

BFF336 Shofar Sho-good

Scott: Welcome to the "Building Faith Families" podcast, with Steve Demme. I'm your host, Scott Moore. Thanks for joining us today. Good morning, Steve. How are you today?

Steve: I'm well. How are you?

Scott: Good. I'm wide awake and ready to roll. That doesn't happen often. That's because we're starting later today.

Steve: I have a great title for today. "Shofar Shogood."

Scott: You must be rubbing off on me because that actually sounds funny to me.

Steve: As you know, I've been studying Psalm 100 for years now. I continue to go deeper in this Psalm. We just did the podcast on shout, which is in the first verse, make a joyful noise, or shout.

There are many passages in the Bible where Rua and Harua are used and a lot of overlap between shouting and trumpets. Joshua 6:5, "It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat." This is for Jericho.

Psalm 98:4-6, which is similar to Psalm 100, "" This is the same word for shout, Harua, from the root Rua. "Make a joyful noise unto Jehovah, all the earth, break forth and sing for joy, yay, sing praises. Sing praises unto Jehovah with the harp, with the harp and the voice of melody, with trumpets, and the sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the king Jehovah."

As I'm reading these words about shouting and making joyful noises and the militant ringing cry, all of which mean same root from Rua, I noticed the mention of trumpets. The first definition of a horn for blowing a trumpet is a shofar. This is where we get our title, Shofar Shogood.

Let's pray before we go any further. "Thank you, Father, for your Word, which is so wonderful. It's deep, we can mine it. The more we mine it, the more we find. We shouldn't be surprised because you wrote it, you inspired it. You have made sure that every jot and tittle is not only being fulfilled but that it is inspired and profitable. Help us to find profit today as we read and study what it means to be a trumpet. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Scott: Amen. I don't think I've ever been a trumpet before.

Steve: Well, we need to get inside the Bible a little bit. There are two words, one's a noun, and the other a verb. This is pretty common in Bible Hub. Strong's Hebrew 7782 is shofar. Then Shafar, with the same consonants, which is the root word for Shofar. There are also related words in Strong's Hebrew 8231, 8232, 8233.

Shofar is used 72 times in the Bible, 66 times it's translated a trumpet. Other times it is rendered horns. When I think of trumpet, I picture a brass or silver horn. Probably

in those days it was a big shofar or a big ram's horn..You and I have a mutual friend, Rudy Hugo, who would start off their church service by blowing his shofar, this huge ram's horn, a couple of feet long. I don't know if you knew that.

Scott: I did not. That would be cool.

Steve: It would be cool. I hope they didn't have neighbors. I would have thought the root word would have something to do with a loud noise or a musical instrument, but the root word means beautiful, comely, or pleasant. I don't have any application. I'm just putting it out there for us to let it soak into our hearts.

Perhaps in God's ears, the shofar creates a beautiful sound, and maybe that joyful, militant–ringing cry that songs and praises is the same thing. They're beautiful, comely, and pleasant as we come into His presence.

There's another Hebrew word and it's chatsotsrah. It's used 29 times and its root word is chatsar which means to blow or sound a trumpet. There's another word which is right next to it Strong's Hebrew, it's chatser, same consonants, just a little bit of different vowel.

It means enclosure, court, or courtyard. That's the word that we talked about way back when we were studying how to enter His courts with praise. His courtyard of the tabernacle and it's the same word..

We can see these connections. "Enter His courts with praise, Come into His presence with singing." This is a beautiful, comely present sound. Perhaps this is something to do with when we come into God's courtyard that we need to come in with a shofar or a trumpet.

That's just from the Hebrew. We could just look at it and just say, "Trumpet," or we can look a little deeper. We find out it must be a beautiful sound and it's tied in with an enclosure or court or courtyard.

There is another word which means yobel and it's ram's horns. What's interesting about this one, used 27 times, but 21 of those times have to do with sounding the trumpet to announce the jubilee. Leviticus 25:8–11 'You are also to count off seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years, so that you have the time of the seven sabbaths of years, namely, forty–nine years. You shall then sound a ram's horn abroad on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the day of atonement you shall sound a horn all through your land. You shall thus consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim a release through the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, and each of you shall return to his own property, and each of you shall return to his family. You shall have the fiftieth year as a jubilee."

