

A POSITIVE Day of Atonement 2020



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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

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Summary: *Today I focus on why the Day of Atonement is such a POSITIVE day. So much happens and will happen on this day. It's about focusing on our Atonement in all respects – Yeshua – as he leads the nations in the future and God's people now – to repentance, forgiveness and walking in God's way. You won't hear a lot about Satan here, and thank God for that.*

Opening prayer.

“Father in heaven we come before you today, on this day of Atonement 2020, as your people and as your nations. For the most part we have been at best – apathetic, on the sidelines, as our nation sank into ever deeper morass of sin and immorality. At worst, at times, some of us – your children -- participated all too much in those sins for which our nations are coming into judgment by you.

So we seek you today in deep repentance – personally and nationally and seek your mercies. I pray you will move people from all around the world to start to hear about you, see you, know you – and to REPENT AND TURN to you, the only, the one living God. I pray not just for Christians and believers in you now – but that you start to work a mighty work among the Gentiles who are Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus and atheists. I pray you smash the works of darkness, demonism and witchcraft where people created in your image have been lulled into following in those evil ways.

Father, this day is a “shabbat shabbaton” (Lev 23:32)– a “Sabbath of sabbaths”, like your “Holy of holies”, as this is an especially significant day in your eyes, Abba.

On this day we FAST, as you have commanded us, to use the day to evaluate where we must repent, where we must **change**, where we must turn to you,

and then truly return to you in zealous obedience and fervor. Let it not just be a day of just going without food and water – but a day of real change.

Pour out your spirit now, holy Father. Where I am weak and inept, may you be strong, may you be glorified, may your will and thoughts fill the minds of the hearers. We look forward to the time you will pour out your spirit on all flesh, and reveal yourself as the loving God of mercy, God of long-suffering, the God who forgives and wants to reconcile instead of a God who wants to punish or destroy us. But destroy us you will, if we don't respond, dear Abba.

I turn this time over to you and your glory, in Yeshua's mighty name. Amen.

Today is the Day of Atonement, a day of fasting and gratefully acknowledging the time God reconciles with modern-day Israel, the nation, and even with the whole world in the future.

I started keeping this day with fasting probably about the time I was 8 or 9 years old. As a child, we all knew exactly when sundown would be, and so as I child, I was ready – to eat. Now I hope we adults are used to fasting more than just on Atonement. I hope so, anyway. And I hope we are learning to better understand the reason for fasting—that it's a time to humble ourselves and ponder where we must repent and change our lives as Isaiah 58 tells us. I have a blog about that titled “Don't make Atonement just a day of going hungry” or something like that.

But to any children who are fasting who may hear this sermon someday, may Yehovah Abba our father and Yeshua/Jesus bless you, and smile on you, for your obedience and love.

This day is often treated with a lot of solemnity – maybe too much for the New Covenant. In the New Covenant this day, for us, speaks of a time of relief, of joy, of jubilation even -- and I'll speak to all that in the time ahead.

The GREAT SHAKING of our land has begun.

But it IS a time our nation and our peoples must repent. God prophesied he would SHAKE the heavens and the earth before the coming of the “Day of the LORD”. Would you agree that 2020 has been a year of unusual events, a time of shaking – with the Covid19 pandemic killing thousands, closing down our economy, fear and angst everywhere? And all the **rioting**, marches, protests, arson, destruction and hatred we're seeing in many of our cities as never before to this level, at least?

And after the 2020 elections in the USA, we could see much more arson and destruction of our major cities – depending on how the losing side sees things.

Plus all the horrific **wildfires** everywhere out west, **hurricanes**, flooding, tornadoes... and all of this at higher levels than we've ever seen before.

And all of that is just the START of the shaking that the Almighty is about to unleash, especially if we don't fall to our knees in deep repentance as a people and as a nation, and even as a world of citizens! It may ease up here and there, but I think we're going to see multiple periods of shaking from God.

Bear with me; this will become a more positive day and sermon, but first we have to deal with what's happening.

The Return and Prayer March in Washington DC

I just got back from **TheReturn.org** that happened on Sabbath Sept 26, 2020, 19 years after 911, in Washington DC's National Mall. There was also another rally – called the March for Prayer led by Franklin Graham – what was also going on concurrently. DC has probably never seen or had so much prayer going up in centuries! I believe this kind of seeking after God has EVERYTHING to do with the DAY of Atonement.

Scores of THOUSANDS of believers assembled, not to condemn anyone else, or even the nation – but to repent of each of our own personal sins.

- **Our nation will be judged harshly soon** if we don't repent and return to God
- It was 19 years after the walls were breached in ancient Israel that judgements began to happen ... for they did not repent.
- **Watch Jonathan Cahn's keynote** address. Frankly all the sermons and messages were outstanding. Here's Jonathan Cahn's link to his keynote sermon:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AALjraf8C8Y>

I also recommend you catch the closing sermon with the blowing of the shofars and the shouts of victory.

