



# YAIY BEACON

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**TRUMPET BLASTS OF REVELATION  
THE CALM BEFORE THE NORM  
5 STEPS TO SPIRITUAL SURVIVAL**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Churchianity in general has not been faithful in following the Bible. Surprisingly, many of today's popular teachings and customs are not based in Scripture. We strive to return to the old paths of truth that have largely been ignored, and obediently follow in the footsteps of the Redeemer of Israel, Jude 3.

We observe the weekly Sabbath (on the seventh day) known as Saturday, just as did the Savior, Luke 4:16, as well as Paul and the Apostles, Acts 13:42-46; 17:2; 18:4.

We also call our Heavenly Father by His revealed, personal name Yahweh, which He says is His memorial name forever, Exodus 3:15. Most pastors, Bible scholars, and seminary students will acknowledge that Yahweh is the correct name of the Heavenly Father. The short form of His name, Yah, can be seen in many words, including the most popular hallelujah ("halleluYAH," meaning, "praise you Yah"). It is also found in the suffix of Biblical names like IsaYAH, (Isaiah), JeremYAH (Jeremiah), NehemYAH (Nehemiah), and ObadYAH (Obadiah).

Our membership comes from nearly all denominations and all walks of life. Most began searching for deeper truth when they learned that their former affiliation was teaching another Evangel from what they found in Scripture. We continue to search the Bible for deeper understanding. We believe that the Bible teaches a way of life through the commandments in the Old Testament and from the same example of obedience given us by our Savior in the New Testament.

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### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Mission and purpose is to reach people around the world with the message of the revealed personal Names of Yahweh and His Son Yahshua, the Messiah, as well as teaching the salvation truths that have been neglected for centuries.

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# TRUMPET BLASTS OF REVELATION

**What are the seven trumpet blasts in Revelation all about?** We'll attempt to answer that in this article.

Almost like an afterthought, of all the tribulation which was revealed in the "four horseman of the Apocalypse" (as they've been called), and all seven seals had been opened, came to silence prior to the announcement that 7 trumpet blasts were now going to be blown. Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to blow them, Revelation 8:6 ESV.

In addition, and in between, we also see a glimpse of the future redeemed (i.e., those who are sealed, the saints) of Yahweh. This would indicate a pre-trib rapture is not an accurate teaching.

## Discernment is Needed

Revelation in some areas is disjointed, while other parts are in chronological order, other parts are paralleled with one another. This appears to be the case when we look at the Seven Trumpets compared to the Seven Bowls which are written about afterwards.

One can also make a comparison of Matthew 24 and the first four seals of the Seven Seals.

Silence in heaven, mentioned in Revelation 8:6 in preparation of the trumpets being blown, is evidently not a good thing, but rather Yahweh preparing to act:

*Be silent, all flesh, before Yahweh, for He is aroused from His holy habitation! Zechariah 2:13 NKJV.*

In thinking about some sort of order of events we see in the tribulation account, we have to compare and consider. Others have done so and think that this silence prior to the trumpet blasts is significant and at least separates the seals from the trumpets and bowls.

## Tribulation

7 Seals

## Day of Yahweh

7 Trumpets and 7 Bowls

Even though this separation has been shown, there is evidence to believe they all belong to one another. If we take a CMYK method of layering four colors together to get a clear picture in printing, we can similarly layer the Seals, Trumpets and Bowls on top of each other to see that they work together.

John, in fact, wrote what he was witnessing at the beginning of the book of Revelation. As he said, he found himself in the “Day of Yahweh” which is great tribulation. We can read of it prophesied in the book of Joel, as well:

*Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of Yahweh is coming. It is close at hand — a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was in ancient times nor ever will be in ages to come,* Joel 2:1-2 NIV.

### **What Army?**

Yahweh is sending an army? What army? Is this like what we’ve read about when Israel was under siege by the Aramean army and the prophet Elisha and his servant saw Yahweh’s army of fiery horse drawn chariots filling the surrounding mountains? In 2 Kings 6:17 NASB it says, *Then Elisha prayed and said, “O Yahweh, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” And Yahweh opened the servant’s eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

While this had to have been an impressive sight, there may be one that will also be just as impressive. It’s related in the 6th Trumpet blast which we’ll take a closer look at in a little bit, but first let’s look at the first one and go through these one by one.

### **The First Angel**

*The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up,* Revelation 8:7 KJV.

Hail and fire are reminiscent of what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah. Today there is plenty of evidence for that event having taken place in the areas near the southern tip of the Dead Sea.

The sulfur still exists and it’s more of a white sulfur, than yellow, which indicates it has been involved in much more extreme heat. Some of the sulfur still readily burns when lit, but much of it is ash. The sand and surrounding materials all became a fine ash material in much of the area.

Interesting also is that the sulfur that is still intact appears to have imbedded itself in the ground at a 45-degree angle, indicating it had been airborne and had not originated from the ground itself.

Again, Revelation 8:8 says that the hail and fire were cast upon the earth. It also says blood, which may just be the way the Apostle John is able to describe what he is seeing in his vision, as he describes, being in the Spirit on the “Day of Yahweh.”

Blood, of course, is red and is usually seen in a liquid form. Imagine a fiery mixture of hail, fire and blood falling to the earth and you have something that is going to grab everyone’s attention in a dramatic fashion.

John also points out that a third of the trees were burned up, but “all” of the grass will be burned. Not total destruction, but then again this is only the first trumpet blast.

In reviewing this we can see it is literally within the seventh seal in which this was broken. If there is a timeline here then the trumpets may be coming at a faster rate than the previous seals which are relating prophetic judgment. We’re not positive, but when it happens, everyone will know. And, we all know this for sure, all the earth’s grass has not burned up yet. So, we’re still looking for a future event.

We were asked recently why we don’t talk about prophecy more often and I think the answer is it’s hard at times to understand let alone to explain it. We’d do well to heed the Apostle Peter concerning these prophecies in Revelation and elsewhere in Scripture:

*But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from Elohim, 2 Peter 1:20–21 NASB.*

It's easier for us to focus on areas of Scripture that tell us how to live and are helpful and clear to understand as we also refute wrong traditions and teachings. Everything from pagan sourced worship to just plain error in understanding Yahweh's Word. There is certainly enough of that to focus on and keep us busy until Yahshua returns.

Still, it's good to look and consider these areas of Scripture every so often and consider what is still ahead of us.

## The Second Angel

*And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood, Revelation 8:8 KJV.*



The first thing that comes to mind is a large meteor coming down and going into one of the oceans, but that appears to come into play with a future trumpet. What is this one being described?

This has been brought up before, but this meteor or asteroid could be high in iron content. And, once it hits the water, the chlorophyll in the algae could react with the iron turning to a red color, the color of blood. In a biology text book called *Life on Earth*, 7th edition, it says under the heading, "How is our red blood related to chlorophyll?"

