



TRUMPET SOUNDS

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ZAHAR PUBLISHING

JANUARY 2012 ISSUE

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ARK: THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Toward the end of every year I pray for insight of the New Year ahead. The singular word "Ark" came to me, and I reflected the Scripture: *For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Matt 24:38-39* The flood was a destructive force to all living creatures save those who were within the ark. Noah had food, water and family aboard along with all creatures who climbed aboard by twos etc.

Then there was a little baby, whose birth was to be terminated through a partial birth abortion performed by midwives via edict of the Egyptian Pharaoh. In Moses' case the ark saved him from destruction just as did Noah's; however, Moses was able to deliver a whole race of people instead of merely his family. In this case God prepared a heavenly food called manna and water from a rock.

As I studied, I saw that both of those ark's were sealed in "pitch". The interesting fact is that the word for *pitch* is כֹּפֶר kôpher from the root kâphar meaning *atonement, cleanse, disannul, forgive, be merciful, pardon, purge (away), (make) reconcile (-liation)*. These arks were sealed in atonement and forgiveness. All sin attracting destruction was

purged away as if Noah's family and Moses were pardoned from all destruction.

The OT *pitch* made the ark unsinkable just as Jesus' blood of the NT *pitch* makes us unsinkable. The ark is a place of safety just as if in a divine womb concealed to the vanishing point from all ruin. Jesus the Christ is our atonement through the *pitch* of His shed blood. We see over and over in accounts of Jesus walking *upon* the water and His *authority over* the sea in storms and great waves yet not sinking. When we were purchased by the blood, that blood became our *perfect pitch*/kaphar sealing us from destruction.

The third ark spoken of in the Bible was the Ark of the Covenant or God's presence among the tribes of Israel. The ark of the Covenant was the atonement seat of God...again seeing the word *kâphar/pitch*. Inside this Ark were:

- the broken tablets [10 commandments: Words of God] This water which symbolized eternal life was the Word of God which Jesus taught the woman at the well. **Ephesians 5:26** says of those in the church "so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word. . ." The Word of God is the pure water for which our souls thirst.

- manna [heavenly food] *John 6:32-33 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. John 6:35 I am the bread of life:*
- Aaron's rod [authority/ supernatural power]: *Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power and authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

The important thing to know in the year ahead is that **we are the ark of a new covenant sealed in the perfect pitch of Jesus' blood containing the tablets of God's Word written in our hearts, the manna/Bread of Life which is Jesus our redeemer and rod of His authority.** I believe that God is talking about the natural as well as the spiritual. The natural is nothing without the spiritual, for it is by the spiritual that loaves and fishes are multiplied. The spiritual, however makes pro-vision for the times ahead in the natural as well.

It is time to make sure that your ark is well equipped and sealed for the hour is upon us.

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Rom 12:1
I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

KJV

APPRECIATION LEARNED



One night at prayer the Lord began to speak to my heart and showed me two pictures. One was of a third world country and her people. The people were hungry, sick, oppressed and suffering lack. Inconvenience was such a way of life it went unnoticed. I could see that just one spark of something good would light up their world, and the good would overtake their condition because it would blot out all the bad. That little spark would grow into an ember of joy due to their dwelling upon the occasion so rare and priceless that they would hold onto it for a long time and not let it go.

The second picture was of a nation whose blessings were so abundant and constant in the lives of her people that those blessings went unnoticed. I could see a small black dot of something bad, that would make their whole world dark and the little bit of bad would overtake their abundance because it would blot out all the good. That little dot would grow into an inferno of depression due to their dwelling upon the occasion with such an intensity trumping all the blessings that now *seemed* so rare. That little black dot began to consume their every waking thought because they held onto it for a long time not letting it go until it festered into a mountain.

The poor, destitute people were still poor and destitute and the people of abundance still had their blessings, but the poor saw a light, and the blessed saw a cloud and it changed them. The poor looked up while the blessed looked down.

Can you tell which was the poorer and

which the more blessed?

Denny and I had the experience of living on a small Portuguese Island in the Atlantic. Terceira had two villages separated by mountains. The people lived life very poorly. Denny and I lived in Praia da Vitória the small fishing village. We were just starting our married life and had very little. I remember waiting for a water heater for three months because the base was out of them and would not get in another shipment for a while. Everything took a while to get over there. I would heat up water on the only heat used on the island...a small kerosene heater. Bathing for three months over a little plastic dish tub was the consequence. We had a little propane stove [camping stove], which had a small oven. Denny made an oven rack out of old metal hangers. Our curtains were made of old Air Force parachutes.