This was held on Sept 26, the sabbath in between Feast of Trumpets and Atonement. The holydays were mentioned several times. In fact, the Torah reading at Jewish places all over the country had significant meaning for this very sabbath:

Scores of thousands of us assembled during the 10 days of introspection referred to as “the Ten Days of AWE – Trumpets to Atonement” (and this was referenced several times) –and at least twice scores of thousands of us got on our KNEES, face to the ground or ON the ground... and cried out in repentance. I was so moved, so touched, so inspired, so.... So amazing. One of the experiences of my life I will never ever forget.

AMAZING.

We must all repent – and may it begin with me, may it begin with those of you hearing this and the people of God, called by GOD’S name, who are begging for forgiveness for their own apathy and sins as 2 Chronicles 7:13-14 tells us.

The speakers had it right. Confession is admitting our sin... but it’s not enough. We have to also repent, which especially in the New Testament means to turn back to God, to turn away from our life of sin, to change. And this kind of repentance is what they called for at TheReturn – our TURNING from sin back to God in real life changes we make after we confess our sins.

So many speakers and prayers spoke of how *we* have left GOD, yes, even we believers, and how we believers must return. “Return” was the theme.

I hope God was moved. While Jonathan Cahn was speaking, we suddenly heard a low rumbling thunder coming from the heavens. It made the hairs on my neck jump up! Then we all lifted holy hands in praise.

And THIS Day of Atonement has a LOT to do with restored relationships – as that is what it’s ALL about: loving God and loving one another. And if we DO repent and change, all the prophesied disasters that are coming – don’t have to come! Read it in God’s own words... but it’s conditioned on us repenting!

Jeremiah 18:1-11

“The word which came to Jeremiah from YHVH, saying: 2 "Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words." 3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. 4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

5 Then the word of YHVH came to me, saying: 6 "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says YHVH. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!

7 The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it,

8 if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it.

9 And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, 10 if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.

11 "Now therefore, speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says YHVH: "Behold, I am fashioning a disaster and devising a plan against you. RETURN now everyone from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good."'"

So on this Day of Atonement – let's heed the call to profoundly change, repent and turn to God. Check out my sermons on Winning the Fights we face, on Holiness, and more.

Fall holydays and day of Atonement

The Spring holydays start the plan of salvation and show how God is calling some early "first fruits" of humanity – those being called now, before Christ returns, and how they accept the Passover and are forgiven, depart sin (Days of Unleavened Bread) and receive God's spirit and law, pictured by Pentecost.

I showed on my Feast of Trumpets sermon that I believe the time sequence shows we first fruits will be resurrected at the 7th Trump and get married about the time of *Pentecost*, not Feast of Trumpets, just as Israel married God on Pentecost in Exodus 19-24. So I see Pentecost as a transition holyday between the first fruits and then after Pentecost, those being called by God once Christ returns.

Then Christ returns and we land on the Mt of Olives around Feast of Trumpets, then starts to reconcile his returning Israelites from captivity – and then the rest of the world. I explained the rationale due to the time demands after the resurrection (7 last plagues, the wedding supper, etc.).

So Autumn holydays picture God working now with the rest of the world. The spring holydays were pictures of God working with US, the FIRST FRUITS. Now it's time to focus on the rest of the nation and the world, starting with the Feast of trumpets when he returns on an unknowable day to the Mt of Olives.

Unknowable because Feast of Trumpets officially starts with the sighting of the first thin sliver of moon light, marking the new moon, the new month.

Then Atonement. Leviticus 23:32 makes it so clear that the way God counts days – and specifically Atonement – as starting at sundown the evening before the 10th (end of the 9th day, in other words) to sundown end of the 10th of the 7th month. Here's what it says about the day of Atonement's timing:

Leviticus 23:32

"It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath."

Now – what's the day of Atonement about?

So what's this day about? There's more said about THIS holyday than any other.

We are to FAST from sundown to sundown -- Leviticus 23:26-32. NO food or water, NO work. You can look up the passage. It was called "the FAST" or sometimes just simply "the DAY". Jews have added rules like wearing white, no bathing, no lotions, no sex, etc. Those are not in the Bible.

YOM KIPPUR. Yom= Day. Kippur = COVERING, expiation, atoning. Day of covering. And actually in the Hebrew in Lev 23 it is a plural – kippurim, rather than Kippur. It's "ha YOM KIPPURIM" – **Lev 23:26**. ("ha" means "the" and "yom" means "day")

The word Kippur or kippurim is closely related to the word for LID, or covering – used only of the covering of the ark, called the Mercy Seat – it was the covering seat that was above the 10 commandments in the ark , showing God's mercy triumphs over judgment (**James 2:13**).

