

A Unique Feast of Trumpets

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This is the Feast of Trumpets and as we always do I want to mention some things that are definitely expected of God's people on a regular basis. I'm not going to go through all the scriptures because we do this at different times on the High Days. We only have 7 High Days in 3 seasons of the year in scripture that we observe and on those 7 High Days we do take up an offering. And so in some areas you are accustomed to doing that – whether you put it in something at the back of the hall, or that you just give it to an Elder in some areas or whatever it might be and they collect it and send it in, however you handle it in your area is a custom that each one of you is acquainted with and if you are not sure just ask someone who knows. If you're on your own and it's something you mail in – often times, before the High Day, but if not, right away soon after, a day or two after the High Day, something you have set aside. But please understand, it is commanded. It is something we're supposed to do and sometimes I don't know that people really grasp that. Just as it is with the Sabbath Day, tithing and other commandments we have, so is this of giving an offering in 3 seasons of the year on each of the High Days – which would be 7 High Days. And even if we're strapped with finances and we're having a difficult time, it doesn't matter whether it's a dollar, or a few cents, if that's all we have, that's all we have, but we're to give it to God and I'd like to make sure that people don't send in change through the mail. If you can't save up enough on one High Day, then save it for another and hopefully you're going to be able to have something you can send in in a different manner, rather than coins. It's not wise to send coins through the mail. We're going to continue on now with the main message of the Feast of Trumpets for this year.

When looking at all the history of mankind, last year we witnessed a most unique Feast of Trumpets. As much as the suffering and death of Jesus Christ was fulfilled in the meaning of Passover, and as much as the giving of God's law and the giving of His spirit had great fulfillment in the meaning of Pentecost, last year's Feast of Trumpets pictured the beginning of fulfillment for the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets. It was a beginning and we need to understand the process and how unique that year was, last year, the beginning of all this because that was a very specific moment in time as God gave us revelation and understanding about the 1335 days. That meaning of the Feast of Trumpets has not yet been completely fulfilled, just as Pentecost has not yet been completely fulfilled in meaning, but the beginning for the fulfillment of the meaning contained in the Feast of Trumpets did begin, powerfully so last year at this time. And that's an incredible thing to understand. Just as people have kept Passover for so long before Jesus Christ came, and then afterwards in the Church; all the time that it's been observed and kept to understand especially at the time Jesus Christ came, to understand the significance of the observances that that's when it was fulfilled. The very meaning at the time when he fulfilled and accomplished what he did and died. All contained in the meaning of a particular day.

And just as I said a moment ago, just as much as parts of Pentecost have been fulfilled at different times, and yet they're very unique... the awesomeness of a single event in history that began it all in one respect in the giving of the 10 Commandments on the Day of Pentecost; and then one specific moment in time after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, several days later then, we come down to a point of a High Day called Pentecost and again, the meaning in that day, a unique time in history when we had that which took place for the beginning of the Church and God poured out His spirit on that day. Incredible to understand the meaning of different events that have timing and events that take place and yet we have learned because of things we've gone through that the Day of Pentecost is not yet fulfilled. There

is more meaning because of the firstfruits and what it means about the firstfruits and God has shown us a great deal about that meaning in a greater way, in a more intense way than we've ever known and understood.

And now, we're observing the Feast of Trumpets again and last year's Feast of Trumpets held incredible meaning because it was a specific moment in time like all those other days I just mentioned. So again, speaking of last year, that Feast of Trumpets a year ago was the announcement primarily to God's own Church for the exact time of Jesus Christ's return. Last year's Feast of Trumpets was the beginning of the count of 1335 days spoken of by Daniel that leads up to the very day God's government is established on this earth through the establishment of Jesus Christ as the King of Kings. And so, last Feast is incredible when you understand it. It marked the beginning of the fulfillment of the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets. It truly did. A powerful thing because there are many Trumpet blasts that lead up to the final Trumpet blast and that final trumpet blast as we know brings us right up to the day of Pentecost. Incredible the meaning contained in these things and so Trumpets, because there are several Trumpets that fulfill the meaning of the day, it still started in the sense of it's fulfillment and the greatest part of the meaning of the fulfillment began last year on last years Feast when God gave us understanding of the count that was to begin of 1335 days.

That sermon last year, was entitled, "A very Special Feast of Trumpets". The fulfillment in the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets is still being carried out, so this year is also a unique Feast of Trumpet's and that is what this sermon is entitled, *A Unique Feast of Trumpets*. It is incredibly unique when we consider that only the 1st Trumpet has sounded and the world has been deaf to that sound. And even that 1st Trumpet didn't happen on the Feast of Trumpets. God gave understanding of a countdown that was to begin, that would lead up to, because Trumpets is all about the announcing, and a continual announcing and as it gets closer and closer, until finally we're there. So it's not something to be fulfilled in that day, or has to be done in that day. Each trumpet blast, because of their being 7 blasts cannot each take place on the Feast of Trumpets. That isn't the meaning of it. It's the meaning contained in all of the Trumpet blasts that lead up to that final one, that final one that announces the actual coming of Jesus Christ.

And so God gave us great revelation at last year's Feast, beginning the 1335 count. The world's ears have been deaf to that sound of that 1st Trumpet. We're still in a state of prosperity and plenty, although the economic condition of the world has taken a large hit it has not slowed down the arrogance and the haughtiness of man. That is all rebounded and coming back full swing. It's just like what happened with Moses and what he did with all those plagues, and Pharaoh's response. Pharaoh's heart would be softened when he was in the midst of something far greater than him, and this world, when it began to plunge like it did and leaders worried like they did that this could be the end of the dollar, this could be the end of the economic system that is ruling the world as we know it were like Pharaoh. They made comments like that, and look... it didn't take very long and it started going away and what happens when that threat seems to be waning a little bit and people lose sight and all of a sudden they have these false hopes again, the arrogance comes right back. That should tell us a lot about why so many things have to take place, why so many Trumpet blasts that finally lead up to the very return of Jesus Christ have to occur, that there is no other way to humble human beings and to usher in God's Kingdom on this earth; for Jesus Christ to indeed become King of kings, because that's what the Feast of Trumpets is all about in that respect: that announcement and the announcing of those things and the bringing about of that reality finally.

And so for those who have eyes to see, you can see this willing blind attitude in political leaders and economic forecasters and in much of the news media. It's out there again, isn't it? Incredible what we're witnessing, what we're seeing.

But today marks a unique time that adds greater understanding to the 50th Truth. I've been alluding to this in some sermons and making a few comments here and there leading up to today and we're not going to have all of it given today. It's going to be given later – after the Feast of Trumpets because of the significance, as you will come to understand, of why these events take place at times in the way God gives them and when He gives us the truth, but when I first started seeing some of this I thought – wow, I didn't see how there could be a 51st Truth because I believe with all my being that the 50th was the last and then it was finally made very clear that no, it adds to the 50th truth, to the understanding of the 50th Truth, just as much as there is not one trumpets blast related to the Feast of Trumpets, there are several blasts.

