

Day of Atonement

Series Overview Passover- Lamb of God slain Unleavened Bread- The sinless one buried without decay
First fruits- the first of a great Harvest to come Weeks/Pentecost- the Gift of the Holy Spirit Summer
Months- Time of the Gentiles Fall Feasts... Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) The Rapture Today...we
look at the Highest Holy Day on the Jewish Calendar The Day of Atonement (AKA the Day of Judgment)
The Day on the Prophetic Calendar...when the Nation of Israel...returns and surrenders to Jesus

Going to the Principal's Office

I couldn't undo my mistake...my sin So the best I could do was to try to cover it up Not to deny
it...but to try to offset it in some way To make up for it. But no matter how hard I tried to cover it...it
was still there. In many ways...the visit to the Principal's office...was just a foreshadowing of the real
event The real event...was when I would go home.... And try to atone for my sin... With my Day...My
Father. That was the real show.

The problem was... Whether it was the Principal of the School... Or my Parents....The best I could
hope for was to cover up what I had done I couldn't undo it...I couldn't make it go away..

I learned that there were two parts to my mistakes...my sins.. The punishment... And the guilt
The punishment was over quickly...but the guilt could last forever

I would be willing to guess... That I am not alone. For many of us..the guilt of our past... Maybe
the guilt of what we did yesterday... Preoccupies our thoughts... We've rationalized..tried to
cover up what we have done Perhaps the immediate punishment was long ago.. But the guilt
of that moment...continues to punish you

If that is you... I'm glad your here.. You see God knew...He knew that there were two parts
to sin The punishment...and the guilt Jesus came so that you and I could be free of both And
the Day of Atonement....is a reminder to us.. That we can be free of our past....guilt and all

Last week we learned about the Feast of Trumpets The Shofar announcing the 1st Day of the 7th
Month A warning to everyone...but particularly the Jewish People That the Holiest Day of the
Year...was just 10 days away

The Jewish People believe that God's Court is in Session For the first 10 days of this month...The
Days of Awe They believe that the Book of Life is opened and God is reviewing If they are not right
with God..if their name is not in the Book of Life

They believe they have 10 days to make things right Rather than depending upon animal
sacrifices... Today they depend upon charitable acts and acts of service.

These ten days are serious days of Reflection... They are to examine themselves...confess any
sins...

Then on the 10th Day of Tishri...The Day of Atonement... The Holiest Day of the year The Day
when the book of life is sealed for another year The Day once each year...when the High
Priest...went to meet with God

The Day when the High Priest... Carrying the blood of an innocent sacrificial animal Step
through the curtain...into the Holiest Place And use the blood to cover the sins of the Jewish
Nation

Each year...The High Priest...would cover the sins But it would only last for a moment...
Thousands of animals would be sacrificed during the year To keep covering the sins of the
people.

Day of Atonement

Leviticus 23:26–32 (ESV) 26 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 27 “Now on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be for you a time of holy convocation, and you shall afflict yourselves and present a food offering to the LORD. 28 And you shall not do any work on that very day, for it is a Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God.

You shall afflict yourself...repeated To afflict oneself usually means fasting But it is not just abstaining from food... It is the attitude and heart that surrenders during a fast

No work..solemn rest...repeated A holy convocation...a Holy Gathering...A dress rehearsal A day of atonement

The Day of Atonement...Yom Kippur Kippur comes from a Hebrew word meaning "To Cover"

Thus, the word atonement simply means a covering Yom Kippur was an Appointed Time set apart by God Where the Jewish nation...atoned...Covered the previous years sins

God has always demanded that only blood covers sins

Leviticus 17:11 (ESV) 11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.

Leviticus 23:26–32 (ESV) 29 For whoever is not afflicted on that very day shall be cut off from his people. 30 And whoever does any work on that very day, that person I will destroy from among his people. 31 You shall not do any work. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. 32 It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. On the ninth day of the month beginning at evening, from evening to evening shall you keep your Sabbath.”

Key part of this day...Fasting and Sabbath Denying yourself and your desires No food...no work... Not just a day of rest... A day of solemn rest... Sabbath with a purpose In fact they called this day.. The Sabbath of all Sabbath's A holy appointed day with God

For a specific purpose... To deal with sins individually... But also as a nation A holy convocation...a Holy Gathering with an expectation Statute for all times and all places

So on the 10th Day of Tishri- the 7th Month The attention of the nation of Israel... Turned to the Temple...and the High Priest Temple Celebration

The High Priest

The High Priest was isolated for the 7 days before Yom Kippur To avoid any chance of him becoming ceremonially unclean During that week...He practiced over and over...each aspect of his duties The sprinkling of blood with his thumb and forefinger burning incense...lighting the Menorah Practicing his movements..

