

The last Trump
By Pastor Frank Febus

The last trump was a designation as to when the **change** was to occur. All of the scriptures below are linked to a **trumpet sounding**.

These events are tied to the feast of Trumpets. After Pentecost the next prophetic feast that needed to be fulfilled was Trumpets.

It is logical that the last harvest would occur in the seventh month.

All of Israel would come into rest. (It is a Sabbatical month.)

Historically the general resurrection follows immediately after the tribulation of those days. (Matt. 24:29)

The general resurrection not only changed the status of the righteous dead but also the living at that time.

So the question is what sort of change?

Ever since the time of Adam, man ceased to exist after he expired. Death was final, even the thoughts of the dead were nonexistent.

Ps 146:3-4

3 Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day **his thoughts perish**.

KJV

Humanity was painfully aware of the finality of death. We needed a Savior to restore what was lost in the garden. We lost fellowship with God and also received the curse of spiritual death.

When Jesus completed His work of atonement, resurrection and the outpouring of His Spirit the status of the church dramatically changed.

In this newly found status, death would no longer be an issue for the church.

The gates of Hades would not prevail against the church. The gates of the grave were no longer an obstacle. After the general resurrection all believers would go directly to heaven. The old status **changed** from mortality to the new status, immortality. That was **the change** referred to in the scriptures usually attributed to “the rapture”.

That status is only conditional. We have eternal life abiding in us as long as we continue in faith. We see this illustrated in the church partaking of the Tree of Life.

Rev 22:1-2:

22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there **the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.**

KJV

As long as we partake of the kingdom, the word and body ministry, we will continue to grow and develop. A discontinuation of those activities will eventually result in spiritual death.

Adams` life was conditional also. As long as he partook of the tree of life (the source of his immortality) and obeyed the word of God he lived. After his disobedience **his status changed**. He then lived under the dominion of death. Immortal became mortal.

Here is a scripture that proves that Adam partook of the tree of life.

Gen 2:16-17

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, **Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:**

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it:

for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

KJV

In an admonition to the saints of his day, James warned of the deadly process that sin takes and ultimately the new status it brings to all men who fall. Even though our natural life continues our spiritual life is discontinued.

James 1:14-15

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, **bringeth forth death** .

KJV

Jesus came to reverse the curse, but the idea was quite novel to His most ardent followers.

John 11:25-26

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life : he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

26 **And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?**

KJV

The road to immortality began with the feast of Firstfruits when Jesus resurrected from the dead. He was the firstfruit of them that slept. The feasts were a prophetic picture of the harvest (resurrection) of the dead. This prophetic template gives us the parameter of Gods` redemptive time table.

Most fulfilled prophecy students do not utilize this very important tool. This tool gives us the exact timing of events as they happened.

The next harvest was Pentecost where repented souls passed from death unto life. The scriptures teach us that receiving the Holy Ghost was the “**earnest**” of our inheritance.

Earnest is a term used in real estate transactions for the down payment of property to be purchased. When the remainder of the money is paid, the transaction is complete or consummated.

The Holy Ghost that was poured out before 70ad was the down payment on our inheritance. In other words the deposit was given to the church on Pentecost and the final payment for our salvation occurred with the general resurrection

Eph 1:13-14

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with **that holy Spirit of promise,**

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession , unto the praise of his glory.

KJV

Luke 21:28

28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for **your redemption draweth nigh.**

KJV

The church was still waiting for the completed transaction. .This was the hope of the early church. This will explain the writings of Paul when he refers to the church and the change that was to take place.

Rom 13:11

11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is **our salvation nearer than when we believed.**

KJV

Earnest:

arrhabon (ar-hrab-ohn'); of Hebrew origin [OT:6162]; a pledge, i.e. part of the purchase-money or property given in advance as security for the rest:

2 Cor 1:22

22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the **earnest** of **the Spirit in our hearts.**

Because of years of dispensational teaching, the minds of many Christians view the terms “twinkling of an eye” and “we shall be changed” as the rapture. This becomes a knee jerk reaction immediately because of orientation, not because it is biblically sound.

‘The theme of 1Cor. 15 is the resurrection of the dead and the destruction of death. At the writing of 1Cor.15 death still had dominion over humanity.

In vs.51 Paul says,” we shall not all die”, our status will change.

When? In the feast of Trumpets, when the resurrection of the dead occurs and the church receives eternal life. The above is obviously my take on what I understand.

1 Cor 15:25-26

25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

26 The last enemy that **shall be** destroyed is death.

KJV

1 Cor 15:51-56

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, **but we shall all be changed** ,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be **changed** .

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, **then** shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

Paul was speaking of this event in the near future. In other words Paul himself did not already possess immortality at the time of the epistle. In fact Jesus Christ was the only one at that time that possessed immortality.

1 Tim 6:14-16

14. keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which God will bring about in his own time-God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 **who alone is immortal** and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see.

NIV

According to the following scripture eternal life and immortality was still relegated to the near future.

Rom 2:7

7 To those who by persistence in doing good **seek** glory, honor and immortality, **he will give eternal life.**

NIV

In the passage below we have two events that occur.

The righteous dead are resurrected **first** at the sound of the **Trump of God** and those who survive the first event and are caught up to meet the Lord. The main problem is that most have taken the two events to take place on the same day. (Resurrection first then the rapture) The old English in the KJV hinders us a little. I will insert the meaning beside key words.

1 Thess 4:15-17

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain (**survive**) unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent (**go before**) them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with **the trump** of God: and the dead in Christ shall **rise first**:

17 Then we which are alive and remain (survive) shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord **in the air**: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Matt 24:29-32

The righteous dead go first. Those that survive join the first group when they take their last breath. (in the air) NT:109

aer (ah-ayr'); from aemi (**to breathe unconsciously, i.e. respire; by analogy, to blow**); "**air**" (as naturally circumambient):

(Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright © 1994, 2003 Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

Respire: To breathe in air then exhale it.

The two scriptures cited below can now be tied together with the historic events of the destruction of Jerusalem (the tribulation) and the feast of Trumpets. It makes perfect sense when the hope of Job is expressed so eloquently in looking forward to the day when his **change** would come and that he would live forever.

Matt. 24:29

29 **Immediately after the tribulation of those days** shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of **a trumpet** , and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Job 14:14

14 If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my **change** come.

Change:

OT:2487

relief (from death)

changing, varying (a course of life)

(from The Online Bible Thayer's Greek Lexicon and Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon OT:2487