

How to Sound the Shofar Trumpet— An Instrument for Celebrating, Praising God, and Battling Enemies

Throughout Scripture, there are “sounds” which God LOVES to hear. They include:

- “I” confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe God raised Him from the dead!
- “You were right, and I was wrong. Please forgive me!”
- “I am sorry!”
- “Yes, I will go!”
- “I don’t understand, but I hear you telling me, so I will!”

Another sound that God LOVES to hear is the “Shofar Trumpet.” The Shofar is God’s instrument, and its sound is near and dear to His heart, which is why every Jewish home has one.

Please remember that the Shofar is NOT a toy! It is God’s Instrument and should be handled and sounded accordingly. Therefore, please do NOT play “When the Saints Go Marching In” or any other “tune” with the Shofar. To do so would be disrespectful to God and His instrument.

Sounding the Shofar Trumpet will take practice. It’s all about placing the lips in the perfect position on the mouthpiece and **buzzing your lips**. Blow lightly into the mouthpiece.

Sounding a Shofar Trumpet requires three things.

1. **Lips:** The lips are set and pressed (gently) against the mouthpiece.
2. **Tongue:** The tongue is used for articulation and making individual sounds, or “notes.”
3. **Breath:** As the breath moves over the tongue and hits the lips. The lips vibrate, producing the sound of the Trumpet.

All three things are essential, but “breath” is the “most” important. Remember that God is the originator of “Life,” and He is the One who gives us every “Breath.”

Almost anyone can learn to “sound” a “Shofar Trumpet” with their lips, tongue, and breath. However, God wants believers to be **Trumpeters** of His:

- ❖ Word
- ❖ Grace
- ❖ Gospel of Jesus Christ

To do that, lips and tongue are needed.
But we need the **“Breath of God”** most.

Therefore, for “God’s Breath” (the “Wind” of His Holy Spirit) to come out of us, we must **Breathe in His:**

- ❖ Word
- ❖ Grace
- ❖ Gospel of Jesus Christ

Then, when we exhale, “His Breath” will come out. And with lips, tongue, and His Breath, the “Sound” produced will be “useful” to the LORD.

Following is a prophecy that references the “Breath of God.”

For thousands of years, God’s people (Israel) were exiled from their Land and scattered to the “Four Corners” of the earth. No one thought Israel would ever “Return,” but God “Breathed LIFE” into their “Dry Bones,” and the Nation of Israel was Re-born.

- “Then he said to me, prophesy to these bones and say to them, dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.” Ezekiel 37:5

This prophecy could refer to the “Dry Bones” of the millions of Jews incinerated in the Nazi “ovens.” Israel and the Jewish people’s resurrection was only possible by God’s “Breath.”

Memorize the “Names and Sounding” of the Three Shofar Blasts

1. Tekiah – pronounced “**Tuh-KEE-ah**,” is **one long, “straight” blast**. The long “straight” blast of “Tekiah” is reminiscent that the God of the Bible is The Lord.
2. Shevarim – pronounced “**Shih-Vah-REEM**” is **three medium, “wailing” blasts**. The three medium “wailing” blasts of “Shevarim” remind us of loss, crying, and sin.
3. Teruah – pronounced “**Tih-ROO-ahh**,” is **nine quick blasts in “short” succession**. The nine quick blasts of “Teruah” are meant to gain the hearer’s attention-wake up!

Memorize the Three “Series” of The Shofar Blasts

The First Series Contains Four Blasts

TEKIAH- SHEVARIM- TERUAH- TEKIAH

SOUND-One Long-Three Medium with a Wailing Effect- Nine Short Staccato-One Long

The Second Series Contains Three Blasts

TEKIAH- SHEVARIM-TEKIAH

SOUND-One Long-Three Medium with a Wailing Effect- One Long.

The Third Series Contains Three Blasts

TEKIAH- TERUAH- TEKIAH

SOUND-One Long- Nine Short Staccato-One Long.

Practice the Three Series

1. **One Long** (2-3 seconds)-**Three Medium** with a Wailing Effect (1-2 seconds each) - **Nine Short Staccato-One Long** (4-5 seconds).
2. **One Long** (2-3 seconds)-**Three Medium** with a Wailing Effect (1-2 seconds each) - **One Long** (4-5 seconds).
3. **One Long** (2-3 seconds)-**Nine Short Staccato-One very Long** (hold this out as long as possible).

Rosh Hashanah, the Feast of Trumpets

During the Rosh Hashanah (Feast of “Trumpets”) service, the three series are **repeated three times** with prayers and Scripture reading in between. Keep in mind that the **FINAL “Tekiah”** is called the **“Tekiah ha-Gadol,”** pronounced **“Tuh-KEE-ah, ha-Ga-do, I,”** is a **long blast** and should be held out for as long as possible. Therefore, there are thirty Shofar blasts in the three series, and when each is repeated three times, a total of ninety Shofar blasts sounded during the Rosh Hashanah service.