This is a revelation God has given that is contained in this Feast of Trumpets and in no other day in all of time. Last year was important as it began the 1335 days, and today is awesomely important and you're going to come to understand that in a far greater way later on.

And so again, this is a revelation, what is going to be added and given to understanding of the 50th Truth, reinforcing it, strengthening it, giving it greater power and purpose – this is a revelation God has given that is contained in this Feast of Trumpets and in no other day in all of time, both past and future. We'll hear more about this on the Last Great Day. You have to wait. There may be some things that God begins to give before that but primarily the entire message will come together on the Last Great Day. It is not by chance nor coincidence that today fulfills 40 weeks, 280 days since the final 1260 days began. That was the time that the 2 witnesses officially began their job, truly did; and we're going to understand those things far deeper later on, what God has been doing that constitutes that witness that officially began at that time and it has great meaning as well in this Feast of Trumpets and that will come out in time as well. God uses 40 in powerful ways – we have seen that when the man of sin was revealed. We saw that last year especially when we talked about 40 weeks and there are things given about 280 days. It shows God's judgement and it is something that He gives. We have learned that in a very powerful way. We have learned from the time of Christmas to Trumpets of last year... a judgement that God revealed and manifested in this world and given through the message that was given... a judgement that is on Satan and the demonic world. There are judgements that are there but that was the official time and it showed that God is in that judgement and that God is doing it now, that there are certain things taking place that are going to lead up to the fulfillment of those things; and this today is a matter of God's judgement. God revealing things about His judgement of something so important, the things that are important that started on the countdown of the final 1260 days, up to today, now is exactly 40 weeks, 280 days. Incredible. Truly is.

But before we continue discussing what is being fulfilled in Trumpets, where we are and what is yet to come, let's focus first on some of those things that God wants us to learn from the meaning contained in this day, and if we have time we'll come back to some of this because the reality is we can't touch upon much because God is giving it later. There are reasons for that.

Let's turn over to the last book of the Bible. This book is one that carries us through some important warnings from a loving God who wants us to be sobered by the battle that's in front of us concerning the necessity of being faithful to our calling. As we continue on we're going to be confronted with great changes in this world, changes that lead right up to the fulfillment of the announcement that's

contained in the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets, with the coming of Jesus Christ and the 144,000 firstfruits with him.

Revelation is a sobering book. It powerfully focuses upon the Church and the events within the Church, and also upon the end-time events in this world that lead up to a most momentous occasion, the Trumpet blasts that heralds and announces a new King. The King of kings who is about to come and finally bring God's government to this earth. This will be the 7th Trumpet of the 7th Seal. What an astounding moment in time. All those trumpet blasts... each one announcing, proclaiming events that God said would take place, to bring man to humility, to bring the world to a point of being able to receive the King of kings and there is no other way.

Revelation 1:1 – We review some of these things from year to year and we must go through them – God tells us to think about these things, to think about the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets, to think about the meaning of the Feast of Pentecost during that day and on and on it goes; different high days, and we are think about them, we're to meditate upon them. In **Revelation 1:1** – beautiful what it says here - **The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants**, you know, things to be revealed, even the timing of His coming. You know, it's an awesome thing when the world speaks of and holds onto certain ideas because it's so hard when they say, "no man knows the day or the hour," but they don't know the rest of the story. There comes a time when the day or the hour becomes known, and there comes a time when God reveals it to His servants, the prophets – that's how it's done, and so God gives these things to His son, to Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ gives them to the Church – through, in this case, when we speak about this end-time, His prophets. And so again, **to show unto His servants**, to bless us all, to help us all to see and understand, just like it talked about when we understood Daniel and the 1335 days – incredible. God gave that to all of His servants, to all of His people, to know and to understand. The world doesn't understand but we do; **things which must shortly come to pass**; so He doesn't wait until the moment that they actually happen, He begins to reveal things in advance: **and He sent and signified it by His angel unto his servant John**: So let's pause here and remind ourselves again of the three uses of a trumpet that we so often have talked about in the Old Testament. It's hard to not talk about these things when you talk about the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets on this day. Those things all have meaning in the meaning of the Revelation of what this day is all about, the three uses of a trumpet that were used in Ancient Israel that has much relevance for understanding the meaning of this day. Again, of the years we've focused on these things as God has commanded us we need to focus on the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets.

1. Is: The Call to Assembly. To call everyone to assemble. There are different sounds that were given throughout the camp of Israel in the Old Testament and they knew what those sounds were and what they meant. And so today we learn from this in a very powerful way that it's for the Church – in order to give direction, to lead and guide and direct us – to call to assembly. That's what happens when God brings us together. We come before God to listen, to hear what God has for us. He leads us, He shows us the direction we're to go, what we're to do, when we're to do it, how we're to do it. Everything we've been doing throughout time. Everything Mr. Armstrong did, God was leading and guiding and directing through Jesus Christ, through the Church, giving it to Mr. Armstrong to give to the Church, instruction, guidance and direction of what we were to be focused upon at specific times and how to continue to move forward and what needed to be done. And the Church was behind it, the Church was for it, the Church prayed about it – it was our life and it still is as God continues to reveal things to us – just as much as things about Gideon's Army and the work we began to do and running down the hill

together and all of those things that have taken place that we have been involved in at different times – because this is what God is doing.

2. To Sound An Alarm – especially to war. And so we've had different times and more will be given, especially as we understand the meaning of what's taking place in the Feast of Trumpets. Those things that are going to take place; those trumpet blasts that are alarming in that respect as to what they say and what they teach. Things we already understand in large part, but not fully: things about the 1st Trumpet that we don't really grasp fully yet – things that are still being accomplished and fulfilled and still have to be fulfilled; things about the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Trumpet and then finally the 5th when Europe arises. WAR, powerful war, things that we know are coming.

And then finally...

3. To Proclaim A Time For Rejoicing, Thankfulness, and Praise – especially in the announcing and heralding of a new King. What an awesome time for the 1st resurrection; that 1st resurrection that God has waited for for so long, a first great part of His family that begins, that is built upon the foundation of Jesus Christ, who is the chief cornerstone; and then all the rest of the firstfruits that are brought. What an awesome time.

