

The Shofar and The Voice of God

This book is a compilation of 8 teachings that have been transcribed from video footage shot live during several conferences, as I taught about and ministered with the Shofar.

As you read this book, my prayer is that you will enter in and experience the anointing and the presence of God, just as if you had sat down right in the middle of each of those live conferences.

Shalom,
Jim Barbarossa
The Shofarman

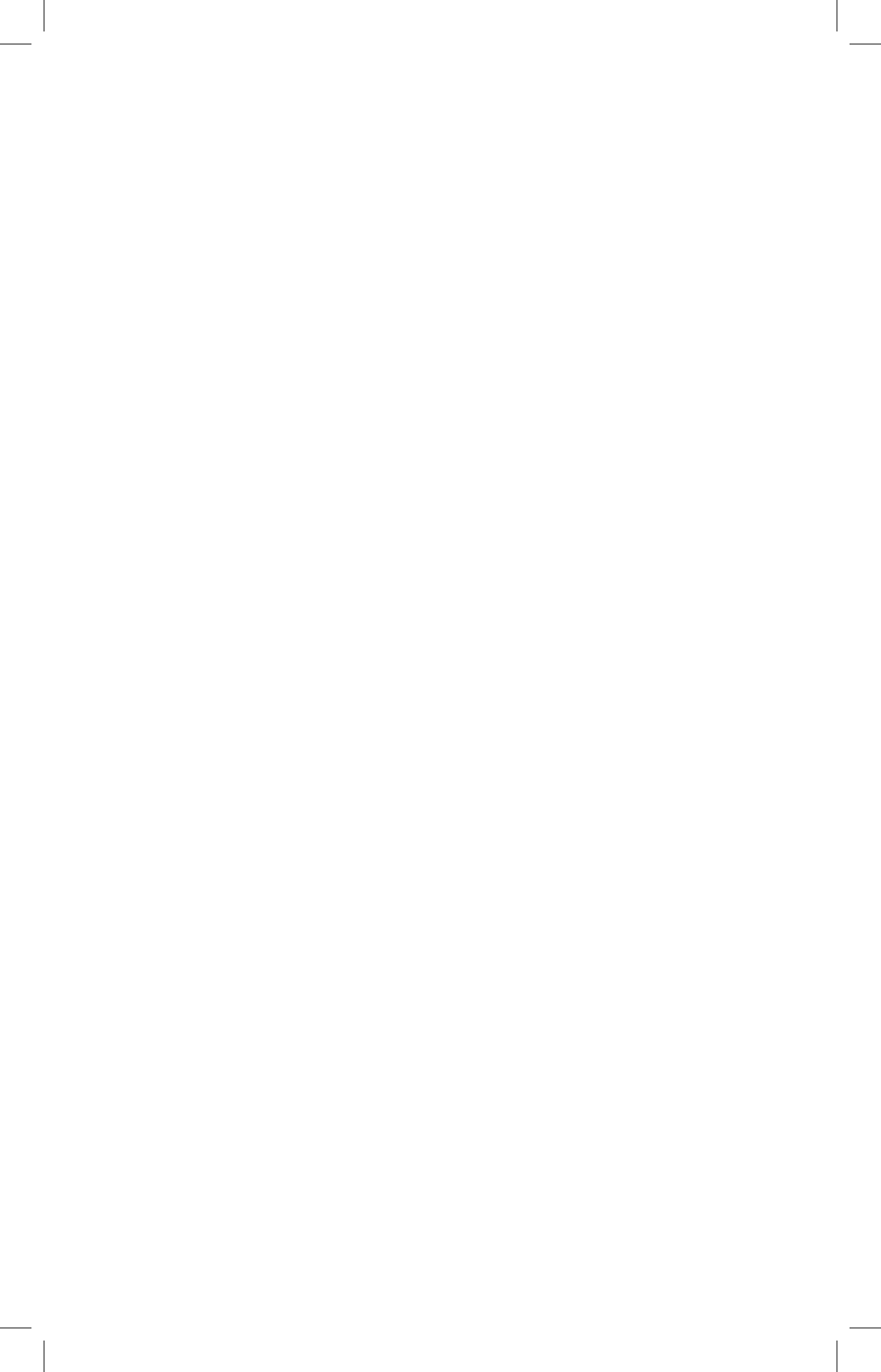


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The Shofar Man's "Preparing The Way Of The Lord International Conference" 2006

By Jim Barbarossa

Are you ready for the word of the Lord today? Let's feast and dine on God's word now. Hallelujah! Hallelujah – I can only imagine. It's going to be a great day. You know that final trumpet is going to sound one day...that great trumpet blast...that Grand Tekiah...the blast of all trumpets. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

I remember back when the Lord first put this trumpet in my hands. I fought it and I didn't want anything to do with it. I said, "God, why can't I just lay my hands on people and anoint them like everybody else does?" He said, "Son, because I didn't tell you to do it that way. I told you to do it this way." I'm so glad I obeyed!

The Shofar – you find it as a trumpet over seventy times throughout the Word of God. I have a big one called the Yemenite. It comes from an African kudu. An interesting thing is that word in the plural form means kudos, which means to bring glory to...this is a glory horn; a horn for glorifying God.

The smaller one is a Rams' Horn. It has a different kind of sound; it's like the cry of the Father's heart for those that are lost. Is it okay if God has his way here today? Are you open for whatever God wants even if it goes against what you might think? I want what God wants folks; that's all I want. I want to obey God more than anything in my life. The blessings of God follow those that obey.

Scripture says in Nehemiah 4:20, "In what place therefore you hear the sound of the Shofar, resort ye thither unto us. Our God shall fight for us."

That's a promise from the Word of God! Do you want Him to fight for you today? I want Him to fight for me. Thank you Lord. We're

going to do it God's way.

Do we have any Shofar blowers in the house? In the place where the Shofar has sounded, my God will fight for me!

How many of you remember the story about the walls of Jericho? Well, there are walls all around us...there are walls in the cities... there are walls in our lives, and God says it's time to bring them down. It's time to bring them down – do you hear me?

In Joshua 6:1 it says, “Now Jericho was straightly shut up because of the children Israel; none went out and none came in. And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given unto thy hand Jericho.”

Church, God has given us the nations. God has given us your city. Get ahold of that! He's given us your city! Your city belongs to you! It belongs to Jesus!

“And I have given unto thine hand your city, and the king thereof and the mighty men of valor. And ye shall compass the city all ye men of war and go about the city once. Thou shalt do this six days and seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns.”

Listen to me; God's a very specific God. When God speaks to you and He tells you to do something, you don't do it halfway. You don't do it part way; you do it exactly the way He says to do it. If He says five times, you do it five. If He says nine, you will do it nine, but you don't stop in-between and you don't add nothing to it. Do you hear me? God wants an obedient army. He wants an army that does exactly what He says to do at the moment He says to do it.

“And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the walls of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before Him.”

Now listen to what it says in Verse 20: “So the people shouted when the *priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet (*the Shofar*), and the people shouted with a great shout, the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city”

Are you ready to take your city? Cry out the name of your city to Jesus right now. Say, “I’m taking it! I’m taking it! I’m taking it! Devil, get out of the way! The walls are coming down! The walls are coming down! The walls are coming down!” Ok, Shofar blowers get ready – there’s going to be a long blast. Do we have some shouters out there? We’ve got the Shofars up here. The rest of you need to arise to your feet and you need to let a shout of victory come out of your belly, and you need to let that shout just keep coming and let it keep coming until the walls come down flat.

Ok, Shofar blowers let’s go. Hallelujah! Jesus!!!! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Everybody turn around... Hallelujah, point your Shofars to the outside of the walls...outside the church. The walls are coming down. The walls are coming down! Glory! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! I think God heard us...I think God heard us. Hallelujah!

I remember the first time I took the Shofar with us on a ministry trip. God said to take it with us, so I did but I had no intention of using it. I set it on the platform as far away from me as I could get it as partial obedience. I had it with me, but I wasn’t planning on using it. A lady came forward; she was bound in fear, and said that she hadn’t slept through the night in fifteen long years. I went to do the normal thing – the traditional thing and lay hands on her and pray for her. As I went toward her, the Holy Spirit said, “Get that Shofar.” I saw it out of the corner of my eye up against the wall, and I said this lady is going to think I’m some kind of a kook. God, do I really need to do this?

I looked at the lady and said, “Do you want me to do what I want to do, or do you want me to do what God wants to do?” She said, “Obey

God.” I said, “You raise your hands and you receive what God has for you.” I blew the Shofar...

I didn't see anything happen. There was no immediate manifestation of any kind. That was on a Saturday night, and on Sunday morning the pastor said, “Does anybody have a testimony...anybody have a story they want to tell?” That lady came forward.

She said, “That man with that Shofar – he had no idea what it would mean to me when he sounded that over me, because I have a Jewish heritage.” You see, God knew that! Jim doesn't know much, but God knows everything! And she said, “Last night was the first time in 15 years that I slept all the way through the night.” You see the shalom of Almighty God rested upon her. The more I obeyed and the more we used the Shofar, the more things we saw start to happen.

We were in Lafayette, Louisiana once during the worship part of the service, and I sounded the Shofar. There was a little boy sitting right out in the front row, maybe two seats back. The power of God hit that little boy, 12 years old, and he went down. At the end of the service, his mama came up and said, “my son was in pain. He had a lump on his chest. When he got off the floor, the pain was gone and the lump was gone.” I don't understand it all, but I know my God and I know His voice, and I know when you obey Him, things happen. It sounds a little crazy, but I'm going to tell you it's the Word of God.

Everything I'm going to share with you is in the Word of God. In the place where the trumpet is sounded, my God will fight for me. When the trumpet was sounded that night, God was fighting for that boy!

When the trumpet was sounded that night, God was fighting for that lady! That's a good reason to have a trumpet in the house. In the place where the trumpet is sounded, your God will fight for you!

We were at a pastor's conference in Tulsa, OK. A lady came down and sat about three rows back. I had two minutes to share and I said, “God, what do you want me to share?” He said, “Blow the Shofar.” I

blew the Shofar and that lady jumped to her feet and started shouting unto God. She shared with us later that she wasn't coming down that morning because she had been in pain for over three years since the birth of her last child. She had to take all these drugs and medication to help her with the pain and as the Shofar was sounded, she jumped to her feet. She was totally healed. God totally, totally healed her! In the place where the Shofar is sounded, my God will fight for me! He is fighting for you!

We were down in Alabama, and a lady was worshipping the Lord. During the worship, the trumpet was sounded. She told this to her pastor, and he wrote me a letter. She was actually sitting there watching her leg, and there was a blood clot. She said as the trumpet sounded, that blood clot dissolved and disappeared from her body. Do I fully understand it? No. But when we obey God... look out!

We were in a church in Massachusetts; it was a Portuguese speaking church, and I had never seen anything like this before. I blew the Shofar, and there was a man and a lady. The man was sitting over here and the lady was sitting over there. They spun around like tops and God decked them, and they fell and laid out on the floor right next to each other. Do you know what the man and woman were doing before they got to the service? As a husband and wife, they were fighting. Look out! I mean God just took them to the carpet like right now! They got up and they hugged each other. Yes, they did. They knew God was dealing with them.

Michigan City, Indiana – Carla and I were ministering there not too far from here. We were teaching and I was blowing the Shofar in a repetitious pattern several times. As it was being blown, there was a man walking in the door who had never heard a Shofar in his life. This man was scheduled on Monday to have rotator cuff surgery. He never made it to the doctor. He said when he heard those repetitions, every time a blast went forth, he felt something hit him in his shoulder. He literally felt it hit him. It was the Great Physician...the Great Physician.

You know God's doing some things right now. The most common manifestation that we see in meetings is people coming in pain, and they leave without it. Pain doesn't belong to you; it's the devil. Pain doesn't belong to you; it's a weapon of the enemy and the place where the trumpet is sounded, God fights for you. He's fighting for you right now. That man never had surgery in the natural realm. He was totally healed...totally healed.

Paw Paw, Michigan: A lady was sitting all the way to the right. I remember it so well. She came up at the end of the service. She said, "I want you to know something. When I came in here tonight, I had one good ear and I had one deaf ear, and when the trumpet was sounded, the deaf ear opened up and I can hear from both of them tonight." That's the God that I serve. That's the God that we serve! Give Him a shout today!

One of the things that people would often ask me in the early days of when I started blowing the Shofar was: What happens when you blow that? It's like the atmosphere changes, and I'll be honest with you, when I first started blowing it, I didn't know what was going on. Then the Lord started showing me through the Word. Everything God has you do, you're going to find it in the Word, and everything that's of God is going to be supported by the Word. If it isn't in the Word, it isn't God. Let me say that again: If it isn't in the Word, it isn't God.

In Revelation 1:10 it says: "I was in the spirit on the Lord's day. And I heard behind me a great voice as of a trumpet." That was the voice of God...a great voice.

In Revelation 4:1 it says, "After this, I looked and behold a door was opened in heaven, and the first voice which I heard was as it were, a trumpet (*a Shofar*) talking with me." The voice of God is like that of the sound of a Shofar.

In Ephesians 2:2 it says, "Where in time past you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince and power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience."

The devil lives in the air – in the atmosphere. When we are obedient to sound the trumpet, we are releasing that which is like the voice of God into the camp of the enemy. I'm going to tell you that's a good reason to blow the trumpet! I like driving the devil a little bit crazy!

In Genesis 1:1 it says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, and God said "let there be light," and there was light."

God spoke! God released His voice. When we are obedient to blowing the Shofar, we are releasing that which is like the voice of God into the atmosphere. And the voice of God is the breath of God, and the breath of God is creative in nature. Do you want the breath of God? Get in your receiving mode right now. Stay in His presence... just stay in His presence.

Father, you know how the battle has been. God, the enemy's tried to inflict sickness upon us. He's tried to keep us from being in Your presence, but God, you brought us to this place. And God, I just think we need to get this healing stuff out of the way right now. Father, pour out the healing anointing. Pour out the healing anointing, Father. Touch your people, God. Touch us oh God. Breath of God...Breath of God.

It's okay to even test it to see if some of that pain has left. I believe some of that pain has left in some people already. I thank you for it Jesus...I thank you for it Jesus. Thank Him today. Oh Jesus... thank you Lord.

I know some would say this Shofar stuff is kind of crazy. Some would say waving a flag is kind of crazy, but you know what? That's a form of worship. That's a way of expressing our love to God, and we can express it the way that He puts it within us! We don't have to be bound by religion. We can dance for God. We can blow the Shofars for God. We can shout for God! We can run for God! We can have liberty for God! We can be free in God!

As some of you are dancing, I sense it so strongly in my spirit that God is saying, “You’re a carrier. You’re a carrier, and you’re going to take it back where you go, and, if you dare to step out, God’s going to bring liberty. God’s going to bring liberty!” I don’t know about you, but I want to walk in liberty! I’m going to tell you something – dancing isn’t my nature. I’ve got two left feet. I’ve got no beat. I’ve got no rhythm, but when God says to worship Me, look out! Hallelujah!

Let me tell you what happened when I had several of the guests sitting at my dinner table. We were eating a meal and the heaviness of God showed up. We’re breaking bread, and the heaviness of God came in. We couldn’t eat. We couldn’t move! I’ve never seen anything like it before, but listen to what God said.

He said, “It’s just a taste. It’s just a taste of what’s coming!” I’ve experienced God’s anointing, but I’ve never experienced it quite this way and you had to see it. It’s really funny in a way; you’re sitting over a plate of food. You’ve got a fork in one hand, and you’re going in with one hand, and you’ve got a piece of bread and you’re dipping with the other hand. You’re like right above your plate, and you stop! Nothing moved! Nobody moved! I’m going to tell you what, when you stop a Pentecostal from eating – whew! But what I think God’s saying is that He wants to break in. He wants to break in when you’re driving to work.

He wants to break in when you’re on the job. He wants to break in when you’re in the school. He wants to break in when you’re walking on the street! Are you willing to let Him just break in? I wouldn’t trade that moment for anything. It was awesome...it was awesome. And my brother, he started to speak. The power of God was all over him. He started to speak and said, “God is so happy...God is so happy.” And right now, God is happy. Do you realize how many nations are represented here tonight. Do you realize denominational walls are crumbling tonight?

I was teaching an Evangelism seminar one time, and there were thirty different denominations present. Most of them had never seen nor heard a Shofar before. I blew that Shofar, and they had given

me instructions; that we've got to start at this time and we've got to stop at this time. I mean there was no room for nothing else. I blew the Shofar and I'm telling you that people started to weep. People started to shout. People started to holler. The man in the back with the watch said, "Throw away the watch! You just keep going...we're going to have church!"

But even though the people didn't know what it was, they recognized that which is like the voice of *God* going out into the atmosphere. It is okay to get quiet too. I used to get real fussy when Carla would get quiet leading worship, and I'd say *is that woman ever going to move? Is she going to sit there all day?* And God was teaching me to be patient...to wait on God.

You see God can do more in a couple seconds of quiet than any canned sermon, or anything I can do. We just come into His presence and let God do what God wants to do. As I started to say, I know people will think it's a little crazy sometimes, but I always remind them of a man by the name of Moses. God put a stick in his hand – a staff. He said when you raise it, the sea is going to part! It parted. If God said to do that then, He can still do that today! God doesn't change! God can do anything God wants to do anytime He wants to do it. He healed people with the shadow of a man! By Peter's shadow – people were healed! He can still do that today if He wants to. He can do anything He wants.

If God wants to put a Shofar in the hand of a man, and as it sounded, that which is like His voice goes forth. If He wants to heal people, He can do it! If God took a young man, and if He said I want you to get a pink polka dotted pogo stick, and I want you to pogo down Main Street, that's crazy isn't it? But if he did it, and God had said it, something would have happened. It's as simple as that. Now if he went and bought a blue and yellow one, and God said to get a pink polka dotted one, he'd be in disobedience and nothing would have happened.

We've got to follow God to the very point and do exactly what God

says at the moment that God says to do it. We don't take anything away and we don't add anything to it. We've got to do exactly what God says. That's what the Shofar is all about. It's about obedience! God wants an obedient army. There's a whole lot more to this teaching on the Shofar, but I'm going to obey God and go His way today.

I got a call from a man in England. He bought a Shofar from www.theshofarman.com (*a little advertisement there*). That's a God-given name by the way. I just carried my Shofar and worshipped as God said and went different places. As I would walk in the door, people would say, "There's the Shofar man!" I didn't do it – God did it. But this man bought a Shofar and he called me. We talked a lot and I gave him some pointers. We prayed, and that was six months ago. He called me back recently and said, "Jim, I've got to tell you what happened! The reason I called you is because you're my guru!" He's a musician. A guru is kind of like a teacher or a mentor, and so I said, "Ok."

He said, "Jim, ever since I got connected to you, God has been using me with the Shofar. He's opening the doors for me to some of the biggest churches in England. He's not only opening the doors for me and the Shofar, but He's putting me on national television. I went into 170 nations the other day."

170 nations! And a little tiny part of me rose up and started to say, "But God, you haven't done that for me." But a *bigger* part of me said, "That's my son...that's my son!" It exploded within me, and God said, "I'm going to bring them to you from around the world and you're to teach them. The anointing that I've placed on your life, I am going to place on their life."

I'm sure everybody that has a Shofar is glad to hear that, but there's more to it. I hope you still love me after I tell you what God said, but I have to obey God.

I responded to Michael because I wanted to know what it meant to me when he called. You have no idea how important our phone

conversation was the other day when he said, “Jim, you are my guru.” It exploded within me and at that moment God told me to share the things that he had told me with the Shofar blowers that came to the conference on September 20-23, 2006. This is a word for those who were there that night.

He said to encourage them, and that I will do the same things for them that I have done for Michael. Encourage them to be carriers of the message that I have given you... carriers of the anointing that I have placed upon you, and go back to their nations and states and allow Me to work through them.

God goes on to say, “Jim, you are like an Elijah, and Michael is like an Elisha. You’re his teacher. The ones that come with the right heart and walk in obedience, they will walk in a double portion anointing. I will take them to a higher level faster than I did you. You had no Elijah; you had no mentor in the natural. You were a forerunner. Because you heard Me and obeyed Me, I have something to build on for the next generation of watchmen.

Not all that come to you for training will walk in a double portion anointing because they come with the wrong heart. They come for the wrong reasons. They come to please man. They come to please self. They blow the Shofar for themselves, not for Me. My Shofar blowers – God’s Shofar blowers will blow the Shofar wherever and whenever I tell them to. Many want to use my Shofar to entertain within the four walls of the church, but they will not sound it out in the world when I ask them to.

There will be no anointing for those that want to use it for the entertainment of the church, and yes, there will be a double portion anointing on those that you mentor that come with a right heart. During the conference, those that have come with a wrong heart, those that want to entertain the church, those who blow the Shofar for their own agenda, will have a chance to change. Tell them what I have said. I give them this chance to change.

Yes, I want to pray for each of you that blow the Shofar, but before we do, we have to get our hearts right.

Have your way Father. Create in us a clean heart, oh God. Search our hearts, God.

God said that we would have a chance to change. Allow Him to search your hearts now, and if there's any showmanship, and if there's any entertaining, give it away. Repent. Give it to Him. Be willing and obedient to blow the Shofar everywhere He talks to you – everywhere He tells you. You see, when you only use it when you want to, you are your Shofar blower. When you use it when God tells you to, you are His Shofar blower.

Convict our hearts, God. Holy Spirit, have your way. Create in us oh God a clean heart...a clean heart...a clean heart.

One of the other things that God spoke to me about is that the church likes to hear the Yemenite Shofar because it's a victorious shout. We like to hear that, but the church doesn't want to hear the Rams' Horn. A lot of Shofar blowers don't want to blow the Rams' Horn. God is saying if you're truly His Shofar blower, that you'll be willing to sound that cry of repentance. The church wants to hear the shout of victory, but God says if you want the shout of victory, it's going to come by the way of repentance. The shout of victory follows the way of repentance! As a Shofar blower, you have to be willing to sound what's unpopular, because it's not popular to blow the Rams' Horn as it is to blow the Yemenite. The Body only wants the victory blast, but God says it's time to blow the Rams' Horn.

In a little while I do want to pray for you and pray for those that blow the trumpet, but before we do, let's take another moment to make sure our hearts are right.

Have your way Holy Spirit...have your way.

Let's stand and worship Him...

We love you Jesus. Thank you for your presence in this place, oh God.

If you feel that God has called you to blow the Shofar, I want you to stand up. I trust that your heart is right – I trust that our hearts are right to receive. Thank you Lord.

Before I pray, we know so little about this instrument of God. God is bringing more revelation to us, but we must be teachable. If we aren't teachable, we're in trouble. We must be willing to learn. God does not put a Shofar in our hands to entertain or be disruptive; we must be led of the Holy Spirit. When it's the Holy Spirit, it's going to flow, and my prayer is that you will hear the Holy Spirit as you have never heard Him before. You will not only hear Him, but you will be quick to obey Him. That's what it's all about...obedience. I don't know why I do half the things I do, except that I want to obey God. It's all about God.

Are you ready to receive what God has for you?

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion. No longer the breath of man, but the breath of the Holy Spirit – the touch of the Father's hand. It's time to be filled with joy. It's time to walk in the season of joy.