"Chlorophyll is responsible for the beautiful green color of the plants around us, but did you realize that a molecule very similar to

chlorophyll is also responsible for the red color of your blood? The chlorophyll molecule has a complex ring structure that binds a magnesium ion in its center. This basic structure is known as a porphyrin ring. A porphyrin ring is also at the heart of a molecule called heme, which carries oxygen from our lungs and delivers it to cells throughout our body. However, instead of magnesium, heme binds to an iron ion in its center. Heme also lacks the long 'tail' that is present in chlorophyll. In our red blood cells, each heme molecule is bound to a protein called globin, forming hemoglobin. Heme absorbs yellow and green light, so it appears red, giving our blood its characteristic deep crimson color." (Copyright © 2003 Prentice-Hall, Inc. A Pearson Company)

Reading further about this second trumpet blast, it says, *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, Revelation 8:9 KJV.*

If this is a meteor, it's still the size of a mountain. And that is evidently large enough to cause at least a third of all sea life to die.

Interestingly enough, there is said to be a third of the ships also destroyed. This may be a larger number than we may normally think about. If you look at the oceans and think of the ships on it at any given time, there are a lot, but what if all went out to sea that are currently docked. Then, you'd have quite a few at sea.

Why would all be out at sea though? For the sake of survival, no doubt. If everything is burning on land, the next best thing is to fill up the ships and boats with supplies and head out to the water. But that will not save them.

Have you ever had one of those days when one bad thing happens after another? You get bad news, and then turn around only to be given more bad news? This is what is described for those that long for the "Day of Yahweh":

*Woe to you who long for the day of Yahweh! Why do you long for the day of Yahweh? That day will be darkness, not light. It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear; as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. Will not the day of Yahweh be darkness, not light — pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? Amos 5:18-20 NIV.*

Question: “Who is longing for the ‘Day of Yahweh?’” Is this speaking prophetically to those that think they are waiting for the “day of the Lord” which is presented by most to be the day Yahshua returns? Could be. They think they will be removed by a so-called rapture, but from what we see in Yahweh’s Word, such a rapture or removal from all of this tribulation is not foretold (prophesied) to happen. Read our mini-study, *Is the Rapture Biblical?*

### The Third Angel

*The third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters. The name of the star is called Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter, Revelation 8:10–11 NASB.*

In Revelation 8:8, something the size of a mountain was burning when it entered into the atmosphere. Something like a meteor.

This star mentioned in verses 10-11 may be something similar to a meteor, but more likely a larger asteroid. The point is, this one is big and bad. The Greek word *megas* is used which is similar to mega, meaning mammoth or extra-large in size. Bigger than a mountain and made up of some sort of composition, which allows it to burn extremely bright or at least appear to be bright like a torch.

It has been pointed out that the composition of sulfur found at the Dead Sea was a particular sulfur, not the natural kind we find on earth. It was almost 100% pure sulfur, whereas sulfur normally found is only about 45% pure.

Meteors, as we understand, are the residual rocks that come off of a comet. Could this bright Wormwood star, as it is described, be the actual comet hitting a location that effects many rivers and springs of water? Could part of its composition be sulfur, or even magnesium, which is a metal that burns especially bright and hot? At roughly 3600 Fahrenheit, magnesium shines brighter than the sun.

There are other metals that can also react with water and most likely cause them to be bitter like wormwood, such as potassium or lithium. Potassium, it turns out, is very reactive to water and has to be stored in oil because of the moisture in the air affecting it. Throw a little sulfur in the mix and it would be a nasty cocktail in water.

They say a comet’s core is about 6 miles in diameter with ice and rock and minerals surrounding it making the diameter larger than the earth, in some cases. If only the core hit anywhere on earth, it wouldn’t be good.

The fact is, though, asteroids which make up the large rocks circulating between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, in the asteroid belt, have bumped or even smashed into each other. They have gone into a trajectory out in space before and hit this planet in the past. In

recent history, there have been rogue asteroids, which do find their way near the earth.

In thinking about this, when you take a hammer and hit a rock you produce various, sizes. You could take two big rocks and smash them together to get the same effect. It appears that this may be what the first three trumpets are all about. The movies and science have shown us how this can happen. Would they have known this in the 1st century? It’s just additional evidence of Scripture being inspired.

Scientists tell us such rocks are already on their way here. One such asteroid, which they say is as large as two football fields put together, is called 2004MN4, also named Apophis. It’s named for a “god of destruction,” which looks something like a side-winding snake. Its trajectory has been confirmed to be on its way to earth and will come closer to earth than some of the existing satellites that currently in orbit giving us GPS and other information. This Apophis is said to pass by us on Friday the 13th, April 2029.

The scientists say it will not hit the earth. However, there is a possibility that if it comes into contact with what they call a gravitational key hole or tube trajectory of the earth’s



gravitational pull, it will drag it into a path which will cause it to come back to earth in exactly 7 years and actually hit the earth, on April 13th, 2036. Of interest, some believe that 2037 will be a Jubilee year.

Could it be that this will be part of the trumpet blasts of Revelation unfolding to usher in Yahshua's return? How fast it will unfold we don't know, but it's interesting, nonetheless.

This Apophis was said not to have gotten the attention it may have warranted when it was discovered, because at the same time it was discovered nearly 250,000 died in 14 countries from a tsunami.

Backing up to the first trumpet blast. What's the effect of the first hail with fire thrown down to the land? Fire, smoke (in fact, a lot of smoke), even from what has since been created with the incoming mountain and star (as they're called). This brings us to the 4th trumpet blast.

### **The Fourth Angel**

*The fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were struck, so that a third of them would be darkened and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way, Revelation 8:12 NASB.*

There may be something else which will

happen to cause this, maybe some super volcanoes, one of which is in **Yellowstone National Park**, Wyoming. It could also be from all that has already happened with the first trumpet blasts which had occurred (ultimately, has yet to occur).

The park is a beautiful location in the United States, but it is a sleeping volcanic monster. The Grand Prismatic Spring has a walkway in which tourist can walk to get a closeup view.

In another area of the park are the upper terraces of what is called the Mammoth Hot Springs. These are breathtaking areas which clearly show the volcanic nature of the park.

This is why you have spring waters that blow up from areas, such as Old Faithful, as they intermittently blow up water from the intensity of the heat from just underneath the surface.

Also underneath the surface is a large balloon of unseen molten lava, though it has been detected with the aid of electronic radar imaging. The thing about this balloon of molten magma is that it is getting bigger; so big, in fact, that it has moved a lake partially into surrounding trees, putting many of them in standing water.

The scientists believe this super volcano could theoretically erupt in our lifetime. If the trumpet blasts of Revelation are seen in our



lifetime, then super volcanos like this will most likely blow forth. Making an already bad situation worse.

In rereading Revelation 8:12 NASB, it says, *The fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were struck, so that a third of them would be darkened and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.*

It says the third of the heavenly bodies were struck. We can understand this as a way of saying that things, which have already happened, are now causing the skies to be darkened.