Revelation 1:3 - Blessed is he who reads, and they who hear the words of this prophecy, that's what Trumpets is so much about, a call to assembly, the ability to hear what God is giving to us. So much of the book of Revelation, so much of it is about the Feast of Trumpets; it's about that which leads up to the return of Jesus Christ; it's what leads up to the final phases of things that are take place on this earth and how that we are to hear all along the way, to be attuned to what we're being given so that we can learn and grow and be where we need to be and do what we need to do and focus upon what we need to focus upon to keep moving forward. And so it says, **Blessed is he who reads, and they who hear the words of this prophecy**. If you read it it doesn't mean anything unless God's spirit is in you, giving you ability to see and hear and then it's up to us how we hear and what we hear then if we've been given that ability to hear the words of the prophecy. There's no one else who understands it. I gave that sermon here recently and talked about some of the things of where we are in time and talking as I said, in a foolish way as Paul talked about, speaking of a foolish way about where the truth is and made comment about how if nothing else were true, if we understood it, I'm an apostle. And as I said, I said that foolishly because I know that I am not. I know that I'm a prophet. Why? Because God gives His truth through His servants and it only comes through and is given to the Church through two specific types of individuals – apostles and prophets – that's how God works. And so, what an awesome thing that God has given to us to hear at the end-time. He's given the Church prophets, but one who is the spokesman, one who is to teach and lead and guide and direct the body and there are other things coming in the future that constitute the job of 2, and even that will become better known and better understood in time. You have to wait. ...**and they who hear the words of this prophecy and keep those things which are written therein**: we keep them, we believe them, that's how you keep them... you believe them, you understand, you know where we are, you hold on because of that, you adjust your life accordingly. Not everyone 100% is on that page. Not everyone fully grasps that and knows and has their life fully geared to the exact timing of everything because sometimes we doubt and we hold back and we have difficulty sometimes with absolute total commitment. That's between us and God, it truly is, as to where we are, as to where we think we're going to be a year from now. **Blessed is he who reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.**

And what an awesome thing when we understand we're in that time. This was written over 1900 years ago – things that God gave to John that are now understood because this is the time, that he said **is at hand**; those things that were going to lead up to the 7 churches that would finally lead to the end and the events at the end, and now things are moving fast. The last 2000 years have been 2000 years of many people and different time periods and different eras of the Church and here we've gone past all 7 – things are moving fast. Sometimes it doesn't seem that way, but in the span of time, things are moving incredibly fast and we wait; and we hold fast to what we have.

So let's notice how this aspect of being called to assembly and hearing the instruction being given is associated with the meaning of this day in **Psalm 81**. We've just looked at this in the last series, how important it is to understand as we're preparing for the Feast – in that sermon series, *To Prepare for the Feast* of Tabernacles this year and being fully prepared, and then we'll come back to this verse in Revelation. Let's turn over first to **Psalm 81** again and remind ourselves of what we've read. We've read it both Sabbaths. We're going to read it again this Sabbath, on this Feast of Trumpets because today is that day that is pictured here. Remember again, Trumpets are used to give direction. We are to hear the direction in the way that God is leading us. **Psalm 81:3 Blow up the trumpet in the new moon**, it's in the new moon, the Feast of Trumpets... on the 7th month. That's when it takes place on God's calendar and it says, **Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed**, it's about a holy day, **on our solemn feast day**. It's the only Feast day that you can count on when, in the sense of a new moon and blowing a trumpet – it has great meaning because it's about the meaning of this day.

Verse 8 - hear, O my people, God's great desire for us to hear, to have the ears to hear and to respond then, to hold onto what is given – the ability to hear and then the choice we have. God doesn't force it down our throat. It's offered to us and it's up to us to embrace it and to hold fast to it, to not let go, to watch, to be alert. **Hear, O my people and I will testify unto you: O Israel, if, if, you will listen unto me**; And that's our heart, that's our desire – to listen to what God gives to us, to not be presumptuous, but to listen. It has instruction and guidance and direction is given to us, revelation is given to us, we hold onto it, we live our lives according to it, we make plans and preparations according to it.

Verse 9 - There shall no strange god be in you; neither shall you worship any strange god. We're to get rid of anything that smacks of this world, especially that which calls itself Christian. We're to get rid of anything that smacks of traditional Christianity, of Protestantism. That's why we don't do some of the same things here at the end, because of people being drawn, we're doing it differently, we're doing a lot of things differently than the scattered groups that are out there because why? Why... that's a good place to ask this... Why are we doing things differently? Because that's how God is leading us and if we hear, then we do it because God has purpose in it. As much as not even singing songs. I miss them. I enjoy before services start when I have a little bit of music on and I begin to play some of that. I enjoy that period of time and what we're able to have, that little bit of time that we're able to have, and that's so important, it truly is, the meaning that's there and when we had that opportunity to do those things in the past. And now that we don't have that opportunity because we're doing something a little differently, I miss it, I truly do. But what an opportunity when we had it and so before services I enjoy those songs, I enjoy them in the background, they bring out a great deal of meaning to anyone who has been around for a long time because we know them inside and out. We can hear the tune and we know the songs, we know the words, we truly do. It's an awesome thing.

We're to get rid of things that are like the world and we're to be different, and so we do things differently. We don't pray in circles with hands held together, we don't pray like that, we do what God

says, we do it alone and if it's in a group prayer before services or afterwards, then it's done in an organized fashion and it's about the service, it's about what we hear, we do that together, perhaps at times in a group manner. But as a whole things aren't done like that – we're not like the protestant world where in a restaurant we make a scene of our 'religious' ideas and our 'religious' look and appearance to others. We just live this way of life. God doesn't want us to make a show of it. People don't realize a lot of times when people do that it's not about God, it's about themselves, it's about what others see of them. It's a matter of vanity and God does not like vanity.

Going on... says, **you shall not worship any strange god.** So, the way the world does it – strange god. It's not of God and so we've had to get away from some of the things that are like the world. It's not that everything is wrong of and by itself, there are things – music at services is not wrong – there is a time for that, just not this time.

Verse 10 - I am the Eternal your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt: open wide your mouth, God says, I am the God who has brought you out of spiritual Egypt, out of sin, now **open wide your mouth.** He wants to fill it. He said, **and I will fill it.** That's God's will, that's God's desire, that's why He brought us out of sin, so He can lead us and guide us and direct us – if we'll hear Him. So often people come along and they have this "teacheritus", they want to teach others, they think that's their job. No it isn't! Your job is as a disciple and so I talk about that a lot because we have to get that through our head because we can't have strange gods. You can't do it like the world does where they think you're supposed to go out there and tell others and proclaim what you believe to everyone, that somehow we have a job to do that, or we have certain ideas that we think come from God. No. If they come from God, they come through the Church: they come through an apostle or a prophet – that's how they come to the Church. So He says, **open wide your mouth, and I will fill it.** So we seek God's guidance and His will in our life – we seek to hear Him.

Verse 11 - But my people would not listen to my voice; so the history of Israel is they wouldn't listen and sadly there have been far too many in the Church who didn't listen as they were instructed to. That's what happened at the end of Philadelphia through Laodicea – that's why Laodicea was spewed out of, vomited out of God's mouth – incredible lesson there to the Church. **But my people would not listen to my voice; and Israel would have none of me. So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.** If you want to do your own thing and you don't want to receive instruction, God lets us. If someone begins to go astray because they're not getting their way, they're not being recognized for who they think they are, those things happen. They always happen. They happen year after year after year – someone isn't recognized in a way they think they should be, this isn't quite what they wanted to be. They wanted to be teachers or whatever it might be. They wanted to bring in some of their own ideas and as God's people, we don't tolerate that, we don't do that. That's not our custom, that's not our way, and so they don't have an audience so they go off someplace else to find an audience. That's the way so many people are because it's not about God, it's about them and their special 'relationship' with God. **So I gave them up to their own hearts lust and they walked in their own counsels.** In their own vain imaginations, in their own thinking and what the mind can conceive of and bring up and believe. That's why we have thousands of ideas of Christianity – even within the scattered body.

