

Irrefutable proof of a Pentecost resurrection!

What is Truth? How can we recognize it? Truth is what is recorded in the Word of God and revealed by Jesus Christ, the Head of God's true Church. Truth is certain, precise and accurately represents what scripture states. If a teaching does not precisely tally and absolutely conform with scripture, then it is not Truth! Truth does not come from a man or an organization of men; it comes from the Word of God through a man.

One of the many truths which Christ has given His Church, is that the resurrection will take place on a future Feast of Pentecost (or the Feast of Firstfruits). As we shall see, this Truth precisely tallies, absolutely conforms and accurately represents what scripture states on the resurrection.

The New Testament word for 'firstfruit' is a translation from the Greek word 'aparche' (Strong's number 536). This word could be translated as "a beginning of *sacrifice*, that is the firstfruits". An 'offering' is something that is given or presented, and in this case, firstfruits are being *offered* or *presented* to God. The dictionary definition of the word 'firstfruits' is as follows: "the initial gathered fruits offered or presented to God". That is the meaning of the word 'firstfruits'! With these biblical and dictionary definitions in mind, the "Feast of Firstfruits" could potentially be called the "Feast of the initial gathered fruits presented to God".

The name "Feast of Firstfruits" doesn't only refer to the *gathering* of the firstfruits, but it also clearly refers to the *presenting* of the firstfruits to God. Of course, the firstfruits can only be presented to God if they have first of all been resurrected! Let us here take a look at one biblical proof of the Pentecost resurrection. This irrefutable proof will focus on the seventh seal and the seven trumpet plagues.

The book of Revelation talks about *seven seals*, and these seals are prophesied to be opened *during* the Day of the Lord (Rev. 1:10; Rev. 4 onwards). Revelation 1:10 tells us that the apostle John *was in the spirit on the Day of the Lord* when he saw events portrayed by the seven seals begin to unfold.

The Faithful Church of God in Laodicea understands that Christ is about to come to His temple 'as a thief in the night' which will mark the beginning of the Day of the Lord (Please ask for our free booklet entitled, "The Day of the Lord cometh..."). The first four seals, which are depicted by the four horsemen of the apocalypse, will be opened as soon as the Day of the Lord begins, with the Great Tribulation (fifth seal) to closely follow.

Following is a list of the seven seals discussed in the book of Revelation:

- Rev. 6:1-2 describes the *first seal* depicting the first horseman representing 'spiritual deception'
- Rev. 6:3-4 describes the *second seal* depicting the second horseman representing 'war'
- Rev. 6:5-6 describes the *third seal* depicting the third horseman representing 'famine'
- Rev. 6:7-8 describes the *fourth seal* depicting the fourth horseman representing 'pestilence'
- Rev. 6:9-11 discusses the *fifth seal*, or Great Tribulation

- Rev. 6:12-17 discusses the *sixth seal* or heavenly signs
- Rev. 8, 9, 11 discuss the *seventh seal* or Day of the Lord's Wrath

The final seventh seal [which we will focus on to prove the Pentecost resurrection] is referred to as the "Day of the Lord's Wrath" (or last year of Great Tribulation). We know that the 'Day of the Lord's Wrath' will end on a Feast of Trumpets when Christ will return (with His bride) and set His feet on the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4).

If the Day of the Lord's Wrath lasts a year and ends on a future Feast of Trumpets, we can deduce that it will begin on the previous Feast of Trumpets.

Chapters 8, 9 and 11 in the book of Revelation demonstrate that the seventh seal, or the Day of the Lord's Wrath, comprises of *seven* terrible plagues which will fall on this earth. These *seven* plagues will be heralded by the blowing of a trumpet (See Rev. 8; Rev. 9:1, 13; Rev. 11).

At this juncture, it is necessary to state that Psalms 81:3 clearly demonstrates that trumpets are blown to mark each of the seven annual Feast days: "Blow up a trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed [*or on 'festivals, feasts', Strong's 3677*] for this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob".

Evidently, the seven trumpets (which will mark the beginning of each of the seven plagues during the Day of the Lord's Wrath) will be blown on each of the Feast days. The trumpets will not be blown randomly or sporadically – God is not erratic! On the contrary, He is very meticulous, organized and does things right on time!

During the Day of the Lord's Wrath, or the last year of tribulation, a trumpet will be blown on each of the Feast days and at the sound of each trumpet, plagues will fall on the earth. We have already seen how the 'Day of the Lord's Wrath' will last from one Feast of Trumpets to the following Feast of Trumpets. We have also seen that a trumpet will be blown on each Feast day.