One scientist said that the magnitude of one asteroid hitting the earth would be comparable to us taking all the nuclear bombs and piling them up in one location and detonating them together.

One can imagine how a third of the trees could be burned up, if this hit a large land mass, with the shockwave traveling about 2000 miles an hour out from the epicenter wrapping itself around a third of the planet.

We did see firsthand, not too many years ago, a string of icy rocks from a comet. They were torn apart by the gravitational pull which ended up slamming into Jupiter, causing giant nuclear-like explosions to rise from the planet. The comet was called Shoemaker Levy-9. Some of the plumes of fiery smoke were, by the way, larger than the earth and made dark blotches of lingering smoke which lasted for months afterwards.

Craters were left on Jupiter, and there are even some small ones here on the earth. One measures almost 200 miles in diameter.

### **Another Possibility**

There is also another possibility which could cause a 3rd of the sun, moon and stars to be darkened. For all intent and purposes, as amazing as it sounds, there are giant laser beams going off in the universe. For each one we can see there are an estimated 300 we can't see and they travel thousands of light years, searing whatever is in their path with flesh melting radiation.

They are bursts of extreme energy produced by mega stars (any that are at least 20 times

larger than our sun), which are dying and have collapsed into a black hole. The energy produced by the gamma ray holds the amount of energy our own sun would produce over its entire life, which is estimated to be about 10 billion years.

Mega star gamma bursts are so strong that the strength of the black hole cannot contain them, so it escapes from two opposing ends of the rotating implosion of the star. Energy released as jets along the axis of rotation forms a gamma ray burst that lasts from a few milliseconds to minutes.

Scientists point out that such an event within several thousand light years of earth could disrupt the biosphere by wiping out roughly half of the ozone layer, creating nitrogen dioxide, potentially causing mass extinction.

One rotating binary star system about 8000 light years away called Wolf-Rayet R 104, has two stars, both of which are thought could produce a supernova and therefore gamma rays.

In addition, while some think that an asteroid may have caused the mass extinctions of the dinosaurs on earth, others are thinking it may have in fact been a gamma ray.

It is interesting to look at the parallel account of the 4th bowl that is poured out. It says the following:

*Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the Name of Elohim who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory, Revelation 16:8–9 NKJV.*

The sun, indicates our sun, so would a gamma ray hitting our sun cause it to heat up? It is interesting that it says "men were scorched with great heat."

There are just too many unanswered questions to know for sure what will cause these things, but under the direction of Yahweh's guiding hand, all these things which are written in His Word will take place as Bible prophecy has already been proven 100% accurate up to our time.

Going on with the 5th trumpet blast of Revelation, we read:



## The Fifth Angel

*Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him. He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit, Revelation 9:1–2 NASB.*

This mentions a star that had fallen, which may go back to the 3rd Trumpet blast. It also mentions the smoke of a great furnace, which sounds like it could be describing a super volcano of some sort.

A small volcano which erupted in March of 2010, in Iceland, emitted a tremendous amount of ash into the atmosphere. Suffice it to say, this was a small ash eruption and would pale in size to a super volcano. Scientists think super volcanoes can eject 1000 times more volume than typical volcanoes we've had in the last couple of hundred years. It could very well be a super volcano that the Apostle John was seeing in his vision of the future tribulation and there are about seven around the globe they've been able to identify.

We've seen that the start of the trumpet blasts of Revelation are clearly showing a type of meteor shower hitting the earth and then a larger meteor with them, followed by a large asteroid or even the core of a comet. This is just the kind of stuff that we see in the movies, but is based on some science. The next part, however, gives something else to consider.

## Stinging Locust

*And out of the smoke came forth locusts to the earth, and there was given to them authority, as scorpions of the earth have authority, Revelation 9:3 YLT. To a certain extent, we can understand the locust coming forth from the earth. They can actually hibernate and come forth in swarms.*

Half of this country was covered in swarms of locusts so thick that they actually looked like a black plague was sweeping over the country. Yahweh saw fit to kill them off, but as late as the

early 1800s they were destroying everything in their path by eating all that was green. Not too many people are aware of this.

But Revelation 9:3 appears to not be speaking of actual locust, because these things don't end up eating anything. While Yahweh can cause them not to eat, this could very well be speaking of an actual army of something else altogether, and possibly something we've not even seen before.

*They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of Elohim on their foreheads. They were not allowed to kill them but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes, Revelation 9:4–5 NIV.*

While the earlier trumpet blasts of Revelation appear to be physical manifestations of natural occurrences guided by Yahweh's direction, this could actually be more of a demonic release upon mankind.

We understand that Satan had the ability to afflict boils and sores on Job with Yahweh's permission, but was not allowed to kill him. And Yahshua said it was in fact Satan who was the cause of a woman's physical ailment for 18 years of her life (Luke 13:11-16). So, it would be no mystery if the demons would be able to also inflict similar damage to people, if allowed to do so.

Further descriptions of this army are given here:

*The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared to be crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions. They had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle. They have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails is their power to hurt men for five months, Revelation 9:7–10 NASB.*



## Helicopters?

There have been suggestions that these are descriptions of current fighting helicopters. If you were the Apostle John, never having seen a military helicopter, how would you describe it?

Maybe the blades turning look like hair, and the sound would certainly be like chariots of many horses. If you could see in the cockpit you might see just the face of a man. The tails with stingers may be describing the rockets being shot from underneath. If these helicopters were together you might describe them as locusts flying around. One could even explain the teeth of lions with some of these helicopters of war.

Concerning the ability to hurt men, but not kill them, it might be biological or chemical warfare being put into play. With divine protection put on Yahweh's people, these things would not have any effect.

After five months, the chemicals or whatever it is, could effectively lose its ability to do further harm. These are just some considerations and ideas.

However, if it's actual demons then the following verse would make sense.

*They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon, Revelation 9:11 ESV.*

Those names both hold the meaning of destroyer. And, who is the one called a destroyer? That is none other than Satan himself.

Accordingly, then, these locusts came out of the smoke from a bottomless pit and their king is Satan. The smoke might therefore be a figurative description of Satan's spirit or at least influence from his dark spirit, which even affects mankind (Eph. 2:2).

In defense that the 5th trumpet blast of Revelation may indeed be speaking of actual men, rather than demons, there are some parallel comparisons that can be made from the book of Joel, chapter two, and the book of Revelation,

chapter nine. But the comparison of those may actually be better made with the 6th Trumpet blast of Revelation, rather than with the former one.