Verse 13 - Oh that my people had listened unto me, oh, I think of if we'd listened during Philadelphia to Mr. Armstrong, if everyone would have really listened – but it wasn't that way in the Church, people had their own ideas. Ministers began to be lifted up. They thought their ideas were more important; that Mr. Armstrong wasn't keeping up with them. He's getting old, he's an old man and his mind just isn't as

sharp as it used to be... well, they omitted, they forgot God's spirit, they forgot the power of God to reveal and stir up the one He gave to lead us. And I think about when he'd get up there on that stage, you'd think, will he make it? And he began hitting that feeble, weak looking hand, you know, with the bones showing because his skin was getting tighter as happens when you get into your 80's and 90's and he'd bang that fist on a table when he became so worked up of things he saw and understood – the condition of the Church that we were oblivious to at that time because he knew what was happening at headquarters, he knew what was happening with the evangelists and those who were pastors and different ones out there who were not listening to him. Different department heads and so forth and the division that was taking place and so he would give some very powerful sermons. It was God speaking to us, God working through him... if we had ears to hear. And God wants us to hear what He has to say. ...**O that my people had listened unto me, that Israel had walked in my ways!** It has so much to do with the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets – listening to God, hearing God, and really our lives at this time, we're in the time of the fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets. It's so important to be so keenly attuned to what God's giving us. That's why God began to give us several years ago at the Feast of Tabernacles guidance and direction and the importance and necessity to be of one mind. That's why He has given us the ministry He has, with one primary voice, and a few at other times that are added as well – they're in unity and harmony or they wouldn't be there giving those things and God giving the messages then through them, to give some different flavour to the Feast of Tabernacles – to have a few others who are able to speak, but primarily even at the Feast of Tabernacles and throughout the year we hear 1 voice for a reason, because that's the way God is working. He's given us that technology to do that – not through a lot of different ministers because if we had what we had back in Philadelphia we would not have the ability to have the kind of unity and oneness to hear God that we have today, the ability to hold fast to what God is giving to us, and the ability to make such fast changes. What God gave to Mr. Armstrong and the revealing of the 18 truths that God gave through him, was done over a period of 50 some years, just a little over 50 years as God continued to reveal truth through him. We're having it done in an accelerated pace. You look at those other truths that have been added and there's great necessity then that God has operated in exactly the way He's operating. It's a marvel, it's an awesome thing and I know that as a whole we have eyes to see it and we have ears to hear that.

The greater part of Trumpets is about Jesus Christ becoming King over this earth and of our ability to hear the direction that he gives to his Church, the body of Christ because he's the head of the Church, I'm not. God gives it to Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ then leads and guides and directs us. Just like all the ordinations, those weren't my ideas, they weren't things that I came up with, they're things that God gave and He gave people opportunity, leading people to the point of being able to help baptize a lot of people as time goes along here and others who will be ordained in the future, when the time is right, that will be added, the primary training that has already been given that they can share with others as they're going to have, even so many of you, you're going to have a far greater and more humble attitude later on that you don't possess right now. God's going to help you to develop that and sometimes it's kind of tough getting through that to get to that point. There's going to be a lot more humility and you're going to be able to share more with others and do a greater job. It's a beautiful thing and I hope everyone in the Church understands that, of what God is doing and then sometimes if we make wrong decisions and we don't use the opportunities given to us then we no longer have that opportunity. That's the way of life that sometimes happens, things like that happen; it's just a reality of life.

John 10:1 - it says, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that enters not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.** I like this, I really do, I love it. I love all the Bible, but you know there are sections that just scream very powerfully so because this has happened over and over again. We're not talking about the world; the world is deceived and they do things their

own way in the protestant world and the Catholic church, and all them, they do things there own way, but when you talk about the Church, people that try to come up, start with Simon Magus, he tried to come into the Church and there are others who've tried to come into the Church. There are people who've been in the Church, who've been baptized in the Church and try to do some things a different way, they try to interject some things and begin doing it differently – and they're thieves and robbers. **But he that enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.** In the world we see others and things that are done and they're totally wrong, so we learn this in a spiritual way even within the Church, but there's only one shepherd, truly, of the Church. **But he that enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter opens; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calls his own sheep by name, and leads them out.** We're given responsibility. God passes those things along. Jesus Christ then gives to different ones to administer, who in a physical fashion with the spirit of God, and the impregnation of God's spirit carry out certain physical and spiritual jobs here on earth as... I guess a better way of saying it – as physical human beings. Mr. Armstrong did that and the ministry did those things that were given unto them to protect the Church, the flock, whatever God gave to be protected by them. That was their job, to protect, and to serve and to help and to feed, to nurture, to minister, to give and serve, that's what it's all about. The word minister means to serve so the examples we learn within the Church are of an attitude of mind that we're all to have toward one another because we're all to serve one another. You don't have to be ordained to serve and help each other. **To him the porter opens; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calls his own sheep by name, and leads them out. And when he puts forth his own sheep and goes before them, and the sheep, it says, follow him: for they know his voice.** What a beautiful thing. We're able to know by the power of God's spirit. We're able to know that voice. It's not something physical except that we hear how he's doing it and that is physical because we hear sermons, we hear things that are written in books and so forth and we recognize something there because God opens our mind to recognize it, to see it, we receive it on a spiritual plane. But Jesus Christ is the one doing it in the sense of he is the head of the Church: that God has given this to him.

Verse 5 - And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: People in the Church, they hear something else, it doesn't make sense to them, this doesn't follow the flow, someone else that begins to do something wrong around the Church, they realize there's a conflict and something is wrong. That's why it's so important that we be of one mind. That's why it is so important that all elders out here speak the same thing and if you don't know the answers then you go to the website, that you make sure you understand what's in there in the topics area and in the sermons and so forth and you pass that information along – sometimes by just telling people how to go to the site and where to go and how and where they can find it – do some research – find out for them, but we need to make sure that we're in absolute unity and oneness because if we don't, you know what the sheep will do? They'll flee. They'll begin looking elsewhere. So we have a great responsibility – all of us – in doing our job well and leading people back. That's a part of leading people to baptism, it continues on after baptism of leading people back to the Church, the websites, the sermons and so forth. Not to give any ideas and opinions, not to teach; that's not our job.

Verse 6 - This parable spoke Jesus unto them: but they didn't understand the things which he spoke unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. You know, God protects His own, He truly does. When something doesn't ring right; when His spirit is there and we're responding to His spirit in our life, we're going to be able to hear that which isn't right and we're going to flee it, we're going to stay away from it. He goes on to say in **verse 9, I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.** We're going to be fed.

That's what it said back there about Trumpets, you know, IF you will hear me, I will fill you. That's what His desire is. IF we will hear he says, **open wide your mouth and I will fill it.** That's God's will for us.