It's technically called the **day of COVERINGS, plural**, because God is covering so many sins, of so many people, plus he's covering so many articles like the tabernacle itself, the altar, the ark and so much more (Leviticus 16).

The entire CHAPTER OF LEV 16 is about this day – and the various sacrifices, the one busy man the High Priest, and the sacrificed bull, a ram and the 2 goats – one which was killed and whose blood was sprinkled on the mercy seat. The other goat was called the goat of departure or azazel – and all the sins of the nation of Israel was placed on that goat when the High Priest laid both his hands on its head and pronounced all the sins transferred to the

innocent goat. Of course this is not Satan as he is not innocent, and we have no scripture saying all our sins are placed on Satan's head or that Satan takes our sins away. No, no, no – the one who does all that is Yeshua (John 1:29; Isa 53:6, 11). Satan has no part in God atoning for our sins or taking our sins upon his Son, nor can Satan in any way play any role of Savior.

And HOW is it that we can easily show how *everything* to do with the tabernacle pictures Yeshua – but somehow suddenly we shift and say “but azazel pictures Satan.” No, God's righteous Servant Yeshua is the One who carries out iniquities (Isa. 53:11).

- NOT one scripture says our sins are put on his head or that he carries away our sins, but many scriptures say Christ had our sins put on him (Isaiah 53:6) and the HE takes away the sins of the whole WORLD (John 1:29), not just for the Jews.

John 1:29

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the *sin of the world!*’”

You **MUSLIMS** – Yeshua, whose name means “Salvation, Savior” – died to pay the death penalty (Romans 6:23) for your sins as well, if you accept him as your Savior.

BUDDHISTS – The Son of God DIED FOR YOU also - -but you have to ACCEPT HIM as your lord and Savior and start to obey him! You need to put sin away, worship him ONLY.

You Hindus, with your many gods and goddesses, you must depart from that paganism and listen to the words of Scripture and come to the one TRUE LIVING GOD who loves you too!

Though it IS a solemn day – it is also a day where we have elements of JOY and let me explain why!

But before we can have joy – we and the nation have to REPENT and come with weeping and mourning. Once we do repent, there's joy and PEACE. Remember David spoke of “restore to me the JOY of your salvation” – which he said after he repented (**Psalm 51:12**).

REASONS WHY THIS DAY is also a joyous day

**** We now have access at any time to the true Holy of holies. Up until Christ died, only the High Priest could enter the Holy of holies, and even then, just one time a year, on this day.**

Upon entering he would sprinkle blood from the bull sacrifice on to the mercy seat -- the covering of the ark. It was a fearsome time for him.

But today – because of whom that High Priest really represented – Yeshua our Messiah – and because with HIS blood all blood requirements are forever satisfied and covered, forever done, and now all our sins are forever forgiven. So guess what?

There was a separation between the regular holy place and the Holy of holies where the ark was. And that veil was ripped from top to bottom miraculously when Christ died, which removed the separation from mankind to God Most High and allowed access to God our Father from that day forward.

Mark 15:37-39

“And Jesus cried out with a loud voice and breathed His last.

38 Then **the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.** (*The veil pictured Christ's flesh – Heb. 10:20*)

39 **So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried** out like this and breathed His last, he said, "Truly this Man was the Son of God!"

Now instead of just one man- - the High Priest – coming before God, now ALL of us who have been washed in the blood of the Son of God get to come into the real Holy of holies in heaven anytime we wish! I hope we avail ourselves of that many times a day, for short, frequent contacts and fervent prayers at times on our knees. Paul talks about “praying always”.

We can come boldly in fact now – all of us can -- to the throne of grace.
Hebrews 4:16 This is possible through Christ – and only through him.

Ephesians 3:11-12

“according to the eternal purpose which **He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,**

12 in ***whom we have boldness and access with confidence*** through faith in Him.

Hebrews 10:19-22

“**Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,**

20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”

Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) was a great day of joy also for other reasons.

****THE DAY OF JUBILEE, EVERY 50 YEARS was definitely a cause of great joyful celebration. Leviticus 25**

On Jubilee, all debts were cancelled. People who had to sell their land – were allowed to return to their land. We know Israel will return to the LAND of Israel soon after Yeshua lands on Mt of Olives (Zech 14). So it seems likely to me that he returns in a JUBILEE year.

I’ve always thought – perhaps I’m wrong – that 30 AD was a Jubilee year on the cross and maybe he might return in 2030. Others believe the Jubilee years were 1917 – founding of Israel, 2067 – the capture of Jerusalem, the 50 years later 2017 the acknowledgement of Jerusalem as their recognized capital. So the next Jubilee would be 2067 by that measure.