## The Sixth Angel

*And the sixth messenger sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before Elohim, saying to the sixth messenger who had the trumpet, "Release the four messengers, those having been bound at the great river Euphrates." And the four messengers, those having been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. And the number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million, and I heard the number of them, Revelation 9:13-16 TS.*

This appears to be the mighty army referred to in Joel 2:1-2 which we had looked at earlier. Notice: *Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of Yahweh is coming. It is close at hand — a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was in ancient times nor ever will be in ages to come, Joel 2:1-2 NIV.* Going on to verse 3, TS, *Ahead of **them** a fire has consumed, and behind **them** a flame burns. Before **them** the land is like the Garden of Eden, and behind **them** a desert waste. And from **them** there is no escape.*

This is different than those who were not to harm the grass, trees or any green thing in the previous trumpet blast. Though, the whole meaning of this verse could be changed if we replace the word "them" with "it," which some translators have done. Reading from *Young's Literal Translation*, *Before it consumed hath fire, and after **it** burn doth a flame, As the garden of Eden is the land before **it**, and after **it** a wilderness — a desolation! And also an escape there hath not been to **it**.*

If you read it that way, that makes it the "Day of Yahweh" which leaves a desert waste after burning everything in its path.

There is lot to consider and many times we

just have to say, “Well, it could be this way or it could be that way.” In the end, it is Yahweh’s way that counts and His will which will be done. If this is literally a 200-million-man army, though, we have to ask, “Who is it?”

### **200-Million-Man Army**

It’s a people to the east, and if you consider who it is that is really wanting to end Israel’s existence, it’s not hard to know where to look. Just look at Israel’s neighbors to the east.

Iraq 25.3 million(m), Saudi Arabia 26.4m, Iran 67.3m, Afghanistan 29.6m, Pakistan 157.5m. That’s over 300 million right there, send up Indonesia and add them and you’re well over 500 million to the east of the small land called Israel.

It’s conceivable that a 200-million-man army could be gathered, especially if Muslims gathered from India and the other areas. Even China’s Muslim population makes up 1 out of every 10 people. Could anymore be added to the count? How does Gog from Magog play out in all of this?

### **Gog from Magog**

*You will come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army. You will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I vindicate my holiness before their eyes, Ezekiel 38:15–16 ESV.*

The timing of the 6th trumpet blast appears to coincide with Gog from Magog, otherwise known as Armageddon. The battle fought at Megiddo (Rev 16:12) a city in the valley of Jezreel. Could Russia be the uttermost parts of the north?

It looks like it on a map, but Turkey, as well as, Syria are also north. Those coming from the north and with those coming from the east, as a battle plan, would be an Army general’s dream team. Israel would be left with few options for escape as Egypt is not really Israel’s friend, either.

In Israel, on a map, between the Sea of Galilee

and the Dead Sea, we see the valley of Jezreel toward the left and the city of Megiddo. This is the location of Armageddon, as it’s often referred to. It also speaks of all nations coming against Israel (Zech. 12:3). And what happens when the armies converge on Israel?

### **The Seventh Angel**

We read in Ezekiel 38:18–23 NKJV, *And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel, says Yahweh Elohim, that My fury will show in My face. For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains, says Yahweh Elohim. Every man’s sword will be against his brother. And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am Yahweh.*

This appears to be the timing of the seventh trumpet blast of Revelation and the conclusion of the “Day of Yahweh” which ushers in Yahshua the Messiah and King.

*Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Master and of His Messiah; and He will reign forever and ever;” Revelation 11:15 NASB.*

Skipping down to verse 19, *And the temple of Elohim which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.*

This parallels Ezekiel, which we’ve just read, showing the timing is the same. When it is said

and done, Yahshua comes. *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed,* 1 Corinthians 15:52 TS. Indeed, a great day that will be.

*On that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south,* Zechariah 14:4 NIV.

It is the light at the end of the tunnel and a new beginning on earth, one in which the law will go forth from Zion and the Word of Yahweh from Jerusalem, of which His kingdom will have no end.

In Isaiah 2:4 NIV, it says, *He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.*

It will be a time to rebuild; a time to rest; a time to reflect on Yahweh and His ways. What better time than now to prepare for that time ahead of us, to be the Bride (saints, elect, first fruits) who will rule with the coming King.

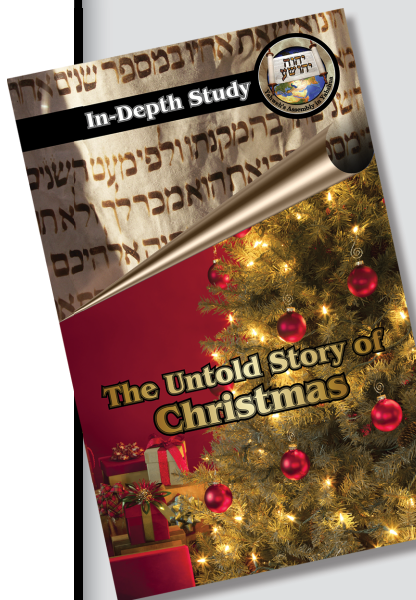
Beforehand, however, is tribulation like this world has never seen before. It is called the “Day of Yahweh,” and the trumpet blasts of Revelation are a partial explanation of it.

- Elder David Brett

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## THE CALM BEFORE THE NORM

*But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Master so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, "Peace and safety;" then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3.*

Students of Scripture, and secular prognosticators agree — international tensions that have, and are, laying siege against the peace of humanity cannot much longer prevent the impending apocalypse. The clear revelation spoken by the Savior Yahshua in Matthew, chapter 24, provide to some whose understanding is opened; who have their senses exercised to discern the times and the seasons, where we are on the eschatological calendar. Consider:

- Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars;
- Nations shall rise against nations, and kingdoms against kingdoms;
- There shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in diverse places;
- False messiahs and false prophets shall rise, and deceive many with great, lying signs and wonders;

- Lawless shall abound; evil shall worsen; unrighteousness shall increase;
- This Way shall be persecuted, hated of all nations for His sake;
- The abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, and reiterated by the Apostle Paul in 2 Thessalonians, chapter 2;
- The powers of the heavens shall be shaken: the sun, darkened; the moon, failing to give its light; stars, falling from heaven and all, before the coming of the great and notable day when King Yahshua shall appear in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory and his hosts, with a great sounding of a trumpet, shall gather together His elect.

Nevertheless, among men,

- Who "willingly are ignorant" (2 Pet. 3:5);
- Who because of being alienated from Life, their hearts are blinded; their understanding, darkened; their hearts hardened, so they cannot hear His Voice (Eph. 4:18; Psa. 95:7, 8);
- Who because of consciences become seared with a hot iron, (1 Tim. 4:2).

They have given themselves over to running to excess (1 Pet. 4:4) and so, when presented with the Message of Redemption, Salvation, and Deliverance, they instead protest, saying, *Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as [they were] from the beginning of the creation,* 2 Peter 3:4.

Indeed, because sentence against their evil works, conceived of reprobate minds given over to unrestrained imagination and invention, is not executed speedily, their hearts are full set in them to do evil (Eccl. 8:11).

The other, however, are giving heed to the Master's instruction and taking heed to themselves, lest the darkness of those days should overtake them as a thief (1 Thess. 5:4). Today, now in a time accepted, they are assuming to themselves, the Whole of Spiritual Armor — Truth, Righteousness, the Evangel of Peace, Faith, Salvation, Prayer and Supplication — that in having done all to stand now, they may in the evil day, stand and withstand, all the fiery darts of the wicked one (2 Cor. 6:2; Eph. 6:13-18).

