

Assembly of Called-Out Believers Breakdown and Blessing of the Shofar Blasts

There are four different sounds associated with the blowing of the shofar during the Yom Teruah service. These sounds are interpreted as follows:

- **Tekiah** - A pure unbroken sound that calls man to search his heart, abandon his evil ways, and seek forgiveness through repentance.
- **Shevarim** - Three trembling notes typifying sorrow that for wrongdoing and desire for change.
- **Teruah** - Nine very short notes sounding one after the other, like sobbing.
- **Tekiah Gedolah** - The prolonged, unbroken sound typifying a final invitation for Messiah to return to a repentant and perfect people.

These four sounds form a set, called a Tekiyot of shofar blasts. In the sounding of the Shofar the Tekiah is 1 blast, the Shevarim is 3 wavering continuous blasts, and the Teruah is 9 staccato blasts.

The repetition of these sounds is for the purposed of penetrating deep into the recesses of man's being to bring a complete change of heart and complete reconciliation with our heavenly Father.

Principles of Shofar Blowing

The commandment is to hear the shofar blowing in order to fulfill the mitzvah (commandment).

The shofar blower recites two blessings; the community must **listen to the blessings and respond, "Amen"**; to each one.

One should stand during the recitation of the blessings and for all of the shofar blasts. It is forbidden to speak from the beginning of the first blessing until after the final shofar blast (at the end of Mussaf).

Before the shofar is sounded, the Baal Tokea (the shofar blower) prepares himself for his task of blowing the shofar for the congregation and says "I am prepared to fulfill God's commandment to blow the shofar, as it is prescribed in the Torah, 'a day of blowing unto you.'"

The Baal Tokea then recites the following blessing: *Baruch atah YaHaVaH Eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher kidishanu bemitzvotav vetzvivanu leshemoa kol shofar.*

Blessed are You, YaHaVaH, our God, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with your commandments and has instructed us to hear the shofar.

1 3 9 1
tekiah, shevarim-teruah, tekiah = 14
tekiah, shevarim, tekiah =5
tekiah, teruah, tekiah =11

tekiah, shevarim-teruah, tekiah
tekiah, shevarim, tekiah
tekiah, teruah, tekiah

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tekiah, shevarim, tekiah
tekiah, teruah, tekiah

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tekiah, shevarim, tekiah
tekiah, teruah, tekiah

tekiah, shevarim-teruah, tekiah
tekiah, shevarim, tekiah
tekiah, teruah...

Tekiah G'dolah (The final long blast declares the full and complete extension of God's glory and domain!)