

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
IN CHRIST JESUS.*

(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)

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2014: The Sound of a Tumult!

The last issue dealt with the word for 2014 that tumult is coming. This issue continues along this line with the message being that tumult has both positive and negative implications.

At its core, the word *tumult* means "a swelling or surging up," something that is similar to a raging sea where the waves are surging forth and creating great swells. In regards to people, it is likened to an uproar coming forth from a noisy commotion, as of a crowd, and speaks of confusion, agitation, disturbance of mind or feeling. As shared previously, I first heard a humming sound (a hum) and then the Lord reinforced it or, rather, explained it by telling me *tumult is coming*, and it did come. The definitions and the transliterated spellings of the Hebrew words make the connection between a hum and tumult. It is a noise associated with agitation, uproar, murmur, crying, etc. Something occurs to bring out great emotional disturbances.

According to *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, one of the primary Hebrew root words for *tumult* is **hamah [H1993]**, which means "to make a loud sound (like the English "hum"); by implication to be in great commotion or tumult, to rage, war, moan, clamor." *Brown-Driver-Brigg's Hebrew Definitions* (BBD) defines *hamah* as "to murmur, growl, roar, cry aloud, mourn, rage, sound, make noise, tumult, be clamorous, be disquieted, be loud, be moved, be troubled, be in uproar." A search of scripture reveals that all these words or phrases are used to translate this Hebrew word as discovered in 1 Kings 1:41; Psalm 39:6; 42:5, 11; 43:5; 46:3, 6; 55:17; 59:6, 14; 77:3; 83:2; Proverbs 1:21; 7:11; 9:13; 20:1; Isaiah 16:11; 17:12; 22:2; 51:15; 59:11; Jeremiah 4:19; 5:22; 6:23; 31:20, 35; 48:36; 50:42; 51:55; Ezekiel 7:16; Zechariah 9:15. Derived from *hamah* is the word **hamon [H1995]**, which means "a noise, tumult, crowd; also disquietude, wealth: - abundance, company, many, multitude, multiply, noise, riches, rumbling, sounding, store, tumult" (*Strong's*), and is discovered in 2 Samuel 18:29; Job 39:7; Psalm 65:7; Isaiah 13:4; 33:3; Jeremiah 3:23; 10:13; 51:16; Daniel 10:6.

The other primary Hebrew root word for *tumult* is **hum (hoom) [H1949]**, which means "to make an uproar, or agitate greatly: - destroy, move, make a noise, put, ring again" (*Strong's*), and is discovered in Deuteronomy 7:23; 1 Samuel 4:5; 1 Kings 1:45; Psalm 55:2; Micah 2:12. Derived from *hum* is the word **mehumah [H4103]**, which means "tumult, confusion, uproar, discomfiture, destruction, trouble, vexed, or vexation," and is discovered in Deuteronomy 7:23; 1 Samuel 5:9, 11; 14:20; 28:20; 2 Chronicles 15:5; Proverbs 15:16; Isaiah 22:5; Ezekiel 7:7; 22:5; Amos 3:9; Zechariah 14:13.

To round this out, there are other Hebrew words translated into the word *tumult*, such as **shaon [H7588]** (e.g., Amos 2:2; Jeremiah 51:55), meaning "uproar (as of rushing)."

Now, let us consider some verses that contain these words, recognizing that, among the many translations, words other than *tumult* are used for the same Hebrew words.

My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise [H1993; hamah] in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. (Jeremiah 4:19 Webster)

(6) "Surely every man walks about as a phantom; surely they make an uproar [H1993; hamah] for nothing; he amasses riches and does not know who will gather them. (7) "And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You." (Psalm 39:6-7 NASB)

Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed [H1993; *hamah*] within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him for the help of His presence. (Psalm 42:5 NASB)

In these three verses, we discover that the disturbance or tumult was within the soul of the Lord's people. Jeremiah's soul lamented over Judah's devastation. David despaired over what he was experiencing in the presence of the wicked, and, in this despair, he saw man as a mere breath even though he walks around making an uproar or tumult. This should remind us of Psalm 2: **Why are the nations in an uproar?** The Hebrew word used here is *ragash*, which means "to be tumultuous." Those of the spirit of Mystery Babylon are amassers of great riches, but their day of tumult is coming. Our souls might be in an uproar, that is, in tumult, as our present-day Babylonian system falls, but we must be like David: Why despair, O my soul. My hope is in the Lord Jesus, the King of kings who is coming to establish His iron rule over the nations.

When He utters His voice, there is a tumult [H1995; *hamon*] of waters in the heavens, and He causes the clouds to ascend from the end of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain, and brings out the wind from His storehouses. (Jeremiah 10:13 NASB)

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His body also was like beryl, his face had the appearance of lightning, his eyes were like flaming torches, his arms and feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a tumult [H1995; *hamon*]. (Daniel 10:6 NASB)

Personally, I like these verses, for they speak of the mighty voice of the Lord. When He utters His voice, there is tumult; even the sound of His word is likened to tumult. Great change comes in the heavens above and on the earth below. Dear people of God, as the Day approaches for the Word of God in the form of God's Son to manifest Himself upon the earth among the nations, there will be tumult. The good news is that this tumult is a sign of His coming. O, soul, why be in despair, for our Lord and Savior comes. Christ who is our life is our hope or expectation, for we will be with Him in glory (1 Timothy 1:1; 2 Timothy 1:1; Colossians 3:4).

I will, surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee, I will, surely gather, the remnant of Israel, at once, will I make them like sheep in distress,—like a flock in the midst of its pasture, shall they hum [H1949; *hum*] with men.... (Micah 2:12 Rotherham)

This is the only translation I could find that uses the word *hum* for H1949. This is a wonderful verse of restoration. According to Micah, judgment was coming upon Israel and Judah and all would suffer, even those who suffered at the hands of the wicked. Their wounds were incurable, and God's people had arisen as His enemy. But in the midst of this dire prophecy, Micah is given a word of encouragement that the Lord will gather together a remnant of His people, and the flock or pasture will hum with men. Some translations state: They will be noisy with men.

It is sort of fascinating that when Jane Fonda was asked about her faith, she responded: "*For several years prior, I had begun to feel I was being led. I felt a presence, a reverence humming within me. It was and is difficult to articulate.*" Perhaps, as the final judgment comes upon Mystery Babylon, God's people will have a reverence humming within them as a sign of being gathered together unto the Lord as His flock, even as they are in the midst of distress and the rest of the world is in an uproar. Just a thought!

'Your doom has come to you, O inhabitant of the land. The time has come, the day is near—tumult [H4103; *mehumah*] rather than joyful shouting on the mountains. (Ezekiel 7:7 NASB)

Ezekiel warned the land of Israel: "**A disaster, unique disaster, behold it is coming!**" The day of tumult was coming. Where are we on God's prophetic clock? Is the hour late? Do you hear the sound of His voice, the tumult of the Lord? Is there a hum resonating within you? **Behold, tumult is coming! Behold, Jesus comes!**