Oh yes, God says you are in the place where He wants you. Thank you Jesus. The Lord says that He will use you to cry out ...

The Shofar Man's "Preparing The Way Of The Lord International Conference" 2007

By Jim Barbarossa

God is here to empower you. He's here to lift you up and give you inner strength as you touch Him and as you tap into His presence.

Thank you Holy Spirit that you touch every person. Lord we can feel your presence, but we are not operating by feelings. We know you are here, and when you are here in such a tangible way, Lord, you want to do a mighty thing. Lord, thank you for your glory that you have revealed, and thank you that you take us deeper and deeper into the revelation knowledge of your truth. Let your truth prevail in this place. Let your truth take us deeper. Deliver us from lies and deceptions that we have. Thank you for your Word, Lord. Let your Word be powerful in our midst. Thank you, Father, that you have sent your Son and that He is the leader and head of your church. Thank you that you will lead us not only in warfare, but through your Spirit, you will lead us in truth. Today Lord, we submit to your Word. We submit to the unction of your Holy Spirit, the direction that you take us in. Thank you Lord. We appreciate you...we appreciate you.

Let's just stay in His presence...

Father, your word says that in the place where the Shofar is sounded, that He will fight for us. God, I thank you that you are in our midst and that you are fighting for us. Deliver your people oh God of sickness and disease, of depression and anxieties. Extend your hand God, and touch your people.

Father, we don't have and don't want eloquent words, but God we want the power of your spirit. Manifest your presence, God. Come in, God; let the heaviness of your spirit overshadow us and overcome us this moment. Take us into that place God, that place called Shalom, that place of total peace, that place of wholeness, that place where

we lack for nothing in your presence.

Father, we welcome you to just stay with us for this entire time. Have your way. We yield to you...we yield to you. Have your way.

My name is Carla, and what I'm going to start with is a little background before Jim comes to teach. The garment that I'm wearing here is called a Tallit, a prayer shawl, a little tent, and Jesus being a Jew, would have worn a Tallit. The scripture reference to this specific garment that I like to refer to is about the woman with the issue of blood. We know the story of the woman who had that issue of blood for 12 long years. She went to many doctors and spent lots of money; the Word says she was none the better. She heard about Jesus who was coming to town. While at home, she said within herself, "If I could just touch the hem of his garment, I shall be made whole." She wasn't talking about the bottom of His robe; what she was referring to are these tassels. These tassels represent the covenant that the people have with God. They are very specific; it's a long teaching and I'm just going to be very brief on it.

What she was saying is that "If I can just get to Him, and if I could just grab a hold of that tassel, that covenant that entails all that God is, I shall be made whole."

When we read that story we don't know how weak that woman was or what all she had to do to get to Him, but it said that she pressed through a crowd. We envision what kind of a crowd this actually was for her to get there in her weakened condition, to bend down and then grab a hold of His tassel. Jesus knew when she grabbed a hold of His tassel, that virtue, which is dunamis power, flowed from Him.

He said to his disciples, "Who touched Me?" And they said, "Master, who touched you?"

You know, there is such a crowd here. Who probably didn't touch you?" But He didn't mean just a bump, a shove, or a brush; He meant someone grabbed a hold and required something of Me. Someone

reached out and wanted something specific from Me.

The woman confessed that it was from her, and He said, “Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole.” That woman could have stayed home all day long confessing...*if I could but just touch the hem of His garment, I shall be made whole.* She could have just confessed it all day long, but she had to do something. She had to walk in obedience and step out actually doing the action, and when she did, it said that the fountain of her blood was dried up and immediately she was made whole.

We use this garment, but there’s nothing magical about it. In our ministry, we have heard from God to begin to carry and use them, and to believe for things to happen when God speaks...it’s all about obedience.

Once when we were ministering, a woman had come forward with a back ailment. She had a couple of surgeries, and she was not better from it. So when we prayed for her and we were ministering to other people, God told me to go get the Tallit and lay it over her head. He didn’t tell me to do anything else but just to lay it over her head. I continued to minister to some other people in the line. She just stood there with this over her head, and began to rock back and forth as we continued to pray for the other people. We didn’t see anything, but a few days later we got a call from the pastor that she was totally set free. Was it the Tallit that healed her? No, but when God says to do something specific, we just obey. Sometimes we don’t understand why He wants it done a certain way, but He’s God and He’s sovereign, and we just obey. We just believe that He has a special purpose for the Tallit.

The other thing that Jim is going to talk about is the ministry of the Shofar. We actually went to Israel in May, 1996. While there, Jim wanted to purchase a Shofar, and the only reason he wanted to purchase one was because it was like a souvenir or an ornament that said we were in the country of Israel. We were going to bring it home and set it on a tablecloth in the livingroom and people can look at it

and say “*Wow – what’s that?!*” Oh that’s a Shofar...*where did you get it?* ...And we’d say we got it in Israel...and so that was what his intentions were.

While we were there, the gentleman who was hosting the tour was blowing the different Shofars, and when Jim heard the one he has right now, he said “That’s mine.” I looked at that thing and it looked just huge, and I said “You can’t have that. It’s too big; it won’t fit in our suitcase.” He looked at me and said, “Did you get what you wanted on this trip?” I said, “Yes.” And He said, “Well this is what I want.” So I agreed and we had to carry it on the plane, but today we have a suitcase big enough for it to fit in.

Jim didn’t realize that God was actually inspiring him to purchase the Shofar, and began dealing with him about it. He was beginning to hear God about using this, but he was fighting God. He wasn’t telling me he was fighting over this issue of “I’m going to have you blow this.” And so later in that same year of October, 1996, we were invited with another ministry to go to Kenya, Africa. Jim kept feeling like taking it to Kenya, and he thought...*why do I want to take an ornament to Kenya?* He wasn’t using it; it was just an ornament at that time. So he didn’t tell me he was fighting with God, but in the midst of him fighting and fussing with God, I had a dream; you know, just how sometimes you have a dream and you know it’s from God.

In this dream, I was pregnant and I was ready to deliver this baby. We were in a tiny little car and were on our way to the hospital. As we were driving, Jim reaches under the seat and pulls out this giant Shofar. He holds it up over his head and he said, “At the birthing process, I will blow this.” It was just so vivid and real. I told him about the dream, and then he told me what was going on of how he was fussing and fighting with God about taking this Shofar to Kenya.

We were invited with this ministry to be worship leaders; that was the only purpose that we were going. We didn’t have any other preparation other than we were going to lead in worship. When we got there, they had posters all over buildings and poles of Jim and

me leading a healing crusade. We thought...*oh my...what is this??* The leader said, “Well, you know after talking to the pastor there, he wants you two to go this way, and we’re going to go this way.” We’re thinking...*all we’re doing is leading worship; what else are we going to do? We’re not prepared for anything else.* But we prayed and heard God say “Yes, I want you to go” and so we said Ok.

We went in obedience and what happened there, which was the interesting thing of the dream, was that the ministry we do today was actually birthed in Kenya, Africa. After the first session that we did, the pastor had taken us out to eat and he said, “That’s what God is doing here; He’s equipping the saints for the work of the ministry.” God supernaturally filled my husband’s mouth with the entire ministry concerning evangelism, so it actually was birthed in Kenya, Africa.

On that trip, the Lord just began to deal with us about using this instrument, and that He has placed it in Jim’s hand. He wanted him to search the scriptures to know about it. We were to anoint it and protect it; the enemy wanted to destroy it. On the one night that Jim used it, he said it was like the enemy was fleeing like a dog scared with his tail between his legs. Many things were happening in these meetings that we just were in awe about concerning this instrument. Now this instrument is not magical, right? No, it’s not about magical, it’s about obedience. God placed it in my husband’s hand and told him that He wanted him to blow this. He told him He wanted him to search the scriptures, and told him what He wanted him to do... when to blow it...when not to blow it...when to take it and so forth. So if you know nothing else about my husband, know this: He wants to hear God’s voice and he wants to obey. So when he blows this Shofar, he’s blowing it in obedience to God. When things happen, it’s because God is making it happen; not the instrument.

Maybe you’ve never heard a Shofar before. Maybe you’ve never heard about a Tallit. Maybe you’ve never heard about any of these things, but I just want you to be open to hear and receive, and to allow the Holy Spirit to touch your heart, to touch your mind, to touch your ears, and to touch your eyes. That’s so you will see, hear,

and comprehend or understand what He wants you to know, see, and hear here today.

I, Jim, did not choose the Shofar. I said, “God, I don’t want to do this. This is a horn of an animal. Why do you want a full grown man to get up in front of people and blow through the horn of an animal? And then even further, you want him to do it in a dress, a robe!” I said, “God, all I want to do is anoint them with oil like everybody else does! Can’t I just do it that way?” God said, “No, do it My way.” I’m so glad I obeyed. We have seen and heard and experienced things that would have been totally aborted had I disobeyed God. The thought comes to my mind right now and I’ll share that thought with you:

Have you been disobedient and aborted the future that God has for you? Is there an area of disobedience that is holding back the ministry opportunities that God has for you?

As Carla said, there’s nothing that means more to me than hearing the voice of God and obeying. I don’t share what I am about to share everywhere we go. It is for such a time as this. Search your heart, and again I have to obey God. I remember a time in our ministry, and it doesn’t have to do with the Shofar, but it has to do with obeying God, because when the Holy Spirit is speaking something for NOW, that’s the thing that will set people free!

There was a time in our ministry; I was eighteen months in the Lord. We were going all over the country, and we were ministering in signs and wonders, healings, miracles, deliverances, salvations; all kinds of things were happening. All of a sudden, the doors closed. There were no opportunities, and I’m fussing. Any of you ever do that? I’m fussing and fussing; there were no opportunities! God, I know you called me to preach. There’s nothing, and one day Carla comes to me and said, “Jim, did God tell you to do something that you didn’t do?” I knew it was God speaking through her. You see, when the doors closed, God started giving me topics for messages, and I was to develop those topics into messages. But instead, I took the approach of...*there is no sense in bothering with it – it is a waste*

of time. There are no doors open, so why bother with it? Now Carla comes to me and says, “Did God tell you to do something you didn’t do?!” So that night, I had to repent and ask for God’s forgiveness, and I had to develop those sermon topics.

Within a few short months, God took this 18-month-old baby Christian who didn’t know anything, except he knew Jesus, and put him on 52 television stations reaching four million homes with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God wasn’t holding it back! Jim was holding it back. There’s a breakthrough in this for somebody here today. You’ve been fussing with God. You’ve been blaming things on God, and you haven’t done all that God’s been telling you to do. You need to repent and say, “God, where did I miss it?” Get back on track and watch what God will do!

Back to the Shofar...I bought it as an ornament and set it on a pretty table. As far as I was concerned, that’s where it would stay, but God had other plans. We were leaving for a ministry trip in a city called Coldwater. As we were leaving, I felt that the Lord said “Take it with you.” So I brought it with me, but I set it over on the far corner of the platform – as far away from me as I could get it. That’s called partial obedience. There was a lady in the service at the end of the night; she came forward and said, “I haven’t been able to sleep through the night in 15 years.” As she said that, I started to do the normal thing: laying on of hands and anoint with oil. Out of the corner of my eye I saw the Shofar leaning against the wall. Then I thought... *oh God...this lady is going to think I’m a nut!* I said to her, “Do you want me to do what I want to do, or do you want me to do what God wants me to do?” She told me to obey God. I said, “Well, you raise your hands and receive.” I went over and picked up that Shofar and began to blow it.

She went back and sat down. I saw nothing happen, and I went on and prayed for others as the Lord led. The next morning (*this was on a Saturday night*) the pastor says, “Does anybody have a story to tell...a testimony that they would like to share?” That lady was the first one up; she came up for the microphone and started to talk. She

said, “The man with the Shofar didn’t know this, but I have a Jewish heritage.” Only she and *God* knew that. God knew what it would take to help her come to a place of breakthrough. She proceeded to tell everybody that “last night was the first time in 15 years that I slept completely through the night.” In the natural realm, my mind rolls over...this just does not make sense! It doesn’t have to. God can do whatever God wants to do whenever God wants to do it. If you will hear Him and obey him, you will be allowed the honor of participating with Him.

There are two types of Shofars. The first one is the Yemenite. The Yemenite comes from a kudu. The plural form of the word kudu is kudus, which means to bring glory to. So the Yemenite is actually a glory horn. This is the one the church likes; we like this one. It’s got a triumphant shout, but there’s another one. It’s called a Rams’ Horn. This one is the one that God has had me blowing more and more and more, and it has a sad cry.

I have seen people, when the Rams’ Horn has gone off, been sounded, literally double over, fall to their knees and weep, and not know why. They do not have any understanding.

I thought it strange when God put these instruments in my hand. I told God...*I’m an evangelist; what does an evangelist need with a Shofar?* This is kind of crazy. The Shofar is mentioned over 70 times in the scriptures wherever you see trumpet, trumpets, coronets, or ram’s horns. So the thing I want you to understand about the Shofar more than anything is that it isn’t some new fad. It’s been God’s instrument since the beginning of time. The first time Shofar appears is as a ram’s horn when the ram was caught in the thicket; God provided that ram. The ram’s horn to the Jewish people is a representation of provision. The word Shofar appears as a trumpet in Revelation 1:10, “I was in the spirit on the Lord’s Day, and I heard behind me a great voice as of a trumpet (*a Shofar*).” That was God’s voice. So the voice of God is like the sound of a Shofar.

In Revelation 4:1, “After this I looked, and, behold, a door was open

in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were a trumpet (*Shofar*) talking with me.”

Whose voice was that? Again, the voice of God. The voice of God is like that of the sound of a *Shofar*.

In Ephesians 2:2, “Wherein time past, ye walked according to the course of this world; according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”

The enemy, the devil, lives in the air. He lives in the atmosphere. I’m sharing this with you to explain something that I didn’t understand when I first started to blow the *Shofar*. I would blow it as God would say, and often when I would sound the *Shofar*, people would come to me and say, “Jim, what happened when you did that?” It was like the atmosphere changed. It was like the chemistry of the room all of a sudden was different, and in the natural mind it didn’t make any sense to me. But then God started showing me in the Word, the sound of the *Shofar* is like the voice of God. So when the *Shofar* is sounded, that which is like the voice of God is being thrust into the atmosphere, which is the camp of the enemy. When you are obedient to blowing the *Shofar*, you are literally blowing holes into the enemy’s camp.

Then you take into consideration Genesis 1:1, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

God spoke. The voice of God is creative in nature. The breathe of God goes forth when we are obedient to the sounding of the *Shofar*.

So when the *Shofar* is sounded the atmosphere is cleared. The neat part about that is you don’t have to be in the church for it to happen. I have been checking into hotels; in the hotel lobby of one very fancy hotel in particular. If you want to get the world’s attention, carry one of these. You *will* get their attention. We’re checking into a hotel, and

I have this in my hand. It's a big fancy, plush and proper place, and somebody says, "What is that?!" I asked, "Would you like to hear it?" "Yes!" they said. I sounded it! And the presence of God settles into the lobby. People could feel the presence of God!

There was a lady in Massachusetts who came up for prayer. She tells Carla that on the job, the place where she works, she's being attacked with demonic oppression. It's so bad that she wants to quit her job, and she had a good paying job in some type of a fancy office, and she was ready to give it up. Carla prayed for her, and while she's praying the Holy Spirit comes on her and BOOM, she goes down on the floor. While she's lying on the floor, the Holy Spirit says, "Buy a Rams' Horn and take it to work with you and sound it on the job."

Just think about it, if that was you. Now this was in an office complex, and she obeys God plays her Shofar. Her boss came running out of the office and said, "Did you do that?!" Now this was an unsaved man. He said to her, "That's the most awesome sound that I have ever heard in my life." You see, God has put a place in the heart of every man, woman, and child called eternity. God is eternity. There's a place in everybody that belongs to God. When that which is like the voice of God is thrust into the atmosphere, it connects with that place called eternity. People don't understand it because they're not saved, but its God. That lady shared with us that in one week of obeying God and doing what He said to do, four people in that office repented of their sins and gave their hearts to the Lord Jesus Christ. Give the Lord a shout and a handclap! Hallelujah!

In the natural realm it does not make any sense. To the intellectual person it's like: No! ...but it happened. She heard from the Holy Spirit. She did what God said to do, and a harvest came in – four souls. I think about...*what if she would have disobeyed?* It goes back to where we started, when God tells us to do something, we can't intellectualize it. We can't try to figure it out. When we know it's the voice of God and it lines up with the Word of God, and it lines up with the character of God, then we have to obey God. There's no figuring it out, and this excuse is the one that always gets me. God

speaks and...*oh I've got to pray about it.* That's like a no brainer. You already heard from God; what is there to pray about? Four souls got saved because that woman obeyed God, and I look back and think if I would not have picked up that Shofar, and if I would have not done what God told me to do, we wouldn't have been there to minister to that lady. She would have never gotten zapped with the Holy Ghost and fell on the floor, and four souls would have never come into the Kingdom. When we obey, we cause an effect that can grow and grow and grow. But when we disobey, we can steal the blessings not only from ourselves, but from people all around us. I said, "God, I'm an evangelist. Why are you giving me these ideas?" Four souls got saved. It didn't happen my way, but you know what, God's way is better.

We were in Baltimore a couple of days with a church, and on Sunday morning I knew that I knew that I knew there were lost souls in the house. I gave an altar call. I preached the Word. I poured out my heart...*please receive what God wants to do for you!* Nobody moved...nothing. I'm standing at the pulpit, and you don't want to quit when you know, but I was at a loss. I didn't know where to go or what to do. They wouldn't move, but they're going to go to hell! And God said, "Jim, blow the Rams' Horn" and Jim said, "*What's that got to do with evangelism?*" When I was done fussing, I obeyed God. I blew the Ram's Horn and I never had to say another word. Twelve people got up out of their seats; they RAN to the altar. They didn't slowly walk. I couldn't coax them up; they got up and vibrantly ran to the altar! It doesn't make any sense. Twelve people gave their hearts to Jesus because somebody dared to obey God, even when it didn't make sense. Are you willing to obey God?

As time went on, I would take it with me more and more in ministry, and use it as the Lord would lead. One of the most common manifestations that would take place in meetings is that people would come in with pain in their body, and as the trumpet was sounded and when that which is like the voice of God would go forth into the atmosphere, the chemistry of the room would change and people would leave pain free. In the natural realm, it does not make any sense.

In the place where the Shofar is sounded (Nehemiah 4:20), my God will fight for me. One of the things that I believe God will fight for us in is the area of healing. Jesus paid the entire cost for yours and my healing.

The the Shofar is sounded and there is quietness... Do you ever get all nervous when it gets quiet? I have a lot of notes. They aren't worth very much. It's easy to stick to the notes. It's easy to stick to your plans, whatever your plans might be and do it your way, but God says to do it "Yahweh"...Jesus' way. Yahweh. Because when we step out and we do it Jesus' way, it's anointed; things happen when we do it Jesus' way.

The three companies of Gideon blew the trumpets. Now this is about Gideon and the 300, ok? Gideon faced an army of tens of thousands, and he had a good sized army to start out with. But God said, "Uh uh...I'm going to dwindle you down, and dwindle you down, and dwindle you down; and when you go into the battle in the natural, you can't win. Basically, I am not going to allow you to take any of the credit. I'm going to get it down so far that you can't possibly do this, so that only I get the glory when it's done."

And so Gideon and the 300 hundred that he has left are going to fight this massive, massive army. God doesn't give him bazookas. He doesn't give him tanks. He doesn't give him airplanes with bombs. Listen to what God gives him to fight a battle: *And the three companies blew the Shofars and they broke the pictures and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal.*

I want to tell you how particular God is. If God tells you to hold something in your left hand, you'd better hold it there. You can't just do things the way you want to do them; it has got to be God's way. If He says to have the pitcher in the left, you have it in the left. If He says the right, then you have it in the right. You can't change anything of what God directs you to do. If you do change it, you can abort the vision, the ministry, and the life and plans that God has for

you. Partial obedience won't work. I keep coming back to this, and I have to ask again: *Is there something that you did not do that God told you to do, or is there something that you did differently than the way God told you to do it?* If there is, then you must correct it. It's all about obedience.

“And the trumpets in their rights hands to blow withal, and they cried the sword of the Lord and of Gideon. And they stood, every man in his place round about the camp, and all the host ran and cried and fled, and the 300 blew the Shofars...”

Imagine this...you've got these 300 with lanterns and Shofars. You've got this massive army, and I kind of envision that it was probably a dark area, and these 300 Shofars all go off at one time. Imagine what that would be like! I'll tell you what, that would scare the death out of me. Three hundred of them...it's like spiritual bazooka's all going off together, but listen to what happened:

“And the 300 blew the Shofars, and the Lord (*God did this*) set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host.” When Gideon and the 300 obeyed God and they released that which was like the voice of God into the atmosphere, the enemy turned on itself. It annihilated itself. It totally wiped itself out. If God could do that then, God can do that today. Sickness is our enemy. Cancer is our enemy. Depression is our enemy. Pain is our enemy. I have those who would say, “Jim, you're crazy!” Then I point to the scripture.

Do you know there is a man by the name of Moses? God put a staff, a stick, in his hand. He said to throw it down and turn it into a snake, and it did. He then picked it up by the tail, and it turned back into a stick. God can do anything he wants to do in any way he wants to do it in anybody that is crazy enough to obey. He took that stick and he held it up, and the sea parted. If God can work through a person or an instrument that God put in the hands of a man then, God can work through an instrument put in the hands of a man today.

Is there something magical about the Shofar? Absolutely not. Is it

mystical? Absolutely not. The bottom line is that you do what God tells you to do, in the way that He tells you to do it, and watch what He will do! That's what God is waiting for. He's waiting for His army to rise up and go out into the world, and do and say what He wants done when He wants it done. He's going to manifest His presence and His power like we have never seen it before. Part of that is a call to blow the Shofar. God is raising up a radical army that will take this instrument that's in the word of God, His instrument, and use it when and where He says in the way He wants it done.

There's a whole lot more to this, and we're going to touch on it a couple more times, but here's where I believe we are right now. I'm not the only one that God has called to blow the Shofar. God is raising up an army to blow the Shofar. He's doing this to declare His sovereignty on this earth. Let me share something else before we go on; again the Holy Spirit has prompted me.

Carla and I were in New York at a place called Long Island. We took the Shofar and a bag of cassette tapes with the Gospel message and went to a beach. Let me tell you, when you blow a Shofar on the beach, you get attention. And when we blow the Shofar on the beach, when we get attention, we give people the Gospel. On this particular day we blew the Shofar many times. And as people would come up, we would talk to them and share with them. We would give them a Gospel message on cassette tape. We're heading back to the car. I'm thinking...*we're done*. And the Holy Spirit says to sound it one more time. But He says to me, "Blow it the way they do in the synagogues." I knew how to do that, because a couple of months earlier somebody had told me how. I never blew it that way, but I knew how, so I blew the Shofar.

There was an elderly gentleman leaning against the fence post. He said, "Son! What are you doing on the beach with a Shofar?!" I looked at him and God filled my mouth. I said, "I'm declaring God's sovereignty on this earth! God created it all and it all belongs to Him!" He said, "Son, that's absolutely correct." He looked at me and said, "By the way, you blow that better than they do in my synagogue!"