Verse 10 - The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: it's all about self. It's not a matter of love, it's about self, what self can get out of it; being lifted up with pride and receiving something from others that is never meant to be. He says, **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.** Not just physical existence but life – spiritual life. That's what happens to all of us. That's what happened to all you new people when you came along here in this past year, to have the ability of having a life living within you, to have the ability of your life taking on meaning and direction and just like a beacon, all of a sudden there's this bright light that's able to live in and through your life – to give you light and excitement and understanding and purpose and direction you never had before.

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. That's exactly what he did. That's what service is all about and we're to follow that example, self sacrifice. It's what we talked about in leading up to the Feast. It's about sacrificing our own time, our own desires, what we want to do – for the sake of giving and sharing with others.

Verse 12 - But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, or of the shepherd as it is here, **whose own the sheep are not,** are we of the shepherd? That's what we have to ask ourselves, each and every one of us – especially those who are ordained. Are we growing at one with Jesus Christ and God the Father? So important! **Whose own sheep are not, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees:** someone who's there for the wrong reasons – trouble comes along and difficult time comes along and because the motivation isn't right, it's not about the Church, something else is more important – perhaps family, or perhaps job, perhaps a mate... There are some of you who need to get your act together. You don't have time really to get your act together and put the Church first and quit putting your mate first. God comes first! Truly! ...and then bring your family in and if they're not a part and can't be a part of it, you better not let them rule your life. They better know and if they don't like it – well they have choices to make don't they? But if you cower down, if you play a politician, if you play political games with people, whether it be on the job, or whether it be in family, or whether it be with your own mate. If they're not a part of this and even if they are a part you better stand up firm and make sure that everyone in your family knows that God is first – the Church is first. The CHURCH is first! ...in everything and make sure that you're not compromising. That's what a politician does. A politician compromises and that's lying. You lie. We lie if we're not careful in order to compromise. Compromise means that you have to give up something and if you give up something of God, if you give up something of stance for this way of life, and for upholding what is true and right, then indeed, what a horrifying thing that is. And so it talks about **seeing the wolf coming, leaves the sheep and flees.** Are we there all the time for one another? ...or is it easy to flee sometimes, to give in. Do we put the Church first? Do we put God's people first? ...over others? Whether it be in our own family? And if they're a part of the Church then they should be in there with the Church in everything and they need to learn that from your example – that the Church is first because God is first.

And it goes on to say, **and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep.** Well, that's part of the warning isn't it? War! Part of the Trumpets sermon for sure because sometimes we have warnings that are given to us. It's a different sound isn't it? It's a little bit of a different sound than just receiving instruction and hearing; it's a little bit of a different tone even because there's correction involved and direction involved as well in that of when it's about war and warnings that are given to us. And it's up to

us to hear those things and to realize the importance of the Feast of Trumpets, because we are in spiritual warfare and if we're not fighting it all the time and we're compromising and giving in here and there on occasion, what a horrible thing that is.

Verse 13 - The hireling flees, because he is a hireling, and cares not for the sheep. We better care. We truly better care – each one of us, for one another. We had two sermons about how to enter this Feast in a very unique way making sure that we truly care for each other because if we do things selfishly, we're like a hireling; we're in this for the wrong reasons, it's for selfishness and for selfish reasons. When times get bad, what do we do? Oh, we whine and we'll moan and we'll cry, you know, about why things are tough and why things are bad and why things aren't going my way and blah, blah, blah, blah, get out my little violin and let me play a song because we feel sorry for ourselves, because it's about self. Can't let that happen. You can't let that happen. You can't have that in your life. You've got to fight. We're in war. We've got to hear the sound of the Trumpet.

I am the good shepherd, Jesus Christ says, and I know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knows me, even so I know the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. Do we? That's a question we all have to ask. You don't have to be ordained to do that, and if you are ordained then you have a greater responsibility upon you, far greater than what you really even understand. You'll grow in understanding of that in time. It's something you grow in, you don't receive it all at once, but some of these warnings I'm giving, you better take them to heart in a very powerful way – especially in those positions of responsibility because they're not small, especially in the time we're in right now. When you're in the midst of the battle, you better be able to apply everything you've ever been taught, and strive to do it exactly as it's given or you can lose your life; you can lose out.

I lay down my life for the sheep. ...Jesus Christ said, so do we because it's a matter of sacrifice, it's a matter of giving to the point of sacrificing of self. **And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice;** you know, it's an awesome thing. I love it. All these new areas, going to different areas and visiting different people, all these new people coming in different areas and doesn't matter at what point it is, people can go through and get caught up to this point in time in a short length of time – truly – it's an awesome thing. They can go through and read as in the book of Acts and know that this is true – everything that we've talked about – things that people who were a part of the scattered body; they mock and make fun of because they don't get it. They don't understand the 50th Truth. They don't understand some of the things that have changed in time. They don't understand about the fasting and yet new people can come along and understand that fast we had last year... or this past year here... beginning of the year, you know, and I shouldn't say, not this past year, but it's in the past year here and at the beginning of the year: and that fast we had that even that changed things because it was God's will and we entered into that and we heard the voice and we entered into something that because it was benefitting us as well and our attitude and our spirit and our mind, that we might become more at one with God. And indeed, God's fulfilled and accomplished those things in and through us and heard those prayers and fulfilled those things that have also altered matters of time here at the end time in order to bring about greater humility – if it be possible, because it's still up to people whether they're really going to respond. Sadly, the reality is many may not, you know, even respond to that when they're given the opportunity. We'll know in time. God knows. And so Jesus Christ says, **and they shall hear my voice; and they shall be one fold, and one shepherd.** What a beautiful thing. All the way through this period of time that we're in, all the way up to the end of May of 2012, Jesus Christ returns and a great Church enters into a new era of time. What an awesome thing.

Returning to **Revelation 1:3** it says - **Blessed is he who reads, and they who hear the words of this prophecy**, you can't hear it without God's spirit. You can't read it without knowing what the truth is, and God has to give the truth. There's been much in this book here that continues to be revealed, the timing and various events that continue to be revealed that aren't still known and understood yet and God will give it in His time, when it's proper. And so much has been given just in the last few years, it's incredible. **Blessed is he who reads, and they who hear the words of this prophecy and keep those things which are written therein:** again, keeping it, **for the time is at hand. John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him who is, who was, and who is to come; and from the seven Spirits who are before his throne; And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead**, the first born of the dead. He died. He was in the tomb for 3 days and 3 nights – dead, dead, dead, just exactly as he said He would be, exactly as God said he would be, **and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, And has made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever.** It's talking about what he's been doing for the last 2000 years and what was actually being done by God even before that with some, but primarily the largest portion of the preparation of the 144,000 in the Church that have been prepared as kings and priests that are going to return with Him in his government, in the government of God on this earth.

Verse 7 - Behold, he comes with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced Him: so in time, it doesn't mean right there on that day. Those who killed Him, they're not going to see Him that day, but it shows he's coming back, He's coming to this earth and setting up God's government and in a thousand years, there's going to be an incredible resurrection and even those who pierced Him, they're all going to see Him, they're all going to know Him, they're all going to be very much aware of who Jesus Christ is – truly, **and all kindred's of the earth shall wail because of Him.** Different times, different things that people go through...**Even so, Amen.** So again, speaking about the return, the things that lead up to His very return and those things that even happen way beyond that. The book of Revelation leads up to that time and the fulfillment of this day, what an awesome thing to understand. Then we go through chapter 2 and chapter 3 and it goes through and it talks about things of the Church eras, it just gives a little bit here about each era and what would lead up to finally, the very last era and what that era would experience, and we experienced those things, so many of us in the Church, we experienced that Laodicean era and those things that lead up to the fulfillment then of this day.

