

רוש השנה

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah means head of the year (rosh=head, ha=the, shanah=year), the first day of the Jewish civil new year.

This year, 5779, the day began at sundown on Sunday, September 9th, the first day of the seventh Jewish month, Tishrei. Rosh Hashanah is not specifically mentioned in Scripture, but there are hints, filled in by Jewish tradition.

Q: Is it OK to use tradition to fill in blanks when not addressed by Scriptures?

^{CJB} **Leviticus 23:24-25** "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'In the seventh month, the first of the month is to be for you a day of complete rest for remembering, a holy convocation announced with blasts on the *shofar*.²⁵ Do not do any kind of ordinary work, and bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI."

^{CJB} **Numbers 29:1-2** "In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you are to have a holy convocation; do not do any kind of ordinary work; it is a day of blowing the *shofar* for you.² Prepare a burnt offering to make a fragrant aroma for ADONAI-

Elements:

1. Remembering
2. Believers gathering
3. Day of rest
4. Blowing the shofar
5. Offering, sacrifice

Ap: Under the New Covenant, we are admonished to gather together, and to find rest in Him.

^{NAU} **Hebrews 10:24-25**²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

^{NAU} **Matthew 11:28-29**²⁸ "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.²⁹ "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.

^{NAU} **Hebrews 4:10-11**¹⁰ For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.¹¹ Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest

The theme of beginning is associated with Rosh Hashanah.

^{CJB} **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

^{CJB} **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God

“beginning”

Beginning of time, space, matter—the universe

“was”

הָיָה Imperfect tense- A progressive imperfect denotes action in progress in past time. In the beginning the Word was already existing.

The theme of judgment is also associated with Rosh Hashanah. The beginning of the holiday is followed by 10 days of prayer, self-examination and repentance, leading up to Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Ap: For us today, this is a good way to start out a new year or perhaps even a new day, judging oneself with the guidance and conviction of the Holy Spirit, confessing sins, repenting, and recognizing the atonement and forgiveness offered through Yeshua the Messiah.

^{NAU} **1 Corinthians 11:31** ³¹ But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged.

^{ESV} **1 Corinthians 4:3-4** But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.

^{NAU} **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Q: Do you know a good verse on asking God to expose any sins you may have?

The yearly Day of Atonement noted in the Tanakh was a shadow for the ultimate and effective Day of Atonement which occurred on Passover in AD 30 when Yeshua died on the cross for our sins.

^{NAU} **Isaiah 53:5** ⁵ But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed

^{NAU} **1 Peter 2:24** and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Matthew 24:29-36

The Second Coming of Yeshua Messiah

Text:

^{NAU} **Matthew 24:29** ²⁹ "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

Context:

In Matthew 24 & 25, Yeshua is responding to His disciples' question, "...what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matt. 24:3)

"immediately after the tribulation of those days"

Q: What tribulation?

^{NAU} **Matthew 24:21** ²¹ "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.

Q: What is a tribulation?

θλιψις This Greek word is used 45 times in the NT, translated into various English words by the NAU- affliction(14), afflictions(6), anguish(1), distress(2), persecution(1), tribulation(16), tribulations(4), trouble(1).

^{NAU} **Matthew 13:21** yet he has no *firm* root in himself, but is *only* temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away.

^{NAU} **Matthew 24:9** "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.

^{NAU} **John 16:33** "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

^{NAU} **Romans 5:3** And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

^{NAU} **Romans 8:35** Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

^{NAU} **Romans 12:12** rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

^{NAU} **2 Corinthians 4:17** For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,

^{NAU} **1 Thessalonians 3:3** so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for this.

"THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

^{CJB} **Isaiah 13:10** For the stars, the constellations in the sky, will no longer give their light; the sun will be dark when it rises; and the moon will no longer shine.

Isaiah is writing about the Day of the Lord, a day of judgment.

The book of Revelation parallels these sky signs when the sixth seal is broken.

^{NAU} **Revelation 6:12-14** ¹² I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth *made* of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. ¹⁴ The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Text:

^{NAU} **Matthew 24:30** ³⁰ "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

"all the tribes of the earth will mourn"

Q: Why are they mourning?

Do they mourn for the pending judgment, expressing fear of God's wrath?

^{NAU} **Revelation 6:15-16** ¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; ¹⁶ and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

Earth's inhabitants will see the Son of Man, Yeshua, in all His power and glory on that day when He returns.

