

Week 3 Ancient Paths

Alright here we go on week 3 of the Ancient paths. Just to show you a few things about how God's time, the biblical trumpets, and ancient paths are interwoven, I'm going to present an ancient path today that appears to be short and sweet at first glance. However, it is anything but short and sweet will be determined according to one's own tastes.

This week our ancient path is found in two verses in Psalm 81. Verses 3 and 4 to be precise. Psalm 81:3-4 read:

Blow the trumpet at the new moon, At the full moon, on our feast day.
For it is a statute for Israel, An ordinance of the God of Jacob.

Now this seems, like I said, short and sweet. This is David writing in the Psalms. He says, "Blow the trumpet at the new moon," Why? The new moon was the ending of a current month and the beginning of a new month. So? It was a time of thanksgiving, worship, praise, the giving of offerings to serve of a reminder of the people before God that He is Adonai their God. Seems simple. But how do we know that?

Numbers 10:10 is part of the first instructions given to sound the Silver trumpets the *hasosera*, the trumpets of the tabernacle or the tent of meetings. The trumpets sounded by priests that preceded the ark of the covenant (except at Jericho). Those silver trumpets have long been lost to antiquity and the shofar, the ram's horn or the Yemenite, have replaced the hasosera, over the millenia. But the instructions were to sound the trumpets:

"Also in the day of your gladness and in your appointed feasts, and on the first days of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offering; and they shall be as a reminder of you before your God. I am the Lord your God."

It seems that the days of gladness, the appointed feasts (Passover, Shavuot/Pentecost, and Tabernacles), the first days of the month (new moon), mid month (full moon) were times of making offerings and sacrifices to God. It was a time of worship, praise, and thanksgiving. There's just one problem though. We don't burn offerings anymore. Jesus was the perfect Lamb of God presented as a one time offering that provides our righteousness. So what do these times mean to us? They are times that we REMEMBER the offering that was made on our behalf. We REMEMBER lest we FORGET. This is not a tradition or ritual. We genuinely need to do this, "In Remembrance of ME" as Jesus said. Could this be times of the Communion? But let's get back to Psalm 81.

Psalm 81 verse 3 says that it is a statute for Israel. Well, we're not Israel right? We don't need to do this, right? I mean, that's law, right?"

However, the second part, verse 4 states very clearly, "It is an ordinance of the God of Jacob." Who is that? Who is the God of Jacob? Do we not serve the God of Jacob?

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A statute (*hoq* in Hebrew) is indeed a law. An ordinance (*mispal*) is a judgment or determination of God and I suspect that applies to Jew and gentile. What is in the mix with a judgment or determination? It's called obedience.

Should we sound the shofar at these times? I think so, in obedience and remembrance of the sacrifice that Yeshua, Jesus, made on our behalf. After all, that is a day of gladness to remember on our part.

Remembrance? Why should we remember something that happened so long ago?

Exodus 12:25 25-27 “When you come into the land which Adonai will give you as He has promised, you are to keep this ceremony. Now when it happens that your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ You are to say, ‘It is the sacrifice of Adonai’s Passover, because He passed over the houses of Benei-Yisrael in Egypt, when He struck down the Egyptians, but spared our households.’ So the people bowed their heads and worshipped.

It would seem that remembrance is important to God. How much more so does He wish for us to remember His sacrifice of His son for our salvation and righteousness? Let’s look further. Let’s look at Joshua 4:4-7

Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from Benei Yisrael, one man from each tribe. Joshua said to them, “Cross over before the ark of Adonai you God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you, lift up a stone on his shoulder, for the number of the tribes of Benei Yisrael. Let this be a sign among you. When your children ask later saying, ‘What do these stones mean?’ Then you will say to them; “Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of Adonai—when it crossed the Jordan—so these stones will be a reminder.”

Now why would God want them to remember that? Well, first thing, it was a monumental miracle in Israel’s history. Another thing is that it is a prophetic picture of the New Jerusalem in the New Heaven and Earth. Joshua and Israel only had to remember what God had done. We have the privilege of knowing what is to come and what God is going to do.

You’ll hear me mention obedience and remembrance a lot. Over the next two weeks I’ll discuss each, obedience and remembrance, individually.