Revelation 4:1 then - **After this**, it says, **I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up here, and I'll show you things which must be hereafter.** Things that were going to come to pass. It's incredible what's here, truly is, when you begin to go through some of the things in Revelation and to just think about what God has given us to see and what He's given us to understand and the things that have happened on this earth and I think of the seals that began to be opened up. Things that the world never knew about. There are many people through time, after this book was written, when they had this book in their hand – people who've gone into and studied and looked into and read these verses over and over again, this has been read so much by so many people over the last 1900 years, truly has been. It's an awesome thing to understand and yet everybody is desiring to know, even those in the Church, desiring to know and yet they didn't know, they didn't understand what was given here, because it's like what was given to Daniel. God said to Daniel, just shut up the book, it's not given for you at this time. It's going to happen later and the same thing is true about the book of Revelation. John didn't know what these things meant. He saw certain things; he wrote them down, that was his job. He was a prophet and yet he didn't know what it was all about. He was a prophet. He wrote these things because God gave it to him, as much as God has given it to me to show the meaning of these things and

is continuing to show meaning in these things, not because I understand it, not because I can read it and understand it, but because God has just given it to me in my mind, in my being, just as He gave it to John, and He's giving it to me now. But to think that this long wait of so many people who've read these things and wanted to know and thought about what it means, even in the Church in Philadelphia. We thought we had a good handle on a lot of this, about the 7 Seals and about the different time periods and different things that were going to take place and yet God just kind of gave a little bit of an outline. Have you ever done an outline? I do all my notes in outline form, Roman numeral 1 and under that to the main subject matter I have A. B. C. and sometimes under that other subheadings of 1. 2. and maybe on occasion a. b. and c. under that, small letters because it's an outline, it's a flow, it's an organized thing and that's what God has done through time and that's an organized flow of things that God has given through time – to understand and to see. It's an awesome thing to understand, and so there's this flow in a very organized manner and yet in Philadelphia we only had some of the Roman numerals and they really weren't filled in too well. We had a few Roman numerals here and there of some main subject matter and a kind of a framework, but not understanding how it all filled in at all, just a basic outline, a basic overview, to know that these things are going to come to pass and to know a little bit about what some of them might entail, but not full revelation of the meaning of it, because it wasn't for then. Even the message to Laodicea, how many of us read those things back in Philadelphia over and over... I heard many a sermon about Laodicea and what was coming, and yet we didn't know what it meant. We knew the Church would be spewed out but we had no comprehension of the depth of that and what it meant.

What a powerful book – the book of Revelation and so much of it is about this day and everything that leads up to this day. So here we're still in the very beginning and finally, **chapter 6** we begin - **And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals**, see there's only one that's able to open them up and it's Jesus Christ and there are things that weren't given until it was time for the seals to be opened up. There are things we didn't understand about the seals and even the 7th Seal and timing of things. We don't know until Jesus Christ gives it. There are things about the seals we had no idea of until retrospect because He showed us what did happen by looking back, by what happened in the 1st 4 seals we came to understand things about Matthew and Matthew 24. Mr. Armstrong saw it in a physical way because that was all that was given to him, that part of the outline, but he wasn't able to fill it in fully. He knew that Matthew 24 went along with those first 4 Seals and now we understand it in a spiritual plane; that it was about the Church. It wasn't about physical things to happen on the earth, it was about spiritual things and so God has continued to reveal and give us understanding, but that starts out right here with this chapter it all leads up to the very return of Jesus Christ: all very much about this Feast of Trumpets and those things that happened in the end-time and what Jesus Christ began to reveal and give to the Church. **And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, and one of the four creatures saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.** There are people who read through this and think it's about Jesus Christ because of being on a horse and confusing the horse at the end with the return of Jesus Christ and they don't understand, no, this is different, this isn't something good – this is horrible, it's about false Christ's and false ministers that were going to arise and we came to an understanding then when this all began in the Church when Mr. Tkach gave that infamous sermon in December of 1994. The seal was opened. We didn't know it'd been opened until later on when God began to get us out of our sleep and begin to build upon us, begin to build with us and helping us to grow again and become stronger again so that He could give us more and more in His specific timing.

There are sermons that cover the period of time of the meaning involved in the first 5 Seals and let's jump ahead to the 6th Seal. We're in the 7th Seal and when we understand it, what's being spoken of we recognize that we have passed that point in time now. What a short period of time that's been because I've gone through so many of these scriptures before and talked about them and this year I'm adding to it. Each year God lets us build upon it more and more. He's giving us more and more, but in a part of a review of some of these things and what they mean – let's continue on, some of those things that happen through time: some of those Seals that were opened up. We don't need to go through each one of those, but I think of 9-11. I saw a bit of a review the other day on TV because of the anniversary on September 11th and they had some things on TV and I watched some of it in awe thinking it's still incredible to think that it happened and now I look at it with eyes that are far wiser, that has understanding on what it meant on a spiritual plane. 7 towers, that eventually fully collapsed and to see the power that was involved of things that just normally wouldn't happen. They just normally couldn't take place in this world, to be planned out, to be plotted, to know what could even happen. Call it a fluke, but it wasn't a fluke, it was a part of something that had to take place and what took place at the Pentagon and what prophetic meaning behind all these things that began to happen in this nation that show a collapse that was going to take place and that's what this particular seal is so much about, and now kind of giving a picture, a synopsis, a capsule, in a capsulized form – we're here. This is it. This is prophetic. These things are prophetic of what's going to follow, of what's going to take place, a complete, total collapse and as it goes on to say in verse 16 it talks about those who hid themselves. That hasn't happened yet. That didn't happen during the 6th Seal. Oh, there are some who did in a small plane, that which was pictured prophetically, those who died, things that happened and people who ran in horror and so forth, but it talks about those who hide in the rocks and the mountains – anywhere they can find shelter to get away from what's collapsing in and around them. Horrifying thing but it leads up to that which is going to happen on a magnified scale in the final period of time when finally the physical part strikes the earth.

Verse 7 - And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne, they don't know and even during this final 3 ½ years we're in is when we finally get to the physical part of these things being fulfilled and what's going to take place when Trumpet blasts begin... the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th and then finally the 5th... it's a thing that grows in momentum with time. It doesn't happen at every moment, at every Trumpet. It's something that builds up to and various events that happen at different times when these things are fulfilled. This is prophetic; things about the 6th Seal are things that are looking forward in time that are shortly going to happen. And it says, **and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?** It didn't come at the opening of the 6th Seal, that's all prophetic. It's saying we're there and what took place on 9-11, this is prophetic and it leads up to the very return of Jesus Christ. What an awesome thing. So again, a defining mark in time when these things have taken place and the very opening of the Seal and the very day of those events that picture something so powerful and so mighty.