Sounding the Shofar Trumpet in Israel

The Shofar, which the Israelites carried with them into battle, was “small.” However, the longer Kudu Shofar was introduced in “modern times.” The Shofar is **highly** regarded in Israel, and you will hear its “sounding” during your trip to Israel. Therefore, consider purchasing a small Shofar online and having it mailed to you. Please buy an **“Easy Blow”** Shofar with the **“Smooth Mouthpiece”** because the mouthpiece is configured to make sounding the Shofar easy. If you buy the traditional Shofar, there is a significant learning curve, and it will prove problematic for most people. The same goes for the longer “Kudu” Shofars.

You need to know how to sound the Shofar before going to Israel. Please do not buy a Shofar in Israel and attempt to sound it unless you already know how to. If not, you will embarrass yourself in front of your friends and cause the Israelis to become angry towards you and your group.

Therefore, if you are proficient in sounding the Shofar blasts and the three series, consider taking your Shofar with you to Israel and experience the joy and excitement of sounding God’s Trumpet in God’s Land.

I recommend taking a small “Easy Blow” Shofar to Israel, which will easily fit in your jacket pocket. If you’re prepared to put the longer Kudu Shofar and carry it over your shoulder throughout your trip, you can, but I don’t recommend it. Also, remember that you should NOT sound the Shofar anywhere and anytime you want. At times and places, sounding the Shofar will be inappropriate and offensive. Therefore, always **ask your Israeli Tour Guide before sounding the Shofar.**

Sound the Trumpets in Zion-It's Time to Praise the Lord

The Shofar was sounded to "Praise the Lord" throughout Israel's history and should be "Today," too! I believe the Shofar Trumpet should be sounded to "call" God's people to worship at every church service, para-church venue, and event.

- Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth! He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. Psalm 47:1-9
- Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things...The LORD has made his Salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel...Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the Ram's horn. Psalm 98:1-9
- "The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds...Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving...Extol the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion...He has revealed his word to Jacob, his laws, and decrees to Israel. He has done this for no other nation...Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their King... Praise him with the sounding of the Trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD. Psalm 146:1-Proverbs 4:27

New Shofar Music

Everyone with a musical interest and background can create "New" Shofar blasts and music using the Shofar. You can experiment by attaching a clip-on microphone to the end of your Shofar and then connecting it to your computer or electronics. Then approach your Music or Choir Director at church about using the "New" blasts or music to start their Sunday Service and sound when your church comes to Israel.

The Feast of Trumpets

God's Trumpets and the "Gathering" of His Church

God loves the Trumpet so much that His fifth Feast is called "Feast of Trumpets."

"The LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'On the first day of the seventh month you are to have a day of rest, a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts. Do no regular work, but present an offering made to the LORD by fire.'" Leviticus 23:23–25

"On the first day of the seventh month, hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. It is a day for you to sound the trumpets." Numbers 29:1–6

Our Christian faith rests on the fact that the Jewish Messiah was crucified on the first Feast of "Passover." He was buried on the second Feast of "Unleavened Bread" and was "resurrected" on the third Feast of "First Fruits." Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days after His resurrection and ascended into Heaven, where He sits at the right hand of God, the Father. Then Jesus sent down the Precious Holy Spirit on the fourth Feast of "Pentecost." The "Church Age" began as the "Time of the Gentiles" continued.

The fifth Feast, "Trumpets," represents the "picture" of the "Rapture." The "Last Shofar Trumpet" will sound, and God's Church will instantaneously disappear. I like the term "gathered," but most Christians use the term "raptured." Therefore, we are waiting for a "**resurrection.**" It will either be a bodily resurrection if we are "asleep" (dead body) or an instantaneous physical resurrection to meet Jesus if we are still alive.

"Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him... According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. **For the Lord himself will come down from Heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.** And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore, encourage each other with these words." 1 Thess. 4:13-18

Who Sounds the Last Trumpet/How will the Worldwide Church Hear It?

Maybe God chooses someone to sound the Shofar, and it's broadcast so everyone can hear it. Another possibility is that a "Shofar Trumpet" video is posted on social media, and "everyone" hears it. What other options are there? The ONLY other option I can think of is that we are entering a "Season" when God's people are learning how to sound the "Shofar Trumpet." And the "Shofar Trumpet" be regularly sounded to call God's people to worship and to begin every Christian church service, para-church venue, and event? Therefore, could it be that "One Day" so many "Shofars Trumpets" are being sounded at the same time in the United States and worldwide that the "Last Trumpet" is "Sounded," and the "Church" hears it? **After all, it is the "Last Sound" Christians will hear!**

The Origin of God's Instrument, the Shofar Trumpet

A King deserves a crown befitting his position—a “Golden Crown.” However, the Roman soldiers placed a “**Crown of Thorns**” on the head of the “**King of the Jews.**” The thorny stems of roses were used to form the “Crown of Thorns.” “The soldiers...twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. And they began to call out to him, “Hail, king of the Jews!” Mark 15:16–20



The “Crown of Thorns” Ties Together the Story of Adam and Abram

Adam

As a result of “original sin” (The Fall), God cursed the ground with thorns and thistles. “To Adam, he [God] said, “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil, you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.” Genesis 3:17–18

Abram

God commanded Abram to sacrifice his ONLY son, Isaac. As he is about to draw the knife down on his son, God commands Abram to stop, and God provides a “substitute,” a **Ram** caught in the thicket of thorns and thistles.

“Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb.... Abraham looked up, and there in a thicket, he saw a ram caught by its horns.”



A Ram is a male sheep. A “thicket” is a densely packed bunch of small bushes or trees. They have leaves that attract animals who forge on the leaves. The Ram most likely was attracted to the vegetation, and his horns became lodged in the thicket. The Bible does not indicate what “type” or species of bush or tree was in the thicket that caught the Ram. But it most likely also bore vegetation that contained thorns and thistles. To create a “Shofar” Trumpet – all the material inside a Ram’s horn is stripped out. The Shofar is God’s favorite instrument.

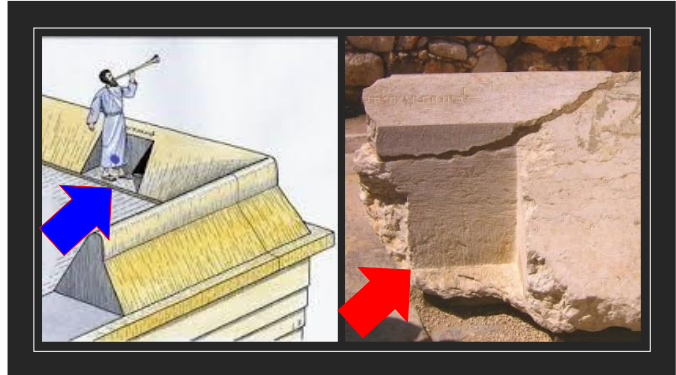
Jesus Christ is our “sin substitute.” But He was not “caught” like the Ram. Instead, Jesus gave Himself freely, wearing a “Crown of Thorns” Jesus eradicated “original sin” caused by the “Fall.” He is the perfect substitute.

God's Trumpets

God's Trumpet (Ram's Horn-Shofar Trumpet) was introduced and sounded in the Bible's **first book**, Genesis, and throughout Israel's history. **Anyone** can sound the Shofar.

God introduced a Silver "Temple Trumpet" with the Mosaic Law. But only the Jewish Priests (Tribe of Levi) could sound it. The "**Place of Trumpeting**" (**BLUE** arrow) was the

"place" where a Priest would stand to blow the "Temple Trumpet." It was located at the Top "Southwest Corner" of the First and Second Temple. In 70 AD, the Romans destroyed the Second Temple, but God preserved the stones that formed the "**Place of Trumpeting**." It is on display at the **Israel Museum** in Jerusalem. See **RED** arrow. An inscription on one of the stones reads in part, "**To the Place of Trumpeting.**"



"How Will We Know When Jesus Christ Will Return?"

The Shofar Trumpet and Temple Trumpet's sounding are the precursor of Jesus' return.

1. **God's Shofar Trumpets will be sounding.** God's "Shofar Trumpet" is first introduced when God commands Abram to sacrifice "Isaac" on Mount Moriah. As Abram is about to bring the knife down on his son, God intervenes and provides Abram with a "substitute," a "Ram" caught in the thicket by its **horns**.

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn." Psalms 98:4-6

2. **The "Last (Shofar) Trumpet" will sound, and all believers will be "Gathered" (Raptured).**

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last Trumpet. For the Trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed." 1 Cor. 15:51-55

3. **God's Seventh Angel sounds, the seventh Temple Trumpet will Jesus Christ's RETURN—His Second coming.**

The earthly "Temple" was a "copy or shadow" of the "Heavenly Temple." So, there must also be a "Place of Trumpeting" in the "Heavenly Temple." In the **Last Book** of the Bible, Revelation, Seven Angels will sound Seven Trumpets. God's Angels are His priests, so they must sound the Silver "Temple Trumpets." The last three of the Seven Trumpets are called "Woe Trumpets." Therefore, after the Seventh Angel sounds, the Seventh Trumpet (3rd Woe Trumpet), Jesus Christ, RETURNS.



“There were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.” Rev. 1:15–19

**Sound the Trumpets in Zion—
Jesus Christ has Returned.**

God’s “Favorite Instrument”



God’s Trumpet is NOT a Toy!

It’s a serious instrument for serious Kingdom Work!

Please keep your “Shofar” near your Bible and sound it often to:

Proclaim and celebrate the “good things” God bestows upon you.

Praise Him in worship.

Prepare you for spiritual battles and during spiritual battles.