God knew that man was standing there. God knew that I had to blow it in a fashion that would touch his heart! Jim didn't know, but God did. I reached into my pocket and gave him a cassette tape of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. He would have never, never, never accepted anything from me had it not been for total obedience on my part. You see, if I would have just blown it in any haphazard way, he wouldn't have recognized the sound. You have to do exactly, exactly, *exactly* what God says to do the moment that God says to do it. God is raising up an army, and to be part of that army, you have to walk in obedience. God wants a serious people. God wants an obedient people.

In the Exodus 19:16-19, it talks about the Shofar being sounded long and loud. "And as the Shofar was sounded long and loud, Moses spoke to God and God answered him by voice."

Today, I want each of you to speak to God, but I have a very specific question for you to ask Him. The question is: *God, are you calling me to blow the trumpet (the Shofar)? Am I one of those, God, that you're raising up to release that which is like your voice into the atmosphere; is it me God?*

Ask Him and expect an answer. Yes or no. Just like some are called to be an evangelist, some are called to blow the Shofar. We're not all called to blow the Shofar, but when you are, you will know it, it will explode within. You will know the Father's voice, so focus now and ask "Am I one that you're calling to blow the trumpet – the Shofar?"

(At this time people came forward to answer the call, to sound the Shofar and be prayed for.)

Your coming up for prayer does not make you a Shofar blower. The laying on of hands upon you does not make you a Shofar blower. You'll be identified by the fruit. I tell you as I have obeyed God, there has never been one time in any setting that I've sounded the Shofar that God did not manifest His presence and His power. It is only about obedience. It has nothing to do with me; it's about hearing His

voice and obeying Him; doing what God says to do at the moment that God says to do it.

Father, I thank you for the anointing to blow the trumpet in Zion. Father, I believe for an impartation as you extend your hand and your touch...thank you Lord...thank you Lord.

If you have come forward for prayer concerning the Shofar, I want to exhort you to be teachable. There is so much about this instrument that we do not know or understand. We're starting to get glimpses in just little portions and pieces, and God is teaching us as we go. But we must be willing to be corrected if correction is needed. This instrument is not a toy. It can change the whole direction of a service when sounded from the leading of the Holy Spirit. But you can also grieve the Holy Spirit by blowing it out of time in the manner that He does not want it blown.

Father, just like Moses, you took him into that place; into the cleft of the rock. Take them in God to that place in the cleft of the rock. God, pass by. Blow ye the trumpet in Zion!

Father, let them have an encounter with you like never before. Reveal yourself God...like a burning bush experience.

Don't be concerned that God is passing you by. Allow Him to do exactly what He wants to do at the moment that He wants to do it. The Shofar is a new tool for ministry...a radical tool...blow ye the trumpet in Zion...and lift thy voice like a trumpet. Proclaim a shout of liberty to mankind.

Take them in God, take them in to that place of refreshing; that place of shalom; God, that place where they lack for nothing; that place where all provision is made. That place of wholeness in you, God. Take them in God.

Father, when the Shofar is raised to their lips, it will not be the breath of a man and it will not be the breath of a woman, but it will be the

breath of the Holy One of Israel. Let a repentant cry come forth to the city first, and then the nation.

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion. Allow them to experience you God – a glimpse as you pass by. Take them in deeper and deeper...a place of shalom. Let the breath of God come forth. Thank you, God. Thank you for the shalom– that place with You.

The Shofar Man Live In The Nation Of South Africa Oct 2006

By Jim Barbarossa

I want to start with reading a couple of scriptures about the Shofar and talk a little more about that.

The first one is in Psalm 150:1-6:

“Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet (*Shofar*): praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.”

From these scriptures, we know that the trumpet or the Shofar is an instrument used to praise the Lord. Now I want to read to you from II Samuel 6:14-15:

“And David danced before the Lord with all *his* might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the Shofar (*trumpet*).”

From these two scriptures, we know that the Shofar was joined with shouting to welcome the presence of God; the ushering in of the King. One of the questions that I’ve thought about and have been asked a few times is: Who blows the Shofar? We can find the answer to that in the Word of God. We can look first Revelation 8:6-13.

“And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets (*Shofars*) prepared themselves to sound. The first angel sounded, and there

followed hell and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea... And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven...”

If we continue on with that, what you will see is the same pattern that starts with the first three angels. Supernatural manifestations and events took place when the angels sounded the Shofar. We have experienced supernatural events taking place in meetings where the Shofar has been sounded. We have been in meetings for example, where a lady came into the meeting and she had one good ear and one totally deaf ear. During the worship as she was praising God, the Shofar was sounded. That lady’s deaf ear opened up and she left with two good ears! That was a supernatural manifestation. Therefore, we know according to the scriptures that angels blow the Shofar.

Then in Exodus 19:16-19 it says: “And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.”

I have seen at times when I have sounded the Shofar that people were literally consumed with the power of God to the point where they shook and fell uncontrollably on the floor.

“And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount. And Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as of the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.”

In first reading this, you may not see it, but there was a supernatural event that took place.

“And when the voice of the Shofar sounded long...”

If I were to blow the Shofar, the longer I was to sound it with one breath, the lower that the sound would get in the natural. That’s because you only have so much air, and when you start the blast, it will come out loud with a thrust. And the sound will diminish; it will die down and grow softly. Listen to what the Word says:

“And when the voice of the Shofar sounded long, and waxed louder and louder...”

It grew louder the longer that it was blown! It is because it was God blowing the Shofar. For those of you who are called to blow the Shofar, your cry should be: *No longer the breath of a man or a woman, God, but breathe through me the breath of God; the breath of the Ruach Ha Kodesh, the breath of the Holy Spirit.*

I will tell you that I don’t totally understand this, but there have been times in our ministry when I have raised this instrument to my lips and have blown it longer than humanly possible. I don’t understand it, but I know it has happened. So we know according to the scripture that God blows the Shofar. We know that angels blow the Shofar.

Now let’s look at Joshua 6:4, “And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams’ horns (Shofars): and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests (*we are the priests today*) shall blow with the trumpets (*or Shofars.*)”

In I Peter 2:9, “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood...”

That is us. So now we know that the angels blow the Shofar. We know that God blew the Shofar himself on Mount Sinai when he gave the Ten Commandments to his people, and now we know according to the word, the priests, man blows the Shofar.

In Matthew 24:30, “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. And he (*Jesus, the Son of man*) shall send his angels with a great sound of a Shofar, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

According to this scripture, we know two things. We know that Jesus blows the Shofar. We also know that Jesus dispatches his angels by the sounding of the Shofar. I think about how it must drive the devil crazy when the Shofar is sounded. You see, when that blast goes forth, he doesn't know who's doing it! Is it God himself? Are the angels being dispatched? Is it the angels sounding it? Is it Jesus sounding it? Is it a pest like me or you, or is it the greatest trumpet blast that will ever be heard, the one that will be sounded as Jesus returns in all of his glory?

I Thessalonians 4:16, “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.”

I enjoy driving the devil crazy. This is an instrument of warfare. The Bible tells us in the place where the Shofar is sounded, God will fight for us. That's a good reason for us to blow the Shofar all the time. Blow it in the morning when you get up. Sound it in the afternoon at work. Sound it in the evening. Blow the Shofar and drive the devil crazy!

It's funny, but listen. I've had people tell me that they've been in places and they have heard Shofars, and there were no people there blowing Shofars. Remember, angels blow Shofars; Jesus blows a Shofar; God blows the Shofar.

One time Carla and I were ministering in Cleveland, Ohio. We stopped for a revival where the pastor of this church had told us about it. We had never been to this church. He just said to stop in and visit with them, so we did. When we got there that afternoon, he said, “When you come back this evening, be prepared to share five or ten minutes about your ministry and about what God is doing in your life.”

As we went back to the hotel, I said, “Lord, what shall I do?” He said, “Blow the trumpet.” I said, “But God, there are all kinds of great testimonies I can tell; I can preach the word!” He said, “Blow the trumpet.”

So when it was our opportunity to share, I told a little bit about this instrument, and I obeyed God. At the end of the evening, there was a Spanish speaking gentleman who asked the pastor if he could testify. This gentleman could not speak any English; he had to have an interpreter. He shared through this interpreter and said, “I was going to stay home tonight. I wasn’t going to come here tonight because I’ve been in so much pain. I haven’t been able to lift my arm above my shoulder without this excruciating pain, but when I got here, God spoke to me. He said, ‘When the man blows that horn, something great is going to happen.’” He lifted his arm up above his head, and just thanked God. He said when that instrument was sounded, the pain immediately left his body. He was totally healed!

In the place that the Shofar is sounded, my God will fight for me. In the place where the Shofar is sounded, your God will fight for *you*. Think it not strange that if you are in a state of depression and you hear the Shofar blowing, that the depression has lifted, because your God will fight for you! Think it not strange if you had pain in your back, and now you can jump and shout; there is now *no pain* in your back. I think it’s strange when those things don’t happen, because I have seen God do these things all over the world.

We were teaching a four part seminar in 1999, and a gentleman came in to tell me at the start of the first session that “I have a bruised area on my tailbone, and it’s been this way for years. I can only sit for so many minutes, and I have to get up and go walking.” During that first session, the trumpet was sounded. That man was set free of that pain. He sat through all four sessions, and never missed one minute of any of the sessions. He was instantly delivered and set free.

Carla and I were ministering in a conference through the association that we’re licensed through, the AFCM (Association of Faith,

Churches, and Ministries). When they have their yearly event, they allow those who are traveling ministers to come up to the pulpit before everyone to take two minutes and tell about their ministry. Again I said, “God what do you want me to do?” And God said, “Blow the trumpet.”

There was a lady sitting in the meeting, and I found out later that she had been in back pain from the birth of one of her children three or four years earlier. She was in constant pain, constantly taking medication for it. I had no idea of what God was about to do. As the trumpet was sounded, that lady jumped to her feet and thanked God. She later shared her testimony with us, but in that moment in time, God fought for her. She was totally healed that day, and has never needed that medication since. The place where the Shofar was sounded, her God fought for her.

I remember another meeting closer to home in Michigan City, Indiana. A man needed surgery on his shoulder. As he walked into the room, and these repetitious blasts went forth from the Shofar, he literally felt something hitting him as he walked in and the trumpet was being sounded. He never had surgery. The Great Physician took care of him that night.

Another time we were in a place called Warsaw, Ohio. During the worship time, the Lord had moved upon me several times to sound the trumpet. I saw this young man who was part of the worship team, and he left the platform, went out the back door, and ran over to the side of the building. There were windows on the side, and you could see him. Now this was during the service, and he’s out there jumping and jumping. He comes back in and gets the microphone and says, “I wanted to tell you something, but I wanted to test it first. All of you here know that I have two bad knees. While we were worshipping and the trumpet was sounded, my knees stopped hurting. I ran out to test it and jump around and there’s no pain in my knees.”

The list of stories or testimonies goes on and on; everything from ears opening to eyes being healed; so many awesome things. The

instrument of the Shofar is a God-given instrument; it's not a toy. It's not something to be played with, but it's something to be used under the direction of God. It is definitely an instrument of battle and an instrument of warfare.

I remember one time when Carla and I were in Montego Bay, Jamaica. We had a wonderful week of ministry. We were on our last afternoon, and were going to have a bite to eat at one of the local restaurants. As we were leaving the hotel, the Holy Spirit said "Jim, take your Shofar with you." Here we are on Main Street in downtown Montego Bay, and right on the Main Street, the Holy Spirit says "Sound the Shofar."

The next thing I know, there are hands being raised by people in the street and they start worshipping God right there. That's God. One of the things that I have to ask those who God is calling to blow the Shofar is, are you your Shofar blower or are you God's Shofar blower? You see, if you are your Shofar blower, you may only want to use this instrument in the comfort of your house and in the house of God. But if you are truly God's Shofar blower, you will use this instrument anywhere God tells you to. It's an instrument of warfare; we have to go into the enemy's camp with the weapon of warfare.

Back to my story in Montego Bay, as Carla and I continued to walk down the street, we came to this restaurant where we went in to have a bite to eat. As I sat in there, the Holy Spirit started to speak to me. He said to me, "Jim, when you leave here, I want you to go across the street." You see, there was a bar across the street on the ocean front. This is a bar that people come from all over the world to do things we won't even talk about. It's a dark place; a sinful place. And the Lord said, "Jim, when you go across the street, you're going to walk in front of the bar and somebody's going to ask you to sound the Shofar." I thought...*this is crazy!* Carla and I had a team with us; I didn't even tell them, but I obeyed God. I said, "We're going this way." We crossed the street, and we're walking down in front of this tavern, and three men form like half a circle on the sidewalk in front of me. They see a Shofar in my hand and one of them says, "Will you sound it for us?" Prior to that, the other thing that God

had said to me was...*when you sound it, you're going to get invited into the enemy's camp.*

The bar door flies open and the manager comes running out. He said, "You need to go inside and you need to sound that in there!" I got invited into the camp of the *enemy*. Do you remember when I taught you to hear His voice, know His voice, and obey His voice? It would have been so easy for me to stay on the other side of the street, and go back and get on the airplane, but we must obey. We must hear and we must obey.

I know at this point, Carla and the team probably thought *Jim has gone crazy now...here he's gone into the tavern*, because remember, I didn't tell them. So I go into the tavern, and I go up to the DJ. I said to him, "That man said I'm to come in here and I'm to sound this Shofar." He said, "Are you ready?" And I said, "Yes." As I raised the Shofar to my lips, this place was noisy. The music was loud, and people were going crazy in this place. But as I raised the trumpet to my mouth, he shut down everything in the place, and all anyone could hear was the Shofar blowing. All of a sudden, every person in the place turned toward me and they started applauding, but they had *no idea* they were applauding that which is like the voice of God being *thrust* into the camp of the enemy. They had no idea!

Then the thought came to me...*preach!* Not every thought will be from God. Sometimes our flesh will get in there. Sometimes we think we know what to do, and right after that first thought I had...*preach...* I heard the voice of God very clearly say, "Leave now." In the natural it makes sense...*you got their attention, man! Preach!* There's a time for everything. We can never go beyond the anointing. We cannot go beyond what God is doing in a circumstance or a situation. So I left, and I'm walking out on the sidewalk and I'm saying "I didn't see anything God. I mean...yeah, they clapped, but I didn't see any miracles, God. I didn't see anybody get saved. I didn't see anything great happen." Is there any of you like that? And the Lord said to me, "Jim, this is the most important thing that you have done on this whole trip." *I saw nothing.* We left and went home.

During the midst of this, God is dealing with me to write a book and to do a video on the Shofar. And I'm saying, "But God, I'm just Jim. I can't spell. God, why would I want to waste my time on a book? Nobody is going to read my book. And a video, who's going to care about a video that I might do; such a waste of time and effort, because God, I'm nobody." God can take "a nobody" and make him "a somebody" in Him.

I'm riding home from a church one night, and so clearly I hear this, "Jim, write the book!" I did. We published it. We also did a video. People started buying them to my amazement, and then people from other cities with internet sites started buying them and reselling them. Then I got a call one day from a man who had watched our video. He obtained this video over the internet from somebody. He said, "I saw that Shofar that you blow, and I heard the sound that it made. I just want one like the one you have." As he's talking, the Holy Spirit reminded me of the story that I just shared with you. Remember: hear Him, know Him, and obey Him.

When He reminded me of that, he said, "Jim, tell the man on the phone what happened in Jamaica." Then I went into my fussy mode again; do you ever do that...you fuss with God? I said, "But God, this man isn't going to want to know about Jamaica! This guy doesn't know me; why would he want to know about Jamaica?" But when I was done fussing, I said, "You know, as we're speaking, I feel the leading of God to share something with you. In the natural I don't know why I'm sharing this with you, but if I can, I want to tell you what I believe God is saying."

So I shared the entire story with him that I just shared with you. The only thing different was that I gave him the dates and when he heard the dates, he said, "This isn't about buying a Shofar! Now I know why God had me call you. God has a message for you, and he wants you to understand something. On the very weekend when you went into that bar in Montego Bay, Jamaica, a revival hit that city!" It's wild; it's crazy, but it's God!

When we're obedient to release that which is like the voice of God into the atmosphere, things happen. We can't see everything that is taking place, but the voice of God is going forth. There is so much to this that I don't understand, but the part that I do understand is... *hear My voice...know My voice...and do what I tell you to do at the moment that I tell you to do it.*

Again, for those of you who have answered the call to blow the Shofar, you must understand this is not a toy. This is an instrument that God is putting into the hands of his people for his purposes. It is not to entertain people in the house of God; it's for worship; it's for praise; it's for warfare; it's to take out there in the world and get the attention of lost people. One of the things that God has had Carla and I do on many occasions is to carry the Shofar in public settings, for example, the beach. I remember the first time; I thought...*oh I don't know if I can do this God.* We were pulling up to a fancy hotel on the beach for a day of rest. As we pulled up the Holy Spirit said, "Take your Shofar and go down to the beach and blow it over the water." You had to be there to get the full picture, but I've got on swimming trunks, a t-shirt, and sunglasses. I was hiding behind my sunglasses; I thought maybe no one would see me or recognize me. On my shoulder was my Shofar...on a public beach. We're walking on the beach, and God said to sound it NOW.

Let me share this with you before I go on because the Holy Spirit has just prompted this in my spirit. When I got saved, I believed what the man and woman of God taught, and I believed what the Word of God said. When the Word of God said, "My sheep hear my voice," I believe it. I had an older minister come to me and say, "Jim, you are scaring people when you talk about God speaking to you. You can't do that!"

Wait a minute! Don't you believe what you preach?! God either speaks or he doesn't speak. I'm not a lunatic because I hear from God. I am His sheep; I'm *supposed* to hear from God – *My sheep hear my voice.* God is speaking to all of us all the time; everyday He's directing our steps and our path - if we will just listen.

Do you want to get attention on a public beach? This is the way you get attention on a public beach – blow a Shofar. Somebody walked up and said, “What is that?!” I told him it is an instrument for worshipping the Almighty God. If they would listen, I would talk to them about Jesus. If they wanted to move on, I would reach into my swimming trunk pocket and pull out an audiocassette tape with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and I would hand it to them. That’s how deep the passion burns in my heart to lift up the name of Jesus; even in my swimming trunk pocket, I carry tools to share the gospel.

We went down the beach a little further, and the Holy Spirit said to sound it again. I sounded it again, and another person came up. *What is that? Why do you do this?* And I reached in my pocket and pulled out another tape. I blew it a third time and a third person came up, and I gave away the third tape; that’s all I could hold in my pocket – just three tapes. The next day, and keep in mind that Carla and I had never done anything like this before, we grabbed a bag of 50 audiotapes with the gospel message, and we walked that same beach. Every time I would sound the Shofar, somebody would want to know why...*what is it that you do?* We gave away tapes to people on that beach from all over the world, because they were coming to vacation for a holiday on the beachfront; we impacted people everywhere.

There was one little group of ladies together, and one of them needed a healing in her body. We gathered in a circle and held hands on the public beach and cried out to Jesus to heal her. That’s where God wants all of us. He wants us to boldly proclaim His name throughout all the earth; not just in the sanctuary. The local church is the place we come to celebrate, but we fight the war out there. That’s where we play the game – out there.

I know some think this is kind of crazy and that this is kind of radical. Do you realize that we serve the same God that had the shadow of a man, Peter, heal people?! Can you imagine that? The shadow passed by... People would say...*but that was then*. What God did then, He can still do *today*.

Carla and I ministered in Florida a couple of years ago, and I was teaching on the blowing of the Shofar. The pastor that we were with said, “Jim, I have to share something with you because it kind of ties in with your message. The first time that I ever preached under a tent, they had a big spotlight up behind me, and as I was ministering, the voice of God spoke to me and said...*This night as you extend your hand over the people, and as the shadow falls upon the people, I am going to heal them!*” Like me, a part of him thought...*this is crazy*, but he knew the voice of God. He knew what he had heard, and as he extended his hand, people were instantly healed. Why? It’s because God’s ways are higher than our ways. His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. When the proceeding word goes forth from the mouth of God, it will always accomplish that which it is set to accomplish. The only part to that equation that is conditional is me; it is you. God will always do what He says he will do if we will do what He asks each of us to do.

There are certain patterns of sound that have been handed down throughout history in blowing the Shofar. Many of these patterns are somewhat changed according to local custom. It is a good thing to know the patterns, but do not be bound by the patterns. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and use the instrument called the Shofar, as the Holy Spirit tells you to. One of those sounds is called the Tekiah. The Tekiah is a one-note blast. Another one of those sounds is called the Shevarim; it is three blasts that are broken between and they sound almost like a sighing or even a crying noise. Another traditional sound is called the Teruah, which means ‘to *shout*’; it is nine staccato type notes in succession; it is the sound of an alarm. The final type of sound by tradition is called a Tekiah Gedolah or “the great Tekiah” - the final trumpet blast. It is simply a long unbroken blast where you hold the note as long as you can.

It is said that sometimes in the synagogues that men blowing the Shofars will actually pass out, because they hold the blast as long as they can. Unfortunately, they are often doing it for the wrong reason; they’re doing it in the spirit of pride. Again, the Shofar is not a toy; it is an instrument that God has given us to use, and there is no place

in this instrument for the spirit of pride. It is not a competition. It is not for me to try and out blow you, to do it higher or longer, but it's to be done to the best of our ability for the glory of the Almighty God.

The word 'Shofar' is actually translated as a sense of incising, cutting, or burning; to cut; to burn into – a cutting or a burning of the heart. Do you remember the altar call that I shared with you about where I poured my heart out as an evangelist for the lost to come forward, but nobody moved, and the Holy Spirit said, "Jim, sound the Rams' Horn." At that moment, twelve people charged to the front and gave their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. Again: hear His voice; know His voice; and obey His voice. In the natural realm, it did not make sense to me, but God can do whatever God wants to do at the moment He wants to do it, and He'll use us if we will obey Him.

The Rams' Horn is often a tool of intercession. Remember, in the place where the Shofar is sounded, my God will fight for me. It is a weapon of warfare to do battle. I believe when Gideon and the 300 sounded their Shofars, it sounded like a spiritual bazooka! This is what they need to hear out in the streets! Take this out in the streets and sound it that way, and you will drive some demons away; you'll get some attention. When you sound it, take one of these tracts that we made. The Lord instructed me one time to write a tract. It says the Shofar is one of the oldest musical instruments known to man, and then on the first page it has a picture of the two types of Shofars. It talks about some of the basics behind the Shofar, but then it goes on to say that just as God blew the Shofar on Mount Sinai, God has called me to blow the Shofar today to remind you of the Ten Commandments that He gave his people; then it goes into the gospel message.

Consequently, the Shofar can be used to get the attention of people, and when you get their attention, you simply slip the tool of a gospel tract into their hands so that God can work on them and touch them. I've seen it many times under the instruction of the Holy Spirit; as I've blown the trumpet, the Shofar, the prophetic voice would flow throughout the house like it had never flowed before. When that which is like the voice of God is released into the atmosphere, it is

contagious. The Shofar crosses denominational walls.