Because the Island was so small in a big ocean, the winds were extremely strong especially in the evenings cutting out all electricity usually about 5:00 PM until the next morning. We used kerosene lamps every evening. All of our light and heat was not without fumes! Great amounts of mildew grew from the walls as if someone squirted shaving cream all over them, so wall washing was constant.

In the night we would hear the sounds of rats trying to eat their way in through the walls. One night Denny's tennis shoes began to wobble back and forth. I thought one of the rats got through and was nesting in the shoe, but it was just one of their oversized roaches stuck and could not get

out once in.

The water from our sink was brownish, and you were never quite sure what was in it, but many of the people had worms, and the need for worm medicine was chronic. Needless to say we had an adventure in primitive living our first couple of years.

The Portuguese saw all Americans as rich. They did not have the money for kerosene thus had no heat. They had no cars. They were blessed if they had a cow drawn cart. What I saw as having nothing much to them was an abundance.

They could not afford to have doctors, so they had witches who made concoctions and potions. There were no dentists, but after so long they had little to no teeth with which to care.

Even though Denny and I were glad to be back in the states, we never forgot all the amazing times we spent there. One thing we took from the people and brought home with us was appreciation. They were appreciative for the smallest spark of something good and rehearsed the blessing for days or a lifetime, things we would not stop to notice.

People in America look beyond their blessings to see what they do not have in order to work to attain it. Once they have attained, they find the next thing that they do not have and work toward that. It is rather like the boy who complained about not having shoes until he saw a man with no feet.

Savor the blessings, or they might be given to someone more appreciative.

“SLOW OF HEART TO BELIEVE”

Reading Lu 24:1-32 we find believers reasoning their unbelief at the turn of events after Jesus' crucifixion. Before all of this they were healing the sick and delivering the oppressed, but now the believers are in...unbelief. Rather like today when something unexpected happens and believers find themselves caught up reasoning together in unbelief.

What changed for the disciples on the Emmaus Road was that they began to *listen* to Jesus who entered their walk unawares and encouraged their hearts with Truth, at which their conversation took a positive turn.

I hear more believers walk the talk of woe and unbelief. If we allow Jesus into the conversation, He has the opportunity to change our thoughts in the direction of enlightenment.

Just as Jesus called Lazarus out of the dark tomb of death, He can call us out of our dark despair into His marvelous light. However, the secret is to allow Him to speak while we do the listening.

Jesus' first words to these woeful disciples was: *O fools, and slow of heart to believe...Luke 24:25*

“Slow of heart” means *to be dull minded in our commitment of the Truth*. We are either committed to Truth or walk in the infidelity of our own reasoning.

So the next time the unexpected enters your life to trouble your thoughts...**DO NOT PICK UP THE PHONE** calling someone to walk the talk of woe with you. Let Jesus' Words show you the path and walk the talk of the believer. ***A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. Matt 12:35***



AS A VULNERABLE STRENGTH

As I prayed this morning, I began to ponder God's greatest attribute. I know that might sound heady of me to declare such knowledge since God is the creator of the universe and is amazing in His great feats, to think of one attribute greater than the rest, but I believe you will agree with me on this. Above His creativity, the miraculous, artistry, imagination, wittiness, execution of accomplishments, for which I cannot even find the words, there is one that outshines them all. God is Love. Everything God has ever done or will ever do is held together by His great love.

The next thought that is extremely difficult for us to wrap our minds around is that love, although the greatest strength, also has the ability to be the greatest vulnerability. Love's strength is also its weakness. God could have a weakness, you say? Three places God remarks that He repenteth: 1) over mankind in Genesis, 2) over a particular man in 1 Samuel, 3) over everything that He made to be good, which turned to evil in the book of Joel. That word *repenteth* is to be so sorry as to be inconsolable. If you think about it, though, it makes perfect sense. Can you imagine loving so much that when the love is not returned or is rebuffed how grievous it could be to the heart?

