

# TWELVE REASONS FOR BLOWING THE SHOFAR



## When we hear the shofar :

1. **We are to remember God's Kingship.** In ancient Israel the new king's reign was announced with the *shofar* (1 Kings 1:34). When we blow the *shofar* we remember that Jesus Christ, is King of Kings and Lord of Lords and we are to be obedient subjects.
2. **We are to remember to be God's worshippers.** God seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. The *shofar* is used in worship and in fact heads the list of instruments in Psalm 150 which are used to worship God. "Praise Him with the shofar."
3. **We are to remember our need to repent.** The *shofar* signaled the approach of danger. We are in danger without repentance. "Blow a *shofar* in Zion and sound an alarm on My holy mountain... consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly. Return to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, weeping and mourning, and rend your heart and not your garments" (Joel 2:1, 12- 13).
4. **We are to remember the faithfulness of the Patriarch.** The *shofar* is made from a ram's horn. It reminds us of the *Adekah*, the binding and Abraham's intended sacrifice of Isaac. Because of this act of faith, God promised to bless the Jewish people and give them victory over their enemies. The *shofar* is a reminder of our covenant with God because of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
5. **We are to remember the binding of Jesus Christ, our ultimate Akedah.** Abraham prophesied that God would provide for Himself the Lamb for the burnt offering (Genesis 22:8). Jesus Christ was offered up as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world on that same spot two thousand years later.
6. **We are to remember** the *shofar* that accompanied the revelation of the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai, and that **all Scripture is divinely inspired by God.**
7. **We are to remember the words of the prophets.** I set watchmen over you saying, "listen to the sound of the *shofar*" (Jeremiah 6:17). Prophets are like a *shofar* which warn of danger. Israel was judged for ignoring the prophets. There is even greater judgment if we ignore Jesus Christ, Israel's greatest prophet.

8. **We are to remember the battle alarm for war.** "Near is the great day of the Lord, near and coming very quickly... a day of *shofar* and battle cry" (Zephaniah 1:14-16). Messiah will return and fight during the greatest battle of all time, the battle of Armageddon. We are in the middle of a battle that has been raging for the soul of humanity. Satan and his fallen angels are fighting for people to share their destiny. Jesus Christ is fighting for people to share His eternal destiny.

9. **We are to remember the end of all warfare.** The *shofar* was blown at the end of battle (2 Samuel 2:28, 18:16). The *shofar* is a reminder that our final victory is ahead. When Jesus Christ returns He will end all wars, battles, and injustice.

10. **We are to remember our resurrection** that will take place at Christ's return when the *shofar* blows (1 Corinthians 15:52, 1 Thessalonians 4:16).

11. **We are to be reminded of the Jewish people's restoration to the Land of Israel.** Jesus Christ will gather all of Israel's exiles. "You will be gathered up one by one, O sons of Israel. It will come about also in that day that a great *shofar* will be blown" (Isaiah 27:13).

12. **When we sound the shofar we are asking God to remember us.** The sounding of the *shofar* is like a prayer that ascends to God's throne saying, "O Lord, may the sound of our *shofar* ascend before Your throne. Remember Your covenants, forgive us, save us, and deliver us."

13. Blow a Blessing on someone 😊