There were also two trumpets of silver, "of hammered work you shall make them and you shall use them for summoning the congregation and for having the camp set up." If there's going to be a meeting, the priests blow the trumpets and the people come to the tent of meeting. When the ark is setting out, you blow the trumpets. The

trumpets were a big component for the children of Israel in their time in the wilderness.

One of the first times they were used, and I'm wondering if angels were playing them here, Exodus 19: 13, right before the 10 commandments were given in the 20th chapter, "Don't come up on the mountain. When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain."

Exodus 19:16 On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled.

Exodus 19:19, "As the sound of a trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder."

Exodus 20:18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off.

I wonder if these might be some angelic heavenly beings blowing these trumpets and calling the people to the mountain. They were mixed with thunders and lightning. The thick cloud comes down. As the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke. God answered him. This is powerful stuff. The sound of a trumpet was a significant part of the life of the children of Israel.

In Joshua 6:4, as we read about the instructions that God gave to Joshua to go around Jericho, it says, "They shall carry seven trumpets of ram's horns before the ark. And then on the seventh day, they shall march around the city seven times and the priest shall blow the trumpets."

We may be tempted to think, "Really? Priests carrying the ark, trumpets sounding "and people following the priests." We think, "What a strange strategy for taking a city? This is not a sudden ambush or military plan, which we would be expecting naturally. It is interesting that God mentions trumpets, marching, and shouting?" Joshua 6:16, "The seventh time when the priests blow the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, 'Shout!'"

However since they had been following Moses for 40 years in the wilderness, they'd heard the trumpet sound every time they set out. Every time there was a meeting, trumpets started off with trumpets on the mount where they met with God in the first place. The priests would start out by carrying the ark. This was part of the warp and woof of the children of Israel when they were in the wilderness, following the ark, listening for the trumpets, and shouting.

I don't know about you, but the first time I ever read the story of Joshua and the battle of Jericho I thought this was unique. Now that I know my bible better, and am digging into it, I'm finding out this is something that they've already been doing. They did have a new leader which was a new thing.

They were coming across the Jordan under the direction of Joshua. Moses had been taken. The idea of coming out of Egypt through the Red Sea and now going into the

Promised Land through the Jordan River, there's a lot of similarity. There's water, and there are priests going ahead of them.

Consider another special event in the book of Judges with Gideon. I'm going to read a couple of verses, "The 300 men took the people's provisions and their trumpets into their hands."

"He told them, when I and all who are with me blow the trumpet, then you also blow the trumpets all around the camp and say, 'For Jehovah and for Gideon.'" These warriors were shouting, and blowing trumpets. We see the same methodology again. When Abijah was king of Judah and feeling his oats. He challenged Jeroboam and the northern kingdom on the battlefield. Jeroboam told him, "Just be thankful that you had a great victory, but leave us alone because we're going to wipe you out."

2 Chronicles 13: 11–15, Abijah's gives Jeroboam and the Northern Kingdom a history lesson. "Every morning and evening, (the priests) burn to Jehovah burnt offerings and fragrant incense. The showbread is set on a clean table. The golden lampstand with its lamps is ready to light every evening. For we keep the charge of Jehovah our God, but you have forsaken Him."

He reminded them they had gone astray, while Judah still had the priests. Then he said, "Behold, God is with us at our head and his priests with the signal trumpets to sound the alarm against you. Oh, sons of Israel. Do not fight against Jehovah God of your fathers, for you will not succeed."

While he was talking, Jeroboam was thinking, keep talking, pal, because I've got an ambush coming up right behind you. "Jeroboam had set an ambush to come from the rear so that Israel was in front of Judah and the ambush was behind them. When Judah turned around, behold they were attacked both front and rear so they cried to Jehovah, and the priests blew the trumpets. Then the men of Judah raised a war cry. And when the men of Judah raised the war cry, then it was that God routed Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah."

Isn't that incredible? It appears that God shows up when we follow His ways when we blow trumpets, when we raise war cries, when we follow the lead of the priests, and the tabernacle. I find this incredibly edifying and encouraging.

The trumpets were later used in the temple itself. 2 Chronicles 5 says, "When they had 120 priests blowing trumpets in unison. And when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify Jehovah. And when they lifted up their voices accompanied by these trumpets, and when they praised Him the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud for the glory of Jehovah build the house of God."

