

Daily Bread with Brother Hwa-Chi (Not reviewed by the speaker, for personal use only)

Numbers 10: 8-10

Brothers and sisters, peace be with you, this is Hwa-Chi. Thank the Lord, it is time for our Bible reading again. We will continue to read Numbers chapter 10. Today, we are reading verses 8 through 10.

God commanded Moses to make two silver trumpets. Whether gathering the congregation or setting out in the wilderness, every movement was communicated through the sound of these silver trumpets, enabling the whole assembly of Israel to act as one. The church today operates the same way: there is a trumpet sound to gather and a trumpet sound to move forward. When we gather, we together proclaim Christ's salvation; when we move forward, we walk out a heavenly path in the midst of a dark world.

God commanded Moses to make the silver trumpets not only for their days in the wilderness, but also for their future life after entering the Promised Land. Whether in battle or in joyful celebration, blowing the trumpets served as a remembrance of God's protection and blessing.

Yesterday we read about the two trumpets, which were for the journey through the wilderness. In the age of the Kingdom, they will become seven trumpets, and in eternity, they will become 120 trumpets. Therefore, blowing the silver trumpets of redemption will be our eternal banner, testifying throughout our lives that since Jesus Christ saved us, He will save us to the uttermost—carrying us through the Kingdom age and all the way into the eternal new heaven and new earth.

Verse 8: "The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets; and these shall be to you as an ordinance forever throughout your generations."

Aaron had two sons, Eleazar and Ithamar, who both served as priests. In the wilderness, they were the ones who blew these two silver trumpets. Moving forward, only those among their descendants who served as priests were permitted to blow the trumpets, establishing this as a perpetual statute forever throughout their generations.

When the Israelites entered the Promised Land to inherit their possession, the priests were still required to blow the trumpets. The sound of redemption's trumpet was to become an integral part of Israel's daily life. Whether marching through the wilderness, engaging in battle upon entering the Good Land, or enjoying the abundance of their inheritance, the priests had to blow the trumpets to commemorate all that God had done for Israel.

Priests serve God, so having them blow the trumpets set this act apart as holy. The sound of the trumpet represented the voice of God, governing the entire life of the Israelites. Earthly armies are commanded by human generals, where trumpeters sound the horn at a general's order. In contrast, the army of Jehovah follows God's direction, and the priests sound the trumpets at God's command—meaning that God Himself fights for Israel.

During the golden era of Israel, the people obeyed God's direction and God fought on their behalf. It was only through this that Israel was able to enter and possess the Promised Land, and establish the Kingdom of Israel under King David's leadership. Whenever the Israelites disobeyed God and tried to fight in their own strength, the nation fell into ruin, and the people were carried away into captivity among foreign lands.

When the priests blew the trumpets, it served as a reminder to the Israelites that hearing the sound meant remembering the sign of redemption, and that they must never depart from this foundation. Redemption not only initiated Israel's path of following God, but this foundation was meant to accompany them continually until God's eternal purpose was fulfilled. This is even more true for New Testament saints. As Paul stated in Titus 3:5, "not by works of righteousness which we have

done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,”

Although regeneration happens only once, the washing of regeneration is continuous and lifelong. Every washing brings about a renewal by the Holy Spirit, increasing our faith and maturing our life until we attain the full measure of the stature of Christ.

Verse 9: “When you go to war in your land against the enemy who oppresses you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, and you will be remembered before the LORD your God, and you will be saved from your enemies.”

After the Israelites entered the Promised Land, enemies would oppress them and wage war against them. At those times, the priests were to blow an urgent trumpet call. On one hand, this trumpet blast warned the Israelites to rise up and fight; on the other hand—and more importantly—it called all Israel to submit to God so that they would be remembered by Him. God would then rise up to fight on their behalf, saving them from the hands of their enemies.