Look at Lucifer for a moment. Lucifer was loved, valued and favored unimaginably by God, yet rejected His great love and threw it back in His face. Not only did Satan stomp on God's heart, but this ungracious dignitary went after God's heart to destroy His Kingdom if it were possible. Satan mounted an attack against God's own children. You do not read that Satan is the accuser of any creation of God's other than His own children...night and day! (Rev 12:10)

God's love will not permit Him to go back on anything that He has given or promised, which is why Satan was not vaporized on the spot but continues to wrench God's heart in ways unfathomable. That great love that God *is* brought Him to earth to lay down His life for all those who needed deliverance from this diabolical enemy. Can you comprehend this divorce of Satan from God with the longest running custody battle ever in existence?

Now you can see why I say that God's greatest attribute is love because we cannot understand why God has not annihilated Satan.

We do not have God's capacity of love. We have but a miniscule trace not even seen microscopically relevant in comparison. God will not destroy Satan but will allow Satan *to earn a consequential end*. It is the same with God's own children. God wouldn't that one of us should perish...no, not even "a Hitler". We must earn the right to be destroyed, and Satan is a ready helper to aid the cause. As a matter of fact, God's mere dream of each personal existence placed us in His Book of Life (Ps 139:16). We must make a deliberate effort to be blotted out by not accepting the invitation to be saved from eternal death (Rev 3:5; Acts 3:19). You see God Himself has faith that we will chose life. That faith was birthed from His astounding love!

By God's unfathomable love, the earth was made with all her inhabitants. Out of all of this creation, God knows even when a bird falls to the ground! (Matt 10:29)

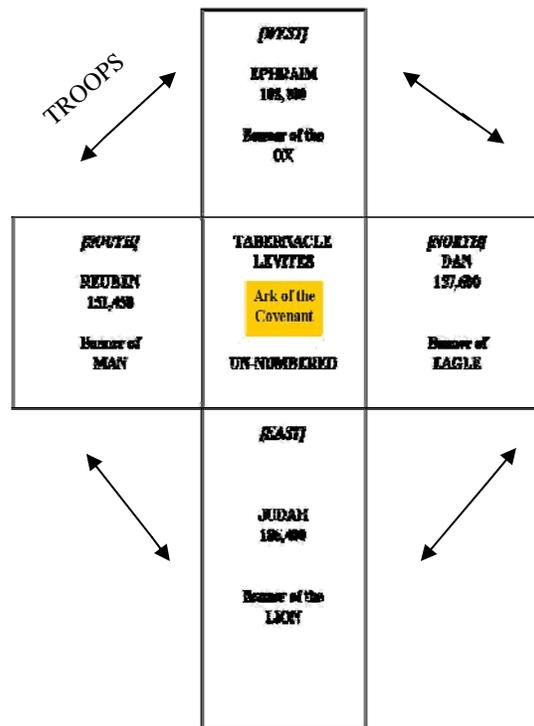
By God's love, we have *salvation* which in Greek is to say: *sōtēria rescue or safety to deliver, give health, salvation, to save, saving*. Rev 7:9-10 *After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.*

Why would all in heaven cry salvation to God? Rescue God? Deliverance to God? God saved us in order for us to save Him. God cannot take away what He gave to Satan, but His children have no such commitment! Just as God saved Noah in the ark and Moses in his ark, God's troops surround His Ark (Num 1-2) to save His divine presence. The troops surrounding the Ark of the Covenant was a physical shadow and pattern of the spiritual Truth of salvation. The four faces of the beast at the throne of God are the same troops that physically surrounded God's presence in the Ark of the Covenant. Notice the outlay of troops in the picture below which show the picture of salvation to God as well as mankind in conjunction also with Rev 4:6-7: *And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf/ox, and*

the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

[Pictured below are the four stations of three in each of the 12 tribes of Israel. The banners for each are the lion, the calf/ox, the man and the eagle. The eyes are all the numbered troops before and behind guarding the Ark of the Covenant.]

Love is a vulnerable strength, yet perfect love casts out fear, and fear is to be feeble. Though God has vulnerability through love, it is not to be confused with feebleness such as man may experience. Just as God is not feeble, He did not give us a spirit of fear but of power and love and a sound mind. His love brought our salvation, and our love takes salvation back to Him. As you read in the first article of this paper, God has made an ark of safety for His children, and we guard the safety of His Ark spiritually in the good fight of faith bringing salvation back to His Kingdom.





