

TRUMPET SOUNDS



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REBECCA O'CONNOR

BORN TO BE...STABLE

Did you ever connect the fact that Jesus was born in a stable for a purpose more than humility but as an expression of Himself? Look at the synonyms of stable: *steady, unchanging, even, constant, firm, unwavering, sure, established, secure, committed, long-standing*. This is a wonderful expression of God, even though it is a play on the word.

The stable at the beginning of Jesus' life and the crown of thorns on His head at the end of His earthly life sealed the deal of our stability. Thorns were the symbol of cares as Jesus showed us in the parable of the seeds. The seeds scattered among the thorns were the cares of life. Cares are the state of mind in which one is troubled, worried, anxious or concerned.

Coming to the close of this year, which has been speculated to be explosive, can make us troubled and anxious at heart. Jesus brought stability from the

cares surrounding all reports to give us a peace that passes all of our reasoning and fear. **2 Cor 4:8-9** *We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed!*

Just as Jesus was born in a stable we have been born again to be stable in all situations; for in Him we are steady, unchanging, constant, firm, unwavering, sure, established, secure, committed and long-standing in our faith! Glory to God in the highest and peace, good will to men!

Whether in this life or the next we are His and being in Him is to be blessed.

The world is anything **but** stable and as time grows short it will reel to and fro in confusion. Science, governmental programs and all the great minds combined will not be able to

put Humpty Dumpty back together again. It will be these times that God's children will shine as it says in **Dan 12:3** *And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.*

Just as in the days of Jesus, those who sit in darkness will see a great light; **and to them which sit in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.** (Matt 4:16)

Prophecy talks about the natural elements of light failing...the darkening of the sun, moon and stars not giving off their light. The only luminaries left will be you and me. If we tuck our heads between our legs like the world, we will not see the light let alone be one.

Trim your wick and replenish the oil in your lamp for the wick to lift the oil by capillary attraction to feed the flame.

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EDITORS: Meagan
Matthews/Rebecca
O'Connor

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O CHRISTMAS TREE, O CHRISTMAS TREE

If you want to see the symbolic relationship between an evergreen and God, just take a look:

Isa 55:13 *Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

Thorn's and briars are symbolic of a secular society

while any type of pine represents the Trinity. One thing about a pine...it is evergreen no matter whether summer heat or winter's freeze. It is the symbol of faithfulness.

Jesus' life was carved in wood possibly from the simple manger to His profession as a carpenter, His pulpit on a boat and His destiny hanging upon a tree.

Those who make the Lord their Savior are like a tree:

Ps 1:1-3 *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall*

prosper.

Rev 22:14 *Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*

So this Christmas as you look at the tree, in whatever form, look past the decorations and remember Jesus our tree of life.

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUMPETS



I know I have written about this before, but I think in today's plethora of televangelists getting it wrong...the viewers get it wrong as well. Not to blame these ministers since Hebrew culture birthed the attitude that God used human emotions and recourse. We have the habit of bringing God down to our level rather than reaching His.

Before getting into the *trumpets*, which is *shophar* in Hebrew, let me clear up the word *wrath* for you. In English *wrath* means hot anger usually followed by unpleasant actions. In the Hebrew language *wrath* reflects any number of moods from displeasure or passionate outburst to grief and sorrow. God's *wrath* has always been reputed as hot anger with punishment to follow because these are the ways of mankind, however, mankind's ways and God's are vastly different: **Heb 3:9-10** *When your fathers tempted me, proved*

me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. This Scripture not only depicts God's *wrath* as grief but indicates that man's understanding of Him was in error.

Why would God grieve? God knows that when mankind falls, the enemy will pick up the cause and strike abusing God's children causing God's continual grief. Since the fall of man, the enemy has an open door for destruction to enter. Man not understanding God's great love, for which He was willing to die, accepts this destruction as punishment from God. Therefore we see God as having hot anger leading to punishment and often death and destruction. Satan is, of course, in the clear. We disregard Scriptures like: **Eph 4:26-27** *Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your*

wrath: Neither give place to the devil. 2 Peter 3:9 *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

God does not simply give us the Word to obey...He *is* the Word to obey. Looking at God in the flesh as Jesus, I ask you which of the Pharisees did He call fire down on for their treacherous ways? Even when He sat calmly fashioning a whip to drive out...**I repeat, drive out** the money changers there was no bloodletting or dead and maimed bodies to carry out.