They're neither sleeping, nor drunken with excess, as the most of humanity, but watching... and praying; laying up for themselves, treasure in heaven, that they might be accounted worthy to escape all these things that are coming upon the earth (1 Thess. 5:6, 7; Luke 21:36; Matt. 6:19). Yes, redeeming the time, for the days are already evil; watching...and praying, lest they should fall by "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life": snares, subtly prepared by the adversary that has quite already, overcome and pierced the most of the species through with many sorrows, before — without the Grace of Contrition during the space given them for Repentance — they are drowned in

destruction and perdition (Eph. 5:16; 1 John 2:16; 1 Tim. 6:10, 9; Rev. 2:21).

As the five wise virgins who know neither what hour, nor what day, the bridegroom is coming, they're readied...even at the midnight hour, with oil in their lamps and wicks trimmed (Matt. 25:1-14).

So, for us who believe this report, what is the takeaway? Chiefly,

- Coming out and being separated from all that offend, (2 Cor. 6:17);
- Marking and avoiding them that cause division and offense, (Rom. 16:17);
- Withdrawing one's self from them that walk disorderly and keeping no company with them, (2 Thess. 3:6; 1 Cor. 5:11);
- Setting no wicked thing before one's eyes and abstaining from the appearance of evil, (Psa. 101:3; 1 Thess. 5:22);
- Discharging one's whole duty: keeping commandment and fearing Yahweh, (Eccl. 12:13);
- Proving what is His good, and acceptable, and perfect will: Working out one's salvation with fear and trembling; giving diligence to make one's calling and election sure; earnestly contending for the faith, and working righteousness, (Rom. 12:1-2; Phil. 2:12; 2 Pet. 1:10; Jude 3; Acts 10:35).

*He that doeth these things shall never be moved. On such the second death hath no power,* Psalms 15:5; Revelation 20:6.

- Elder John Reece



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## FIVE STEPS TO SPIRITUAL SURVIVAL

A survival magazine someone had given to me years ago highlighted an article on the *Five Steps to Survival in the Wilderness*.

What I would like to do today is reference the author's points, but put a spiritual application to each. So, today, we'll address in this article at the Five Steps to Spiritual Survival.

The five steps presented in the magazine were, as follows.

1. Assess Risk
2. Stay Calm
3. Prioritize
4. Be a leader
5. Stay Positive

### **Assess Risk**

First we have to recognize the truth, that we are actually in a wilderness of sorts and that the guide for survival is actually the written Word of Yahweh. Believing that the Bible is inspired from Genesis to Revelation and fearing the One who inspired it is the beginning of wisdom, but belief alone is not enough. *The fear of Yahweh is*

*the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments; His praise endures forever, Psalm 111:10 NASB.*

When we hear that Yahweh expects us to live by a certain standard. That is, by His instructions He lays out for us. We can then start to understand how our lives were contrary to His ways of living; we can then start using His Commandments, statutes, and laws, as a compass and find true north; we can then start to walk in the right direction, in righteousness (Psa. 119:172). We, of course, find the Son of Yahweh living according to this standard, perfectly, without any sin at all (Heb. 4:15). He points us in the right direction. Yahshua says:

*But seek ye first the kingdom of Yahweh, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you, Matthew 6:33 KJV.*

If you're in the wilderness and lost, what do you need? Shelter, food, clothing, etc. We are assessing the risks in the wilderness and thinking about these things, but Yahshua is pointing us in the direction we should go. We are looking towards Yahweh's Kingdom and seeking His righteousness. What is righteousness; what is the truth?

*Your righteousness is everlasting and Your law is true. Trouble and distress have come upon me, but Your commands give me delight. Your statutes are always righteous; give me understanding that I may live. I call with all my heart; answer me, Yahweh, and I will obey Your decrees, Psalm 119:142–145 NIV.*

From the heart, seeking Yahweh and what He wants from us, is paramount. He wants obedience from the heart (Deut. 5:27-29). And this is granted in the New Covenant, through His Son and through His Spirit (Jer. 31:31-33; Heb. 10:15-18). Accomplished by Him as we submit to His Spirit and His ways in the body of Messiah.

*I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them, Ezekiel 36:26–27 NKJV.*

“*I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*”

- Ezekiel 36:26

This is still in process of being done; it started at Pentecost with the outpouring of the Spirit. As new believers come and recognize they are lost in this wilderness of the world, they are seeking the help that comes from on high to survive and come out alive.

We come to realize that we need to move forward toward Yahweh and His Kingdom. That we need His help and His Messiah to overcome and be ultimately saved from death. Not a first death, mind you, but rather a second death. A spiritual death.

*Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves, Matthew 7:13–15 ESV.*

In the wilderness there are a lot of traps and pitfalls, that Satan has set up. Satan shows the world ministers of light, but they are actually

full of darkness. Why? They are out to get what they can; they are not laying down their lives for the sheep. Also, because they teach ways that do not lead to eternal life. They teach of a different Messiah than the One we know Scripture speaks of.

The Messiah we follow is sinless and we know He did not break His Father's instructions, but rather taught us how to live by them.

*As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Yahshua said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except Yahweh alone. "You know the commandments, 'DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, do not defraud, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.'" And He said to Him, "Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up." Looking at him, Yahshua felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing*

*you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property. And Yahshua, looking around, said to His disciples, "How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the Kingdom of Yahweh!" Mark 10:17–23 NASB.*

Did Yahshua say “forget the commandments and follow Him?” No, He said, “Keep the Commandments and follow Him.” Not only did He say, “Keep the Commandments and follow Him.” He essentially pointed out that the man shouldn't be laying up treasure on earth, like he was, but putting the love of Yahweh's Word into action was to be done. Just like what Yahshua essentially told the Pharisees about tithing, “tithing,” but don't neglect the weightier matters of the law (Matt. 23:23).

The law is living and active, the Word is living and active (Heb. 4:12). It is full of justice, mercy and faith, but again, don't leave the other undone. Just like obeying the law of the land and



stopping at a stop sign, but if there is someone having difficulty with getting a wheelchair over the sidewalk to cross the street, for example, and you're the only one there with the time and means to get out and help, don't drive off and think you're living a righteous life acceptable to Yahweh.

Want to be part of the family? Yahshua our Savior tells us how it's done. *For whosoever shall do the will of My Father which is in heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother,* Matthew 12:50 KJV.

This takes us back full circle to what Yahshua was saying about entering through the narrow way or gate and in context he says beware of false teachers along the way which teach a different way, contrary to Yahweh's laws. They say things like, "We can't obey His Commandments" or "Those Old Mosaic Laws are done away with, now we are under the dispensation of grace alone."

In the context of what Yahshua was saying about entering through the narrow (hard-pressed) way that few find, and being aware of the false prophets or teachers along the way, He says you'll know them, by what?