I remember one meeting where there were over twenty one different denominations represented. Most of them had never heard a Shofar before; they knew nothing about a Shofar. But as I blew the Shofar, people started to cry. People started to weep. This particular conference was on the clock; you start at this time and you end at this time, and there's no room for anything to happen except for what you are here to do. When I opened that meeting with the blowing of the Shofar, the man in the back who held the clock, who told everybody, "you start here...you stop here...there's no exceptions!" He waved to me and said, "Throw away the clock!" We had church... God moved...the Holy Spirit moved. Eighteen or twenty different denominations wept together. Any denomination that lifts up the name of Jesus will recognize that which is like the voice of God when it is thrust out into the atmosphere. It was so powerful!

Here are some simple guidelines:

- If you are called to blow the Shofar, practice at home. Let me give you an example: You decide to come to the church a little early to practice the Shofar, and the pastor is in his study. You start practicing, and you've just disturbed the man of God. God is a God of order. Common sense must be applied with the use of our gift.
- Do not sound the Shofar when a minister is speaking and teaching from the pulpit, unless you are asked to do so.
- Do not sound the Shofar when the minister or pastor is praying for people, unless you are asked to do it.
- Expect to prove your ability to be used to blow the Shofar. For example, in our home church, every service we start with a call to worship. A Shofar blower is placed in four different places in the sanctuary; one is sounded and before that one stops, another one is sounded, and before that one

is stopped, another one is sounded. We go around two or three times with a call to worship. I am the one who is in charge of that. If a person wants to participate, they have to audition. They have to come to me and say ‘I feel of God to do this’ and then they have to show me that they can make the appropriate sounds to do that which God has us doing. It would be just like taking somebody who had never played the keyboard, and on Sunday morning, you step aside and let that someone who never played the keyboard before, get behind the keyboard. That’s a lack of common sense. God is a God of wisdom. He gives us intelligence and we need to use the intelligence He gives us.

- Blowing the Shofar is not a competition. I said that before, but I’ll say it again. We do not compete with each other; we are here to worship God.

Be sensitive to what’s going on in others around you with the blowing of the Shofar. You don’t want to put it up behind my brother’s head and try to blow his brains out with it! That is common sense. You might think...*Jim, why are you telling us this?* It is because I see people do these things! I’m telling you now so that when these things happen, and the pastor has to correct you, you cannot blame me because I’m the one telling you that God is a God of order, and He will give us guidelines to do things in an orderly way.

A question I am often asked is ‘how do you blow the Shofar?’ First of all, you put your lips in the hole, not around the hole; I’ve seen people try to blow it that way. I’ve had people buy Shofars from us over the internet and call me and say ‘there’s something wrong with this thing!’ So just remember that the lips are placed inside, and you do a buzzing action. The tighter your lips are, the higher the noise is; the looser your lips are, the lower the noise is. When you tighten your lips, you make it jump. So it is all done by the tightening of the lips.

There is another thing that you can do, and you get this pattern; it’s by tightening and loosening the lips and moving your tongue. I cannot

explain to you exactly how to do it, but that is the gist of it; that's the only way I can explain it. Not everybody is called to blow the Shofar. Not everybody is called to play the keyboard. Not everybody is called to lead worship. If you are called to blow the Shofar, one of the things that is going to happen is the anointing will be present...not just in the church, but when you blow it in the hotel lobby. When you blow the Shofar in the city park, the anointing, the tangible presence of God will be felt. It is not enough just to make a sound; you want the breath of God going forth when you blow the Shofar. Depend more on the breath of God than on your own natural abilities. We are to practice, but it is not all about us; it is all about Him.

Again as an example, I know people who have the most talented voices in singing, but I know others who have less natural talent, and they have such an anointing of God on them. What would you rather have...the talent or the anointing? There are some who are very fortunate; they have both. But I'll always pick the anointing.

All Shofars are not created equal. When we receive Shofars in from Israel, I sound every one of them and take a select group of them and set them aside. I call them our excellent sounding or heavenly sounding Shofars. They have a very crisp, clear trumpet sound. Many Shofars have a muffled sound; they are fairly hard to get a good crisp and clear sound from.

There are different types of finishes on a Shofar. This one is called A Fully Polished; all of the natural roughness has been taken off from it. There is another one called A Completely Natural; all of the roughness is still there. Then there's one that's half polished and half natural; so they come in three different ways.

Another question that I'm often asked is: What do you do with that hideous odor that comes out of a Shofar?

You must remember that this is off of an animal, and because of that there is residue and flesh from things that do not always come out and there is a nasty smell to it. The best way to resolve that is to take

polyurethane and spray it down in the mouth. Just keep spraying and turning it about three or four times, and that odor will be gone. We have tried everything imaginable; we have recommendations from people all over, and that's the only thing that we have found that really works effectively.

The mouthpieces of a Shofar are very significant. Traditionally, the mouthpiece comes almost to a point – very narrow. A traditional Jewish person would blow the Shofar from the corner of the mouth, and the reason they did that was because the mouthpiece was so thin and narrow, your lips are smaller in the corner and they would fit in the mouthpiece.

On the end of my Shofar, it is big and reshaped like a trumpet mouthpiece. That permits me to be able to blow it from the front. In being able to blow it from the front, you have more control over the sound that is coming forth. So it is important that the mouthpiece of the Shofar be the proper type, and the way we do it is that we customize them to make them bigger.

On the Rams' Horn Shofars, they are very slender in the area just before the mouth piece, and then they bell out so there is more room for your lips to go in. If the Shofar is made properly, it will thin down and widen out in these areas. If it is made improperly, it will be cut straight off and a hole drilled in the end. It is very difficult to blow a Shofar when the hole was just drilled in the end. You can hit a very low note and you can hit a little higher note, but you can't hit all of the notes that you need to with it.

The quality of the Shofar is very important. I may be a little bias, but I think the only place to get a good quality Shofar is from the Shofar Man. You can visit our website at www.theshofarman.com. If you punch in the word "Shofar" on any search engine anywhere, you will find us in one of the top three positions. I don't say that to brag on me; I say that to brag on God, because God gave us this to support the work of the ministry to reach souls with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is something else that deals with the Shofar, and it has to do with

the walls of Jericho, but I feel that I am to stop here, practice what I preach so to speak, hear and obey. I can't express to you enough the importance of doing what God says to do the moment he says to do it. We have a plan. We have some notes. We have an agenda, but we have to be ready and you need to apply this to your daily life. You have a plan for your day, but we have to be ready to allow the Holy Spirit to break in at any moment and redirect our steps...*to take the time to pray for somebody...to take the time because God says 'you haven't seen sister so-n-so for awhile' or 'you haven't seen this person for awhile.'* That is a prompting of God to call them, to go visit them, or to talk to them; we have to be open to allow God to break into everything. If you hear or learn nothing else from this, learn to hear His voice, know His voice, and obey His voice. That is because if you just learn that one thing, it will transform your life, family, and church. It will transform your city, because the gates of hell cannot prevail against the plan that comes from the throne room of God.

We need to take some time to honor those gifted among us that led us in worship. So many times I've been in places and there's a call for altar ministry, and those in worship are always diligent about the call and they don't complain, but they often get bypassed in this time of receiving. This is your time to receive.

I would ask you to just stand right now and press in to worship God. Sing out to Him and worship Him.

Lord, I pray that you take your people to a new level – a breakthrough anointing, God. Let it be an anointing that pierces the airwaves. Let it be an anointing that pricks the heart of the lost, God...new songs, new music, cutting edge for the hour that we live in. Let it come forth like a fire, God, like a fire that was shut up in their bones. Increase the anointing, Father. Lord, the time is short. Increase the anointing to bring people into your presence quickly, God. Lord, take this anointing out beyond the walls of the church. God, birth songs of evangelism, and let them be songs to touch the hearts of the lost. Lord, we thank you for the passion that we see, but ask that you even increase the passion and intertwine together the passion of

worship and the passion of reaching a lost and dying world. Father, tie it together and let the prophetic flow; let there be prophetic songs. Fill their mouths with a new song, and a new tongue. We thank you God that you've anointed their hands, that you have anointed their voices and minds.

The Father would say 'Let the river flow. Let that which I have placed within your belly flow.'

In the name and authority of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I would break any mindset that would try to stop the river of God from flowing – tradition be gone in Jesus' name. Any fear, be gone in Jesus' name. God, we loose your people today in a total freedom – a David type of freedom – a radical passionate freedom. God, cause the passion to burn. Bring them, God, to the full place of surrender...unconditional, 100 percent full surrender. Thank you for the anointing that you have placed on your vessels, God. Deepen their confidence level on how you can work through them God. Lord, let them see that your anointing is without limit, that which you can do through them has no limitations at all; none – no limitations. Deepen the fire and let it burn, God. Lord, make them a flame thrower for your kingdom. As the fire wells up within them, God, let them carry it to other nations and to other places – the fire of God – a fire that cannot be quenched – an all consuming fire. It is all about you, God.

Many years ago it was prophesied over me that I would be a fire baby for God, and that I would be a flame thrower for God. I've had people tell me that as I've blown the Shofar, they have seen blankets of fire across the room. Just worship Him.

You get all of the honor, God. We worship you Lord. We glorify your name, God. Let the fire fall, God.

THE SHOFAR AND THE VOICE OF GOD

By Jim Barbarossa

In the spirit of worship, I just feel to challenge you to consider taking your worship to another level. This is going to be different probably than what you expected, but I was talking to my friend Peter from India, and he was telling me that there is no one to sound the shofar in India. *There's no one sounding the shofar in India...* Would any of God's shofar blowers go to India to sound the shofar where no one is sounding the shofar? Would any of God's dancers go to India, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Bulgaria, or whatever it is that God wants to free His people to worship like they have never worshipped before? Would God's flag wavers go to teach someone in a nation that has never waved a flag? I know there are nations like that, because we sent the conference DVD's from last year which had flag teachings on them, and I received calls and emails from places like Uganda and India. They had never seen worship in that way before, as they witnessed it on those DVD's.

God wants us to take these ways that we worship to a new level and use them to bring in the end time harvest. It could be something as simple as a car wash. We hold car washes on Saturdays several times in the summer, and before one of those car washes the Lord said to me...*put your shofar blowers out on the road...put your flag wavers out on the road...get your dancers out on the road.* We can take these gifts and use them to reach a lost world. This isn't in my notes folks – this is thus saith the Lord. It's time to take all that God has shown you to reach the lost souls in this world. The question is: Are you willing to do what God wants us to do?

I was watching as we were worshipping one time and it was awesome. Part of me was saying...*what would it be like for what we just experienced to happen in a city park? What would it be like to take this freedom out there and let lost souls see it?* They think Christianity is *boring*. They don't know our God! They know what

religion has shown them. Freedom is what the world needs, and God is liberating us to take that freedom to those out there that need it. What is your part in that?

In the Book of Nehemiah 4:20, the scripture says, “In what place *therefore* you hear the sound of the trumpet (the shofar), resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us.”

Our God shall fight for us. Four months ago we started airing the footage that was filmed at the last conference on television. When I answered the phone for the very first caller, the Holy Spirit spoke to me so clearly. He said...*I want you to pray a blessing over each person before you hang up, and I want you to sound the shofar over them.* There was a lady who called one Monday and she didn't even ask for prayer; she was buying a product. Before I got off the phone, I told her I had to obey God, and that I was to pray a blessing over her. The Holy Spirit quickened me to ask her if she had a specific need. She said that yes, she had a sugar problem and wounds on her feet that wouldn't heal. She continued to say that they've tried this and they've tried that, but they just would not heal. She said the sugar had the best of her. As she said that, again to my remembrance came two people in Trinidad and Tobago years ago that Carla and I had prayed for, and they both had a sugar problem too. After we got home from that trip, we got letters; both of those people were touched by the hand of God and they were healed. You see, God brought that to my remembrance and I shared it with that lady. I told her that I served a healing God, and that I was going to pray for her and sound the shofar over her, and that I was going to hang up the phone at the end of the prayer. I prayed and said, “God, take her to that cleft of the rock that you took Moses. God, take her into the shalom; take her into the place God where we lack for nothing, because everything we need, God, is in You, and it's provided in You.” I prayed that prayer and blew the shofar, and I hung up the phone. If I heard no more, that would be ok because I did what God told me to do. I followed the leading of the Holy Spirit in each instance, and that's truly what God wants from all of us. He wants us to obey him. He wants us to allow him to break in to our every moment of our every day when He wants to

break in. You might be in the middle of doing dishes, and God wants to break in and have you worship him. God just wants to break in.

That lady called me back and said, “I don’t know if you remember me or not, but I had to call you. I’ve been back to the doctor and my wounds *are healing!*” Thank you Jesus! In the place where the trumpet is sounded, my God will fight for me. Over the telephone where the trumpet is sounded, my God will fight for me! Those of you, who are serious about blowing the shofar, get ready. If you obey God, you will see the miraculous. It isn’t about you and it isn’t about the shofar; it’s about God! It’s about obedience. It’s about doing what God says to do at the moment that God says to do it. Pure obedience – that’s what God wants.

In Exodus 14:13-14, “And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.”

In the place where the trumpet is sounded, your God will fight for you! When God fights for you, he’ll drive off the enemy and you will see them no more! Sickness and disease are your enemies; God will fight your enemy. In the place where the trumpet is sounded, God will drive off your enemy. How many believe that today? If you’ve got a sickness in your body, stand to your feet. If you’ve got pain in your body, stand to your feet. If you need any type of healing at all, stand to your feet. In the place where the trumpet is sounded, my God, *your God*, will fight for you! Just like He fought for that lady who had a sugar problem, He’ll fight for you in the place where the trumpet is sounded. Where the shofar is sounded, your God will fight for you.

In Exodus 14:21-28 it says, “And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry *ground*: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the water may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them."

Look what happens when your God fights. There are no limitations to what God can and will do when he fights for you. When God fights for you, it is supernatural in nature. Moses could have lifted his hand all he wanted, but without God backing it, nothing would have happened. In the place where the shofar is sounded, your God will do supernatural things.

I remember a meeting at one time in Coldwater, MI. A lady was on one side of the building and when she came into the meeting, she had one good ear and one deaf ear. At the end of the meeting she came up and said, "I've got to tell you that when I came in here, I could

only hear in this one ear, but now I can hear from both!” That was supernatural. In the place where the trumpet is sounded, my God will fight for me, and we serve a supernatural God.

I want to give you another example of how God will fight for somebody. Carla and I were ministering at a church in Connecticut. There was a lady who came forward for prayer, and she said that she had been bound by demonic oppression on her job. She said she had lost her joy, basically, and hated going to work. Carla prayed for her and the power of God hit her and she went down on the floor. While she laid on the floor under the hand of God, the Holy Spirit said to her, “buy a Ram’s Horn and take it to your job and sound it.” Now if that was you, what would you do? I know a few of you would obey God, but I’ve got a hunch a lot of you would say that was crazy. You’d say...*uh uh, not me!* But you see, God wants us to be radically obedient. In the church we cry for healings, miracles, signs and wonders. If we just obey God, he will show us *more* than we can handle. You see, we want to lay hands on and heal each other in the church, but God says when you’re in the grocery store and somebody says they have a headache, He wants you to pray for them right there! He wants radical obedience. That lady got up, went to the table and bought a shofar; a little Ram’s Horn. She took that Ram’s Horn to work. She worked in an office complex – a busy building with lots of people. Imagine if this was your job. Maybe you work in a law office or doctor’s office or whatever. Imagine it. This person comes in and blows a shofar. Her boss came running out and said, “Did you do that?!” This was an unsaved man; he didn’t know God, but he said that was the most awesome sound that he had ever heard in his life.

The scripture says that the voice of God is like that of the sound of a shofar. God has placed eternity in the heart of every man. So there’s a part of God in every man, and that part of *that man* recognized God. When we’re obedient to take His instrument out into the world, He will use it to touch people. In that office complex where that lady felt demonic oppression and really just wanted to throw in the towel, four people...*get ahold of this now...*not one...not two...not three... but *four people* in one week’s time bowed their knees to the Lord of

lords and the King of kings. Give the Lord a shout!

In the office complex where the shofar was sounded, her God fought for her. Her God did something supernatural reaching into the hearts of four souls; God *did* it. I think that's a good reason to blow the shofar in the morning in your house. I think it's a good reason to blow the shofar at the flag pole at the high school. I think it's a good reason to blow the shofar in the factory where you work, because God will fight, and when he fights, he wins. He wins all the time!

In Joshua 23:3-5 it says, "And ye have seen all that the Lord your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the Lord your God *is* he that hath fought for you.

Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward.

And the Lord your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the Lord your God hath promised unto you."

And dropping down to Verse 9-10, "For the Lord hath driven out from before you great nations and strong; but as for you, no man hath been able to stand before you unto this day.

One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the Lord your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you."

When our God fights for us, he will expel people from your presence. He will expel demonic forces from your presence; He will drive them out of your sight and he will give you the power to possess the land in the place where the trumpet is sounded. In the place where the shofar is sounded, your God will fight for you.

The voice of God is like that of the sound of a shofar. The breath of God is creative in nature. Oh Lord, breathe on us today. Breathe on

us God...this day. Is that your prayer today? Do you want God to breathe on you?

Don't be surprised if you had pain in parts of your body and it isn't there anymore, because pain does not belong to you. In the place where the shofar is sounded, your God will fight for you!

Carla and I were in a church in Baltimore, Maryland, and I had poured out my heart because I knew there were lost souls in that church. I pleaded with them. I begged them to come to that altar, but they wouldn't budge. The Holy Spirit says, "Blow the Ram's Horn" and Jim said "That's crazy. God, what does a Ram's Horn have to do with evangelism? God, that just doesn't make any sense to me." Do any of you ever do that – fuss with God? He tells you something and you argue because you think you're smarter. Is there anybody out there who does that, or is it just me? I pleaded and pleaded with them to come to God that day, and nobody would move. Sometimes you just know that you know there are lost people there and they need Jesus, but they're fighting it. You just know it. When I got done fussing with God, I blew the shofar.

I never saw anything like it before. I never said another word; I just blew the Ram's Horn, and twelve people got up out of their seats and ran to the altar. I mean literally they were running to Jesus! As my brother said, "Come home, my little lost sheep." It didn't make any sense to me; it still doesn't make any sense to me, but when that which is like the voice of God, which the scripture tells us, goes forth into the atmosphere, it connects with the heart – that place called eternity that God has put in every man, woman and child that there ever was or ever will be. It's crazy. It's radical, but it's God, and it's all about obedience. It's about doing what God says to do at the moment that God says to do it.

When I watch one of my favorite flag wavers wave a flag, it's like she comes to life. She goes into a dimension of worship. I can't explain it but sometimes it brings tears to my eyes. I tell you it is Jesus, and I tell you this also, that if God told you to take a flag and

go to some intersection or street or some certain place and run with that flag, something will happen. God wants to use all of our talents and abilities. He wants to break in on the moment every day no matter where we're at and use our talents and abilities to reach lost souls for his kingdom. Whatever that ability or talent is, yield it to Jesus...yield it to the Holy Ghost. Be sensitive, listen, and allow Him to just break in and watch what God does. It may be something as simple as you being in a grocery store and the Holy Ghost says, "Just do a twirl for me." That could lead to a conversation where somebody would say, "Why did you do that?" You can say back to them you did that because you love your God, or you did that because you love your Jesus.

What I sense in my heart today is God saying to his people that it's time to sell out to him completely. He's saying it is time to start doing whatever I tell you to do wherever you're at; do what I tell you to do at the moment I tell you to do it. That's where the healings, miracles, and deliverances come, and that's where people get saved. A lot of sheep hear Him, but not so many obey. Would you dare to be radical? In the place where the trumpet is sounded, my God will fight for you. In the prison where the trumpet is sounded, God will fight for those prisoners. Is there a shofar blower out there who would take a shofar into the prisons?

The voice of God is like that of the sound of a shofar. Let's read a couple scriptures about the voice of God. In Isaiah 33:2 it says, "O Lord, be merciful to us; for we have waited for you: be our strong arm each day in our salvation in times of trouble."

The enemy runs at the sound of your voice. When you stand up, the nations flee. In the place where the shofar is sounded, the enemy runs. Sickness is the enemy! Depression is the enemy! It runs at the sound of His voice and the shofar represents that voice. If you've been depressed, you don't have to be anymore. Your God will fight for you.

In Psalms 29:3-9 it says, "The voice of the Lord echoes above the sea:

the God of glory thunders: the Lord thunders over the mighty sea.

The voice of the Lord is powerful and majestic. The voice of the Lord splits the mighty cedars. The Lord shatters the cedars at Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon's mountain skip like a calf; He makes Mount Hermon leap like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord strikes with bolts of lightening. The voice of the Lord makes the barren wilderness quake; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord twists mighty oaks and strips the forests bare in His temple. Everyone shouts glory!" Can you say glory?!

In Psalms 46:6 it says, "The nations are in chaos and their kingdoms crumble. God's voice thunders and the earth melts."

Psalms 104:7, "At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away."

John 5:28, "Don't be surprised: indeed the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son."

This is one my favorites, John 11:43, "And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth."

The voice of the Lord is creative and powerful. In the place where the shofar is sounded, that which is like the voice of God is released into the atmosphere and God fights for his people. These are a lot of good reasons for us to take the shofar beyond the walls of the church.

The Yemenite symbolically represents victory – it's glory. The church loves to hear the victory. The Ram's Horn symbolically represents repentance – its cry. For the most part, the church doesn't like the cry of the Ram's Horn. If we want the victory that the Yemenite represents, we've got to come through repentance to get there. I'm going to touch on a scripture in Ezekiel 33:1-7:

“Again the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:

If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet (shofar), and warn the people;

Then whosoever heareth the sound of the shofar, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet (shofar), and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman’s hand.

So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.”

A few years ago God gave me a vision or a dream, whatever you want to call it, but there were shofar blowers on the balcony. They are a form of watchmen, and there were also prayer intercessors on the balcony or wall, and they are watching. Right now I want to talk specifically to the watchmen that have the shofar. I believe that everyone that God has called as a watchman must send forth a decree or the sound that God is saying to send forth. Even if we like the sound of the Yemenite better and we like the sound of victory better, when God says to decree repentance, then we must decree repentance. If you are serious about the Father’s business and serious about the call to sound the shofar, I want to challenge those who only use the Yemenite, to consider having both and using the one that God says to use at the moment that God says to use it. It would be very easy

to please people, and when you're called to teach on the shofar, the way you please people is when you blow the trumpet that represents victory. Everybody loves it, but the only way to truly get to the victory is on our knees. Consider the sound of the Ram's Horn.

If I was not equipped with the right tools to do what God has called me to do and did not have the Ram's Horn in the two situations that I shared with you earlier, the one where I personally blew it and twelve people ran to the altar, those twelve people would not have gotten saved. If that lady who was equipped with a Ram's Horn had not taken it into that office, those four souls would not have come to Jesus that week. You see, God very specifically told her to take her Ram's Horn to her office.

As watchmen, we've heard some messages that God wants us to carry back to where we came from. As watchmen, it is up to us to decree the things that God has given us. I know there are some here that have told me, "I never knew that an evangelist had a responsibility in the local church to equip the saints to share Jesus. I thought I had to do it all." Well now it's time to take that message and become a carrier of it and go back and decree it. If you decree it, and it is not received, the blood is not on your hands. It might be something as simple as you knowing a person who has told you, "It's not my job to share my faith" but you know it is. You know the scripture of II Corinthians 5:17-20 backs it up, and if you go to them and tell them the Bible says it *is* their job to share their faith, the blood is not on your hands. But if you don't tell them of what you know, whose hands will the blood be on?