So now we come to a distinct moment in time toward the end of the period of the 6th Seal when things are held up for a short time in order to accomplish a final great task concerning the Church, that leads up to the fulfilling of a most awesome event in all earth's history, which in large part was the announcement at last year's Feast of Trumpets.

Let's notice **Revelation 7** beginning in **verse 1** – it says, **And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.** Things that God continues to reveal, that we don't even fully yet understand yet. Sometimes we think we have it all, but God continues to give more

and He's going to give more, even here. **Verse 2 - And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.** There are specific things that are taking place. We understand that much of this is about a particular period in time that we've already gone through when we talk about 1335 days and the beginning of it, counting of time, and some of the things that were going to happen from that point forward that would lead up to finally Trumpet blasts that would begin and things would begin to occur on the earth, and we're in an awesome time. Some of these things are going to be for the Last Great Day so I'm going to move on and continue to give the meaning of *this* day and what *this* day is about and focus upon those things.

Revelation 8:1-2 it says - **And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.** We understood on Trumpets the beginning of a count of 1335 days and then we finally came to 1290 in November 2008 and we understood a time for the 7th Seal to be opened. And it says, **and He had opened the seventh seal, and there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour,** and so we know those things that led up to that which was fulfilled prophetically in time for the Church and the only way you can know it has fulfilled prophetically is by what you've been told that led up to the final 1260 days in December of this past year now and a process of a counting that began at that point in time. And the two witnesses, their jobs officially began at that particular moment in time. **And I saw the seven angels who stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.** So when the 7th Seal was opened, there was time given and it says, **and they were given seven trumpets.** The first 4 Trumpets are primarily about the demise of the United States and the loss and an end to the great physical blessings given to Manasseh and a part of that has begun and it's going to continue on until it's complete. It doesn't happen all at once, and just like that first Trumpet – it doesn't happen all at once, especially that one, because it has that which is prophetic in it that's going to happen throughout the rest of the Trumpets, primarily the next 4 Trumpets, because finally when you do come to the 5th one then it's over. That's it, because the conquering has taken place, but the other 3 that follow behind the one - #2, 3 and 4, those are the ones that bring everything down with greater fulfillment of what's taken place in #1, just as with the 1st Seal... it was 2, 3, and 4 that followed, that totally did the number on the Church, it was prophetically fulfilled about the Church and the complete scattering that was to take place in the very beginning and in a continual scattering and that which took place on the final 1/3rd, an awesome thing to understand.

Revelation 8:13 – it says, **And I beheld,** and we come to this 5th Trumpet here, **and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet and the three angels, which are yet to sound!** In so many ways, this is such a blessing. If we understand it, because these are woes now, the greatest of devastation that begins to come on the earth doesn't begin until this happens: the greatest of devastation, because of the 5th Trumpet, because of the beginning of WWIII. This is when it begins – WWIII; and that's when great things begin to happen in a very massive way all over the earth. Great war throughout the period of time that remains, whatever that period of time is.

Let's return to **Revelation 7:1** and notice some of the things being said here because all those Trumpets lead up to that 5th one, that sounds there, and that's one of the 1st Woes, the 2nd we know what that's about, we'll come back if we have time for some of this, but again, **Revelation 7:1** – it says, **and after these things I saw the four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending out of the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud**

voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And so there was a period of time that was to pass and be fulfilled here.

Verse 4 - And I heard the number of them who were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. So this sealing is a very powerful thing that had to take place. We have gone through that. We have talked about those things last year and the meaning of that and the meaning of what it means about these tribes, understanding it's a spiritual thing. They're spiritual names – not physical tribes, not literal physical people, but spiritual. It's made up of many people of many different nations. That's why I love what we see in the Church...of who God is calling. He's brought people to literal physical locations; to the United States, to Australia, to New Zealand, and to Western Europe and Great Britain which is a part of Western Europe but separated by water, that is a part of the Israelite nations. There have been some that have come in from other countries, places that people have come from into all of Ephraim and Manasseh, and other of the tribes that have come into those areas where we're able to have services and work with some people and primarily people of other countries and other nationalities – they've been brought into these areas in order to be worked with. God hasn't gone there to work with them, that time is coming later here, but those that are being worked with first have the opportunity here– all the people of Gentile backgrounds through-out Asia and Africa and South America and Central America and different areas. God brought them to a different area to be able to be worked with, to be moulded and fashioned because this is the only way we're able to do this at this time and God knows what He's doing. He's the one that's doing it.

The 7 Trumpets of the 7th Seal lead up to that 7th and last Trumpet that sounds on the last day of man's reign on earth and it is on this day, that the 7 last plagues are poured out and Jesus Christ along with 144,000 are given reign of all government on earth and very powerful things. Please understand, in the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets – it's about many Trumpets – 7 Trumpets that must sound that lead up to the 7th one. It's like the time on the different days when the children of Israel were brought into the promised land and they came to Jericho and they circled the camp and then finally on the 7th day it fell, and all those things that happened, you know, finally all the 7's there and the importance of that and what it means, and then finally on the 7th Trumpet and the 7 last plagues on that last day... powerful, powerful what God is showing here, all to bring something to pass, to bring something into being. And so God is doing that in a very powerful way.

So the Feast of Trumpets can't be fulfilled in one day. It's about something that is accomplished and done and it has great meaning in it. Passover was able to be finished and accomplished in one day. Pentecost is accomplished in several different days, but still on the Day of Pentecost at different times, but Trumpets is unique in that respect because everything can't happen on the Feast of Trumpets. You can't do it all in 3½ years, how many Feast of Trumpets can you have in there? You can't have all the meaning accomplished and so we're going to learn more about some of that later, but again, what an awesome thing to understand that the entire period of time that leads up to the very return of Jesus Christ has great meaning in how God couples it all together. That's the beauty of it; of all those Trumpets that lead up to the last Trumpet and the greatest beauty of it all is then in that respect Pentecost. What an awesome day! ...to realize this is what Jesus Christ has been doing for 2000 years, preparing for a period of time of the firstfruits being able to be resurrected and how appropriate, how beautiful that is, that it's done on that particular day, on Pentecost. But all the Trumpets, and the meaning of Trumpets that lead up to this is so powerful and what God has announced on 2 high days, 2 Feast of Trumpets is totally profound. All we know so far about this day that is unique, as I mentioned, is that it is a specific period of time from when the 1260 days began – we have 40 weeks, 280 days that

have passed and that's awesome, it truly is, and has great meaning in it of things that God is giving to us and revealing to us. And the first one, that began to take place when it all started anyway, is the beginning of that count – the beginning of time, the final 1290 days and it leads up to the final 1260 days and all those things that are in the count that follow the 1335 days on Trumpets, that which God gave on that day when He finally showed us the importance of what? The firstfruits, blessed and holy is he... – that's a beautiful thing. All those days that we wouldn't know about if it wasn't for what God gave us last year at the Feast of Trumpets and the beautiful meaning involved in all of that and to understand something that was written by Daniel so long ago, to comprehend and to grasp a greater meaning of something that was stated in **Daniel 12** when it says in **verse 12 – blessed is he who waits and comes to the thousand three hundred and thirty fifth day**. What a beautiful thing that that began on Trumpets and leads up to... that count, that's so beautiful because what is it about? Who are those who are blessed that wait? 144,000. How much more appropriate, how much more truthful, how much more beautiful can it be that it's on the very day of Pentecost? I marvel. God gives things, He enriches the depth of meaning of His Holy Days, which is still causing some people some difficulties... you'll get it straightened out in your mind in time, to understand the beauty of what I'm talking about here today. In time, it'll have greater beauty as it does to me right now when I'm speaking of it. I am in awe of it, I am dumbfounded by it, I truly am; of how it all so beautifully fits together – so awesome – God is so awesome – what He reveals to us is so glorious, so exciting, so inspiring.