*"So then, you will know them by their fruits. 'Not everyone who says to Me, 'Master, Master,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. 'Many will say to Me on that day, 'Master, Master, did we not prophesy in Your Name, and in Your Name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' 'And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.' Matthew 7:20-24 NASB.*

Do we understand what we just read? False teachers are known by their fruits. What fruit is Yahshua focused on?

These false teachers (and individuals) seem to be a little bewildered, and are asking: "Didn't we do, not just a few, but many miracles in your name?" "Did we not prophecy or teach, in your name?" "You're not seriously saying we had the wrong name are you?" "Wasn't it enough, to proclaim your name as we understood and to have done the things we did to impress the mega congregations we led into the broad way?" ... Sarcasm, to make a point.

Yahshua specifically says to these men on a

day of judgment, "Depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness." Whose laws are they judged by? Yahweh's, of course. The standard, the compass that points true north.

Belief in the Messiah alone or grace alone, wasn't enough in the end for these men. They thought calling upon Him would save them (they may have even expressed some of the weightier matters of the law). They thought, if they did miraculous things and taught in His name, that they would be saved. But they ultimately didn't have the proper fruit that is required.

Their fruit was disobedience to Yahweh's laws. They even taught against His Commandments, statutes, and judgments. They were false teachers and disobedient children (2 Pet. 3:16-17). The prophecy is clear in Mathew 7, Yahshua's words will stand.

The opposite fruit will be of the true teachers and children of Yahweh (1 Thess. 2:10-13). They will be saved and live, because they submitted to Yahweh's Spirit, performing not only the basics, but going beyond and producing the spiritual intent of all those laws.

Why, again, is the Spirit granted in the New Covenant? So that we can submit to His Word and be obedient children and part of the family who are brothers and sisters and mothers of the Messiah as the Messiah had said (Matt. 12:46-50).

Those whom Yahweh calls and the Messiah accepts are the ones who truly do risk assessment of their situation. They actually count the cost (Luke 14:28) and work out their salvation (Phil. 2:12), according to Scripture in the Spirit of Yahweh.

They end up knowing the difference between right and wrong, because of practice (Heb. 5:14). They choose what is right in Yahweh's sight and survive, following the Messiah into the narrow gate to eternal life (Matt. 7:13-14). They avoid the bad fruit, which if eaten, will kill rather than give life. Remember the garden of Eden?

Will some get lost and die in the wilderness when the storms come? *Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for My Name's sake. And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another,* Matthew 24:9-10 ESV.

It's one thing to die for Yahweh willingly, it's another to reject Him trying to save your own life physically (Matt. 10:39).

By panicking, and not trusting Yahweh, there will be those who will evidently lose their salvation. *When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die*, Ezekiel 18:26 ESV.

When you read through Ezekiel you get the sense that whatever is the last thought you die with is the one, you're going to wake up with. That is to say, if you curse Yahweh in your dying breath, all your previous righteousness will be forgotten in the Judgement. A first death is a sleep, until the resurrection.

Assessing the risks takes time, but in the end will be worth it. This leads us to the next step.

## Stay Calm

We have to keep our head straight in difficult situations. The reality is, that no matter what situation you find yourself in, Yahweh can protect and guide you through it. There is nothing that can harm you unless it is in the will of Him in which it occurs. And, we are told that it will occur for some. For others, Yahweh will see them through the storms unscathed. We have this encouragement, and, if we look at it today, we can relate this to what is happening spiritually:

*A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. If you say, "Yahweh is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling, Psalm 91:7-10 NIV. Do we trust in Yahweh? Do we trust Him enough to say, In Elohim I trust and am not afraid. What can man do to me? Psalm 56:11 NIV. This was stated by King David, a man after Yahweh's own heart who said His law is true and was one of the few in history who was given Yahweh's Spirit. Today, that door is opened to us, but with a condition:*

*And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom Elohim has given to those who obey Him, Acts 5:32 NASB. This was addressed to the Pharisees who had bad fruit.*

They had the poisonous fruit of disobedience to Yahweh's laws. John the Immerser and Yahshua Himself called them a brood of vipers for distorting and making of no effect Yahweh's laws (Matt 3:7; 15:3-9; 23:33; Luke 3:7-9).

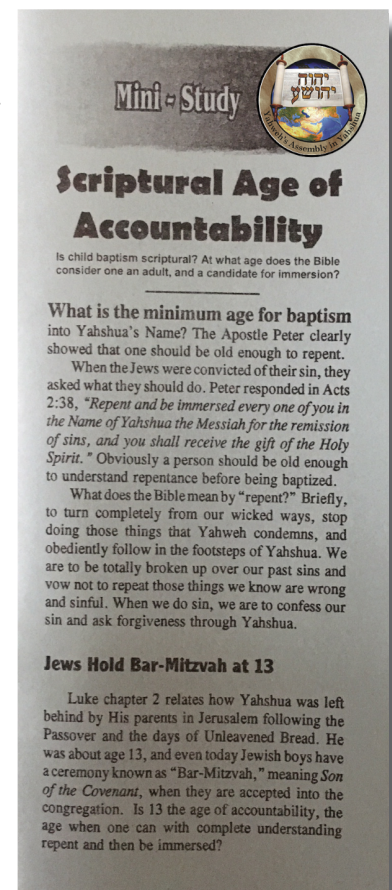
Can we stay calm in a life-threatening situation and stand firm? We are to pray that we may be able to do just that. "And Moses said to the people, 'Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of Yahweh, which He will work for you today,'" (Exodus 14:13a ESV).

After this they went through the Red Sea and were saved from the army that was behind them, and the seemingly insurmountable obstacle that had been in front of them.

In the *New Testament* this was related as a type of baptism that the people went through. Regrettably, they persisted in disobeying Yahweh and were not allowed to go into the Promised Land (Heb 3:12-19). It's a lesson for us today as we symbolically come out of Egypt and find ourselves in the wilderness.

Is there any significance of why only two entered the Promised Land (Num. 26:65), besides those not of the age of accountability (read our mini-study on the *Scriptural Age of Accountability*). One thing brought out is clear that Joshua, son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, had a different spirit about them (Numbers 14:24-30). They were willing to obey Yahweh and had the faith in Him who saves. We see a parallel with the saints (Rev. 12:17; 14:12).

There is also a deeper message that is given to us. When we research who Joshua and Caleb were, they were from two different tribes.



Do you know which ones? When we look at the lineage, Caleb is from the line of Judah, while Joshua is from the line of Ephraim (which became the dominant tribe of the northern 10 tribes, and was dispersed by Assyria).

Does this relate to what is prophetically happening today, that Ephraim is going to be spearheading the effort to enter into the Kingdom of Yahweh according to His ways? We, of course, understand that Messiah leads us all, but what is Ephraim's role in the end time? Revelation 12, may give some insight into this, when we consider the two houses of Israel. It may also be there is the reason more established assemblies are here in America reaching out around the world than all the other countries combined. America has often been considered Manasseh, but maybe it is a little more like Ephraim in this case.