There is so much about this instrument of God that I just don't understand. All I know is that ten or eleven years ago God put this in my hand. Do any of you ever feel like you're not hitting the mark? Like you're not accomplishing the mission? I was going through that once, and as I was going through it, I was naming all of my failures. God said to me, "Jim, did I not tell you to equip my army with shofars?" I said to Him, "Yes, God, you did." Then God said, "Jim, aren't you doing that? Haven't you done that?" Why God

choose me, I don't know, but we have been able to send thousands and thousands of shofars all over the world and put them into the hands of God's people. I believe it is preparation for the end time harvest.

I want to ask those who blow shofars to think of this as a different type of equipment today, like a sickle for bringing in the harvest. This is one of the most awesome tools for getting the attention of people in the world. I've blown it on public beaches, and man, do people gather in a hurry. Let's take that which is like the voice of God out into the world and use it to reach lost souls.

You see, one of the areas we're having a problem with this instrument and God's people, is that we want to be entertainers in the house of the Lord. God didn't give us this instrument to be entertainers in the house of the Lord; He gave us this to declare his sovereignty on this earth. The place where we need to declare His sovereignty is out there, not the four walls of the church. He wants us to take that which is like His voice out there!

How do you know if you're your shofar blower or you're God's shofar blower? God's shofar blower will go anywhere that God says to go. But if we're our own shofar blower, we want to do it in the comfort and coziness of the house of God. Do we need to sound it for His glory? Yes, absolutely. That isn't what I'm talking about. Yes, we need to declare it; we need to sound it; we need to praise Him with it; we need to worship Him with it. That's all part of it, but it's only *part* of it. God wants us to go further – to go to India or to go to places that no one is sounding the shofar and that no one is releasing that which is like the voice of God.

I ask you to think about it for a moment: those of you, who are already blowing the shofar, ask yourself, am I my shofar blower? Or am I God's shofar blower?

If you've been your shofar blower, ask the Father to forgive you. If you've been God's shofar blower, keep doing what you're doing.

In the place where the shofar is sounded, my God will fight for me.

I've had several who have said to me since we started this ministry, that they've been using a book and the video on the ministry of the shofar, and that they've been using and teaching from them and God is raising them up as a teacher to teach on the shofar. I think that is just awesome. I want to encourage you to go to another level if you haven't already gotten it. God has taken us to a new level, and there is a 3-DVD set He's given us to produce. He's shown us more; there's four hours of teaching and ministry on those DVD's. If you haven't gotten them and you're serious about the shofar and doing what God has called you to do, consider getting that set of DVD's.

Let's all stand now before the Lord. What I sense God saying to me is very specific. I think it's a good thing to listen and obey. I'm not talking right now to those of you who already know that you're supposed to blow the shofar. Just for a minute I want to talk to those that may have never even thought about it before. Or maybe you've thought about it, but you just haven't come to that place of committing. As I simply want you to ask the question: *God, are you calling me to sound that alarm?* If He says no, then it's no. If He says yes, then you need to start obeying God.

In the scripture of Exodus it says the trumpet was sounded long and waxed louder and louder, and Moses spoke to God, and God answered him by voice. I believe God will answer today in that same way, so ask Him that question right now. *God, are you calling me to blow the trumpet, the shofar?*

If you've asked Him and he said yes, and this is new to you, I want to pray for you. Only those who hadn't answered the call before, come now. Don't fight it if it's you. Those of you who already blow the trumpet, you should be rejoicing and pressing in right now as God expands his army. In a moment I'm going to pray for you and believe for an impartation. Before I pray for you, you must be teachable. There is so much about this instrument that we do not know or understand, but we must be teachable and willing to learn and obey God; willing to do what God says to do at the moment that God says to do it. You must be willing to obey the leadership at your

local church wherever that might be; God is a God of order and he will not do things out of his order. You must submit your gift to the ministry and leadership that you are under.

In the Bible there was a prophet named Elijah, and he went up to heaven. When he went up to heaven, he cast down his mantle, and his student or one in training grabbed ahold of that mantle. My desire is that God will use each of you far greater than he's ever used me. My desire is that when I pray for you, that you will receive a double portion of the anointing to blow the trumpet in Zion and to do that which God has called you to do. This isn't about me, and it's not about you. It's about being a willing vessel to just radically obey God and to do what He says to do at the moment that God says to do it. He is a sovereign God.

As I pray for you, I want you to obey God. Listen to the Spirit of God and do what He says to do.

Father, I thank you for the anointing to blow the trumpet in Zion. I ask God that it be released in Jesus' name. Blow ye the trumpet in Zion! Blow ye the trumpet in Zion! Father, I thank you Lord for a heart that says *I'm willing to obey; I'm willing God to do what you want me to do. I'm willing to listen and hear your voice.* You've said, "God, I want to do more and I want to do more faster." He's given you the tools and he isn't done; He's given you some tools, but he's got more. In Jesus' name, receive. Blow ye the trumpet in Zion. Lift thy voice like a trumpet.

Those of you, who have already been summoned into God's army as a shofar blower, come forward now. Do you want me to do what you expect, or do you want me to do what God says? Here's what God says: God says, "I'm a sovereign God." He doesn't need any man to lay his hands upon you because He's a sovereign God, and all he's telling me to do is to blow the shofar over you. And do you know what? I'm sure it will be enough, because I serve a God that's more than enough! Extend your faith and reach out. *A fresh fire* – as I spoke that word "fire", God reminded me of two prophetic words

that were spoken over me when I was a babe in the Lord...someday you will be one of God's fire babies. I've had people tell me that they've seen waves of fire going across auditoriums as the shofar has been sounded. I believe there's going to be an impartation in your life today – healings, signs, wonders, the miraculous, but listen to me. It all hinges on this; you've got to be God's shofar blower. You've got to do what God says to do at the moment that he says to do it, and you will see things you've never seen before. You will walk in an anointing that you've not yet walked in, but you've got to obey Him and do exactly what he says to do.

Breath of God...breath of God...breath of God... I think about the mighty rushing wind in the Book of Acts, and I think...*could it have been God blowing a shofar?* One thing I know it was for sure; it was the breath of God. It was the breath of the Almighty Living God, and as his shofar blowers, He wants you to be carriers of his breath.

Father, my prayer for every person that is answering the call is that the next time they raise your instrument to their lips, that it would not be the breath of a man, but God, that it would be the breath of the Rahakadesh. It would be the breath of the Holy Spirit. It would be the breath of the living God of Israel! If you believe it, shout to the Lord and begin to worship him.

THE SHOFAR MAN LIVE AT THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

By Jim Barbarossa

In the Book of Nehemiah, Chapter 4, Verse 20, the scripture says “in the place where you hear the sound of the trumpet (the sound of the shofar), God will fight for us. I’ve heard the shofar today.

That tells me that God is fighting for us. Now think about that word “fight.” What does that mean when it says God will fight for us? The Israelites were at the Red Sea; the people of God had no place to go! But God fought for *them*. When God fights, it is supernatural in nature. I don’t want a man fighting for me; I want *God* fighting for me. It is supernatural in nature.

About four months ago, the Lord spoke to us and said, “I want you to go on television.” So we proceeded; we had no idea how it was going to happen, but we obeyed God. A short time later to my amazement, we were on television. It’s on Dish Network, Sky Angel, and when the first phone call came in, I took the call. As I was talking to the people, they were ordering a product. The Holy Spirit spoke to me and said...*everytime this phone rings and everytime you take a call, before you hang up, I want you to pray a blessing over that person. I want you to sound the shofar over them and simply hang up.* That’s what we’re doing. Why? It’s because God said so. That’s where he wants all of us; to do what He says when He says. That’s the bottom line; it’s all about obedience. When we obey God, the blessings of God follow us everywhere.

Two weeks ago the phone rang and the lady said, “I have a prayer need. I have sores all over my foot. I have sugar diabetes and it won’t heal, and the doctors say there’s nothing more they can do. Will you pray for me?” I prayed for the lady and before I hung up, I blew the shofar over her. One week later the phone rings and it’s that lady again. She said, “Jim, I had to call you. I’ve been back to the doctor and the wounds on my foot are healing.” Thank you Jesus!

In the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for *you*. In your home, where you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for *you*. Just last week I was taking calls again and another lady called and said, “You’re the guy that was on the program.” I said, “Yes ma’am.” She said, “My husband was in a car accident; he’s got a broken neck. He’s also got a broken back and several other broken bones in his body. Will you pray for him?” I said, “Ma’am, is he close enough that you can get the phone to him?” She said, “Let me put it on speaker phone.” I prayed in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. I came against those things that he was dealing with, and then I blew the shofar over him. After that I hung up the phone.

Recently on a Monday a lady by the name of Julie calls me back and said, “Jim, do you remember my husband who had the accident with the broken neck and bones broken throughout his body? I had to call you. The doctors were in amazement when he walked into the doctor’s office!”

He walked into the doctor’s office! They took x-rays; they could find nothing. They did scans and they could find nothing. They said this can’t be so! He can’t be walking – this has to be a miracle!

In the place where the shofar is heard, in the place where the shofar is sounded, my God, *your God* will fight for you! Hallelujah! If you’ve got any pain in your body today, I don’t care how big or small it is, I want you to stand to your feet right now. Pain doesn’t belong to you; it’s not of God. If you’ve got pain in your body, I want you to get ready to give it up in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

In the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, God, not man, not Jim, but God will fight for you! God doesn’t fight like a man; God fights supernaturally. Hallelujah! I believe if you’re standing, you’re standing in faith. You’re saying, “God I don’t want this pain in my body anymore.” Some of you have got back pain; it’s come back several times, but in the name of Jesus I am breaking that curse and it’s not going to reoccur again. You’re getting delivered today and you’re going to stay delivered in the name of Yeshua...in the name of Jesus.

In the scripture it talks about the walls of Jericho. That pain in your body is like one of those walls; it doesn't belong to you. Those walls came down, and that pain is coming down, but it took the sounding of the shofar in obedience. It took a mighty shout from the people of God, so when you hear the sound of the shofar, I want you to let a shout rise up in your belly. I want you to shout until you've got the victory, and I'll tell you something. I don't want you to be surprised when the pain isn't there anymore, because I expect it in the name of the Lord Jesus. With some of you, the pain has already left. It left because you stood in faith today; it's already gone! But get ready now – get ready – let that shout rise up within you. The walls are coming down!

I want you to speak to that pain; whatever it is. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ say, "Go in Jesus' name! Go in Jesus' name! Go in Jesus' name!" Now let that shout come up. Jesus! Hallelujah! Now test it in Jesus' name. If you couldn't move, move. If you couldn't bend, bend. Do something you couldn't do before, and do it without pain in the name of Jesus! Shout to Him again! Hallelujah!

Some of you have been touched and you've been set free. You need to send an email; we want to hear from you. We want to know what God has done. Some of you need to give a testimony as to what God has done today for you. In the place where the shofar is sounded, where you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for us.

If you are a shofar blower, you are part of the army God is raising up in these last days. Thank you Lord for the army that you are raising up! If you dance for Jesus, wave a flag, or play musical instruments, you all are worshippers of God. If you speak the gospel for God, you speak God's Word. You are a gift to the body of Christ and the world - God has given you that gift.

I want you to think about something. I want you to think about when you stood up for Jesus earlier and you brought your talents, gifts, and abilities and set them down on the altar before God. God has been saying to me for months now that He wants us to take all

of these talents and abilities, and He wants us to use them for the harvest. He wants us to use our shofars for the harvest. He wants us to dance to bring in the harvest. He wants us to wave flags to bring in the harvest. He wants us to worship to bring in the harvest. All of our talents, all of our abilities, and all of our giftings, all of the charismatic gifts - *everything* that is brought upon or empowered to us by the Holy Spirit is for one purpose alone – it is for the harvest. What I want you to think about the next time that you bring that gift to the altar of God, think about doing something differently. Maybe you've already done this, and if you have, God says well done. But if you haven't, think about this; the next time you set it on the altar and before you pick it back up, say "God, I pick it up this time for a higher purpose. I pick it up to be used to reach others in the end time harvest."

You see, many that blow the shofar blow it for themselves. The way you can determine if you blow the shofar for God or for yourself, is to ask yourself these questions:

Are you only willing to sound the shofar in the four walls of the church? Are you only willing to sound the shofar when you feel comfortable?

The shofar is not an instrument for entertaining the saints. It is an instrument of warfare. It is an instrument of worship. It is an instrument of battle, and God has given us this instrument. He's raising up an army worldwide; all over the world He's raising up shofareems to go out into their cities and sound the alarm for the Lord Jesus Christ. He's raising them up to warn the world; *Jesus is coming and you'd better be ready*. He's coming soon, and you'd better be ready. So those of you who are blowing the shofar, I ask you, if God tells you to go to City Hall and blow the shofar, will you go to City Hall or will you only blow it in the comfort of the four walls of the church? God is calling many to sound the shofar, but He's not calling us just to sound it in the house of God. He's calling us to sound it in the world; to *go out* into the world.

If you have a shofar, I want you to stand up. I'm going to do a prophetic declaration. I want you to face either the north, the south, the east, or the west. I want you to face outward, and what we're saying is that *God, this is your army and I am ready to take my giftings and callings, and take your voice outside the four walls of the church.* I want you to lift your shofar and from your heart, give one long blast and hold it as long as you can. That is just a prophetic declaration. We're saying that we're going to take this outside the four walls of the church.

Some of you might be thinking...*Brother Jim, I wave a flag. How can I use that?* I'm going to give you an example. At our home church we do car washes and we're located on a major highway. Some Saturday mornings if you were to drive by, you would see some strange events taking place. You would see people with shofars standing next to a major highway blowing the trumpet for the Lord. Then you would see flag wavers waving flags for the Lord. And you would see dancers with tambourines or waving flags for the Lord. That's how you take it beyond the walls of the church into the community.

One of the other things that I've been seeing in my mind's eye is that I know some of you have always been an out there, and I think God is saying you're out there, but you're getting further out now. He's taking you out there a little further. What I see is the celebration that we've been having in the church going into a secular type venue beyond the four walls of the church where God can touch people and God can have his way. God can change them! Some people say... *why do you celebrate the way you celebrate...why do you shout the way you shout...why do you dance the way you dance...why do you blow those shofars?* It's because of my **God**.

In Revelation 1:10 it says, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a great voice as of a trumpet (a shofar)." Whose voice was that? It was the voice of God. So the voice of God is like *that*, of the sound of a shofar.

In Revelation 4:1 it says, “After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven; and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me.”

Again, whose voice was that? It’s the voice of the Almighty Living God! The voice of God is like that of the sound of a shofar. When we are obedient – when the army of God is obedient, we’re releasing that which is like the voice of God into the atmosphere. Who lives in the atmosphere? The devil does! He’s the prince of power of the air; he is in the air. When we lift the shofar we are releasing that which is like the voice of God right into the camp of the enemy. It’s like a spiritual bomb going off. It’s like a spiritual bazooka going off. In the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for you.

There are no limitations to this. I’ll give you an example: We were in Connecticut, and a lady came forward for prayer. Carla prayed for her, and the power of God hit her and laid her out on the floor. Carla later shared with me that this lady came up because she was being demonically oppressed on the job. She hated to go to work because these demonic things were everywhere, and as she lay on the floor, the Holy Spirit said to her to take a Ram’s Horn to work. *Take a Ram’s Horn to where you work.* Now if that was you, what would you do? There are some that would say, “I’ll do it!” because you’re out there doing things for God. But there’s a bunch of you saying inside, “No, not me” and God is saying “*Yes you...I want to get you out there.*”

Hear that again – God is saying he wants to get you out there! He wants you to start doing things – this is a time of new beginning. This is a season of getting out of the wilderness. If you want to get out of the wilderness, you’ve got to do something different! He wants you out there. Some of you have never heard of a shofar before, and something exploded within you when you did hear one. You said, “That’s me – I’m part of God’s army.”

This lady obeyed God. The first thing she had to do was buy a Ram’s Horn. She obeyed God. She works in an office complex and there are many people around her. Imagine what it was like – imagine if this

was you on your job. The office wasn't closed; it was open and there were people in the building. Then you heard the sound of the Ram's Horn blowing. *In the place that you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for you.* This lady's boss came running out and exclaimed, "What did you do?!" Now listen to this – this is an unsaved man. He said that was the most awesome sound that he had ever heard in his life. You have to get ahold of this – the voice of God is like that of the sound of the shofar. God has put a spot in the heart of every man, woman, and child; it is called eternity. That place belongs to God, and even if they are not saved, they still recognize and know that which is like the voice of the Almighty God when it is released into the atmosphere. In the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for you.

Again, He doesn't fight like a man or a woman; He fights in a realm of the supernatural. God did something in that office that no man or woman could have done in the natural. I could have gone in there and preached fire and brimstone, and nothing would have happened or changed. But because a woman had a word from God and acted upon that word from the Lord, in one week's time four people - not one, not two, not three - but four people in that office complex bowed their knees to Jesus. Four souls were saved because somebody received a word in season from God and obeyed.

Those of you who are called as God's army of shofar blowers, if you will listen and if you will obey, you will see a demonstration of the power of God like you have never seen or imagined before. It all hinges on obedience and doing what God says to do at the moment that God says to do it. He's looking for a willing and obedient army. I'm so thankful for that woman's obedience.

How many of you want God to fight for you supernaturally? When I pray for people over the phone and sound the shofar, the first words out of my mouth always are:

God as I lift this shofar to my lips, let it not be the breath of a man. But God, let it be the breath of the Rahakadesh. God, let it be the

breath of the Holy Spirit. Let it be the breath of the God of Israel, because I can't help these people. But God, you can.

A couple of months ago, I felt the Lord say to me, “Jim, I want you to put a couple of your teachings on television in Kenya Africa.” We put three weeks of evangelism on television there. Then the Lord said, “I want you to put two weeks on of the teaching of the shofar.” I remember one of the emails that came from a person watching TV in Kenya.

The email said: “I was watching your program, and my faith is that of a Muslim. As I heard that thing you called a trumpet, some power entered my home that I have never felt or sensed before. I bowed my knees and received your savior, Jesus Christ. Since then I have gone to the temple; I have gone to the mosque. I have shared Jesus with other leaders. Some of them have received Jesus; others are trying to kill me – they are after me. I am in hiding; continue to pray for me.”

You see, when God fights, he fights supernaturally. I am so glad that I heard the word of the Lord. I am so glad that we were able to put those programs on television in Kenya, because God entered that person's home. For many of you reading this, I believe that God has entered your home. For many of you, I believe that you have sensed God in a different way. Some of you have been set free of pain. Others of you have just felt a shalom of peace that passes all understanding.

One of the other things that I'll often pray as I answer the calls from the television program is this prayer, and I want you to get in your receiving mode right now because I want to pray it for you.

Father, I thank you for every person that is here right now. I thank you God for the anointing to blow the trumpet in Zion. Father, when I lift this trumpet to my lips, let it not be the breath of a man, but let it be the breath of your spirit. Father, I ask that you would take each person here into the cleft of the rock, that you take them into that place as you took Moses. God, that you would surround us with your glory and the heaviness of your spirit. God, take us into that place called

shalom; that place where we lack for nothing because everything, God, is provided in you. God take us there now. Take us to that place where every physical need is met. Take us to that place where every emotional need is met. Take us to that place of fullness in you.

Thank you Lord. Father, we not only thank you for this year's harvest, that which has already come, but God we thank you for the harvest to come. Amen.

That's what I believe this is truly all about. God wants us to commit our *all* – every gifting, every talent, and every ability, everything we are in Him. He wants us to commit everything we have to the next harvest. He wants us to celebrate this harvest, but commit everything to the next one. In the place where we hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for us.

In the Book of Revelation it talks about the angels and about them blowing shofars. Do you realize that every time they blow the shofar, something supernatural takes place? Things happen that are beyond our abilities – beyond what we can imagine or think. It's because *God* is behind it.

Carla and I were ministering in a church in Baltimore, Maryland. What I'm about to share with you, I have never done before, and that is the spot where God wants us. He wants all of us to start doing things that we've never done before. He wants us to say, "God, here I am – use me God however you want to use me – however crazy or radical it may seem. I'm willing – use me."

I was there at that church as an evangelist, and I had poured my heart out and knew many lost people were there. I pleaded with them and begged them to come to Jesus. I told them Jesus is calling you – come! Some of you reading this maybe have been there before, and you just know that you know God is reaching out to somebody, but they don't want to move. As I'm pleading and pouring my heart out to them, the Holy Spirit says, "Jim, blow the Ram's Horn." I said, "God, what's that have to do with evangelism?" Wow – did God teach

me something! In obedience to what God said, I didn't speak another word. All I did was obey his voice and I played the Ram's Horn. To my amazement twelve people ran – they didn't walk – they ran to the altar and gave their hearts to Jesus Christ! I don't understand it, but I don't have to; it's all about obeying God. It's about doing what God says to do at the moment that God says to do it.

In this hour, what God is saying is *“Give me your gifts. Give me your talents. Give me your abilities. Give me your shofars, and allow me to use you to bring in the end time harvest. This is a harvesting tool.”*

There's somebody reading this right now, when you heard the Ram's Horn playing at one time in your life, it hit you on the inside. I'm telling you, that is God – it is the cry of the Father. He's wooing you. He's calling his lost sheep to come home. If that is you today, what you need to do is to pray right now and fall on your knees. You need to just say, “God, forgive me for I'm a sinner. I receive your son, Jesus Christ, into my heart this day. Lord, lead me for the rest of my days. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.”

If you've prayed that prayer, you need to send us an email and let us know. But if you haven't moved yet, don't stop what God is doing, because the Father is calling you. Respond to the Father.

I want to share one last thing with you. If you have a Yemenite or Ram's Horn shofar, or both, this is going to help you. What the Lord has shown me is that in the house of the Lord, we like the jubilee. We like the Yemenite, which has a triumphant sound. What God has been saying to me is that we need the repentant cry. I believe wholeheartedly that if you are truly one that God has called to sound the alarm with a shofar, then you have to be manned with both. You have to be prepared when the Holy Spirit says it is triumphant victory time – sound the alarm! But you have also got to be prepared when God says “Watchman, call to repentance” with the Ram's Horn.

If you're God's shofar blower, you will be willing to sound both of them as He instructs and directs you. The reality of it is that to get to

the victory shout, we've got to go by the way of repentance. Again, we've got to go by the way of repentance, and we're going to end up at the victory shout through the way of repentance.

Father, I thank you today for this opportunity to share on your instrument, the shofar. I pray Lord that the word will take root in the hearts of the people reading this and for those that are hearing the sound of the shofar. Lord, we return to celebrating you in dance and worship with the shofars for the harvest that has already come, and we celebrate you for the harvest that is coming in this year ahead. We thank you for it in Jesus' name. Amen.

SHOFAR AND THE WATCHMAN

(By: Jim Barbarossa)

I Peter 4:10, "As every man (or woman) hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

Everyone in the Body of Christ has a gift or 2, 3, 4 or 5. I want to go back to exhort pastors a little bit. I wasn't planning this, but I'm just going to go with the flow here. In most of the churches we visit, I don't see the gifts anymore. I don't see the gift of healing. I don't see the gift of miracles... *I don't see the gifts.* Pastors, we've got to teach it. We've got to teach it and we've got to pull, extract, recognize those gifts and utilize those gifts.