Any mistake would be a monumental catastrophe... Representing humiliation for the nation Their sacrifices would be disqualified.. Their sins would remain uncovered

The High priest wore a Majestic purple robe It was hemmed with golden bells so that people could hear him work He wore a golden breastplate...with 12 precious stones..one for each tribe of Israel. Priest garment photo

This day was all about the shedding of blood Just like at Trumpets they blew the trumpet over 100 times On this day..additional animal sacrifices were made... The message of this day...Something is going to pay for your sins.. It is innocent blood...that covers sins.

Following the Morning Service... He would change into his white linen garments. These white linen garments are considered Holy They were worn only on this day and never again Five times during the day he meticulously followed the same cleansing ceremony Washed his hands and feet...removed his garments...totally immersed his body...put on new garments... and washed his hands and feet a second time.

During this Holiest Day... He would enter the Holy of Holies several times He would take 5 ceremonial cleansing baths Everything had to be done perfectly..

The Afternoon Services on Yom Kippur

Were the main event...this was when the High Priest atoned for the sins of the Nation First the High Priest laid both hands on the head of a young bull. The bull represented the sins of the Priests

First the High Priest would place his hands on the head of the bull As a sign of identifying with it...as a substitute...His substitute With both hands on the innocent bull... He then confessed his personal sins and in doing so... Used the covenant name of God YAHWEH three times.

Under Jewish law...this name could not be spoken out loud By anyone else at any other time...

Only by the High Priest...only on the Holiest day....and each time he said it. The priests would fall on their faces in worship and repeat... Blessed be His name who glorious kingdom is forever and ever.

The name of God...carried the utmost reverence The High priest then went to the Eastern side of the Altar.... **Two goats** stood there..side by side... They were identical in size, color and value. Two golden stones or lots...were placed in a vessel One was labeled for YAHWEH One for Azazel...meaning escape Also called the scape goat

The High Priest shook the vessel and randomly took one stone in each hand Both Goats were considered together to be the sacrifice. The one whose lot was YAHWEH would be slaughtered as a sin offering. He would pay the price of the sins of the people His blood would cover the sin... He represented punishment

The scape goat was identified with a crimson strip of wool tied to one of its horns. This goat would be led out into the wilderness Taken outside the city This goat was sent out to carry away the guilt of those sins He represented the guilt of sin

So once each year...the sins of the nation were paid for in blood.. The guilt of those sins...released into the wilderness

The High priest returned to the Bull a second time... Placed His hands on the head and confessed the sins of the other Priests He then slaughtered the bull and collected its blood.

His first trip into the Holy of Holies **(TEMPLE PHOTO)**

Was to bring hot coals in and to fill the room with incense He then exited the Holy of Holies Returning with the blood of the bull He carefully sprinkled the blood on the Ark of the Covenant One time up...seven times down. Then he exited Atoning for His sins and the sins of the Priests

He then slaughtered the goat... Entered the Holy of Holies a third time Sprinkling the blood of the goat in the same manner Atoning for the sins of the people The nation of Israel Then exiting he sprinkled the blood of the bull on the curtain and repeated it with the blood of the goat.

Finally he mixed the blood of the goat and bull together... and sprinkled the horns of the altar in the courtyard

Next, He turns to the Scapegoat The High Priest layed his hands on the head and confessed the sins of the people The Scapegoat was lead through the eastern gate by a priest... Taken more than 10 miles away And released into the wilderness.

Then the High Priest entered the Holy of Holies a final time To remove the incense ladle and fire pan. He bathed a 5th time and then put on His Priestly robe. And then led the final service...closing out the Holiest Day..

Every year..for thousands of years.. This ritual was followed without variation But it was dress rehearsal for a day that would come A day in our future...spoken of by the prophet Daniel . In His 70 weeks prophecy...

Daniel 9:24 (ESV) 24 "Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.

These prophetic weeks...measured 7 years in length instead of 7 days Daniel said there would be 69 weeks between... The decree to restore and rebuild the temple of Jerusalem And the day the Messiah would be "cut off"

Sure enough.... Persian King Artaxerxes made the order to rebuild the temple in the 5th century B.C. 69 x 7 years 483 years later...Jesus was crucified...to the day

But Daniel's 70th Week is Different

Daniel predicted that after The Messiah's execution... There would be an unspecified gap of time Before the prophetic clock started ticking again During that time of the Gentiles... The Temple in Jerusalem would be destroyed...that happened in 70AD

The Gentile Period over with a trumpet shout That warning call would move many Jewish People To acknowledge their guilt And as the world turns against them... They will cry out to Jesus to save them

But when does the prophetic clock start up again? When is the 70th week... The last 7 years?