IDENTITY IN QUESTION

Identity theft is a serious crime, and those victimized by it have had the most precious thing stolen...their name. A good name in the wrong hands can tarnish its character. This is what happened to God as we can see from *Isa 14:13-14* *For thou [Satan] hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.*

We see the example of God's stolen identity throughout the Old Testament. Here is one good example:

2 Sam 24:1 *And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he *moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.*

1 Chron 21:1-2 *And Satan stood up against Israel, and *provoked David to number Israel. And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beer-sheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it.*

***to move or provoke: sùth to seduce: - entice, move, persuade, provoke, remove, set on, stir up, take away.**

This is but one and the same event. The problem is the confliction of identities: either the LORD *moved* David to number the troops or Satan *provoked* David into it. Whose spirit is

stirring up and seducing? Since we find later that David repented to God for the act, we conclude that it was Satan's provocation. David did not receive the message directly from either the LORD or Satan but from the seer Gad. Gad was also the one who told David that he had his choice of three calamities over the incident:

1. Three years' famine
2. Three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else
3. Three days of pestilence destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel.

1Ch 29:29 Now the acts^{H1697} of David^{H1732} the king,^{H4428} first^{H7223} and last,^{H314} behold,^{H2009} they are written^{H3789} in^{H5921} the book^{H1697} of Samuel^{H8050} the seer,^{H7203} and in^{H5921} the book^{H1697} of Nathan^{H5416} the prophet,^{H5030} and in^{H5921} the book^{H1697} of Gad^{H1410} the seer,^{H2374}

- Samuel the seer: #7203 רֹאֵה rō'eh: - vision.
- Nathan the prophet: #5030 נָבִיא nâbiy' a prophet or (generally) inspired man
- Gad the seer: #2374 חֹזֶה chōzeh active participle of H2372; a gazer: - [star-] gazer.

You can see the differences in these three men under David's reign. One has visions, another prophecies and Gad was a gazer pos-

sibly an astrologer reading the stars. Satan's own quote: *I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.* Gad read the message loud howbeit not clearly. The same voice prompting Gad was the same punisher. When an enemy wants to know the number of the opposition, it is for their ruin. Satan was more than destructive by enticing David to call into being his own form of destruction. Seventy thousand died through pestilence. In both places of this event's record, Satan stole God's identity so that it reads that God killed 70,000 innocent men just to punish David! Have you ever heard the exclamation "E*GADS"? Well, now you know from where it comes!

Jesus took back God's identity as we read in His prayer in John 17

- John 17:6 **I have manifested thy name** unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world:
- John 17:12 While I was with them in the world, **I kept them in thy name:**
- John 17:26 And **I have declared unto them thy name**, and will declare it:

Jesus cleared up the discrepancy by manifesting, keeping and declaring the name and character of the LORD and casting out the "wanna-be-god". Today if you have a question of identity, go straight to Jesus and measure the identity through Him.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

We have all, at some time, played Trivial Pursuit searching our brains for old, forgotten or familiar facts. It is an odd combination of words when you think about it. The word **trivial** means *unimportant, minor, insignificant, slight, trifling, petty, marginal, frivolous, and negligible*. The combination of those words in that definition shows a waste of time. **Pursuit** has more fervor in the meaning, which is: *chase, hunt, search, quest, detection, and tracking down*. So it is an odd mix. Who chases and hunts after the insignificant or unimportant? Answer: We all have!

You have heard the saying: Get a life. Getting a life is a trivial pursuit, since it is not a life we can purchase, but one which was purchased for us. In other words, it is not a life we can take, but one which was given us.

Many children and young adults chase after celebrity, fame and fortune, but it is the champions of faith that the world needs today. The opposite of a trivial pursuit is to seek God's Kingdom and righteousness for abundance on earth and everlasting life beyond this earth.

Celebrities and famous people do not equate happiness. We know this from all the celebrity drug and alcohol abuse, suicide, divorces, arrests or disorderly conduct. If they had arrived at fulfillment, why then all the addictions to alter their moods. These celebrities play the "bored" game of trivial pursuit because they are not living in their call. Their identity is obscured in dissatisfaction making them insatiable for what they do not possess or because they possess everything they wonder if that is all there is to life. They might have been champions for a greater Kingdom than the

"kingdumb" of the trivial.

You do not have to be a celebrity to play the Trivial Pursuit **bored** game. All you have to do is run your own life and make your own choices void of the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Why do you suppose that man continues to chase after the insignificant? Probably because man thinks he has a better idea of why he was created. When man believes that he was created for himself it becomes a shallow existence. It is only when we give our lives away that we become blessed and fulfilled. Man was placed on earth to serve. We know this for when God came to earth it was all that He did.