Let me give you an example: Pastors are burned out because pastors are trying to do *everything*. They were never called to do everything; they are called to pastor or to shepherd. You don't have to go to all the nursing home visits; you don't have to go to all the hospitals; you don't have to visit every person's home when they're sick. You pull that gift out of the saints; you identify the gift of mercy and grace and healings and miracles, and when you see that gift, you pull that gift out and release it into the ministry and they go into the nursing homes, hospitals, and the visitations. The pastor was never meant to do it all. The pastor along with the 5-fold ministry needs to release all the Corinthians gifts in the saints, and release all the Romans gifts in the saints so the saints will go out and do the work of the ministry. How many of you the saints want to be used by God? Many of you want to be used; let's teach and train them and release them into the ministry. That was free; it wasn't even in my notes.

Let's talk now about the shofar. The shofar is mentioned 70+ times in the word of God. You will find it as the word trumpet or coronet, or a ram horn. There are two main types of shofars: this one, the Yemenite, which is the one the church likes because it has a jubilee sound; it's triumphant. This one comes from an animal called an African kudu;

the plural word for kudu is kudos. Kudos means to bring glory to God. It is a glory horn, so when you get in front of that semi with the dancers and shofar blowers, and you sound them, you're bringing glory to God! Praise the Lord!

The Yemenite shofar is the one that most people who blow the shofar, like. It's not necessarily the one they're supposed to have all the time, but we have the tendency in the body to give the body what the body wants. Yes, they're giving the church what they want – they want the shout, the jubilee, the joy – hallelujah! A lot of times they need something different. This one is called the Ram's Horn. This has a totally totally different sound. It's a cry...it's a cry.

Those of you who are already sounding the shofar, if all you're blowing is the Yemenite shofar, you need to talk to God because we are living in an age when the church is in trouble. All the church wants is the shout and the jubilee, and when 97 percent of all Christians don't share their faith, the church needs to be repenting. And they need somebody to rise up and speak the truth! I have sounded the Ram Horn in settings where people have never heard of one, did not know what they were, and I have literally seen people grab their belly or their gut and weep and fall.

I was in a church in Baltimore; I gave a call for the lost. I spent the whole service reaching out to those lost in the congregation prompting them to come. I literally begged them in the name of Jesus to move away from their seats and to come to the altar, and nobody budged. Nobody. As that happened, I heard the Holy Spirit say, "*Jim, sound the Ram Horn.*" I said, "God? That's crazy...sound the Ram Horn?" I sounded the Ram Horn. I never said another word, and twelve people ran to the altar and gave their hearts to Jesus Christ...twelve people. I must tell you I was amazed, but I'm going to explain what I saw happen and didn't understand it at the time.

In the Book of Revelation, Chapter 1, verse 10, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet (shofar)..." It was the voice of God.

Revelation 4:1 says, “AFTER this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me...” Again, the voice of God was like the sound of a trumpet.

In the scripture we’re told that God is eternity, and we’re also told that God has placed eternity in the heart of man. So every man, woman and child; every one - none left out has a place within their heart called eternity. When the Ram Horn was sounded in that church in Baltimore, that which was like the voice of God went forth and connected to the place in the hearts of those twelve people called eternity. It recognized the voice of God. Only God could have pulled those twelve people out of their seats and to that altar. I *begged* them and they wouldn’t move. It didn’t make any sense to me! But God can do things however He wants to, He’s just looking for someone to be obedient; for someone to do what He says to do at the moment that He says to do it. He’s never had me blow a ram horn in quite that way again; it was for that moment and time. He spoke it for that place and for that time. It is so important that we hear the voice of God and do what He says in everyday life. Wherever we’re at, do what He says to do. It may not make sense, but things will happen when we do it God’s way.

Ephesians 2:2, “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:”

The enemy lives in the atmosphere of the air. When we’re obedient to sound the shofar, we are releasing that which is like the voice of God into the atmosphere. I’ve sounded the shofar in many places, in secular places. One for example was in a hotel lobby – a real fancy place – and God said, “Sound the shofar.” We’re waiting to check in (shofar sounding) – the atmosphere changed. The manager came up. He said, “That was one of the most awesome sounds I’ve ever heard.”

Another situation was when we were in Connecticut. A lady came up for prayer; Carla was praying for her. She said she hated to go to work and she used to love it, but she now felt demonically oppressed; demonic oppression on the job to the point she *hated* to go to work.

We talked about the shofar that night. We were ministering to her, and Carla laid hands on her and was praying for her and boom, she went down on the floor. While she's lying on the floor the Holy Spirit speaks to her by a ram word. . .*take it to where you work and sound it*. This lady works in an office complex with lots of people around. Just think if this was you and God told *you* to do this (a high shrill sounded from the ram's horn). Her boss came running out there and yelled, "What was that?!" This was an unsaved man. He said to her, "That is one of the most awesome sounds that I have ever heard in my life!" That, which is like the voice of God, went forth into the atmosphere connecting to the place called eternity that belongs to God. Even the unrepentant heart knows the Father's voice.

This woman then obeyed the rest of what she felt the Holy Spirit told her to do. She put a CD display on her desk with a sign that said "Free, take one." One week later, four people in that office bowed their knees to the King of Glory – they gave their hearts to *Jesus!!* Man can't make that happen; that is *supernatural*. Those of you who are already sounding the shofar, I want you to understand today that you have a spiritual weapon in your hands! It is not a toy; it is not for entertaining the saints; it is a worship instrument for worshipping God, but it is also a spiritual bazooka. It is a weapon of warfare.

When God tells me to sound it, I expect something to happen. I sound it with purpose; I expect something to happen. When I sound it in meetings, I expect healings to happen. I expect miracles to happen. When He tells me to sound it out there, I don't know what to expect, but I mean crazy things happen when you obey God.

Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep, And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

The voice of God is creative in nature. When we are obedient to sound the shofar, and that which is like the voice of God goes out into the atmosphere, the creativeness of our God is now released into the atmosphere. That's why the chemistry in the room changes. That's why the atmosphere changes. That's why people who don't

know anything about a shofar will say, “Wow! *That is the greatest thing I’ve ever heard before!*”

That is only God.

In the Book of Revelation, Chapter 8, verses 7-8, it says, “*The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood... the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea..*”

It goes on and every time it was sounded there was a supernatural manifestation. Only God can do those kinds of things. If He tells you to sound it at the courthouse, then you need to take it and sound it at the courthouse. If He tells you to sound it at school, then you need to sound it at the school. If He tells you to sound it in your business, you need to sound it at your business. If He tells you to sound it downtown, you need to sound it downtown. Sometimes He may just tell you to carry it, and you may not know why.

Carla and I were going on a trip one time and the Lord told me very clearly to carry it with us. I forget what airport it was but we were passing through this airport, and I’m carrying this shofar, and I sit down. This older lady comes over and sits down next to me, and she recognizes it as a shofar. It starts up a conversation and I end up giving her the gospel message on CD, because she knew what a shofar was...because they use them in the temple where she worships! We went to that conference; went home; I never sounded it. I never used it; God had me carry it for that lady, because it was the connection that put the gospel message in that lady’s hands. Isn’t that awesome?

In another situation Carla and I were out, and I always carry CD’s all the time; even when we go to the beach – I have CD’s in my swimming trunks pocket. One time we were heading to Wilmington Beach and pulled up to the hotel; we’d never been there before. The Holy Spirit said, “*Get your shofar; go down to the beach.*” It was crazy; you should have seen it. I had my t-shirt, swimming trunks, sunglasses on, and my shofar. I was hiding behind my sunglasses! I got out to the edge of the water and sounded my shofar loud and clear. Somebody walks up to me and says, “What is that?!” I told

him a little bit about it, reached in my pocket for a CD, and said “This is for you.” I walked on the beach a little further and sounded the shofar again; somebody else walks up saying, “What is that?!” I told him a little bit and handed him a CD saying, “This is for you.” I did it three times and gave away three CD’s. The next morning Carla and I went back to the beach and we had a bag with fifty CD’s in it. We blew the shofar from one end of the beach to the other end of the beach. There were people visiting from France, Canada and several other nations, and we sent the gospel message around the world that day – just because God said to sound the shofar on the beach.

Those of you called to sound the shofar, you serve a creative God, and He wants to take you to another level. It’s time to take His instrument, the shofar, beyond the walls of the church and use it in everyday life wherever He asks you to. Amen?

Here’s another beach story – In Long Island, New York, it’s the same scenario. We’re on the beach sounding the shofar and passing out CD’s. I thought we were done for the day, so we headed for the car, but as we were heading across the parking lot, and the Holy Spirit said, “Sound it one more time, but sound it the way they do it in the temple.” I had never really done that before other than the fact that a gentleman shared with me once that this is the way you sound it in the temple. I thought ok...so I did (shofar sounding). Leaning up against the fencepost is an older gentleman. He said, “Son, what are you doing with a shofar on the beach!?” I said, “I am declaring God’s sovereignty on this earth. My God created it all, and it all belongs to Him!” I had never said that before; it just came out of me. And that old man looked at me and said, “That’s absolutely right!” Then he said, “By the way, you blow that shofar better than they do in my synagogue.” I reached in my pocket for a CD with the Gospel message to hand to him and said, “This is for you sir, the gospel.” I could have never made that happen, God makes things happen. We’ve got to get beyond the four walls with our talents, abilities, and our gifts. Shofar Sounders, get out of the church with them! Dancers, get out of the church with it! Flag wavers, take it out there! We’ve all got gifts and talents. That prophetic gift that some of you claim to have and some of you talk about, if it only works in the house of God, you haven’t

got it. You don't...if it only works in the four walls of the church, you haven't got it, because Jesus used it with the woman at the well. Jesus used it with Nathaniel. He used it out in the world where it can literally drive people to their knees. This stuff we call prophecy today playing games with each other in the house of God, yes we're supposed to exhort each other; that's all part of it, but that's not what it's all about. It's about taking that gift beyond the walls and speaking it in everyday life; while you're on your job or while you're at your business; somebody comes in and you see something inside of them because the Holy Ghost is showing you, and you speak a word of life and their life is changed. That's what it's all about!

In the Book of Revelation, we see that angels blow the shofar.

In Matthew 24:30-31, "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. And he shall send his angels forth with a great sound of a shofar, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

The Son of man comes in the clouds. Jesus blows the shofar. In the Book of Exodus 19:16-19, God himself sounded the shofar. Let me read that; I'm just going to read the last part, "*...and when the voice of the trumpet sounded long and waxed louder and louder; Moses spoke, and God answered him by a voice.*"

When I, Jim, sound the shofar long, it gets softer and softer. That got louder and louder; that was supernatural. That was God! Now, shofar sounders, if you will yield yourself and get beyond your talent and abilities, and allow the Holy Spirit to take over, there will be times when you will sound the shofar a length of time that in the natural it is *impossible*. *I've had it happen. I've experienced it where it just kept coming, and coming, and coming.* Those called to sound the shofar, you want to get beyond your breath; you want His breath. You want His breath to come through you.

I had a Rabbi in New York tell me one time (I sounded the shofar over the phone); she said, "*That isn't you; that isn't you sounding that.*"

There's something inside of you that's coming out.” You've got to let the Spirit of God come forth through you. Let the breath of God go into the atmosphere and change things.

In Joshua 6:4 it says, *“And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.”*

So we know priests blow the trumpets.

I Peter 2:9 says, *“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into the marvelous light:”*

Who's the royal priesthood? We are! So we know that God blew the shofar. We know that Jesus sounds the shofar. We know that angels blow the shofar, and we also know that man blows the shofar. Now I love driving the devil crazy, and when he hears the sound of the shofar, he doesn't know where it's coming from! That's a good reason to get up in the morning and blow the shofar just to drive the devil crazy; constant confusion in the enemy camp. Those of you who are intercessors, Nehemiah 4:20...*in the place where you hear the sound of a shofar, God will fight for you.* That's a no brainer! That's the way to start your prayer time! In the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, God's going to fight for you. That's promised in the word of God.

In Zechariah 9:14 it says, *“And the Lord shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Lord God shall blow the shofar, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.”*

The Lord blows the shofar. Thank you Lord.

I think this is a good time to have the ladies minister in dance once again. I really appreciate them taking the time to learn and train, and allow their giftings to be pulled out.

Ezekiel 33:1-6, *“Again the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a*

man of their coasts, and set him as their watchman: If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet (shofar) and warn the people; Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet (shofar) and taketh not warning; if the sword come on them, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet (or shofar), and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall be delivered his soul. But if watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet (shofar), and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand."

Blowing the shofar is not a game and being God's watchman is serious business. Unfortunately, a lot of the watchmen on the wall are asleep, and we have things creeping into the church because the watchmen are not sounding the alarm. Here's just a little sidebar with that because it just kind of hit me is this: The only way that you can truly know the fake, the false, is to know the real. You've got to know the real deal to be able to identify the fake when the fake comes in the door. The church on a whole has run the prophetic voice out of the camp. *Oh we prophecy a little* – I'm talking about the office of the prophet.

We've got jezebels running around the church bouncing from church to church to church, and if the office of the prophet was recognized in every church, the moment the jezebel spirit came in, the prophet would run it out. The prophet would shut it down before it damages the church. But what we do is we run out the prophet because we don't understand the gift, we don't appreciate the gift; we've shut the prophet out and who shows up now? ... *The fake*, and we let the fake in, and the fake tears the church up, and then leaves. It then goes and tears up another church and leaves, and it just goes on over and over again. We need the prophetic anointing in *every* church. We need the office gift of the prophet functioning in every church. We need the watchmen on the wall. The watchmen are to have their spiritual eyes and ears open watching for the things of the enemy, and what the enemy is trying to do, to warn the church – to sound the alarm.

One of the things right now, and I've said this a few times already, but

it's just the fact; it's the way it is: The shofar needs to be sounded in every church to shake the 97 percent of all Christians that are not about the Father's business. They're not sharing their faith, they're not going out into the community. We've totally lost focus as a church, and it's the shofar sounder's job to sound that alarm, and that alarm isn't a pleasant sound. It's not this one (holding up a Yemenite Shofar), but that alarm will more often come from this smaller one (Aram Shofar) and it's a call of repentance. (Shofar sounding)

Those of you, who already know your call to sounding the shofar for the Lord, stand to your feet. I want you to stay standing. One of our main focuses in regards to the shofar ministry is that of activation. God is raising up an army to sound an alarm. That's some of you who are standing, and it's some of you who are still sitting down. We've seen dancers activated; we've seen people waving flags probably for the first time. Today God wants to also activate some of you to sound His shofar. Now just like the gift of the evangelist, we're not all called to be evangelists; some are. Some are called to dance. Some are called to wave the flag. Some are called to sound the alarm with the shofar.

Here's what I want to do right now. I read this scripture to you earlier, Exodus 19:19, *"And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder; Moses spoke and God answered him by a voice."*

That still happens today... *My sheep hear My voice*. If we will talk to God and expect to hear from Him, he will talk to us. We make it very difficult sometimes; it's not. God is very clear when he talks to us. Here's what I want to do: I want to sound the shofar long and loud, and as the shofar is sounding, I want every person here to ask God this question – just one question: *God, have you call me to sound the shofar for you?*

That's the only thing I want you to ask Him. He's going to say one of two things – yes or no. Some of you already know; you've known it for awhile. Just ask Him: *Father, do you want me to sound the shofar?*

If He said yes, I want you to stand up.

SHOFAR PROTOCOLS & GUIDELINES

(By: Jim Barbarossa)

PRAYER BY WORSHIP LEADER: Lord, we just worship you this morning Heavenly Father. God when we worship you, we just seek you in spirit and in truth this morning. We abandon all things that try to cling to us that are not of you. God, we just leave behind the things that distract us and ensnare us. God, we abandon all things. We abandon our hearts. We abandon all things to be completely immersed in your glory this day, God, to be completely saturated in your presence. We just pray for a great outpouring to continue the rest of today, Heavenly Father. We're expecting great things to continue to happen, God. We're coming expectant. We expect tonight for greater things, God. We don't expect you to come up short, God, because you are a faithful God. God, we dream big tonight because we serve a big God. We serve a living God. Hallelujah, hallelujah! You're here to pour out your presence and your spirit, God. We just receive today Heavenly Father. We pray for the anointing to go forth over this word, over the dance this morning, God, to continue Heavenly Father; to mold our hearts this weekend, God. Get us where we need to be. Move us Heavenly Father. We love you in Jesus. Thank you for this time of worship. Thank you for this time in your presence, Lord. It's in your precious Son's name we pray. Amen.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Get ready to enter in as the girls and ladies come to minister in dance. This is one of my favorite songs I've seen them dance to; I love it. It's called 'I Can Only Imagine', and it's going to be a wonderful day when we meet with Jesus. So enter in with them as they worship the Lord.

Praise the Lord for all his gifts! I can remember when that gift of dance was bottled up in Carla. She had the desire to do that for many years, and she stepped out. Now she's training others and other dance ministries are being birthed because of it. God is being glorified, so we need all our gifts, talents, and all our abilities.

In the teaching part of this I want to ask you to refrain from sounding your shofar, unless absolutely led by the spirit of the living God. So am I telling you not to blow? I'm telling you to refrain unless...we must be led by the Spirit. A lot of what I'm going to touch on in this particular topic or session is things I've never taught on before, and we must be led by the Spirit.

In Nehemiah 4:20, this scripture says in what place you hear the sound of the shofar, God will fight for us. When I first started to sound the shofar, I was amazed at the end of meetings that people would come up and say 'I had a pain in my body, and it left when the shofar was sounded.' I had no knowledge of the scripture; I didn't know anything. I was just blowing it because the Lord told me to, and people would get healed. In the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, our God will fight for us.

These areas that I want to touch on, some of them are areas that will bring friction and division in the church, and we must learn that we can agreeably disagree. We're all different; we're made differently. We have a different makeup; we're going to see things differently. God will do things one way through one and differently through another, but we have to learn to not allow these differences to bring division.

For those of you who are new to the shofar and you want to learn the basics of the shofar, I'm not going to get into a lot of that today. If you want to know what the word of God says about the shofar, I suggest that you get the 7-DVD set, eight hours of teaching and instruction, and two books on the shofar. I would suggest that you get those, and I'm going to share a little testimony with you as to why.

There's a man who lives in the Chicago area; his name is Ron and he's a friend. Another person introduced Ron to the book called 'The Ministry of the Shofar' probably two years ago now. When Ron read the book, he called me and said, "I have to come to your home. I have to talk with you"

Ron read both of the books and watched the 6-DVD set, and he came back about a month or so later. Prior to that he had told me, "You know, I've blown the shofar for twenty years, but I've never experienced

those manifestations that I read about in the book. I never realized that this was a real ministry.” But he was faithful and he released that which was like the voice of God for twenty years. He got the DVD set and the books; he read the books and listened and watched the DVD’s, and he called me about thirty days later and he came back out. I want to share with you two stories that he shared with me.

He was in a Jewish neighborhood where he cleans carpet, and the Holy Spirit said, “Get your shofar out of the van and sound it.” He’s an obedient man of God and he did what the Lord said. There was a Jewish lady up on her porch. When the shofar was sounded, she had a vision of Jesus Christ. Isn’t that awesome?!

Another time he was driving down one of the main drags through Chicago, and the Holy Spirit says, “Pull over and sound your shofar.” There’s a man standing on the corner, a Muslim man, and the shofar is sounded and that which is like the voice of God goes into the atmosphere. That man had a vision of Jesus Christ as he stood there on that corner.

You know, I have never experienced that, but I thank God for a son in the Lord who has experienced that. I would suggest to you if you want to walk under that same anointing, sometime before this gathering is over, ask him to lay his hands on you. Amen? That is powerful...powerful!

Another scripture I want to share with you today is II Corinthians 3:17 in the Amplified Bible and it reads this way, “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (emancipation from bondage, freedom.”

The blowing of the shofar is all about the breath of God, and it is all about the Spirit of the Lord, and it is all about being led by the Spirit of the Lord. There are no patterns. There are no methods. There are no systems; it’s hear My voice and obey Me. People always want the pattern; they want the system. They don’t want to hear from God themselves. You have to hear from God yourself if you’re called to sound the shofar. If you’re called to operate in *any* gift, you *must* hear from God for yourself.

In John 6:63 says, *“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”*

If you want to have life in your ministry of blowing the shofar, *you must...you must* be led by the Spirit of the living God! If you want to have life in your worship ministry, you must be led by the Spirit of the living God. Whatever your calling, whatever your ministry, you must be led by the Spirit of God to have life in it. Systems and methods will bring death.

I hear it all the time...*oh Brother Jim, what's the pattern for this... what's the method for that?* I say...talk to God. Again in the Amplified Bible, Romans 8:14-17, it says,

“For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.” And we’ll add daughters of God too. So if we want to be sons and daughters of God, if we want to be carriers of life, then we must be led by the Spirit of God.

We were in this lady’s store, and when I go in a store sometimes I go in with my shofar on my shoulder. Do you want to get somebody’s attention? I assure you this will get somebody’s attention. Now what was really cool about this particular place (we were in France); I don’t speak a word of French. This lady did not speak a word of English, but when I noticed her watching my shofar, I motioned as if to say, “Would you like to hear it?” And she said, “Yes!” How do I know that? I just knew that I knew that I knew!

(Jim blowing the shofar)...why did I stop blowing just now? ... Because the Spirit of the Lord told me to. I could have continued in some form or pattern or method, but He said to stop. Be led by the Spirit.

Revelation 1:10 says, *“I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,”*

Revelation 4:1 says, *“AFTER this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet (shofar) talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and*

I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.”

The voice of God is like that of the sound of the shofar.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 says, “*Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time; He has planted eternity in the human heart.*”

He has planted eternity in the human heart; that means every human being has eternity in their heart. Whether they’ve confessed Him as Savior or not, it is in there. Eternity is in the heart.

Isaiah 57:15 says, “*For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity...*” *Who inhabits eternity? ...God, the high and lofty one. Where is eternity? It’s in the heart of every man, woman and child that there ever was.*

This is in the New Living translation, I John 5:20, “And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and he is eternal life.”

God is eternity. When the shofar was sounded in this lady’s shop, she immediately started to weep. She immediately started to cry. We couldn’t converse in the natural, but she wept, she cried because somebody carried a shofar into that shop and released that which was like the voice of God into the atmosphere. That which was like the voice of God connected to that place called eternity in the heart of the woman, and the woman responded to the almighty living God!

So those of you who are called to sound the shofar, I *challenge* you to take it beyond the walls...to take it *beyond* the walls.

This is a word that came in for those called to sound the shofar, and I think it’s a good word for everybody, but it was specifically addressed for this gathering from a prophetic voice in the region. This is what the word said basically:

“Consecration...shofar sounders, God wants you to set apart totally

His. In Him we live and move and have our being.” (It ties back into being led of the Spirit. Everything about the shofar should be about Him.) It’s not in our job that we live and move and have our being. It’s not in our spouse. It’s not in our kids. It’s not in our church. It’s not in our religion, and it’s not in our ministries. It’s in Him we are to live and move and have our being. Set apart as priests...He’s calling shofar sounders to lead the army...to sound the charge. The charge for what? The charge to reach the lost and disciple them; to go beyond the walls as one voice...the army of God.