If they were smart they would have had plenty of time to get out of the way having watched Him make the whip! It was no surprise attack by any means, and I would not call turning over tables the same as mass destruction. [Continue p. 5]

THE CHRISTMAS CATALOG

One of my fondest memories during the Christmas season was when the Sears Christmas Catalog came in the mail. My sister Tudy and I would lay across the bed on our bellies and look at all the pages in the toy section until the pages became loose. When we circled all the things we liked and initialed it we would browse the gift assortment of candy, nuts and cheese logs etc. We would play a game that if we could have anything on each page what would it be? I had more fun seeking treasures from that catalog than getting the presents Christmas day! I cannot remember everything I got in my childhood Christmas mornings, but I can remember how exciting it was to get and go through that Sears catalog! In that catalog we were asking for things that we had not as though it was already ours by our circling and initialing each item...**the substance of things that are not as though they are!**

In my adult Christian walk I have had many, many testimonies. I remember some but not all. What gives me the most pleasure is the Word of God which *sears* my heart with its treasures and page after page of my notes and circled promises having my initials. Some of the pages are loose and the cover faded yet all the promises are intact.

I found out that the pleasures of my childhood are still my same pleasures...just a different catalog! Sears pleased my eyes, dreams and wants, but the Word of God *sears* the heart revealing who I am and why I am. We do not

have to lose our excitement just because we mature. The maturity of our excitement should only increase as we increase in the LORD. My excitement is fueled each and every day with Him. Some people bore the heck out of their faith and all they have left is the reflection of their youth in the LORD as a memory instead their current experience. Let me tell you a truth that you do not have to give up that childlike glee due to age, for the Word says: **Matt 18:3** *Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.*

Growing up does not mean our faith must grow old. I invite...No, not I, but the LORD invites you and I to become as children in order to enter into all that God has for each of us. There are promises and revelations of enlightenment waiting for you to circle and initial for yourself.

One experience I will never forget changed my life. I was praising the LORD just standing in my family room. As I sang I was lifted up to what I can only call the balcony of heaven. I saw many people in white joining in worship with me. Then something happened that I cannot explain in an earthly understanding but the presence of God was so strong that all including me fell prostrate. Without a word spoken I knew I was to rise. As I stood up, the front of my adult body unzipped and fell away like a garment and a little girl walked out of it and forward. As a child I

walked to the throne of God. No one told me it was the throne, but I knew it. I only saw the bottom of the steps because it was like a cloud as the steps went upward, however, a large hand nudged me backward and I turned and saw the earth with children encircling it. Instantly I was afraid of going back because I knew the LORD was giving me a commission that I felt ill equipped to handle. He knew, without words, my fear and gave me two large angels to accompany me back. I found myself turned around and prostrate on the floor of my family room once again. I had no idea how I left myself standing and came back to myself laying prostrate, yet there was nothing vague about the experience. I did go on to teach children for 18 years and have continued in teaching Biblical principles, intercession, discipling adults in secondary Bible education and writing.

A memory of the Christmas Sears Catalog may have stirred me into writing this article, but if the article stirred something in you, it is time to unzip the old man and let the child out to enter into the Kingdom of God and all His treasures. Your faith can be new everyday no matter what your age.

To finish the Scripture in Matt 18:4-5 **Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.**

PURSUING THE GIFT

Prov 18:16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.
KJV I like the way the NIV reads this same verse: *A gift opens the way for the giver and ushers him into the presence of the great.*

Each person has a gift inside. They are as unique and individual as a fingerprint because it is placed in you by the very Finger of God. You do not have to be an excellent singer or one of the fivefold ministries to have a gift. Some people are very giving...that is a gift. Some people are sought out for their good counsel...that is a gift. Some people just have the ability to make others laugh...that is a gift. You may be the best friend anyone ever had...that is a gift. Jesus valued the time He had with His friends in Bethany and counted them as a gift.