This was illustrated when Joshua led the Israelites into the Good Land. Before attacking their first city, Jericho, “a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand”. Joshua did not know who He was, so he asked Him, “Are You for us or for our adversaries?” In Joshua 5:14, “So He said, ‘No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.’ And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, ‘What does my Lord say to His servant?’” Recognizing that Jehovah was the Commander of Israel’s battles, Joshua immediately knelt down in worship, and he subsequently conquered the city of Jericho in a most marvelous way.

The silver trumpets of the priests declared that Israel would triumph through redemption, because God Himself would fight for them. The same principle applies to New Testament saints. Paul wrote in Ephesians 6:12, “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers

of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Therefore, we cannot rely on ourselves to fight and win; we must rely on the Lord as the Commander of our battle.

Hebrews 2:14–15 says, “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” Christ has already destroyed the devil—who had the power of death—through His own death. Christ has conquered; as long as we stand on His victorious position, we can triumph over the enemy alongside Him.

It is just as Paul declared in Romans 8:37–39: “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Out of love, Christ died and rose again for us, and now sits at the right hand of the Father's throne, continually caring for us.

Dear brothers and sisters, do you see the efficacy of Christ's redemption? This redemption does not stop at receiving grace, being saved, and having our sins forgiven. It carries us through the storms of life and shields us from Satan's accusations during spiritual warfare, enabling us to declare loudly alongside Paul: “We are more than conquerors!”

Verse 10: “Also in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; and they shall be a memorial for you before your God: I am the LORD your God.”

After entering the Promised Land, the Israelites were not only protected by God in battle and delivered from their enemies, but they were also to possess the land,

receive God's blessings, and enjoy fat herds and abundant harvests. On their days of gladness, they were to offer sacrifices of thanksgiving to God according to the ordinances for the appointed feasts and new moons set forth by Moses. As they presented their burnt offerings and peace offerings to God, they were also required to blow the trumpets as a reminder that God is the source of every blessing.

The burnt offering was completely consumed upon the altar to bring satisfaction to God. The peace offering was a sacrifice shared between God and man: the portion belonging to God was burned on the altar, the portion for the priests was enjoyed by them, and the remaining portion was enjoyed by the offeror, his family, and his friends. It was a feast of celebration and joy.

The Israelites were required to blow the trumpets during these joyful celebrations because God is the ultimate source of blessing. Once a person receives redemption, they can experience unceasing joy. Hearing the trumpets called the Israelites to rejoice together with God. The same is true for New Testament saints. Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

By sending His only begotten Son to shed His blood and lay down His life to accomplish redemption, God established His will for every child of His to “rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks”—this is the natural outcome of redemption. Jesus also instituted the Lord's Supper at the Last Supper, calling saved saints to eat the bread and drink the cup in remembrance of Him whenever they gather. At such times, how could we not sound the silver trumpets to praise the grace of His redemption?

Dear brothers and sisters, today we are all priests of the New Testament gospel. Every Lord's Day during worship, blowing the trumpet is our duty. We ought to lift our voices in loud praise, sounding the trumpet of salvation to draw those around us who do not yet know the gospel to come and celebrate with us.

Finally, Moses added the phrase, “I am the Lord your God.” Our whole lives are under God's sovereign control. Since He gave us His only begotten Son, how could

He not guide us all the way to the end of our journey? Therefore, we are filled with gratitude, knowing that God is in control of all things, for “He is the Lord our God.”

Let us pray together: Lord, we thank You. Because You shed Your blood and laid down Your life for us, we have received grace and salvation. As we grow in life, we not only hold the identity of priests, but we also function in the priestly ministry. Help us to boldly sound the silver trumpets of salvation whenever saints gather. May this bring thanksgiving and praise to You on one hand, and cause the sound of the trumpet to spread to the neighbors around the church on the other, so they may know that the church stands here exalting the trumpet of redemption. We pray that every child of peace belonging to God will return to God’s home soon. Please lead the church in her way forward. We offer these prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings in the holy name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.