Shofar sounders, this is a holy calling. You have not chosen it, but God has chosen you. And if you are His, you will not hesitate to sound the shofar anywhere He sends you. If you’re only willing to sound it within the four walls of a church, you may have chosen yourself because that is a harvesting tool. That is a tool to declare His sovereignty on earth, and the earth is out there beyond the walls. He wants his voice released, and He’s calling some of us to do it. Amen?

Now I would like to talk to you a little bit about protocols and guidelines. I hope nobody gets offended by it, but sometimes we get a little rebellious, and we want to do what we want to do and when we want to do it, but God is a God of order and there is order in the Body of Christ. Sometimes we need to touch on protocols, and I’ll be honest with you, this is another one of those things that Jim just doesn’t want to do, but I want to obey God. I hear from people all the time from both sides, and there are some simple things we can do so that we all can be on one side and not be divided over something like a shofar, dance, flags, or tongues...whatever. We’ve got to learn to get along so that we can bring in the harvest. There is only one God...one body...one Jesus.

Every local church will establish their own set of guidelines concerning different things, such as the shofar. Protocols or guidelines will often take on the position of the senior minister. There’s only one visionary of every work, and whoever God puts as the visionary over that particular part of the body, is the one who sets protocols. Protocols are good because you know where things are; protocols can stop division, and can stop problems.

For example, in some churches you can only sound the shofar at the start of the service; that is the preferred protocol. In another church you can sound the shofar *any* time you want, and that is the preferred protocol of that particular part of the body. Neither case is right or wrong, but it is the visionary's digressions as to the preferences for that part of the body. It's getting quiet; somebody may not like this. They're thinking...*oh Jim's a radical shofar blower. He's going to tell us what we want to hear.* No, I'm going to tell you what I think God is saying.

In another church you can sound the shofar before or after a song, but you can't sound it during the song. Some worship teams get distracted when a shofar is being sounded during the actual song. It throws them off. On the other hand, I have been in meetings where I have sounded the shofar in the midst of the song, and as soon as that sound of the shofar went forth, I saw hands all around me go up and the worship experience was enhanced to the point where people have actually come to me and said later, "Thank you for obeying God. God was in that."

But here's the key: We must learn to hear what the Spirit of God is saying, and sound the shofar when the Spirit of God is telling us to.

In those examples I gave you, who is right, who is wrong? Nobody! Nobody is right; nobody is wrong. You can't find anything in scripture that's going to tell you exactly this...this...this on some subjects. It is a matter of personal preference, but it is also a matter of something we talked about last night...when we must learn to prefer one another's gifts above our own. That's hard because we all have a passion for our thing, and that's good because God put that there, but He wants to take us to another place now. He wants us to still be passionate about that thing, but at the same time prefer one another's gift.

Some people would like it if shofars were never sounded in a service. And some people would like it they were sounded *continuously*. But here's the bottom line: Every church has a visionary and the protocol is determined by the head in that part of the body that God has placed there, and that's the bottom line. The main thing is we do not allow any of these gifts – the shofar, flags, dance or whatever it might be –

to bring division. We must be led of the Spirit of God. It's what the Spirit of God is saying that is important. Help me Lord.

We must be sensitive not to professionalize what we do in our worship so that the Spirit of God is taken out of our worship. I was in a meeting here recently; an older man with a gravelly voice, as off key and as monotone as could be, led out in an old hymn. In most churches, he would have probably gotten shut down, but I'm telling you the anointing was all over him. It wasn't professional. It wasn't perfect. It was a blessing to the ears of God! We must be led by the Spirit of the living God. That old gravelly voice was a sacrifice of praise.

If you are in a church that has set protocols and orders concerning the shofar and how it is to be used, then you need to abide by the protocols. Am I telling you to lay down your gift? I am if the Holy Spirit tells you to. I will tell you that for a period of one year that the Holy Spirit told Carla and I both to lay down our gifts. There was a church that wanted to be taught in the area of evangelism, and my passion is reaching the lost, and the passion of God is reaching the lost and discipling them. In this particular church they did not care for the shofar; they did not want dance, and flags was another issue. We laid those things down for one year; we did not touch them and we taught the people how to share their faith. Why? I did it because God told me to. Did I like it? No, I did not like all of it. I have a little rebellion in me too folks. Do know what I mean? Obey the Spirit; if we can learn to follow the Spirit, we've got everything we need.

There may come a time when you do have to make a choice. If the protocol of a particular place does not allow (and I'm going to probably get a whole bunch of emails for this one) for your gifts to flow and you feel you need to be in a position where your gifts are allowed to flow, then you need to graciously as led by the Spirit find a place where the protocol is to allow your gifts to flow. You do not bring division with it; you do not bring strife with it; you don't give anybody heartache or anxiety over it, but you go led by the Spirit to the place He has for you where the protocols will fit. And for some of you it may be getting Pastor Ben to lay his hands on you and impart that church planting anointing on you, and you go plant a church.

God's doing a new thing.

Here are some additional protocols:

- **Should I sound my shofar in a church that I am visiting?** Be led by the Spirit. Sometimes when I visit a church, I leave my shofar in the car, as led by the Spirit. On a couple of occasions as I was worshipping, the Holy Spirit said, "Go out to the car and get your shofar." And as I walked back into the building, there's a song about the spirit of Elijah and the trumpet sounding. Be led by the Spirit. I will tell you after that service the pastor came to me and said, "God told me this morning that there would be a visiting minister in the house, and I was to release him to do what God told him to do." Now that's being led of the Spirit.
- **Should I ask for permission to sound the shofar when visiting a church?** When I first came here, I went to the pastor and asked him for permission. He said go for it, so I went for it. So generally the answer is yes; ask for permission. But there have been times when God spoke to me very clearly to sound the shofar when it was *impossible* to get permission. There again, I know my Father's voice. Now if you don't communicate with Father, then you better put your shofar down and leave it down because you need to sound as led by the Spirit of God. What we hear from heaven directly from Father, the gates of hell will not prevail against. I want to hit the mark when I blow the shofar. When God has had me just sound the shofar in a place where I had not been asked, He has always showed up. Always. Never sound the shofar when it will interfere with something else that God is doing. Be sensitive to what God is doing through other gifts. For example: When a prophetic word is coming forth, *stop* sounding the shofar. God is speaking through another gift. That is common sense, right? It is esteeming one another's gift above our own.
- **Should I sound the shofar during altar ministry?** Yes,

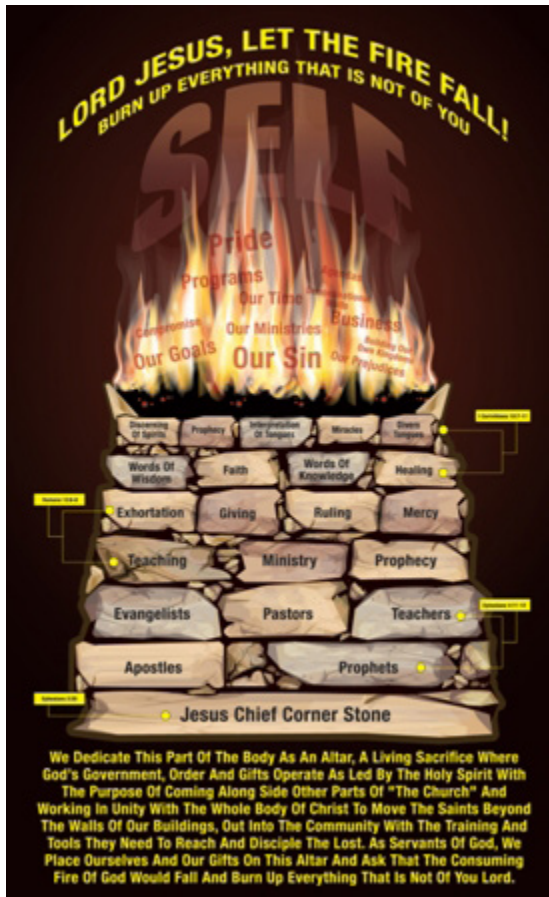
but only as the Spirit leads. When people are getting prayed for, they need to hear the person praying for them. Each person should be prayed for as the Spirit leads. It is not a good practice to continually sound the shofar over every person getting prayer the whole time prayer is going on. It becomes dead. It becomes a ritual. It is not led of the Spirit. The sons and daughters of God are led by the Spirit of God, and that applies to everything we do.

- **Should I sound the shofar over people to receive healing?** You should only do it as the Spirit leads. I do not sound the shofar over every person that needs a healing. I do what the Spirit of the Lord is saying; He may say speak a word into them. He may say anoint them. He may say this or that... He may say spit in some mud and use the mud. We've got to listen, obey, and hear the Spirit of God. Have I seen miracles as we've blown the shofar? Yes, many times! But it can't become a dead ritual, so it's as the Spirit leads.
- **Is everyone called and anointed to sound the shofar?** No, God has anointed different people to do different things.
- **Will everyone experience the same things when they sound the shofar?** No! I haven't experienced what Ron has experienced but I want to; he may lay hands on me before we go. I want to see somebody have a vision of Jesus because I let the shofar rip in Duncan Donuts or someplace. I want to see that, but do you know what? I'm satisfied to having a son in the Lord seeing it. I pray a double portion anointing on my brother who has seen that. We need to be led of the Holy Spirit, and what he would have us do, when he would have us do it, and when he would have us do it.
- **Can a shofar be sounded at a wedding?** Absolutely! In Nehemiah 4:20, in the place where you hear the sound of a

shofar, our God will fight for us. That's a good thing; God will fight for that couple getting married. In Revelation 4:1 and Revelation 1:10, it says the shofar is like the voice of God. What better thing than to declare the voice of God over a couple getting married? Yes, we've done that.

- **Can a shofar be sounded at a funeral?** Absolutely; we've done that. I must say that it seemed a little strange the first time. In I Thessalonians 4:16 it says, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the arch angel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first..." That brings *hope*. I Corinthians 51:52 says, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, In the 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."

I remember the first time we did this and Carla danced to a song called 'I Can Only Imagine' and they had me sound the shofar and I shared those scriptures. I had more people come to me at the end of that funeral than has ever come to me in bringing a message saying how much God ministered to them. So yes, if you're called to declare God's blessing over a wedding or over a funeral, do so. God is in it.



Well, enough said about the protocols and the things within the four walls. For the most part, the people that God is calling to sound the shofar are spending way too much time in the four walls of the building, worried about sounding it in the four walls of the building, and God is saying it's time to take it and get out there and use it for His purposes.

In Acts 1:8 the word of God says, *“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”*

If you look towards the banner we were using last night, these things are all because of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Spirit came and gave the

five gifts; He gave all these gifts, and the power of the Holy Spirit is operating in all of us. But the church has taken and contained those gifts within the four walls of the church, and now we're doing the same thing with the shofar. We're becoming entertainers in the house of God, and that's not what it's about. All of the gifts of the Holy Spirit have a focus and a purpose; go into the world and be My witnesses! If your gifts and talents and abilities are only functioning within the four walls of the church, then they're yours and they're not His! I ask you today to release them to Him, and let's wrap this thing up and fulfill the great commission. I want to go home and be with Jesus! Oh, I hear them saying that He's longsuffering...it isn't that He's longsuffering...it's just that we're *(Jim wiping his forehead and not saying what we are)*...do you know what I mean? I get a little passionate and do not apologize.



Lord, where do we go from here? I know somebody knows where this is at. Do you want to get attention to people on Myrtle Beach? The weather is nice there too in the winter. *(Jim blowing the shofar long and hard at this point)*. That is a harvest tool, by the way, and

those of you called to sound the shofar are harvesters. You're not only harvesters, but you're called to be consecrated, set aside for His purposes, and lead His army into battle, and you can't lead them into battle in the four walls called a church. I long for the days to hear the words, "The church has left the building."

In Myrtle Beach, there were two ladies captivated by the sound of the shofar. They didn't know anything about it; they just knew there was something special about that *sound*. When we got their attention, we have a little tract that we wrote called 'The Shofar' tract, and it tells what the shofar is (about the first third of it), and the rest of it is the Gospel message. It is for leading people to the Lord. Anyone of you who is a shofar sounder, when you exit here, we're going to have some of those in bundles of 50, so please take a stack and use it. You can freely duplicate or copy it, take our name off of it and put your local information, because you want people to find you if you're local, and use it to the glory of God, but get out there and do something.

Another lady in Myrtle Beach was selling something and I don't know what it was, but man, she just loved hearing the sound of that shofar. What I told her was, "I think this would be good for business. We're going to draw you a crowd." We gave her a Real Life Story book with the Gospel message laced between the stories so she could come to know Jesus. Folks, it's all about sharing Jesus! All of our gifts are to be about sharing Jesus.

We were sounding the shofar in other areas of Myrtle Beach and got peoples' attention. They were so happy to get the Gospel message! I normally feel a little squeamish approaching big, husky, burly men. They kind of have their arms crossed and kind of shock and scare you a little bit, but when one of these types of man heard the sound of the shofar, all he could say was, "What is that, man?" I handed him a shofar tract and a book. You see, God opened up the heart of this man. The voice of God went forth and touched the place called eternity, and eternity responded to its creator. Are you getting this? The shofar is not a toy; it's a weapon. It's a *harvesting* tool. What did that word say? ...God was going pour out what? ...*It was a harvesting anointing*. Those of you watching online with Kingdom Flame, listen,

if you blow the shofar, it is a harvesting tool and you need to have tools to go with it. You need to go beyond the walls of the buildings and go out there and do something for Jesus! It's not a game and not something to be contained within four walls. You must move as the Spirit leads you. You must flow as the Spirit takes you. If He takes you to the left or the right; wherever He takes you and whatever He tells you to, where there is no Spirit, there is no life.

Carla and I were in South Haven, MI. If you get our emails, you know we like to travel. If you don't get our emails, you can sign up. They are very encouraging and about the harvest, getting out beyond the walls. Sometimes when I hit it too hard about getting out beyond the walls, I get back a 'please remove me' email. Yes I do, because it's convicting. When you're not doing what God's called you to do, you can try to shut it out, but I want to tell you that God is done playing games. You're not going to be able to shut it out, because He's going to get it in there. He wants witnesses. ...Back to my story about South Haven, MI.

We're going to South Haven, MI, and before we left, God told me to pack a case of my new book, 'The Shofar and the Voice of God.' I have never ever used this book as a tool for witnessing, but He had me put them in the car. And so we get into South Haven, MI, and parked the car. Carla started going from shop to shop; she'll shop till you drop, you know. But listen; when she goes into a shop, she has a couple of Real Life Story books in hand. She's got the Gospel message, and she watches and listens by the Spirit and sows books and the Gospel message into the lives of people as she goes in and out of the shops. She is not about shopping; she is about sharing *Jesus*! There was a time when Carla was shy, bashful, and timid afraid to share the Gospel message. If that's you, you can and you will be set free. All you have to do is ask. Somebody needed to hear that; that's not in my notes.

So here we are in South Haven, MI, and Carla is going along doing her thing. The Holy Spirit says to me to get my shofar out. I have this black bag I carry, so I have a shofar on one shoulder and a black bag with books, and God said to pack some of the 'The Shofar and

the Voice of God' books. I thought... *God, what does that have to do with witnessing?* Do you fuss and argue with God thinking you know it all? Yes, I do that sometimes, but I'm learning to obey, so I put them in my bag in the car. So Carla is in a shop and I set down on a bench. I always sit my shofar out in front of me so people can see it, and I let it dangle around to get some attention. Here comes a man and I have my shofar sitting on a bench, and the man says, "Would you mind if I sit there?"

I told him, "Yes, let me get that out of your way" and so I moved it over and set it down. The man said, "That's a shofar, isn't it? I said, "Yes sir; would you like to hear it?" I proceeded to pick it up and blew it for him. He said, "Young man (he was a bit older than me; I was young compared to him), I know all about shofars; I'm Jewish. I said to him, "Do you know that I write books? If you will allow me, I would like to autograph this book and put your name in it and give this to you." He said, "Yes." I gave him the Gospel through that book, and then two people came out of a shop – two Israeli's – two friends from Israel. About ten minutes later I saw them on a bench off at a distance, and he's sharing the book with his friends. Jim couldn't make that happen, but God could! Only God...

Those of you who are serious about the shofar and serious about the Gospel, we have books like the one I just mentioned in cases, about 120 in each case, and it's only \$1.00 a book. You can buy them by the case and use them to share Jesus with people. Please, just let us know and we'll get them to you.

In the scripture in Exodus in chapters 16-19 roughly, it talks about Moses talking to God, and the trumpet or shofar is sounded. It says the trumpet is sounded long and waxed louder and louder. That had to be God! When I blow it, it gets lower and lower the longer I go, because I run out of breath. God doesn't run out of breath; that's supernatural. Talk about supernatural, I have at times blown the shofar longer than physically possible because the breath of the Spirit of God, the Rahah Kadesh, literally came through me. Again, the Bible says it waxed louder and louder, and Moses spoke to God and He answered by voice.

What I want to do right now, and I'm not talking about you who are already blowing the shofar; I'm talking about those who never have but maybe think they should. I'm going to sound the shofar long and loud, and I want you to ask God this simple question: God have you called me to sound the shofar for your glory? The word says...My sheep hear my voice. That's a promise, so when you ask, expect to hear. Just ask...

Those of you watching on Kingdom Flame, you ask Him too.... *Father, are you calling me to sound the shofar to your glory? And listen for His voice.*

Now this is for those who have not sounded the shofar before and who have not felt called to sound it, but is there anybody who have asked that question, do you feel that the Spirit of the Lord said, "Yes, I want you to sound the shofar to my glory." If that is you, raise your hand and stand to your feet. This is only for those who have not blown the shofar and this is new to you. I want all you standing to come forward very quickly and just stand here in a line right in front of me.

While they're coming, I also want to speak to those who have sounded the shofar before. I want you to ask Him a different question and here's the question: As I sound the shofar, I want you to respond appropriately; however God says. The question is: God, are you calling me to take this shofar-blowing to another level? Are you calling me to consecrate and set myself apart to be used by You, and go wherever you want me to go and do whatever you want me to do for your glory? Don't take this lightly; don't say "Yes, God" and not mean it. But I want you to ask that question right now. If He said yes, stand to your feet.

The first thing I want to do right now is pray for all of you who are standing and want to consecrate and set yourself apart. Those who are watching on Kingdom Flame, I want to pray for you. I am believing for a fresh fire and a fresh anointing to fall upon you as you set yourself to be consecrated. I feel Jesus...I feel Jesus.

Those of you who have answered the call to come up for the first time, be teachable. Follow the protocols in the place where God puts

you. Ask the Holy Spirit where He wants you. Do what He leads you to do. Be led by the Spirit of God; you are sons and daughters who must be led by the Spirit of the Living God. If you want your shofar ministry to have life, it must be led by the Spirit of God.

Those who are watching, if you want your shofar ministry to have life, you MUST be led by the Spirit of God. Do not be worried about wearing a red shirt and a pink tie and what you wear and all kinds of other stuff. It doesn't matter – be led by the Spirit of God, not religion.

Those of you who I've asked to pray, I would like you to come forward now and stand behind these who have come forward for prayer. I'm going to pray for each one and God is going to pour out an anointing upon them.

Father, I thank you for the gift and calling, and Lord I believe the impartation. Father, you told me more than once Lord God that the anointing is impartable. And Father, just like Elijah had spiritual children, He imparted to Elisha and there was a double portion anointing. I ask Lord God that that double portion anointing will rest on them. Receive in Jesus name...receive in Jesus name...receive in Jesus name...receive...receive in Jesus name. Receive. You've come a long way. You've heard the voice of God and you said 'Papa, I will obey you. I will do what you said.' Receive!

The Shofar – A Holy Calling

Let's hear from the Voice of Eternity, the Voice of God. Could you put that one picture up with that lady; I think she has a CD in her hand. See this lady right here? Now here is an interesting story...Carla and I went to France. When we went to France, we prepared to go to France by having one of the CD's made in the French language. I would not go on the trip without that CD because I couldn't share my faith, because I couldn't communicate in French, but I have a CD that can communicate in French. So we go to France, and we've got the CD with us. Do you see that CD in her hand? That is a French CD for that French speaking lady.

Now here's the neat part: We go into the shop and I have the shofar dangling like this. If you've got a shofar and don't have a strap, you need to get one, because you need that shofar to be seen when you're out in public. I just walk around like this; this is what we were doing in Rock Hill yesterday; just walking around and waiting to get somebody's attention. When they notice it, you make eye contact, and you just offer to *sound* it. And everybody always says "yes".

You blow the shofar according to the setting you're in. You don't go into a store and blast it and blow everybody out. You listen to the Holy Ghost, ok? So we're in this shop and I sounded it for her. *She instantly started to weep.* We could not communicate with her language, but God communicated with her. The shalom of God came in! Let me explain to you all that took place that day. Those of you who are already sounding the shofar, and those of you who will someday sound the shofar, you need to know why certain things will happen when you go out and obey God. These things will line up with the Word of God. Everything that God is in will line up with the Word or the character of God.

In Ecclesiastes 3:11, "Yet God has made everything beautiful in its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart."

That doesn't say in the saved human heart; that says He has planted eternity in the human heart. That means every person that was ever born has a place in their heart that's called eternity.

Isaiah 57:14-16, "For thus saith the high and lofty one that inhabits eternity."

So that place that's in the heart of every person that was ever born is there for a purpose for God to inhabit.

John 5:20, "And we know that the Son of God is come and hath given us an understanding, and we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true; even in his son Jesus. This is the true God and eternal life."

God is eternity. There's a place in every person that was ever born that belongs to God. Anybody who tries to inhabit is trespassing! That place belongs to God.

In the book of Revelation 1:10 it says, "I was in the spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a great voice as of a shofar."

That is the voice of God. That is the voice of eternity. So why does the shofar have the effect on people that makes them want to cry? When that which is like the voice of God is sounded, and the sound of the shofar goes forth, the voice of eternity connects to the place called eternity in the heart of man, and they recognize it. For those of you, who are already sounding the shofar, know that when you go forth and you release the shofar blast in the atmosphere, wherever there are people around, there is a place in them called eternity. As the voice of eternity goes forth, you set the stage for the Holy Spirit to go forth and connect to their heart.

She wept; because of the connection that was made with her in the spirit, even though we couldn't verbally communicate. She joyfully received the CD and she will listen to it. When she listens to the Gospel message on the CD, Jesus is lifted up. And Jesus said if I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me. How simple to share the Gospel! Like many of you, I'm a little on the shy side. I don't really care to be the center of attention. I don't really care to

communicate and talk to everybody I see, *but for the Gospel*.

