

YOM KIPPUR

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

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Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement)

Part 1 — Main Themes

- Yom Kippur is a day of contradictions and contrasts: Joy and sorrow. Rewards for the righteous and judgments for the wicked rebels. Joy for the righteous when Satan and his demons, death and Babylon are destroyed by the King of Kings.
- The word *Kippur* (*Strong's* #3725) is a form of the Hebrew roots word *kapar* (*Strong's* #3722) which according to the *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (*TWOT* #1023)) means *to make an atonement, make reconciliation, purge* and the mercy seat – the golden “lid” covering the Ark of the Covenant located in the D'veer (i.e., the inner shrine of the Tabernacle of Moses) – which in Hebrew is the work *kapporet* (*Strong's* #3727, *TWOT* #1023c) was *the place of atonement* or *the place where atonement was made*. The *TWOT* defines what happened at the *kapporet* as follows:

“It was from the...Mercy Seat that [YHWH] promised to meet with the men [of Israel] (Num. 7:89). The word, however, is not related to mercy and of course was not a seat. The word is derived from the root ‘to atone.’ The Greek equivalent in the LXX is usually *hilasterion*, “place or object of propitiation,” a sword which is applied to [Messiah] in Rom. 3:25. The translation ‘mercy seat’ does not sufficiently express the fact that the lid of the ark was the place where the blood was sprinkled on the day of atonement. ‘Place of atonement’ would perhaps be more expressive.”

The writer of Hebrews (Heb. 9:11ff) describes the importance of blood in Tabernacle/Temple ceremonies of ancient Israel, how it relates to the remission of sins and how it pointed to Yeshua's shedding of his blood on the cross for the atoning of man's sins:

11 But Messiah being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

14 How much more shall the blood of Messiah, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to Elohim, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living Elohim?

15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the Renewed Covenant, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

18 Whereupon neither the first covenant was dedicated without blood.

19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the Torah-law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop,

and sprinkled both the book, and all the people,

20 Saying, This is the blood of the covenant which YHWH hath enjoined unto you.

21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry.

22 And almost all things are by the Torah-law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24 For Messiah is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of Elohim for us:

25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year [on Yom Kippur] with blood of others;

26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

28 So Messiah was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

- It is a day to *afflict our souls* or literally to *humble ourselves*. The purpose of fasting is not to torture or punish ourselves for the sins that we have committed during the past year. Rather, fasting helps us to transcend our physical natures and focus without distraction upon YHWH.
- On this day the High Priest of ancient Israel went into the Holy of Holies. There he sprinkled blood on the Mercy Seat (Kapporet) and the ground seven times. Atonement was made for the high priest himself, his family as well as for all Israel. On this day the Sanctuary/Tabernacle/Temple, the priesthood and the whole body of Believers (Body of Messiah) was cleansed. It represented corporate or community cleansing. The Passover and the Day of Atonement are related though different.

Pesach (Passover) is the time of the sacrifice or atonement for personal sin — initial repentance from sins committed before being born again.

Yom Kippur is the time of the atonement or covering of the individual's as well as the corporate sins of Israel committed in ignorance (Heb. 9:27) during the past year. On-going repentance is needed by Believers and the community of Believers to stay in right-standing (righteousness) before YHWH (1 Jn. 1:9).

- The Jubilee Year started on Yom Kippur. All slaves were set free, debts were forgiven, and the land was returned to its original owners (Lev. 25:8-9).
- The Two Goats (Lev. 16):
 - (1) YHWH's goat (offered by the High Priest as a sin offering) represents Yeshua's sacrificial atonement for our sins.
 - (2) The Azazel Goat is *the scape goat* or *goat of departure*. Spiritually this represents the entire removal of sin's defilement from the Tabernacle and camp of Israel out into the wilderness. (Ps. 103:12—YHWH removes our sins from us as far as the east is from the west.) The Azazel goat is not Satan. Lev. 16:10 says that this goat "makes atonement for our sin." It is blasphemy to say that Satan makes atonement for our sin. Only Yeshua did this, not Satan!

