

## Where Were You?

Most of us can remember where we were when a significant event occurred or a special occasion and the corresponding date. There are exceptions to this as “some” spouses do have memory issues recalling anniversaries and birthdays from time to time and should not be held accountable. As members of God’s Church, we are not to take offense and are to forgive them anyway.

Depending on your age, if I were to mention, November 22, 1963, older members would know that was the date of the assassination of John F. Kennedy. July 20, 1969, was the date of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing. Forgive me, but as far as world events, after September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, (with the exception of Grandkids) I stopped keeping track. I realize that leaves most of the younger members open to their input. Any thoughts?

In thinking back to the Kennedy assassination, I was in the second grade and was walking home from elementary school. When I got home from school, my mom was crying and both she and my dad were glued to the black and white TV watching the news. At seven years old, I had no idea what was going on and why my mom was crying. All she said was, “President Kennedy was shot.” I will always remember that day much like the other days I mentioned and exactly where

I was when the events unfolded. I would seriously doubt that anyone nowadays would shed a tear if the current Commander in Chief were hurt in any way. People are too busy posting videos on TikTok of him falling up the stairs of Air Force One and his blundering gibberish during his speeches.

As we are celebrating the Feast of Trumpets, we are reminded that the blowing of the trumpet is a memorial, a reminder. The sounding of the trumpets was used to call the ancient Nation of Israel's attention to an event, gathering, or an alert. Not only is it a memorial, this day of celebration is all about calling *our* awareness to a major event that is in our future.

“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”- **2 Corinthians 5:7.**

As this event has not yet transpired, we can trust God to bring it to fruition. While we cannot see God right now, we know He is there.

For example, we cannot see the wind, but know it is there as we can see its power moving the trees. We see what a hurricane can do.

We cannot see electricity, but flip a switch and the lights go on. I do not think anyone needs to touch a bare wire to test its validity it exists.

The same holds true for gravity. You cannot see gravity, but step off a cliff and I am sure you will find out it does exist.

We cannot see God's holy Spirit, but we certainly know when He is filling us.

There are so many unseen things that are so evident that we accept their existence without actually seeing them.

**Romans 1:19-20-** “Because that which may be known of God is manifest among them, for God has manifested *it* to them; For the invisible things of Him are perceived from *the* creation of *the* world, being understood by the things that were made—both His eternal power and Godhead—so that they are without excuse;”

**Psalm 19:1-** “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.”

In a world so lost, God has been watered down, excluded, ignored, and filtered out of our lives so much that there is hardly any truth remaining in churches anymore. People would rather be *entertained* on a Sunday morning and hit the buffet and take a nap before the football games start than hear God's real truth. Besides, nobody has ever really seen God anyway, right? “Seeing is believing” is the norm.

It is along these lines that people think that God is not involved with their lives and they live by sight and not by faith. It was not much different in Biblical days either. They witnessed miracles first hand and still did not believe in God or discarded what they saw shortly thereafter. They too, lived their lives as if there were no God at all, but He sees everything we do. Everything. Nothing is hidden.

We who have been baptized know He is actively working in our lives daily. Thankfully, we have been called and set apart to be a part of God's plan and Family.

**John 20:29-** "Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, Thomas, you have believed; *blessed are the ones who have not seen, but have believed.*"

We are walking by faith. Even though we have yet to see Him physically, we have and do feel His presence through His Holy Spirit.

**1 John 3:2-** "Beloved, now we are the children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be; but we know that when He is manifested, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him exactly as He is."

There will come a time when everyone will see, ***behold*** is a better word, what we long to see now. What we are preparing for now. I was glad to see this week's essay beating the drum with the hole in it too.

So where will you be when the trumpet sounds? What will your "special memory" be?

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18-** "But I do not wish you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, that you be not grieved, even as others, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, in exactly the same way also, those who have fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say to you by *the* Word of *the* Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall in no wise precede those who have fallen asleep Because the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with *a* shout of command, with *the* voice of an archangel and with *the* trumpet of God; and the *dead in Christ shall rise first; Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds for the meeting with the Lord in the air;* and so shall we always be with *the* Lord. Therefore, encourage one another with these words."

If we fulfill our commitment to our Lord and are chosen to be in the First Resurrection, we will either rise from our “sleep” or we will be changed in the “twinkling” of an eye. If you overslept for *this* alarm, the snooze button is 1000 years long. Hopefully, our special memory will be one of the two, either the wake-up call or the twinkling change.

**1 Corinthians 15:52-** “In an instant, *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.”

When the trumpet actually sounds and Jesus Christ actually returns, it is not going to be a quiet and peaceful event. This day will get everyone, everyone on Planet Earth’s attention. He will return, but not exactly as it was told to His disciples by the angels in the Book of Acts.

**Acts 1:11-** “Who also said, “You men of Galilee, why do you stand here looking up into heaven? This same Jesus, Who was taken up from you into heaven, shall come in exactly the same manner as you have seen Him go into heaven.”

Jesus may be returning in the clouds, but He will not be returning for a social gathering or to catch up on old times. He is coming back to establish His Kingdom and with His fury and wrath. He is coming back with His Army. I am not sure on the status of taking any prisoners...