Don't you just love the presence of God? It's so sweet. Here's the best part of it; you can take it with you everywhere you go. The Holy Spirit is with you. The Rock – the voice of God is with you. He just wants to release a breath of life. He wants to release a breath of life through you, to somebody out there, and touch that place called eternity so that they can come into the kingdom and have what you have. We don't want to be stingy with what we've got. We want to give away...give away. Part of what God has called us to do is to simplify the giving away – help make it easy for people to give the Gospel. These are outreach CD's. It's so simple to just hand them to people. What you do is listen to all of them so you know them like the back of your hand, and you say...*Holy Spirit lead my steps. Show me who to give this one to. Show me who to give that one to.* There have been times when I've reached for one of them, and the Holy Spirit said, "*No, give this one or that one.*"

Carla and I were ministering in Baltimore, Maryland. It was on a Sunday morning and it was an evangelistic message. I was literally begging the lost people in that building to come forward. I know they were there, and no matter how I pleaded and no matter what I said, they would not move. It was like they were glued. I'm standing behind the pulpit and I'm saying...*God, I can't stop. I know that there are lost people here, God. They need you!* Then I had this crazy thought.

I had never done this before, and I heard...*blow the ram horn*. Now he didn't say blow the Yemenite; that's the one everybody loves to hear, the joyful celebration. He didn't say to blow that one, and if I had done that I would have missed God. But he said blow the ram horn, and I thought...*God, that's crazy*. This is what you heard... (Shofar blowing: The cry of the ram horn going forth).

To my amazement, 12 people stood to their feet and ran (*didn't walk*), they ran down to the altar and they gave their lives to Jesus! When that happened I didn't have the understanding I have today, but when the ram horn was sounded in obedience, that which

is like the voice of God, the voice of eternity went out into the atmosphere and touched the place of eternity in all 12 of those people and drew them to the Father. There's nothing I could have done to bring them to the cross, but listen to the Holy Spirit and obey what He was telling us to do. That has never happened again since. Very seldom does God allow me to do the same thing twice. He doesn't want us falling into programs and patterns. If you're looking for patterns concerning the shofar, put your shofar away. I can't say it any plainer. People call me all the time...*what's the sound for this...what's the method for that...what's the system?* There isn't any system! Oh yes there is...it's the Holy Ghost! That's the only system...Holy Ghost. That's it...the Holy Spirit. Whatever he's speaking for that moment in time, whatever he's saying for that place or location.

If the shofar is new to you, there is so much I'm not going to be able to touch on today, but there's seven DVD's back on the table and two books that can help you if this is totally new to you.

There's a man by the name of Ron who lives in Chicago. A lady gave him the first book I wrote on the shofar called *The Ministry of the Shofar*. I didn't know this at the time, but Ron had been sounding the shofar in churches in Chicago for twenty years. Ron got a copy of this book, *The Ministry of the Shofar*, and he was reading how God would manifest and how people were getting healed, saved, delivered, how God was doing things as the shofar was sounded. As he read the book, he said...*God, I want it! God, I'm blowing the shofar out of obedience for twenty years, but God, I haven't seen you move like this.* Ron called me. He drove out to my house. We met. I gave him the other book, *The Shofar & The Voice of God*. Then I gave him a 5-DVD set. Ron took those books and read them. Ron knows the testimonies on those DVD's better than I do. He can recite to you every story, what happened, how people were healed. Ron called me one day about 30 days after I gave him the stuff. He said, "*Jim, I've got to tell you what happened.*" He said, "*You know I'm a carpet cleaner. I was cleaning carpet the other day in a Jewish neighborhood. As I was working in the neighborhood, the Holy Spirit said...get out*

your shofar and sound it. So he's at the back of his van and gets the shofar out...and plays it. Some of the young Jewish kids in the neighborhood were applauding; they loved it. There's a lady up on her front porch cleaning out a rug; a Jewish lady and she has a vision of Jesus. As the shofar was released, as Ron was obedient to release that which is like the voice of God, the voice of eternity touched that lady and she had a vision of Jesus. I share that with you to let you know that all things are possible with God, and it could be any one of you who sounds the shofar, then goes into a specific place that God says to go to, and boom, a vision of Jesus!

Last night I shared with you how God may send you to a city and revival breaks out! Do not take the call to sound the shofar lightly. It's the gospel and it leads people to Christ, and that is what the sound of the shofar is all about. If there's no emphasis on the shofar leading people to Christ, put it away.

Then on another day the same man, Ron, calls me again. He said, *"Jim, I was driving through one of the busiest streets in downtown Chicago. And as I was driving the Holy Spirit said to pull over. So I pulled over and then the Holy Spirit said...get out your shofar and sound it."* (Shofar sounding)

I'm going to tell you something; this fellow can sound the shofar. When he sounds it, you're waiting for the King to come. When he sounds it, it's like an announcement the King is coming. There was a Muslim man standing on the corner. You never know who is in ear distance to hear. Remember Nehemiah 4:20, in the place where you hear the sound of the shofar, our God will fight for us. The Muslim man had a vision of Jesus. That's never happened to me. I've never sounded the shofar and seen that particular manifestation happen. Ron considers me a spiritual father. Just because I haven't experienced it, it doesn't mean that he can't. God used those two books and DVD's and mentored him.

I'm just going to bounce all over the map if that's ok. One of the questions that I hear all of the time is...*why doesn't my shofar sound like your shofar?* Now this is something that a few people are knowledgeable about but it's a reality. In the Yemenite Shofar,

only one out of ten makes a good sound. Probably one out of 25 makes a good sound and has a large mouth piece to where it's easy to sound. And so the chances of somebody going online and getting one like that quality are maybe one out of thirty or something. Most Yemenite Shofars are hard to sound because the mouthpiece is so small. You can struggle to get your lips into them, and they're hard to play. If you can't get your lips in it, you can't play it, and that's discouraging. Many people called to sound the shofar quit before they even get started because they have an inferior instrument and it's difficult to play.

Now the ram horns, on the other hand, are even harder to play and you've got to get at least a 24" ram horn so the mouth piece is big enough to get your lips on it. Those little tiny ones that you see on TV programs and freebies, the mouth pieces are so tiny; a child has a problem getting their lips in them. It's very, very, very difficult to play.

This is a little bit of a humorous situation. We sent a ram horn to a man one time. He got it and called me. He was really chewing me out for sending him junk. I mean he was really giving me the riot act; the bottom line. This was a Christian by the way giving me the riot act. As I'm getting chewed out, I heard a child in the background. As I heard that child, the Holy Spirit said...*ask him if there's a child in the room.* And I did, and he said yes. I said, "*Would you allow that child to try to blow that ram horn?*" (Ram horn sounding).

You talk about an embarrassing moment. That child picked up that ram horn and made it sound, but you see, a child's lips are tiny. The child's lips fit; the adult's lips did not fit. Unfortunately, when most people are shopping for shofars, they shop budget and they shop cheap. What I've learned with almost anything in life, if you shop cheap, you get cheap. Do you know what? I don't serve a cheap God. My God owns cattle on a thousand hills. The gold and silver all belongs to Him, and I always suggest to somebody to do it one time. I've had people who have called us and ended up buying five shofars before they got the one they really should have

gotten to begin with. If they had just prayed about it, I believe that they would have gotten the right one they were supposed to have.

And so anyway, don't be discouraged. Check your shofar and make sure it's capable of doing what it's supposed to do, and it's not you. If you need to get another one, then get another one, so you can do it the right way.

One of the things that you don't want to do is introduce the shofar in a congregation to be used in the flow of worship that makes a terrible sound. If it makes a flat key off key, monotone blah type sound, they're going to throw you out! How do I know? Been there! I've been there, done that. We've got to be wise in the sounding of the shofar. We've got to be wise in the introducing of the shofar in congregations. It's new and unfortunately when things are new, we can make mistakes. For example, shofar sounders don't show up at church a half hour before service starts and start blasting the shofar when the pastor is in his study preparing to do the message. That's a disruption. People have been asked to leave churches because of that. You see, like any other gift, there's protocol. We have to shepherd the gift; not throw the gift out. Shepherd the gift.

Shofar sounders are to be set apart. Consecrated for God. Set apart for God. Set apart from your job. Set apart from religion. Set apart from even your ministry. You belong to God, just like the other gifts. If you're a gift given to the Body of Christ as an apostle, prophet, pastor, evangelist or teacher, you don't belong to you. You belong to God. The calling of the shofar is a serious matter; it's a holy calling. It is. It's a holy calling. The shofar is nothing but a horn of an animal. It is not holy. It is not sacred. The person who uses it is. And the One they represent is holy. Do not allow a shofar to be made into an idol. Do not allow you, the one who uses the shofar, to be made into an idol. Folks, I am just Jim. I am nobody special; I'm just somebody who says "Yes Lord", ok? People want to put me up on a pedestal – *the shofar man has arrived!* Yes, that is the name that God gave me, but I don't need a name. You don't need a name. God knows your name, and if God wants to change

your name, then let Him change it, but don't you change it. If God wants you to have a title, then let God give you a title. Don't you give you a title! Where did that come from?! That's interesting...

I would encourage never to hesitate to go where God tells you to go. When it comes to sounding the shofar, dancing, using flags, prophesying, laying hands on the sick, or any other gift of the Holy Spirit, allow God to send you and use you.

Here are some protocols and guidelines. This is a message that I taught on a couple of years ago for the very first time. I only did it because I was seeing so much division happen because of the shofar within local congregations. I mean congregations were getting split wide open because of the shofar. It was not only because of the shofar, but because of flags, because of dance (dance is a sin). Ask that good old boy. There need to be protocols, and protocols will generally be developed by the visionary that God has placed over a specific part of the body. Somebody is in church under Jesus and the Holy Ghost, but somebody has to make the decision as to how we do certain things. Some take an offering this way, some dance it up, some do this... there's nothing in scripture that says it has to be this way or that way. That's when we run into problems when there's no clear cut definition to something. Then we want to do it our way and we want it to be the only way, and we want everybody else to do it our way, but we're supposed to do it Yahweh's way! Amen? In some congregations you are only allowed to sound the shofar at the beginning of the service. It is used as a call to worship.

We were a part of one church and it was really neat; it had a balcony. We had four shofareems up in the balcony, and one would sound, and about five seconds later the other would sound, five seconds later the other would sound, five seconds later the other would sound. By that time the first one would stop and he would resound. We would go around the room that way. It was powerful!

In another church, you can sound the shofar anytime...*anytime*. Neither case is right nor is neither case wrong. In some churches you can sound a shofar before a song; you can sound it after the

song, but they don't want you sounding it during the song. Some worship teams feel distracted when you sound the shofar during the song. So if we're going to esteem one another as shofar sounders, as flaggers, as dancers, we should always be asking ourselves: *Is me using my gift at the moment going to inhibit or take away from what God is doing in this service?*

Do you know you can squelch the move of the Holy Spirit by blowing the ram horn at the wrong time? But then again you can enhance the move of the Holy Spirit by blowing it at the right time. Well how do you know? You've got to spend time with God. You can't get a pattern from Jim, and you can't get a pattern from anybody else. You have got to spend time with God!

I had a Rabbi call me from New York one time, and heard me sound the shofar on different videos. I sounded it for this Rabbi over the phone, and he said to me, "*Jim, I want to tell you something. There is something in you when you sound the shofar; it's what's in you that's coming out.*" It's the word of God.

If you're going to be a shofareem, you've got to have the word of God in you. You've got to be filled with God and the Spirit of God, Rach Ha Kodesh, the Holy Spirit. If all you're doing is blowing the shofar, and you aren't reading the word, and you aren't spending time with God, put it away. If you've got anger in you, get rid of it before you blow that shofar.

Some worship teams feel distracted when the shofar is sounded during a song; it throws them off. But on the other hand, I have sounded the shofar in many a church and many a service, and the level of worship shot up like a crescendo. And people's hands went up and they would come to me and thank me...*thank you for doing that.* How do you know when to do it? Spend time with God by the Spirit.

Who's right, who's wrong? Remember, it's a matter of personal preference, and it is the senior minister who gets to set the stage in the part of the body where God has made them the lead shepherd. There are some places that people would like it if you

never sounded the shofar, and there's other places where they'll say...*brother, anytime! ANYTIME!* Here's the bottom line, it's the visionary's decision to set the protocol for that part of the body.

I got an email from a couple. They said we were reprimanded by a worship team leader because our shofar was off key and it caused a disruption. Remember what I said about the quality of a shofar? If you want to use the shofar during the worship experience, find a good quality shofar that makes a good quality sound that has half a chance of flowing with the worship experience so you can be an enhancement to the worship experience. The average shofar will not enhance the worship experience, so don't defeat yourself by trying to blow with the worship experience with an inferior tool that is not made to do that and it is incapable of it.

But on the other hand, the tower of Babel was built by man's intellect, and man's perfection, and man's idea of what was right, and God did not like it. We must be careful as worship teams and worship leaders, and as leaders that we don't block out the Holy Spirit by our perfection. God isn't after perfection! He's after our worship. He's after our gifts that he's put within us. And I'm not saying that you're not supposed study to show yourself approved, or we're not supposed to practice our keyboards and all our other equipment. Yes we are. We're to do the best we can, but we've got to be careful that we don't become entertainers in the house of God. As a worship team or any other ministry, we could build something for God, and he's not even in it.

I remember being in some services with the most talented people I've ever seen who could play almost anywhere in the world, and there was no unction. There was no Holy Spirit. So there's a balance. Just as shofareems need to respect the worship experience, so does the worship experience need to respect the gift of the shofareem. That's what unity is all about, being one working together, learning how to flow together. One of the big problems with the shofar and other gifts, is that we're trying to incorporate them all between the wall stuff, when what the shofar really needs to be used is to be out there where the rubber meets the road. And

it doesn't matter how you squeal that thing; it doesn't matter how bad of a sound it makes, it's just that it makes a sound because you're releasing that which is like the voice of God into the atmosphere. And you can connect into the place called eternity, in somebody's heart. So don't make it the prize that you're able to sound the shofar in the house of God as part of the worship team. Make it the prize that you can go out to city hall and sound the shofar! Don't make it the prize that you can prophesy to Brother Jones or Sister Sally in the house of God. Make it the prize that you can prophesy to the mayor. Make it the prize that you can prophesy to the police officer. Make it the prize that you can prophesy in a high school.

We were in a Wednesday night service about two years ago, maybe a little longer now. During that time a holy hush hit; the worship team went silent. Quiet. And an old man in a rough gravelly voice started to worship his God. It was off key. It was monotone. It was gravelly, but oh was the anointing all over this man. I sat there and listened and thought...oh my brother, most places would have kicked you out. Most places a senior minister or an usher would have come up alongside and say...*quiet down brother...just quiet down*. I've seen that happen. I've seen the prophetic word come forth and God be in it, and an usher or a minister would say...*just bring it down...just bring it down*.

There's another side to that. There are times where those who get up to prophesy and they are out of order. They are out of order and you know it. How do you know it? You know it because you spend time with God. And when you spend time with God, you know who else is spending time with God. It's only one spirit, only one God.

General Protocols and Guidelines

When a minister is speaking, do not sound your shofar. Do not get up and dance in front of him. Do not wave your flag in their face. Is there an exception? Yes, when the Holy Spirit says so. And if that minister is spending time with God, and you're spending time with God, the hearts will connect and the preparation has been

made and it will be in order.

There have been times when I have been in conferences where there's been hundreds and hundreds of people. I was not there as the minister to speak, but I always have my instrument of worship, my shofar, with me and I sound it as the Lord leads me. And I will tell you that it is not always comfortable in doing what God says to do. I remember a time where the speaker was speaking and this holy hush came in like a flood. In the middle of the holy hush, I sound my shofar. I don't recommend for anybody to do this unless you spend time with God. (Shofar playing)

That holy hush came, just like it just did now, went to another level. The speaker started to prophesy just as the ram horn was sounded...thus saith God. The next thing I know, people are down on their knees and faces everywhere...it was awesome. I remember running into the person who was hosting this in the elevator a few hours later. He said, "*Thank you brother. Thank you for obeying God.*"

But on two occasions, and I say this with you because as you try to learn and experience God, and learn obedience, you will have this happen. On two occasions my hand was smacked and I was told that's out of order. To this day, I don't know; did I miss it? I may have. Maybe it was out of man's order. It could have been out of God's order, but in using your gifts, don't allow correction to run you off. We said this earlier; there are no throwaways in the body of Christ. I need you. There's a body of Christ locally that needs your gift, your talents and your abilities. But I've been kicked out; I've been there. Get over it. It hurts. *I've been there. Get over it.* God didn't do anything to you. Don't blame God if man did something. Get over it. Find a place. We all need to be tied to some local flavor of the church; whether it's in a home or a building. We all need to be tied into something...something with God.

If you are in a church that has set protocols and the shofars are only to be sounded at the beginning of a song, or at the end of a song, then you need to follow the protocols in that church. One of the other problems we have as leaders, and I'm going to take

the fault for this too because I'm learning, we don't develop the protocols. And then we call somebody out of line, but we never inform them there was a protocol to begin with. That happens a lot with the gift of prophecy, and it happens with flags, and it happens with dance.

If you're in a church that does not allow the sounding of the shofar at all, then you don't sound the shofar *at all*. Am I saying that you should give up your gift? No, I didn't say that. But I will tell you this; there was a season when I set my shofar down for a year because God took me into a church to teach the people how to share their faith. In that church, the shofar was not part of the allowed protocol. Carla laid her gift of dance down because dance was not permitted within that church. We set them down because we were doing what God told us to do.

So no, you should not just give up your gift, but you need to find a place where the protocol allows for the gift if God has released you. And I say "IF"; you need to be led by God as to where you go to church. You may say...*well I go to this church because my brother and sister, cousin go there, etc...* No, you need to go to church where the Holy Spirit wants your gift to fit so that the body can be equipped and matured. You may be struggling someplace because you don't fit, and there's a part of the puzzle missing in another city to where you would plug in and fit perfectly, and you could be doing what God's called you to do.

Should I sound my shofar when I'm visiting a church for the first time? Be led of the Spirit. Should I ask for permission to sound my shofar when I'm visiting for the first time? Absolutely! I have done that, but there have been times when I was visiting a church for the very first time, and I left my shofar in the trunk of our rented car, and this song comes on. Just as it starts coming on, I run to the car (*and I mean run to the car*), and run back into the building with shofar in hand and let it rip. The pastor got up after worship and he said, "God spoke to me this morning and said that we were going to have a visiting minister; give him leeway." You see, the Holy Spirit will speak on both sides. So sometimes I leave my shofar in

the car; sometimes even when I leave it in the car, God has me go get it. Yes, you should ask permission if you're visiting someplace, but always stay in tune to the Holy Spirit. One thing I will tell you, anytime God's ever had me do that, He always shows up. *He always shows up*. Never sound a shofar when it will interfere with what somebody else is doing. Have respect of another's gift.

Should I sound the shofar during altar ministry? Were you asked to? Are you part of the altar ministry? I would say yes, but as the Spirit leads. You see, when people are getting prayed for they need to hear. They need to communicate to people praying for them, and sometimes the shofar can be an annoyance. Also, music too loud during a prayer time can be an annoyance and we have to bring it down when people are being prayed for.

It is not a good practice to continually sound the shofar repetitiously over people getting prayed for, over and over and over. It becomes a dead ritual.

Do people get healed when the shofar is sounded at times? Yes! Should you sound the shofar over somebody who needs a healing? As the Spirit leads; never just come up behind the prayer line and sound your shofar over and over and over again. Sound it as the Spirit of God leads you.

Is everyone called to sound the shofar? No. Is everybody called to wave a flag? No. Is everybody called to dance? Is everybody called to be an apostle? No. We're not all called to be and do the same, but some are called to sound the shofar, and those are the ones who are supposed to do it. *Well I'd just like to have one...I just want to do this...* Pray, and if it's God, you can't shake it. Let me tell you how I know; I tried to shake it. I didn't want to do this. I said, "*God, I am a full grown man. Why do you want me to blow through the horn of an animal?*" There was a little pride there. Pride stops people from answering the call when we give a call for people to come forward to sound the shofar. Intellect will stop people too. Pride and intellect will stop people from dancing or waving flags. It will stop you from sharing the Gospel.

Will everybody experience the same results when they sound the shofar? No. Ron has had two people have visions of Jesus that I know of, and I've never experienced that.

When Carla and I travel, we visit a lot of small towns and communities, and she likes stopping at little quaint places to shop, and that's what I do. Do you see the Lighthouse book Carla has in her hand (Real Life Stories)? When she goes into a store, she has one or two and sometimes three of those books tucked under her arm because she's not going in there to shop. She's going in there as a missionary. She's going in there to give somebody the Gospel. She may come out with a nice outfit or a little piece of jewelry; that's ok. My job is to make sure she has a book every time she goes into a store.

I'll also do things like this; I'll open the book up and put: *To you, this book has come a long way to find you. You can read our stories on pages 55 & 63.* I'll set that book in a strategic spot and I'll watch, and somebody always comes and picks it up. They may look around to make sure nobody is looking, but they always take it.

Here we are on some mountain top; I don't remember where, but just sounding the shofar over a mountain range and people will say...*hey what is that?* I'll give them a shofar tract and share the love of Jesus.

Look at those two young people. They are *happy* that Carla is giving them that book. They're smiling as they receive the Gospel.

Here we are in a restaurant. This is a lady waiting on our table. She got a book and then this girl walks out and says...*hey I want one of those books too!* So we gave her one.

This was an Italian restaurant and this lady came to the table, and we gave her a book. Carla ended up praying with her and she started weeping right there at the edge of the table. It was so powerful!

I said all that to say this, folks; I've never asked anybody to do something that I'm not about to do so myself. As ministers of the Gospel, we should never preach something that we aren't living. If we aren't living it, don't preach it. But it's not hard to share the Gospel. The truth of the matter is I am a loner. I am shy. I don't like talking to people, *but for the Gospel...but God*. If it wasn't for God, it wouldn't be happening. In the natural, I would not do this. In the natural, I would not choose to do this, *but God*. Because my heart - He changed my heart. He can change *anybody's* heart. Don't give up hope for that somebody...God can change anybody's heart.

In the book of Exodus, and I shared this the other day, but I want to do this again and I don't want you who already sound shofars, I don't want you to respond to this. I'm going to sound the shofar long and loud like it says in Exodus 19:16-19. When I sound the shofar, I would like everybody that doesn't sound a shofar just to say God, *are you calling me to sound the shofar to your glory? Are you calling me to be part of Gideon's army for this region or for my city and part of the 300 that will take the shofar and go out into the community for your glory?*

So as I sound the shofar, just ask Him. He'll say yes or no. Scripture says also my sheep hear my voice. That's a promise from God's word. We can hear from God. So just ask Him right now. *Are you calling me to sound the shofar for you?* You might even ask Him, *are you calling me to dance for you?* If you've never danced before, ask Him if he wants you to dance for Him. Or maybe even never waved flags before; ask Him. (Shofar sounding)

The Shofar Man



In 1996, God called, appointed, and anointed Jim Barbarossa to teach on and blow the Shofar from a Biblical Christian perspective. Since then, Jim has been asked to blow the Shofar to start conferences all over the world. As Jim sounds this ancient Hebrew instrument of repentance, praise, worship, and warfare, the awesome presence of God is experienced and healings, miracles, signs, and wonders follow. Jim has been a father and mentor helping to raise up thousands of shofar sounders all over the world, that God has called and anointed to be a part of His end time army.

As Carla Barbarossa worships the Lord in dance, the awesome holy presence of God is ushered in, and tears stream down the faces of many.



To schedule The Shofar Man to start your conference or event with the sounding of the Shofar or to teach on the Shofar, call 219-762-7589 or visit our websites at:

www.theshofarman.com

www.step-by-step.org