We come up to this point in time, the 7th Trumpets of the 7th Seal, lead up to the 7th and last Trumpet that sounds on the last day of man's reign on earth. It's on this day that the 7 last plagues are poured out and Jesus Christ, along with the 144,000 are given reign of all government on earth.

Revelation 11:15 says, **and the 7th angel sounded and there were great voices in heaven saying, The Kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever**. What a beautiful day, the Day of Pentecost, a final period of time where the entire government; Jesus Christ and the 144,000 that starts it all is established on this earth. Awesome.

So we have been on an incredible journey; especially in all that we have experienced from the time of last year's Trumpets to this year's Trumpets that is today. It's been an incredible year, it really has. It hasn't been easy. It's been difficult. All have difficult trials, especially as we've led up to this Feast of Trumpets. A lot of people, a lot of things have been taking place out here; a spirit world that is so stirred up. They don't have much time left and it's starting to crush in around them, thank God. The misery and suffering they cause on this earth. I so look forward to them being imprisoned and put away for a thousand years.

So we have lived a most unique year, but overall, just mention it again, the Church doesn't fully or truly grasp the incredible significance of that experience – not yet, but in time and as time continues we will. We're going to understand a little bit more of that significance on the Last Great Day – a little bit more that God will add.

Let's go back in time, let's go all the way back in thinking here, at the end of 2007 and especially the beginning of 2008 and as we came up to the story of Gideon's Army, we began to gather for battle at the top of the hill. We're likened to a hill, because of our small size – the government of God, which is really small right now and a small hill, yet we constitute God's government, His work on earth at this time and we prepared for battle. I think of those times in 2007 and finally up to 2008 and now here we are in 2009 and all that we've experienced in such a short length of time and how small we are, but how much has been done, how much has been prepared out here. You're going to be astounded.

And so again, all these things; I think about Gideon's Army and where we are now. All this reflected that the cost is weighed and that people were fully committed to running down the hill together, large numbers of books have been sent out worldwide as a result, several hundred thousand now as well as larger numbers of downloads. Large numbers of seeds have been planted that will help accomplish very great things once the manifestation of the Trumpets can be clearly seen physically and that will be something that will only grow through time. You're not going to see it all at once, people aren't going to embrace it all at once and the vast majority will never embrace it, they're just not going to.

But God is doing something different with us than he was with Gideon's Army and that has to do with the reality that we're waging a different kind of battle. Ours is very much about character, the mind and the qualities that God is moulding and fashioning in us and that doesn't happen overnight. It takes time. It truly takes time. So we have been tried and tested in time, through time, especially in the last 40 weeks, and that was because God withheld certain knowledge and understanding for us in order to accomplish something more important within us, in our being and in our mind that could not be accomplished by any other means. The knowledge and understanding we have received concerning what began at last year's Feast of Trumpets and magnified then in December of this last year in the final 1260 days has tried us as to what is truly inside us and that is what is most important of all, brethren, what's inside of us. The moulding and fashioning never stops and the focus is still on God's Church and God's leadership and that which He's bringing on into a period of time when Jesus Christ returns – those who are going to be resurrected still being moulded and fashioned – being prepared to do a great job – throughout this period of time and especially beginning at that time, and then those of you who have the opportunity of being moulded and fashioned now, opportunities in the future that are going to be incredible, exciting and wonderful if you hold fast, hold onto what God has given to you; if we do exactly what this day pictures – have those ears to hear and to listen to the instruction of what God pours out upon us because as God said **open wide your mouth...if you will hear Him, open wide your mouth and I will fill it**, and that's what God is doing. It's a beautiful, beautiful thing.

I don't believe there's any need to go back and discuss some of those other things because I really can't go much farther than this in discussing some of the things that are going to be given to us later on that God has already revealed. They are to be given to us, but at a specific moment in time and so I look forward to that, I look forward to the Feast of Tabernacles; I know that you do as well. God lets us have that kind of anticipation and excitement and to understand we're still being moulded and fashioned. He's still pouring out more and more upon us and He's given us the ability, the unique ability to be able to hear His voice in a most profound way as He works through the Church and in the Church and gives us guidance and direction and inspiration. God is excited about the times we're in and we should be excited about the times we're in.

I am excited about the Trumpets that are going to continue to have that blast that takes place. You know, not because of those things that are horrifying, but because of the humility. The humility that followed 9-11 was a beautiful thing. It's gone now. My wife and I were talking about that... if people were forced to watch some of those things and be reminded, perhaps every once in a while, people wouldn't be thinking exactly the way they are now, and would understand the importance of some of the battles that are out there in this world, but people don't want to be bothered with those things and they want to go on with something else and they find fault now, in some of the stupidity of things that just tear down government and tear down things in this world. There are things out here that are wrong, that's a part of a prophetic thing that's taking place... and then also... time, the economy, of what began to happen this past year, at the end of 2008, that thrust us into 2009 and those things that

began to happen with the economy when people began to lose $1/4^{\text{th}}$, $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ and $1/2$ depending on where they had their monies, of their livelihood, of things they had saved up, some things that would take so long to build back up that some people, because of age, don't have time to do because they've lost so much; and yet some people have gained some things back and the haughtiness comes right back. It doesn't last very long – humility – does it?

And so we've learned a lot through this period of time. We've come to the ability, with the blessings of being able to understand more fully the mercies of God, of why things must happen the way they do – why suffering must be there in this world because it's only through suffering that people can come to humility. So it's not a bad thing. It's a good thing. If we can be humble, if people in this world can be humbled, whatever it takes, whatever it must be, so be it in order for them to have true happiness, true joy in life, true fullness of life, then bring it on...

And that's what this is all about and the Trumpets, and the Trumpet blasts that are going to continue to follow.

So we've gone through much in order to refine and prepare us more fully for what's ahead of us. This is far more meaningful and far more powerful than we can fully grasp at this time. You will come to understand this, even more fully on the Last Great Day. Let's look forward to a great Feast, to a great Atonement – to purifying ourselves, humbling ourselves before God so we can enter the Feast with a right spirit and a right mind, drawing closer to God and then the Feast of Tabernacles and finally the Last Great Day. Before long, it'll all be behind us.

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