabernacles. 'Trumpets' is the call for every Israelite to ready themselves in confession and

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repentance leading to Day of Atonement when their sins of the past year are atoned for when the High Priest would enter the Holy of Holies to sprinkle blood on the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant so that God's just punishment for sin was averted. The final Fall Feast begins four days later as all the people make temporary shelters outside in which they will live for seven days which is to recall God's provision and protection while their ancestors wandered for forty years in the Wilderness before entering the Promised Land.

As I said, since all four Spring Feasts were fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ in their exact days in His First Coming, there is every reason to believe that the final three Feasts will be fulfilled on their exact days centered around His Second Coming. Messianic Jews understand that Trumpets pertains to the Rapture of the Church and the Day of Atonement pointed to when the Lord Jesus Christ returns at the end of the Tribulation to rescue and save all Israelites still alive as they, all at once, recognize Him for Who He really is and they cry out: *'Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord!'* Luke 13:35

He will then destroy the Antichrist, the False Prophet and all His enemies; He will set up His Millennial Kingdom to rule and reign over all the Earth as King of kings and Lord of lords which will

fulfill the Feast of Tabernacles as God, Himself, tabernacles among His people for 1000 years and then forever in His New Heavens and New Earth as we rule and reign with Him forever.

Here is my main point: this year's Feast of Trumpets is October 2-4. Obviously, this Newsletter is late; we had to be in Idaho to perform a wedding.

One of three things is true: either the Rapture happened with most of us now in Heaven, in which case you couldn't care less what I have to write or, the Rapture didn't happen and you are reading this, in which case we'll be taken away at a later date or, worst of all, the Rapture did happen and you are *still 'here'* to read this: I'm very sorry if that is the case; I wish that you had been ready, born again and waiting for His Coming but it's still not too late for you: turn to Him NOW in Faith and Repentance; trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and His Sacrificial death on the Cross to have been the only and complete payment for all your sin; then, continue to trust and believe, even if it means facing death from the Antichrist's evil followers; even if it means a terrible death! That is your only hope but it is a sure hope! Do not turn away from Him ever again!!

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If you are in a church whose leadership denies the Truth of the Rapture, the Tribulation, Jesus' Second Coming at the end of the Tribulation to then set up His Kingdom on Earth for 1000 years... **get out!** You are sitting under the instruction of men (or women) **who are robbing you or your 'Blessed Hope!'** God intended that we, who are living in the End Times, have pastors and teachers who believe and teach His Word, the whole council of God, to help us make sense of the terrible times in which we obviously live and to teach us the Hope which God's Word gives us as the World around us is coming unglued and ready to explode; I believe that anyone who does not see this is living in willful ignorance and for any Bible teacher to deny this and to withhold this Hope in God's Word, in Jesus' coming for you, is **criminally negligent! Get out!**

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The Harvest is Great, but the laborers are few. Matt 9:38

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