The gift within you is what you do best with the least effort. It is not necessarily something that you would pick but something picked for you by your Creator.

Most often people chase their passion rather

than pursuing their gift. You cannot ever be ushered into the presence of greatness, through which your gift opens the way, by chasing your passion. I heard Steve Harvey, the comedian, say that he wanted to be a famous basketball player. He was passionate about the sport, but it was not his gift. His gift was making people laugh. No matter how he chased his passion of basketball, he could not even reach adequacy on his best day. Getting people to laugh came easy for him. He did not know at the time that God had given him that gift, and he used it in his immaturity in the wrong way. I have heard him preach recently, and he captured my attention not only with the Word but with his humor.

Sometimes the gift you possess, in its immature state, appears to be your greatest downfall. I will confess my gift was also my greatest fault. I loved to proclaim news. As a child, whatever I learned about anything or anyone, I repeated it just to see the reaction of surprise on the listener's face. This was most often used in the form of gossip from which I

had to abstain as I matured in my Christian walk. The more I obtained in the Word of God the less I had to abstain from gossip. I did not realize until years later that God placed a gift within me to proclaim the News of the Word, which could be in revelation and warning as well as the Good News of the Gospel and instruction. Just as a child, I love to reveal what I learn. **Hab 2:2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.**

"That he may run that readeth it" is my favorite part of the Scripture and what motivates me to write and make it plain on the tables!

Take the time to reflect on what you do well, whether it is sewing, hunting, fixing things, tinkering or cooking a meal...pursuing your gift will open a way...open doors that you never dreamed possible.

The two greatest days in anyone's life is the day we are born, and the day that we realized why.

HOW TO CONTINUE AFTER THE ELECTION

Since the election, Christians have wondered what we do next besides buckling our seatbelts for a bumpy ride. If you remember the lesson in the November Trumpet Sounds' article on Ezekiel 14 told that complete story of what would happen to an unrepentant nation, yet told also of Noah, Daniel and Job who were in it and saved by their righteousness. Looking at these three, who were in the midst of troubled times, gives examples to help us judge what we might face.

Starting with Noah, we see a man witnessing the Word of God all the while preparing an ark of safety. He did not lose his family for they were all saved and onboard so to speak. However, I cannot say that the troubled times did not affect him with questioning his faith and at times wondering if he might be crazy or the frustration of people not heeding his words. It was difficult enough for him to raise a family in perverse surroundings. Did his children ask him if they could do the same things the other parents let their children do? Did Noah have to reprimand his children with the rod of authority to steer them from bad habits? Was Mrs. Noah always understanding of Noah's call? Did the in-laws criticize Noah's efforts? They certainly were not on board even at the success of the project! Yet Noah persevered.

Then we see the second example in Ezekiel 14...Daniel. Daniel lived at a time of captivity to a government that he neither voted in nor could he vote out. Government officials op-

pressed his faith for their hatred of such Godly men of integrity. Even through the threat of becoming the next meal in the lions den, he kept his faith without fear of retribution. Daniel did not compromise his faith or hide it. Daniel took captivity captive through his witness and some changes were made in the government in the end. By Daniel's witness the leader of a pagan nation saw the power and strength of the only one true God. Daniel was not only victorious in conquering death but won many converts by that testimony.

Job's story is a bit different from both Noah and Daniel's. His children were a rebellious lot. We know this because he was always making sacrifices and praying for their welfare because of their careless and riotous living. Job had a wife who did not empathize with his grief in good, Godly counsel as well as friends who were misleading and confusing the issue. Then there was Job, the typical churchgoer, who did his best to follow his faith and was unusually pious for his generation yet unsure of the nature of his God. Because Job was unsure of his God he often cried, "Why me, God?" He spoke what he did not understand and all of his fear became manifest just as he had expected it would. Even though we see in the end of the story that he was rescued from Satan and from the words of his own mouth by God, we also see that he was one who suffered his way to final success.

Now we come to our own time and story.