Daniel told us that it would begin when the Antichrist arises in the end of days.

Daniel 9:26–27 (ESV) 26 to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. 27 And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week,

The prophetic clock starts ticking again... When the Antichrist signs a 7 year peace agreement with Israel. In that moment the world will know 2 things... Who the Antichrist is When Jesus is coming back At the end of those 7 years...is Jesus' Second Coming

As Daniel Prophesied

Daniel 9:24 (ESV) The Seventy Weeks 24 "Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.

Antichrist

We are told quite a bit about the Antichrist.. The Main thing to remember...He mimics..He is a fake representation of Christ

He comes to a troubled world and offers peace He is preceded by one who turns others to worship him Mimicking John the Baptist He will do amazing things with trickery and magic He will receive a serious head wound Staged or real and appear to have miraculously survived

He will set up an earthly kingdom He will bring peace to the nation of Israel He will offer them what they have always wanted An earthly Messiah Many will surrender to Him and take the mark of the beast He will appear to do exactly what the Jewish people expected the Messiah to do For 3.5 years...then everything changes

He will enter the rebuilt temple...and declare Himself to be God Replace the Holy of Holies with a statue of Himself And demand total loyalty and surrender. As the Antichrist he will turn his anger and wrath against the Jewish People and anyone who refuses to worship him

Daniel 12:1 (ESV) The Time of the End 12 "And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time.

He will drive the Jewish people into the wilderness For the last 3. 5 years...literally all hell will break forth on earth

The Jewish People

As the time of Great Tribulation comes Anti Semitism will reach its zenith All nations will turn against Israel In an effort to once and for all destroy the Jews

And God begins to pour out his wrath on those who defy Him During this time...much like during the plagues in Egypt... God is giving every person an opportunity to recognize Him as God

In fact, 144,000 Jewish people will become His evangelists These Jewish evangelists share the Message of Jesus To prepare people for Jesus' return

Revelation 7:2–4 (ESV) 2 Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." 4 And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

They represent the First Fruits of the Great Jewish Harvest to come

Revelation 14:1–5 (ESV) The Lamb and the 144,000 14 Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, 3 and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. 4 It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, 5 and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

People will be forced to choose between...worshipping the Anti-Christ or the Real Christ.

It is tragic yet Prophets tell us that 2/3 of the Jewish People will be killed during this terrible time As the nations of the world turn against Israel... They have no where else to turn....Facing annihilation and slaughter..... They will cry out to God in truth.. At that point...Jesus will make His long awaited return to earth to rescue His people.

Jesus fulfilling His own prophecy...

Matthew 23:37–39 (ESV) 37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 38 See, your house is left to you desolate. 39 For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

All the armies of the world will turn against Israel They will assemble in the Valley of Megiddo...called Armageddon

Revelation 16:14–16 (ESV) 14 For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.

...16 And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

At that point...Jesus will return to earth for the Second Time...His Second Coming The Great Day of the Lord Destroy all who oppose Him and rescue the nation of Israel.

Jewish Remnant

2/3 or the Jewish people will perish during this time But 1/3 will be the remnant that is redeemed by Christ.

They will see Jesus...for who He is...the True Messiah.

Daniel 12:1 (ESV) 12 “At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book.

Zechariah 12:10 (ESV) 10 “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Fulfillment

In that moment... The Day of Atonement will be fulfilled literally by Jesus. It is not that their sins will be covered.... Their sins will be remembered no more You see the blood of Jesus does not cover anyone's sin The blood of Jesus cleanses us from our sins.

John 1:29 (ESV) 29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

Note the Lamb of God... Will TAKE AWAY the sins of the world

Psalms 103:12 (ESV) 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

He doesn't cover our sins...but rather He removes our sins from us

Jeremiah 31:33–34 (ESV) 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

The End comes...

At the end of the 70th week...the final 7 years.. When the Jewish Nation comes face to face in repentance.... And accept the gift of Jesus for their salvation On that day...a day in our future...The Day of Atonement will be fulfilled

The Holiest One...Jesus Would go to the Holiest Place....The Throne of the Father in heaven And offer the Holiest Sacrifice...His blood To restore His Holy People.... The Nation of Israel

On that day in our future... The Jewish nation will return to Jesus. Yom Kippur was the day...yet to occur in our future.... An Appointed time for God to restore relationship Between Himself and His People On that Day I will be their God and they will be my people

These 7 Feasts.... Paint a Prophetic Picture of Jesus the Messiah

Each one...a piece of the puzzle... Each Fall Feast....revealing our future Each feast...leading up to the next The Feast of Trumpets...Rosh Hashanah The Rapture of those from the Gentile Period A warning to the World that judgment is coming