After spending 40 days on earth in His resurrected state, Yeshua ascends into the sky. We have the testimony of angels concerning how He comes again.

^{CJB} **Acts 1:10-11** ¹⁰ As they were staring into the sky after him, suddenly they saw two men dressed in white standing next to them. ¹¹ The men said, "You Galileans! Why are you standing, staring into space? This Yeshua, who has been taken away from you into heaven, will come back to you in just the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

"SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY"

^{NAU} **Daniel 7:13-14** ¹³ "I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. ¹⁴ "And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and *men of every* language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.

This is a reference to Daniel's vision of Yeshua.

Text:

^{ALW} **Matthew 24:31** "And He will send forth His angels with a great shofar and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

"Great Shofar"

The Greek word for great basically means large. I picture this shofar as being larger than any we have ever seen. It is blown by an angel with a set of lungs well beyond our own. This shofar blast may be a prolonged sound that grows in intensity and vibration, causing a shaking.

^{CJB} **Exodus 19:18** Mount Sinai was enveloped in smoke, because ADONAI descended onto it in fire- its smoke went up like the smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain shook violently. As the sound of the *shofar* grew louder and louder...

In Nehemiah 4:20 the shofar blast was used to assemble the Israelites when threatened by the enemy, and then see God fight the enemy for them.

In the last days, this shofar blast will be used to assemble the saints who would then see God pour out His wrath on their enemies, their persecutors.

In 1 Kings 1, Adonijah attempts to usurp the throne by having himself crowned king. The ailing King David hears of this plot and corrects the situation; the rightful king, Solomon, is proclaimed king with a shofar blast (1 Kings 1:39). This leads to Adonijah's loss of power and eventual demise.

In the last days, the beast (Satanic empowerment) attempts to take power over the inhabitants of the earth, only to be defeated by the rightful King, Yeshua Messiah, who announces His coming and supreme authority with a shofar blast.

“they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other”

I believe this is a reference to the gathering of believers just prior to judgment. Revelation describes the next step for the believers who have been gathered and taken out of the great tribulation by Yeshua Messiah.

^{NAU} **Revelation 7:9-10** ⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes...

^{NAU} **Revelation 7:13-17** ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ "For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple..."

Text:

^{NAU} **Matthew 24:32-33** ³² "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; ³³ so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door.

A parable is a story used to illustrate a truth or principle. In this case leaves appearing on the tree indicate that summer is near.

No one will know the day or the hour of Yeshua's coming, but there will be signs, indicators that tell us His coming is very near.

The Apostle Paul also talks about signs preceding the coming of Christ and our gathering together to Him.

^{NAU} **2 Thessalonians 2:1** Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction...

Q: What are other signs of His coming?

Text:

^{NAU} **Matthew 24:34** "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

^{CJB} **Matthew 24:34** Yes! I tell you that this people will certainly not pass away before all these things happen.

"Yeshua is guaranteeing that the Jews will persist as a people until his second coming."
Jewish New Testament Commentary by David Stern, p. 75.

[GING] γενεά
γενεά, ἄς, ἡ *clan, race, kind* [Lk 16:8](#). *Generation, contemporaries* [Mt 12:41f](#); [17:17](#); [Mk 9:19](#); [13:30](#); [Lk 21:32](#); [Hb 3:10](#). *Age, period of time* [Mt 1:17](#); [Lk 1:48, 50](#); [Col 1:26](#). *Perh. family or origin* [Ac 8:33](#). [pg 38]

Text:

^{CJB} **Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

Ap: God's Word is our only security; everything else will perish. It is our only means of certainty about truth. All human philosophies and religions not based on God's word are deceiving and damaging, leading many astray into a false sense of security.

Q: When does heaven and earth pass away?

Text:

^{CJB} **Matthew 24:36** "But when that day and hour will come, no one knows- not the angels in heaven, not the Son, only the Father.

Q: Why doesn't Yeshua know? Doesn't He know all things?

^{CJB} **Philippians 2:6-7** Though he was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God something to be possessed by force. On the contrary, he emptied himself, in that he took the form of a slave by becoming like human beings are. And when he appeared as a human being

Conclusion: We have covered much ground in this brief teaching, from the beginning to the end. For now, Shanah Tovah to all of you.

