The SHOFAR - OVERVIEW



Kudu Shofar

The Ram's Horn Shofar is one of the earliest musical instruments known to man. It is used to usher in the biblical festivals of Israel. The ancient Hebrews made a shofar from the horn of an animal like a ram, a goat or sheep.

<u>The Yemenite Shofar</u> is from an antelope called a Kudu. These shofars are used in

our modern day culture. They vary in size with some being guite long.

Sounding of the SHOFAR

- TE'KI'AH a long blast. Call to Worship
- SH'VA'RIM 3 medium blasts. Repentance & Brokenness
- **TE'RU'AH** 9 short, staccato blasts. Awaken the soul that still slumbers. **Warfare & Victory Celebration**
- TE'KI'AH GE'DO'LAH: an extra long single blast. It is the jubilee note extended as long as one can blow... and represents the great last trumpet sound when the LORD returns as King when we who are saved receive new bodies and receive our ultimate healing. Healing - Catching Away (Rapture)

<u>PSALM 150:3</u>..."Praise him with the "BLAST" of the "SHOFAR". The Shofar is always associated with a powerful move of God. (**WORSHIP**)

<u>ISAIAH 58:1; Hosea 8:1; Joel 2:1...</u> Repentance - a broken, moaning, and crying sound, signifying that we are broken before the LORD. (**REPENTANCE**)

<u>GIDEON'S ARMY</u>...brought confusion to the camp of the enemy with the sounding of 300 SHOFARS that they began to kill one another in their retreat. (**WARFARE**) Judges 7:15-22

JOSHUA...with the shout and the blowing of the Shofars caused the 25- foot thick,



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heavily fortified walls of the ancient city of Jericho to crumble and fall to the ground like dust. (WARFARE) Joshua 6

VOICE OF GOD... Exodus 19:19, Revelation 1:10; 4:1

In ancient Hebrew: when the Bridegroom went to claim his Bride, the attendants would announce the coming of the Bridegroom with the sounding of the Shofar and a proclamation, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh." This happens again at the return of Christ.

KOSHER

A shofar is kosher if it's made from the natural horn of a kosher animal (excluding cows and deer), has the inner bone and cartilage removed, is free from holes, cracks, and plugs, and isn't treated with foreign materials like glue or lacquer. The shofars' sound must also be pure, and it must be prepared by a Jewish person in a traditional manner for use.

CERTIFICATION

Hechsher: While not always required, many shofars come with a kosher certification, or Hechsher, which verifies that the horn is from the correct animal and that all the necessary preparation steps have been followed.

 Hechsher - Kosher Certification: A kosher shofar will have a certification mark, or Hechsher, indicating that it meets all the strict religious requirements and that the production was supervised.

SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Ram's Horn:

The ram's horn is particularly significant due to its connection to the Torah story of Isaac's binding, where a ram was sacrificed instead of Abraham's son, Isaac.

Bending Before God:

The process of bending the horn during creation is symbolic of the need for the human heart to be humbled and "bent" before the LORD.