How will we finish it out? **Matt 24:37 But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.**

As in the days of Noah, we see the corruption of the world, the lack of Godliness in government, and an earth getting ready to vomit out its tenants being sick to death by them. We will be pressed in on every side so that what is in us will come out revealing our true self, which could likely hand us a real surprise! Job was unprepared for his condition revealing that he was a fearful man who really did not know the God he served even though he did not curse God, which was the victory Satan was after originally.

Each of these men had victory over the events of their time. If you can relate to any of these examples should your faith be so tested by the hour, do you see the work you have ahead of you?

Understanding who God is and conquering fear by our faith as well as teaching our children by our good examples is the order of the day. Prepare like Noah, be as fearless as Daniel and change religious thought into concrete faith like Job who, in the end, discovered God.

The answer to how we continue after the election is to become the elect of God, as well as remembering the last part of Matt 24:37...**so shall also the coming of the Son of man be!**

GOD'S TIMING

What does the Bible say about God's timing? People use it all the time giving a reason to why people are not healed by saying that it may not be God's time.

Well, let's look at that for a moment.

God gives prophecy of *events* for a future time either just ahead or generations away. That is God's timing. God also has set a time for health and healing, prosperity and welfare, deliverance and rescue through salvation in this verse: *2 Cor 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, NOW is the accepted time; behold, NOW is the day of salvation.) 1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye WERE healed.*

While the prophecy of the Old Testament was of a future time of a Savior, the New Testament was the fulfillment of NOW being the time. Salvation is not some future time but is NOW for each person. Salvation is health to the sickly, healing to the maimed, prosperity to the poor, deliverance to the captive, and rescue to the sinner. God is not waiting to bring salvation, for it is NOW... accomplished...with Jesus' stripes we WERE...and if we WERE then I AM. God's clock works perfectly on the "NOW" time where salvation is concerned. Our clock may not be set to His

clock. Our clock is often times off and running slowly. We are slow to believe and our clock runs to the speed of our faith.

God has never said, "NO" to any of His promises because the promises in Him are yea and amen (2Co 1:20), yet they are contingent upon our being in God's Will. Do you see that God's Word is not an entitlement bestowed a people but given to the hungry hearts following the author of their faith.

I got some good revelation on this Scripture recently: *James 4:2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.*

- **WE choose** our mates...then in a troubled marriage we ask God
- **WE choose** a direction...then when we hit a dead end we ask God
- **WE see a field** and plant there...then when the field is barren we ask God
- **WE invest** in a business...When the business fails we ask God

Our choices have set our clocks backward to ask when the trouble is NOW instead of asking before trouble can begin. Remember Lot who chose the land of his home...right smack dab in Sodom. We forget to ask God before a decision is made or direction taken. Once we have a home in Sodom we can still ask, but we suffer the loss of not asking before our

bad decision. We author our lives and then ask God to help us finish it. The Scripture reads that Jesus IS the author AND finisher. Our turmoil is not in waiting for God's timing but the work of unraveling all that we have weaved together wrongly. I remember when my grandmother first taught me how to crochet. I was so happy when I had about a yard of crocheted work, but when I showed her she found all my mistakes which would weaken the project. She said the best thing to do would be to unravel all the mistakes and start again. I HAD SPENT TWO HOURS ON MY OWN WORKING and lost all that time to now start all over from the beginning! I could have done an inch and asked her if it was good, but I did the whole yard of many rows before I asked.

We weave our lives and as things begin to unravel we **then** ask God. It takes time to go back to the beginning and start again. It is not by God's timing but our own. You do not tell the manufacturer how the product works; the manufacturer tells you how it works, and if you abuse the product the guarantee is not honored. This is not God saying no, but man saying I know better than reaping the results.

God *does* have prophetic times for future fulfillment but salvation's work is here and now. You cannot trump God's Word with your experience or the experience of another. God's Word trumps everything.

COMMON DENOMINATORS

My fourth graders never seemed to like fraction problems unless the fractions already had common denominators. Without a common denominator the problem cannot be solved. Likewise in life, if we do not have the common denominator matching the Word of God our problem is not solved. We must first find our common denominator changing it to match the Word before working out the problem.

I had students who tried to pass off the problem unsolved just to get it done and go out to recess. Much to their dismay what they got back was a page with many red check marks and the words: CORRECT ALL ERRORS.