Let us now take a look at each of the seven trumpets, the Feast days on which they will be blown and their corresponding plagues:

- The *first trumpet* will be blown on the first Feast during the Day of the Lord's Wrath – which, as we have seen, will be a Feast of Trumpets. The plague associated with this trumpet is that a third of the trees and vegetation will be burnt up. (Rev 8:1-2, 6-7)
- The *second trumpet* will be blown on the next Feast, the Day of Atonement. The plagues brought about by this second trumpet blast on the Day of Atonement will include one third of the sea turning into blood, a third of the fish dying, and a third of the ships being destroyed (Rev. 8:8-10).
- The *third trumpet* will be blown on the Feast of Tabernacles. The plagues brought about by this trumpet blast include fresh water becoming bitter and many will die (Rev. 8:10).
- The *fourth trumpet* will sound on the next Feast during the Day of the Lord's wrath, which will be the Last Great Day. This plague results in darkness brought upon the earth (Rev. 8:12).

- The *fifth trumpet* will be blown on the first day of Unleavened Bread. Please read Rev. 9:1-12 carefully. With the sound of this fifth trumpet, we can see the first of the three woes come into play representing war which is inspired by Satan and, significantly, verse 5 and verse 10 both tell us that mankind will be tormented by this plague FOR FIVE MONTHS. Notice: this plague will last for FIVE MONTHS! Why is this five months significant? Because it gives us further evidence that these *seven trumpets* are blown on each of the Feast days during the Day of the Lord's Wrath! Remember the fifth trumpet is blown on the first day of Unleavened Bread which covers the five month period between the first day of ULB and the final Feast of Trumpets marking the end of the Day of the Lord's Wrath, or the return of Christ with his bride on the Feast of Trumpets. This is further evidence to those with eyes to see and willing to accept the Bible that these seven trumpet plagues will be showered down on this earth commencing on each of the seven Feast Days that are to fall within the last year of tribulation.

- The *sixth trumpet* will be blown on the Last Day of Unleavened Bread. With the sound of this trumpet, the second woe will come into play with a third of the population dying from fire, smoke and brimstone (Rev 9:13-21).

- The *seventh trumpet* will blow on the next Feast which is the day of Pentecost:

“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Cor. 15:52).

As is stated in 1 Corinthians 15:52, this seventh final trumpet which will be blown on the Feast of Pentecost will signal Christ coming to meet the firstfruits in the clouds. Those who have died in Christ over the ages including the repentant Laodiceans who would have died in tribulation will be resurrected and the rest of the Philadelphians in a place of safety will be changed on this resurrection day! (Note: There is no mention of Christ returning to the Mount of Olives YET!)

The events which will take place when this seventh trumpet sounds are as follows:

- a) The resurrection of the firstfruits (1 Cor. 15:51)
- b) Christ meets the firstfruits in the clouds (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

- c) The third woe (lasting for 110 days) consists of seven vials will begin to be poured out on the earth (Rev. 15:6-8) as follows:

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| 1) | Rev 16:1-2 | Terrible sores |
| 2) | Rev 16:3 | Sea becomes blood |
| 3) | Rev 16:4-7 | Water becomes bitter |
| 4) | Rev 16:8-9 | Scorching sun |
| 5) | Rev 16:10-11 | Darkness & pain |
| 6) | Rev 16:12-16 | Euphrates dries up |
| 7) | Rev 16:17 | Greatest earthquake ever & hail |

- d) Christ presents the firstfruits to the Father (Jude 24)
- e) The coronation of Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Dan 7:14)
- f) The marriage of the Lamb takes place (Rev. 19:7)
- g) The firstfruits bride is arrayed in *fine linen, clean and white* (Rev 19:8)

Evidently, the seven vials will take four months (or 110 days) to be fulfilled. (It is logically impossible for these to be fulfilled in one day as we previously believed). The effects of these seven vials will end the following Feast of Trumpets, at the end of the Day of the Lord's Wrath, when Revelation 19:13 and Zechariah 14:4 will be fulfilled with Christ coming to the Mount of Olives already married to His wife. Notice:

“And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean” (Rev 19:13-14). This scripture states that the “armies” followed Christ to earth, clearly referring to His firstfruits wife (Rev. 14:4). We are also told that the armies were ‘clothed in fine linen, white and clean’. Scripture shows that these garments are worn by Christ’s bride (see Rev. 19:8). Verse 14 also states that the ‘armies’ that followed Christ ‘were in heaven’ again indicating that the resurrection must occur before Christ returns on the Feast of Trumpets. These scriptures prove beyond doubt that the resurrection occurs on Pentecost with the marriage taking place in heaven (Rev 19:7) before Christ returns to this earth with His firstfruits bride on the Feast of Trumpets:

“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 cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south” (Zech 14:4).

How plain and clear scripture is when we allow it to interpret itself! This Truth on the Pentecost resurrection is certain, precise and accurate and comes right out of the Word of God.

It is now the responsibility of each begotten member of God’s Church to prove it (1 Thess. 5:21), believe Him (Heb. 11:6) and follow Him (John 12:26)!