When they were worshiping God with "120 priests blowing trumpets in unison, and singing in unison, and worshiping God, then God shows up. It was so powerful that the priests who lived in God's presence, who were in the temple in the tabernacle, couldn't even stand to minister."

This is wonderful stuff. Then I thought, "I wonder if we have a word for trumpet in the New Testament." It turns out we do. I don't know how to say this word, S-A-L-P-I-G-S, and I saw one of the pronunciations was Salpink. This is in the Strong Greek. This is #4536 and is a trumpet sound. It's a noun used 11 times.

The next word in the Strong Greek is Salpizo, which is used 12 times and it's a verb meaning to sound a trumpet. These are all worth reading. I'm not going to read the big chunk in Revelation, but just to give you a little feel for it, in Revelation 1:9–11, John says, "I was in the isle called Patmos, because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet saying, 'Write in a book what you see.'" There it is, trumpet.

Revelation 8:1, "When the Lamb of God opens the seventh seal, there are seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them." The whole rest of the 8th chapter and then parts of the 9th, the 10th, and 11th chapter when each of these angels blow their trumpet and cataclysmic events occur.

The first angel blew his trumpet, which is followed by hail and fire. The second angel blew his trumpet something and a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea. In the eighth chapter, you have the trumpets one through four, but then in chapter nine, the fifth trumpet sounds. In chapter nine halfway through, the sixth trumpet sounds. Then in 10:7, and 11:15, the seventh trumpet sounds blown by the seventh angel. These world-changing events take place at the sound of the trumpet. Jesus says in Matthew 24:29–31, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light. The stars will fall from the sky and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. When the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky then all the tribes of the Earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet. They will gather together His elect from the four winds from one end of the sky to the other. Sending forth His angels with a great trumpet."

1 Corinthians 15:50–52, "This I say brethren, flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed in a moment in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised to imperishable and we will be changed."

1 Thessalonians 4:15–16, "This we say to you by the word of the Lord that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself would descend from heaven with a shout. With the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God and the dead in Christ will rise first."

Big stuff in the Old Testament happened with trumpets. Bigger stuff occurs at the end of the age in Revelation. The last days, the final trump, the voice of the archangel, and it's all completed by a trumpet. Isn't this incredible?

Scott: Totally. I find it fascinating the parallel between the seven priests carrying trumpets in front of the ark in Joshua. There are seven angels with their seven trumpets in Revelation. I don't know what to say about it, but it's just powerful.

Steve: Now you have me thinking here because oftentimes seven means complete. This is probably the completion of this age of the Earth. We're moving on to something new now. We have seven trumpets. I don't know, I'm just putting that out there. Good observation.

I'm going to go back and recap a little bit. It's a horn that makes a beautiful, comely, pleasant sound. I think to those of us that love God and love His word, and we're walking in the light, believing in Jesus, we're going to hear that sound with joy. Something is going to well up in our hearts like I was meant to hear this sound. I can't wait. I'm going to meet Jesus. I'm going to meet him in the air, but at the same time, if you're inside Jericho, you hear those trumpets, you may have a whole different response, one of terror and fear.

May God help us to believe in Jesus, apply the blood of Jesus, walk in the light so as we hear those sounds, we respond with joy and are happy about it because it's going to be a significant time.

"Father, thank you for your word, and thank you for these trumpets. It looks like we know that angels are blowing them in Revelation. And it appears heavenly beings were blowing them in Exodus. Thank you for these heavenly choirs, and thank you for these priests who are echoing this setting out with the ark, crossing the Jordan into taking Jericho delivering us from evil and all fronts. We can turn to you, we can cry to you. We can shout whether we have a trumpet or not, and we thank you for your Word. Write it on our hearts. Help us to stow it away in our minds. We pray that when these seven trumpets do sound that we will be ready. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Scott: Amen. That's our show for this week, folks. Thanks for joining us for the "Building Faith Families" podcast with Steve Demme. If you have a question for the show, email Steve at [spdemme@Gmail.com](mailto:spdemme@Gmail.com). If you have a question for me, you can reach me at [scott@unsocializedmedia.com](mailto:scott@unsocializedmedia.com).