Nevertheless, many people tend to get lost in the wilderness when they don't stay calm. They don't think things through. Many Israelites lost their lives in the wilderness, but Yahweh is working things out. The end result is going to surprise a lot of people, as He ultimately brings the two houses of Israel together into the Promised Land (read our mini-study on *The Hope of Israel*).

The idea of staying calm is just that, don't panic. Don't panic, but do repent. Speaking of repentance, many don't understand what proper repentance is. Repentance is turning from a former way of life which is contrary to Yahweh's way of life; actually stopping, turning, and heading back toward Yahweh and submitting to Him.

Moses told the people to be silent and to move forward. Lot and his family were to move forward, and not look back. We are to move forward and not look back so that we might somehow yearn to live again in sin. To do so is like a dog returning to its own vomit (Prov. 26:11).

Here is something interesting said by John the Immerser.

*Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping*

*with repentance, Matthew 3:6–8 NIV.*

Do we comprehend what fruit is needed in keeping with repentance? John the Immerser understood it. Do we understand? When we do, it will help us stay calm and to stay the course, doing Yahweh's will even in the most difficult of situations.

The next step given is to prioritize.

### **Prioritize**

Being baptized is an outward sign of commitment to a new life and the death of an old one. We accept and grow after believing, repenting (producing the fruit thereof), being baptized, and avoiding sin. Remember Lot's wife, and don't look back.



Peter spoke to those who were at Pentecost and they were pierced to the heart convinced they needed to be baptized in Yahshua's Name. He gives further instruction in 2 Peter 2 about faith, moral excellence, etc.

*Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, righteousness, and in your righteousness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love, 2 Peter 1:5–7 NASB.*

In the study of love, we find that both obedience to the law of Yahweh and walking in the Spirit of Yahweh produces love. They don't counter each other, they complement each other. They both produce life if submitted to. They also both produce death, if resisted. This is why Yahweh says,

*Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says Yahweh Elohim. "Therefore turn and live!"* Ezekiel 18:31–32 NKJV.

Prioritizing our lives in accordance with Yahweh's Word and Spirit in Messiah is the way to spiritual survival.

It may seem unusual as first, but we are to all be leaders with the next step.

### **Be a Leader**

What do leaders do? Or, more specifically, what do spiritual leaders do? They continue to learn knowledge and they gain understanding; they grow in character and integrity; they help others to repent; they look and move forward toward the goal and reward in the coming Kingdom; they stay focused; they set the example.

We are all to be leaders in our small corner of the world and it helps us and others in those areas to survive spiritually. Joshua the son of Nun was encouraged to stay strong and help serve the people. Noah was helping to lead his family and build the ark, but no one else was listening. Israel was also to lead the other nations, by example.

*Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of YAHWEH your Elohim that I give you. You saw with your own eyes what YAHWEH did at Baal Peor. YAHWEH your Elohim destroyed from among you everyone who followed the Baal of Peor, but all of you who held fast to YAHWEH your Elohim are still alive today. See, I have taught you decrees and laws as YAHWEH my Elohim commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees*

*and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way YAHWEH our Elohim is near us whenever we pray to Him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?* Deuteronomy 4:2–8 YLT.

Setting the example, living according to Yahweh's way of life is how we will survive today. That is, by choosing life (Deut. 30:19).

The last step in this process is to stay positive.

### **Stay Positive**

Overcoming, staying faithful, avoiding sin, knowing help is on the way we so we see the light at the end of the tunnel. Staying positive is no doubt easier to do if you're close to Yahweh, but times of distress can test one's mettle (determination) to see how strong it is.

If the rest of the foundation is in place, namely Yahshua and living in Him correctly, and following the Spirit's lead and Word of Truth then one can be very positive of the outcome.

*For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Yahshua Messiah. Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work,* 1 Corinthians 3:11–13 NASB.

Messiah is the Cornerstone of the Temple today. The Temple before had gold and silver, but mostly gold. Precious stones could even be seen in the breastplate of the High Priest and wood covered in gold was there as well. We can suppose the hay and straw was used to start the fires for the offerings outside.

In Paul's day there most likely could be seen houses built with such things. The edifice in Paul's mind, must have been the Temple of Yahweh. He related it to us, however, as a people unto Yahweh.

It's worth noting that the Law was in the holy of holies, protected at the heart of the Temple.

What was at the core of Messiah? The law and Yahweh's Spirit, which also entered the holy of holies. Also the 10 Commandments and the book of the law, or the constitution of the

coming Kingdom.

King David said, in Psalm 119:73, *The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. Those things were also in the treasury of the Temple. Yahshua said in Matthew 4:4, quoting the book of the law on the side of the ark within the holy of holies. It is written, "MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF YAHWEH."*

The Temple spoke of the Messiah in just about every aspect of it. The law went forth from the Temple, as it will again from Jerusalem in the coming Kingdom. Even the unblemished Red Heifer, which Israel now (according to the The Temple Institute in Israel) has, is needed to be able to sacrifice and purify a physical Temple. It speaks of the Messiah Who's sacrifice sanctifies and purifies us.

The point is, if we are building on moral excellence, knowledge of righteousness and the Word of Yahweh that was the living Messiah, then we will have a building that won't be burned up. We will survive spiritually and see redemption from these corruptible fleshly bodies of ours.

There are rewards and promises for those who call upon the Name of Yahweh and do His will in Messiah, Yahshua (Joel 2:32; John 11:23-27; Acts 4:12). Notice, especially, the following:

*Then those who feared YAHWEH talked with each other, and YAHWEH listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in His presence concerning those who feared YAHWEH and honored His Name. "They will be Mine," says YAHWEH Almighty, "in the day when I make up My treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him. And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve Elohim and those who do not. "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says YAHWEH Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere My Name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in [His] wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes*

*under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things," says YAHWEH Almighty. "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel," Malachi 3:16-18, 4:1-4 NIV.*

Those that rely on relativism or other philosophies or religions of men are like the hay and straw that the Apostle Paul spoke about. Messiah is, however, the embodiment of the entire Word of Yahweh. And if He lives through us through the Spirit, we are on solid ground.

Yahshua, like Malachi, pointed to obedience to the law of Moses, which was Yahweh's Word given to him (Num. 31:21).

Those who disobeyed died in the wilderness, it was counted to them as unbelief. We are those who believe, just like Joshua and Caleb and are heading toward the Promised Land.

We have to put into practice what we preach, and be the people who can survive any trouble that comes our way. Why? Because we follow in the righteous path of Yahshua which leads into eternal life. In His wings, like a dove, is the fullness of the Spirit of Yahweh. The Spirit will transform us and completely heal us.

"In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world," (John 16:33b KJV). Yahshua survived spiritually, and we can too, if we complete the Five Steps to Spiritual Survival.

## **Final Thoughts**

Beyond these things, always be on alert and pray to be able to stand on the day of His return and survive spiritually (Luke 21:36). Let's do the things we need to do.