- **Prophetically:**
 - Yom Kippur is the day when:
 - (a) YHWH's judgment upon the earth will occur prior to the Second Coming of Yeshua the Messiah culminating in the battle at Megiddo.
 - (b) The beast and false prophet are thrown into the Lake of Fire
 - (c) Satan will be cast into the bottomless pit.
 - Yom Kippur is the day of completion: What aspects of YHWH's plan of redemption for the earth have been completed?:
 - It is the time when YHWH will have the last word on man's 6000 (rebellious and sinful) years on earth.
 - Rewards and punishments are meted out.
 - Satan is judged.
 - The *Babylon the Great* system is judged.
 - The earth is cleansed and readied for Messiah to "touch down" upon the Mount of Olives.
 - The restitution of all things talked about in Acts 3:21 occurs.
 - It is the time REJOICE AND CELEBRATE if you're right with YHWH! Or WEEP AND MOURN and quickly repent if you're not!

Part 2 — Parallels Between the Lev. 16 Event and the Apocalypse Event of Rev. 15-16

- Smoke and fire in the Temple of YHWH before the Mercy Seat:
 - Lev. 16:13
 - Rev. 15:8
 - Rev. 8:3-4 — Incense on the Golden Altar before the throne of YHWH are the prayers of the Saints.
- No man could enter the Tabernacle/Temple while the High Priest made Atonement:
 - Lev. 16:17
 - Rev. 15:8 — No one could enter the Temple until the seven last plagues were completed; i.e., there was no access to the Mercy Seat/no prayers to YHWH/no salvation granted. Men had their chance to repent from the wicked ways up to and during the 30 days of teshuvah (the thirty days of the sixth month preceding Yom Teruah) and during the ten days of awe (Tribulation period) between Yom Teruah and Yom Kippur.
 - The Mercy Seat and the ground were sprinkled seven times for cleansing.
 - Lev. 16:14 — The blood of the bull is sprinkled on the Mercy Seat and on the ground seven times. The four horns of the altar represent the whole earth or the four corners of the earth—north, south, east and west.
 - Rev. 16 — YHWH cleanses the earth via the seven bowl judgments (called "Wrath of YHWH"). The blood of the wicked rebels is poured out on the ground (14:20).
 - Why must this happen? The soul that sins shall die (Ezek. 18:4, 20) and the wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23). Either one is held accountable for his own sin and suffers the consequences of his sin or he receives the *kippur* (covering) of the blood of Yeshua for the remission of sins. There are no other avenues for sinners. For those who reject Messiah and his sin offering they are under the penalty of death and there is no way out.
 - The earth has been defiled by so much unrepentant wickedness that a great cleansing process must occur—men dying for their own sins.

- This proves the truth of YHWH's divine justice. There is divine retribution for sin — a price must eventually be paid for sin.
- The earth will be prepared or cleansed for Messiah's arrival.
- The earth will be ready to receive Messiah and his kingdom.
- Messiah, blessed be his holiness(!), cannot set foot on a defiled earth without becoming defiled himself. This is proof that Messiah cannot set foot on this earth until after the wrath of YHWH is poured out—i.e., after Yom Kippur and at the beginning of Sukkot when he will tabernacle with his bride, the saints, who has made herself ready by putting on robes of righteousness.
- Acts 3:18-21 “The restitution of all things” (King James Version) or “Fullness of times” (Hebrew Roots Version). Messiah can't return until after the earth is cleansed and restored.

Part 3 — Miscellaneous Prophetic Concepts

- **The Fall Harvest:** This time period lasts from Yom Teruah to Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles) (lasting 15 days). Rev. 14 speaks of two endtime “harvests” of which the fall festivals are a shadow picture:
 - Harvest of saints to their reward—Rev. 14:4-5 (and Mt. 24:30-31) and Mt. 25:31-46 (the sheep and goats judgment pictures both groups).
 - Harvest of wicked to their reward—Rev. 14:15-20
- There is no mention of the Saints during the Seven Bowls Wrath of YHWH. They've already been “harvested” and are gathered into YHWH's “barn” for safekeeping.
- The Seventh Bowl Judgment is poured out on the Babylonian (Rev. 18:23; 19:2) anti-YHWH system — the deceiver and corrupter of the world from the very beginning at the Tree of Knowledge.