If we would get it right the first time, even though it may take us longer in the process for us to change the denominator of our thinking, we would not have to repeat the work over and over again so

many times. Faith is not an easy work. It takes practice and lots of it, because recess is calling us to take shortcuts, and boy do we like to play!

Either you will find your common denominator in the Word of God, or you will end up never seeing the playground for the problems encountered!

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUMPETS



God's heart was grieved and made a passionate outburst for His house of prayer.

Likewise, God is credited for all the destruction in Revelation. This is where we mistake the trumpets as *ushering in* destruction rather than *warning of* the destruction to come. The shophar or trumpet was used in early times chiefly for warlike purposes. It gave the signal "to arms" (Judg 6:34; 1 Sam 13:3; 2 Sam 20:1); warned of the approach of the enemy (Amos 3:6; Ezek 33:6; Jer 4:5; 6:1); was heard throughout a battle (Amos 2:2, etc.); and sounded the recall (2 Sam 2:28).

The forerunner to the Trumpets is in Rev 7:2-3, which reads: *And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.*

There are two distinct types of angels since this is a battle of two kingdoms: One is Michael and his angels sent by God to protect His children, and the other is the dragon and his angels sent to destroy the earth and mankind as well as affecting the sun moon and stars. As verse two of chapter seven opens we see one of God's angels holding back four of Satan's angels until all of the number of God's elect are sealed for protection. There are seven angels of God with trumpets to give warning and six destructive attacks of Satan and his angels. These entities are not visible but spiritual using men with a spirit of anti-Christ until the fifth seal when Satan is cast to earth in the form of a flesh and blood being limited to a body just as God was limited to a flesh body on earth as Jesus. Jesus came to reconcile us to God and Satan will come to reconcile us to him/her.

Men under the influence of Satan will start what appears to be nuclear war.

REVELATION 8:

[Vs 7] FIRST TRUMPET-WARNING BEFORE: fire burning the earth: *and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.*

[Vs 8-9] SECOND TRUMPET-WARNING BEFORE: one third part of the sea became blood; *And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.*

[Vs 10-11] THIRD TRUMPET-WARNING BEFORE: *the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.*

[Vs 12] FOURTH TRUMPET-WARNING BEFORE: *the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened*

After the fourth trumpet an angel of God cries woe, woe, woe to the earth and mankind which are in for even more, far worse than the first four trumpets... *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

REVELATION 9:

[Vs 1] FIFTH TRUMPET-WARNING BEFORE: Satan called Abaddon or Apollyon is cast to earth and unlocks the abyss letting out his angels...demons to torment the inhabitants of the earth, except for those sealed by God, which appears to be Israel and those belonging to Jesus.

[Vs 14] SIXTH TRUMPET-WARNING BEFORE: The four angels of Satan being held back by God's angel were released. *They went forth to slay 1/3 part of mankind [not the sealed children of God]. Neither did those of the world, who were not slain, repent for their sins nor call out to God.*

REVELATION 11

[Vs 15] SEVENTH TRUMPET-PROCLAIMING: *Rev 11:15*

There were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Six is the number of man and six trumpets warning of Satan afflicting man and earth, but the seventh is sounded of God and His victory over the enemy.

From this last election, America has again chosen a king rather than THE KING OF KINGS. We do not have any indication how long we have to prepare after we are warned, which means the minute our spirit picks up God's signal we must begin to prepare. Many in the church have been hearing and making ready, while others in the church are hearing but not applying what they hear or are not sure what to prepare. If you read the parable in Matt 7:24-27 you will see what happened to the part of the church which did not act upon God's warnings, because we read that they were all hearers of it.

Jonathan Cahn, author of The Harbinger was a trumpet...Obama's America 2016 by Dinesh D'Souza was also a trumpet and there are many others like Glenn Beck, Jim Bakker and this paper you are reading etc. Something is about to hit, and we have had the warnings. Are you prepared? Is your family prepared? If you have been part of the church not paying attention then it is time to wake up or find yourself on sinking sand holding a lamp with no oil in a dark day.