When it comes to the physical survival, they say the order of importance is seeking shelter, fire, water and food. However, the physical, which is of importance, is not as important as our spiritual lives.

*For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds, Matthew 16:26-27 NASB.*

- Elder David Brett



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q** Does Satan have a personal name?

**A** The short answer is, “Yes.” In Revelation 9:11 it states, *And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.*

There are, however, other Scriptural titles attributed to Satan besides the ones you’ve mentioned in your letter: *the prince of this world*, John 14:30; *the god of this world*, 2 Corinthians 4:4; *the prince of the power of the air*; Ephesians 2:1, in addition to other ascriptions in Revelation 12:9, *the great dragon, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan* and in verse 10, *the accuser of the brethren.*

Satan’s minions also, are given cognomens: principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph. 6:12). Principalities and powers, together with thrones and dominions (Col. 1:16) and cherubim (Gen. 3:24) and seraphim (Isa. 6:2) are ranks of angels.

Popular interpretation assigns Isaiah 14:12, and the cognomen Lucifer (day star) to Satan, but this, in the context of the verses which precede it, is a probable reference to Belshazzar the last of the kings of Babylon before the empire’s fall to Medo-Persia. Lucifer (day star) is likely a reference to the planet Venus, also called the morning star.

Incidentally, in 2 Peter 1:19, we read: *We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts. And the day-star — the morning-star, the bright star that*

at certain periods of the year leads on the day, and which is a pledge that the morning is about to dawn — here is a metaphorical reference to the advent of Yahshua’s return : *that great and notable day of the Master come*, Joel 2:31; Acts 2:20, in the full revelation of His glory, the splendor of His kingdom. In Revelation 22:16, Yahshua testifies of Himself, that He is *the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.*

Moreover, Ezekiel 28:13; 14, *Thou hast been Eden the garden of Elohim... Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth* is a continuation of the prophet’s lamentation over the King of Tyrus. Note well in Verse 2, his boast, *I am an el, I sit in the seat of Elohim* is not different from Isaiah’s description of Belshazzar in 14:13-14: *I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of Elohim: 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.*

However, with respect to the Isaiah 14 and the Ezekiel 28 passages, we may understand that what is provided prophetically, as with many prophetic utterances, may have more than one meaning. The Scriptures are replete with figures, shadows, and typologies as well as literal meanings. Nevertheless, care must be taken, for *no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation*, 2 Peter 1:20.

The Hebrew Satan, pronounced, *saw-tan*, (**Strong’s** H7853) means, to *attack* (figuratively) *accuse*: (be an) adversary, resist and (**Strong’s** H7854), *saw-tawn*, an *opponent*; the arch enemy of good: adver-sary, Satan, withstand.

**The Canon of the Scriptures** (the 66 Books) only provide us with the two names of the messengers (angels): Michael (Dan. 10:13; 21; 12:1; Jude 9; Rev. 12:78) and Gabriel (Daniel 8:16; 9:21; Luke 1:19, 26). The **Apocrypha** will list more.



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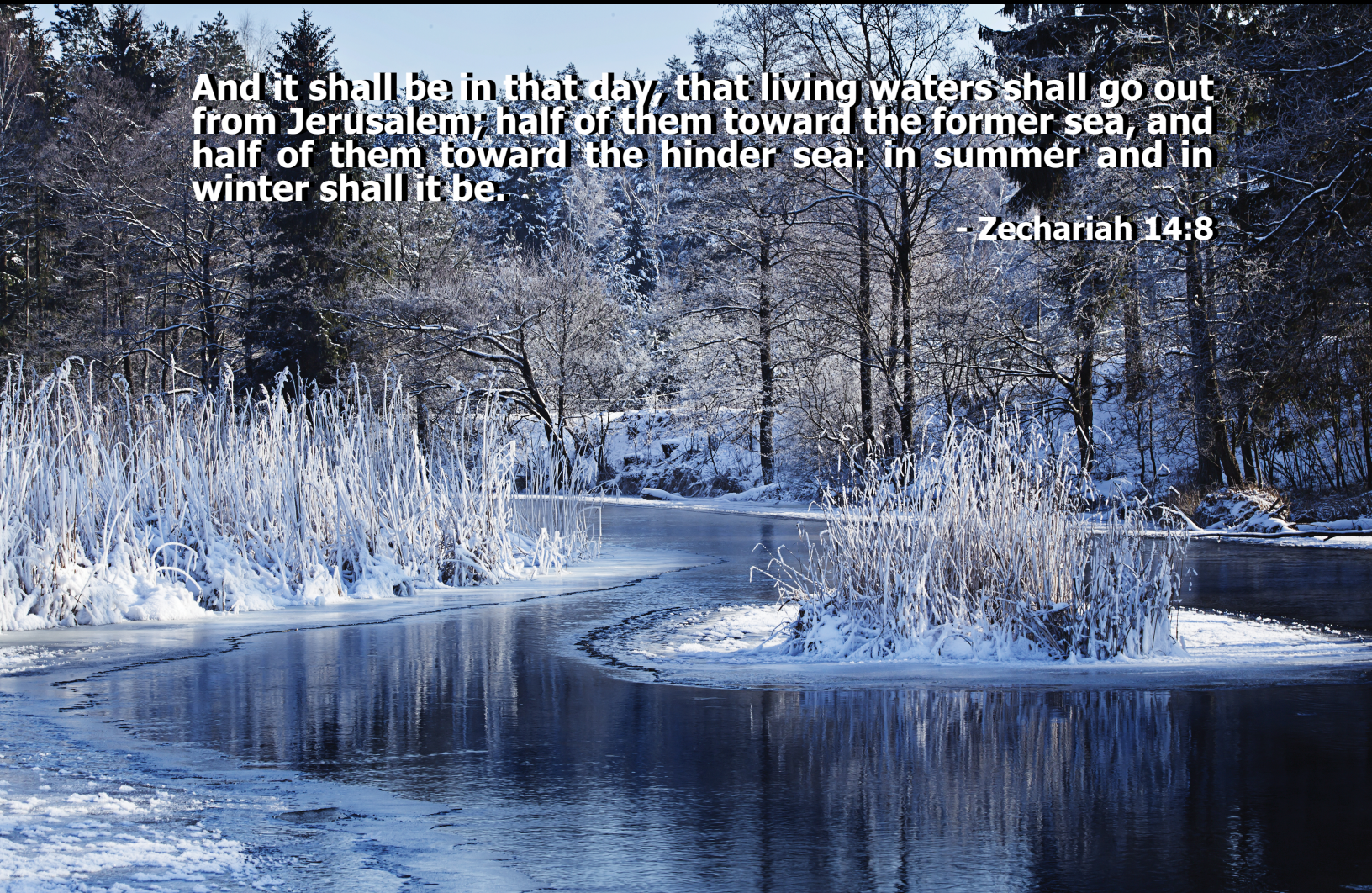
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**And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out  
from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and  
half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in  
winter shall it be.**

**- Zechariah 14:8**