In this year ahead spend your life giving it away. The cost is priceless and the fulfillment great.



NEW WORLD ORDER

We would not know a “new world order” if it bit us in the nose. To know what is new in our world and government we would have to remember the old to see the change. You may remember the “Frog Boiling” yarn: *The boiling frog story is a widespread anecdote describing a frog slowly being boiled alive. The premise is that if a frog is placed in boiling water, it will jump out, but if it is placed in cold water that is slowly heated, it will not perceive the danger and will be cooked to death. The story is often used as metaphor for the inability of people to react to significant changes that occur gradually.* Monnet was a man who understood this process. He was considered to be the “father of Europe” and is regarded as the architect behind the European Union. Monnet used small steps behind the scene and under the radar for a determined outcome. He would take a step and get it to work...wait awhile, then take another step and get it to work...wait awhile, then take another step and so on and so forth! The stage was set so that when the time was right the determined outcome was realized and the birth of the European Union came into being. It is amazing what one can do with a small step and patience!

I remember that the word “humanist” or “secularist” was a force of antichrist working in our nation to break down the Christian fiber. They started out boiling hot and Christians jumped out of that pot. Then the humanist and secularist got smart and also called themselves moderate Christians. They did not change in values however, but less people jumped from that pot. Before they knew it, they had the flavor of the pot. People who had previously disliked carrots or peas, found them to be the combined flavor of the broth and ate them with everything else. Well, Friend, we started out a melting pot and now, in another way, I guess we still are.

I have a tendency to over salt the pot. Denny tells me all the time to watch how I salt or he will not eat what the pot has to offer!

Matt 5:13-14 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Have we lost our salt? Are we conforming to the pot? Has the world boiled away every Christian fiber except for the title we hold so dear?

I remember when Democrats and Republicans were very similar in thinking. But then, I remember too when we all thought planned parenthood was an organization to improve the lot of the unborn and gave to the cause.

We have a president now who touted the word Christian during his campaign as if he lived it on a regular basis. All the potted people cried, Alleluia, long live the king! Our Messiah is here!” His pay grade was not high enough to support innocent life and therefore stopped the ban on partial birth abortions. His pay grade was high enough for that decision!

Anyone with enough salt to see that this was not Christianity at work was considered a racist. “Why, he is a genius,” cried others until he declared that he had visited all of the 57 states and had but one more to go! Of course, he also compared America to the country of Europe. I had never heard of the country of Europe before. When speaking of treatable illnesses like asthma with the use of a breathalyzer, I realized I was not the one who did not understand.

Some of the potted people wondered at his appointments, since this “Christian man” was only appointing from the pot of humanist secularism. Then one fine day, our president did what no other past president dared. He called the United States of America a secular nation. He bowed to Muslim leaders and begged the forgiveness of our enemies who hated us, yet distancing from our Israeli allies.

Yes, we have come a long way, Baby! But, if I may,

I will add more salt to the wounded. This year’s pick for the GOP top poll leads none other than Ron Paul as of this writing before the Iowa caucus! Ron Paul thinks exactly like Obama as far as sitting with Hitler and talking him out of his world conquest! He cannot seem to understand that world chaos to Ahmadinejad is but victory ushering in the 12 Imam, which would be the equivalent to the return of Jesus to the Christian. Ron Paul does not understand that when the brotherhood of Arabs talk about “democracy” and “elections” that they are not using the American dictionary of the West to mean “freedom” and “human rights”, but the Sharia law, the antithesis of Western law, to power. This is not at all like the United States but the resurrection of a caliphate—which by nature exists to expand, including through jihad.

Dr. Safwat Hegazy of the Muslim Brotherhood made clear that his interest in seeing the “United Arab States” has less to do with Arab solidarity (nationalism) and more to do with Islamic allegiance (religion). As he gushed about how wonderful it would be for Arab nations to unite into one bloc, the secular as well as skeptical host interviewing him reluctantly agreed, “so long as the capital is Cairo,” that is, so long as Egypt’s integrity remains. To this, Hegazy replied: “No, I say the capital is Jerusalem, Allah willing.”

WAKE UP RON PAUL!!! I can only think that most all of his supporters are boiling frogs, but more likely due to smoking weed!

We had better all wake up, for we left the coming attractions to get a tub of buttered popcorn and coke and missed the revelation ahead. Climb out of the pot while there is still time. If you call yourself a Christian then you had better check your salt levels.