**Revelation 19:11-15-** “And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war. And His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns; *and* He had a name written that no one knows except Him. And *He was* clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is The Word of God. And the armies in heaven were following Him on white horses; *and* they were clothed in fine linen, white and pure. And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations; and He shall shepherd them with an iron rod; and He treads the winepress of the fury and the wrath of the Almighty God.”

We know when this event takes place, the Earth will be in turmoil. There will be great deception. I know there has been discussion that people will believe we are being invaded by aliens from outer space. As lame and perverted as the mentality of humanity is these days, that may be entirely possible. If men can dress up as

women and compete and win in women's sporting events, I guess little green men can invade the Earth as well.

**Matthew 24:29-31-** “But immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet; and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to *the* other.”

However, even with the deception, the scripture says, “the sign of the Son of Man” and “they shall see.” As you know, I like digging in the dictionaries and even Strong's Concordance. “Sign” in Strong's (G4592) means “known” and in the Cambridge Dictionary it means “presence.” “They shall see” is self-explanatory. Folks are going to know Who it is or it will not remain a mystery for very long as it is doubtful aliens probably do not play trumpets. Seeing will now be “believing.”

Jesus Christ will be revealing Himself to the entire world, to all mankind. They will all see Him. With all of the chaos and pandemonium taking place with the sun, moon, and stars, the terror will be unlike anything ever experienced. I am sure that there will be those when they fully realize that this is truly the Son of God's return, they will wish it was aliens attacking from another world. They can only kill you once. It will be incomprehensible for the human minds for those who witness these things. Some may actually survive. Most will not. We will be there, returning *with* our Lord (**Revelation 19:14**).

**Zechariah 14:3-5**- "And the LORD shall go out and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle. And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall split in two, from the east and to the west, and make a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south. "And you shall flee to the valley of My mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah." And the LORD my God shall come, ***and all the saints with You.***"

The Day of The Lord has finally come upon them.

**Zechariah 14:12-15-** “And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will smite all the people who have fought against Jerusalem. Their flesh shall consume away while they stand on their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their sockets. And their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall be in that day *that* a great panic from the LORD shall be among them. And they shall each one lay hold of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the nations all around shall be gathered—gold, and silver, and clothing in great abundance. And likewise shall be the plague of the horse, the mule, the camel, and the donkey, and of all the beasts which shall be in these camps—*it shall be* as this plague.”

For all the times His children have turned the other cheek and withstood persecution, been martyred, vengeance is truly His. His judgment has come upon the Earth.

**2 Thessalonians 1:6-10-** “Since *it is* righteous with God to recompense tribulation to those who are persecuting you; And to you, who are persecuted, rest with us, at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with His mighty angels, Dealing out vengeance with flaming fire upon those who do not know God, and those who do

not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; Who will suffer *the* penalty of eternal destruction from *the* presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His strength, When He shall come to be glorified in His saints, and to be admired in that day in all those who believe (because our testimony was believed by you);” Perhaps we have all seen at one time or another, an old John Wayne western or other calvary movie where they sound the bugle charge from horseback with sabers drawn? Since Adam and Eve sinned and Satan has had his way with mankind, God has been on a build-up to this day. God is sounding the charge for Jesus Christ to return for Satan’s fall. I cannot imagine the wrath of Almighty God.

We covered quite a bit on the Day of The Lord and/or The Lord’s Day and the wrath associated with it. It is a day of God’s judgment and long in coming. He will not hold back. Satan is going to get put in his place for a time while Jesus Christ sets up His Millennial Kingdom. All of the godless, profane, heathen, abominable, atheist and persecuting people who lived their lives as if there were no God or mocked and spit in His face will be looking for the mountains to fall on them.

**Luke 23:30-** “Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us;’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’” There will be no where to run and no where to hide.

Ain’t no mountain high enough...kudos to Marvin Gaye.

God has had enough. We have been foretold of the events of this day. We have been forewarned of the signs and we have been instructed on the measures to avoid His wrath and judgments. We had better be doing them now.

**Ezekiel 39:7-8-** “And I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel. And I will not *let them* profane My holy name any more. Then the nations shall know that I *am* the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. Behold, it is coming, and it shall be done,” says the Lord GOD. “This *is* the day of which I have spoken.”

For us and all of God’s saints, it will be a day long desired. A day long hoped for. A day prayed for and a day of fulfilled promise that was paid for with the Life of our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Psalms 97:1-6-** “The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of islands be glad. Clouds and darkness are all around Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne. A fire goes before Him and burns up His enemies round about. His lightnings light up the world; the earth saw and trembled. The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens declare His righteousness, and all the people see His glory.”

The trumpet's blast and The Lord's coming will be so dynamic and overwhelming we cannot imagine what it would be like to see the approach of Christ's return. We do *not* want to be on that side facing His approach. We had best be in the mounted and armed column following behind. That is why it is so critical we continue moving forward in our spiritual growth and seeking God in all we do, fulfilling His creation purpose in each of us. Sound the trumpet loud and long! Onward to Atonement! Amen.

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