The Day of Atonement...Yom Kippur The repentance of the Jewish Nation and the Return of Jesus...the Jewish Messiah...to save the Jewish Remnant

So how do we apply what we have learned today? What does Yom Kippur teach us as Christ followers? This coming Saturday is Yom Kippur...The Day of Atonement How should we approach this day as Christ Followers

1. Remember the Day

We need to hold the Holiest Day of the year...in high esteem God said this day...is the Holiest Day...for all generations It is a solemn Sabbath...a day of fasting A day to surrender and allow God to review your life...your year A day to confess our sins as individuals and as a nation

2 Chronicles 7:14 (ESV) 14 if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2. Remember the Jewish People

We need to pray and share the gospel with our Jewish Friends The wrath of the antichrist will targeted against them He is going to try to deceive them as a false Messiah He will tell them what they want to hear... We live in a window...when the Holy Spirit is alive and well on planet earth

We need to speak out against those... who falsely teach Replacement Theology That God has given up on the Jewish People And only cares about the Gentiles The most blatant form of Anti-Semitism in the Church today

Every year at Yom Kippur... We need to remind ourselves to share the gospel With our Jewish friends... We need to pray that the Holy Spirit will go ahead of us

And we need to remember that Yom Kippur Is not just about individuals but about the Nation We need to pray for the Nation of Israel... For the Jewish People worldwide That as they are examining themselves and their sins

That God intended so much more than to just cover them Pray that God will reveal to them... That the final sacrifice...the blood of Jesus Doesn't cover sin...it cleanses sin.

Isaiah 1:18 (ESV) 18 "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

3. Remember the Goats

As a child...sitting outside the principal's office I knew the punishment would be swift and over soon But the guilt..the shame...would linger for a long time

Yom Kippur reminds us that a complete sacrifice Must deal with both the punishment and the guilt That is why the two goats together represented one sacrifice

One goat would die for our sins...shed his blood The other goat..taken outside the city...through the Eastern Gate To carry the guilt of those sins away forever.

Have you noticed yet...that Jesus did both? There is a moment that foreshadows Yom Kippur during Passover Jesus, the Lamb of God, is about to be sacrificed... Two people face the crowd...Jesus and Barabbas

The crowd votes...places the death sentence on Jesus He is the one to die Barabbas is set free...the scapegoat But setting Barabbas free Did not carry the guilt of their sins away

Jesus had to do both. Jesus not only was sacrificed on the cross for our sins Not only did His blood cleanse us... But Jesus was led...outside the city...through the Eastern Gate

Hebrews 13:10–12 (ESV) 12 So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.

Jesus carried our guilt with Him to the cross And many of us need to hear this today... He left all of the guilt and shame there He paid a heavy price so we could be free of the guilt of our past

Isaiah 53:5–10 (ESV) 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. 10 Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

Note that Jesus brings us peace... And His soul makes an offering for guilt

So many Christ followers... Fail to embrace fully what Jesus actually did on the cross Maybe Yom Kippur can be your annual reminder... That God doesn't do guilt for His Children

Psalms 103:10–12 (ESV) 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Isaiah 43:25 (ESV) 25 "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Because of Jesus..your sins are forgiven...and forgotten. IF God doesn't remember the sins your have confessed.... Why do you?...

Let The Day of Atonement Be your day to confess and be cleansed... A solemn and Holy Day of fasting and rest To allow God to cleanse you As you humbly confess.

Too many of us live like the Scapegoat We wander about in the wilderness of our lives carrying the shame and guilt of our sins We accept that Jesus was sacrificed for our sins But can't seem to embrace that He has forgotten our sins.

Like me at the Principal's office.. Accepting the punishment.... Not able to shed the guilt Settling for covering... when what I really need is forgiveness.

The Day of Atonement reminds us.. That Jesus did not atone for our sins... He didn't cover them up...He removed them Think about this for a moment... The word atone, atoned, or atonement Is not mentioned once in the New Testament. The New Testament has nothing to do with covering sins Forgiveness on the other hand... is mentioned over 50 times in the New Testament.

Let me close with this...

The warning trumpet will sound....The Feast of Trumpets... Is our reminder...that Judgment comes in 10 days If you don't know Jesus as your Savior.... The shame and guilt you feel about your past Will never go away... The punishment for your sins.... Will never end.

We are wired to respond to warnings... spend this time Surrendering to Jesus.. Accepting His blood... What He did on the cross... Not to cover your sins... But to remove them

For the rest of us..use this time... To thank God that we are still here... That we can share the gospel... That we can use these 10 days of Awe... To remember the day, remember the Jewish People and remember the Goats But most of all use this day to Remember Jesus...it all points to Him Let's Pray