We don’t know the day or hour – or right now even the year.

But imagine all your debts cancelled plus getting your ancestral land back if your family had to sell it! If you were a Hebrew bond servant or indentured servant, you had to be freed in the Jubilee years. Leviticus 25:39-42. We get the word “jubilation” – great joy - - from the concept of the Jubilee year.

No more debt. Freed from being a bond servant. Land being returned to your family. Yes, this was a great time of freedom.

Leviticus 25:8-12

'And you shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.

9 Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet [Hebrew is SHOPHAR, ram’s horn] to sound throughout all your land.

10 And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a

Jubilee for you; and each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.

11 **That fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you;** in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of its own accord, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine. 12 For it is the Jubilee; it shall be holy to you; you shall eat its produce from the field.”

Another great reason to be UPBEAT on this day:

**** YOU'RE now IN THE BOOK OF LIFE – and not just for one year.**

The Orthodox Jews are terrified that they may not be put in to the Book of Life, so from Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah or Yom Teruah) to Atonement, they are trying to amend their ways and ask God to be put into his book for one more year. That's not in the Bible!

In the New covenant, we can be certain – if we've repented and turned from our sinful ways as a way of life – that our names are in the book of life. Moses, for example, spoke to God about his name being in the Book (Exodus 32:32) and asking God to blot him from his book if he wouldn't forgive Israel after the gold calf sin.

Our names CAN be blotted out – in cases where we have rank rebellion going on –as Revelation 3:5 says. But Paul spoke confidently of certain ones being written in God's book of Life.

Philippians 4:3

“And I urge you also, true companion, help these women ... and the rest of my fellow workers, **whose NAMES ARE in the Book of Life.**”

Paul teaches that God wants to finish the work he's started in us (Phil 1:6). God will see us to the end when we seek him.

Philippians 1:6

“being **confident** of this very thing, that **He who has begun a good work in you will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ.”

We have passed from death to life – 1 John 3:14. We're accepted by God “In the Beloved” – in Christ.

John 5:24

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me **has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.**"

**** WE'RE JOYFUL BECAUSE Yeshua has all our sins placed on HIM and HE takes far away all the sins of the world.**

John the Baptist said, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes AWAY the sins of the world." John 1:29.

It's not Satan who takes away our sin, as some teach. That is such an affront to the truth of what Yeshua does!

(Bonus) Exodus 28:36-38 shows that Aaron the High Priest bore on his forehead all the iniquity of the nation of Israel! Yeshua in the new covenant is our high priest today.

Isaiah 53:6 says YHVH has laid on the Messiah the sins of us all. Verse 11 says HE shall bear the iniquity of God's people.

THIS IS NOT A DAY to focus on SATAN – as still far too many ministers do! This is not a day to picture him or focus on him. I have a whole sermon devoted to showing azazel cannot be Satan. So I'm happy that I don't have to spend an hour talking about Satan but be focused on Messiah instead.

**** The book of Jonah is read on this day. The meaning of that makes us happy. The book of Jonah shows GOD IS A MERCIFUL GOD, even to the very most wicked of us, including me – when we confess our sin and TURN FROM our evil way.**

Book of Jonah – how God was moved by the repentance and changes made by the Ninevites.

Jonah 3:5-10

"So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. 6 Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes. 7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying,

‘Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water.

8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, **let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.**

9 Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

10 Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.”

Just like it says in Jeremiah 18 – if a nation turns from its evil way, then God promises to RELENT from the punishment he had planned to send to that nation. That’s a promise for today. And that’s why thousands of us gathered in the National Mall in Washington DC to repent and call on God’s mercy, like ancient Nineveh did.

The Ninevites – present day Mosul in western Iraq – were a pagan, GENTILE city-state and they were EVIL, God said. They were very powerful, but God heard them when they humbled themselves with fasting, as we’re doing today. You people of the middle east, of Central and south America, you people of AFRICA and ASIA, you people of Europe and the Americas – god will hear you too, if you repent and turn to him.

***** GOD’S PRESENCE - *when* we do repent – and when the nations repent – will be A PLACE OF MERCY, OF ATONING, of forgiveness and reconciliation, and atonement.**

So this is great cause to be happy – that truly we can now be reconciled, regardless of ANY sin we have committed if and when we repent and turn back to God in obedience. So on this day we don’t just go hungry. We fast to spend time with God in prayers and ask for his covering on our sins and to wake us up from apathy and help us stop accepting our sins but to turn from them.

There are so many scriptures that show God will punish nations who don’t come around – like with famine and drought – but blesses those who do obey and come to the Feast of Tabernacles.

*** **I find this day an incredibly POSITIVE DAY – because the WORK OF ATONING is done by the High Priest. Today that high priest is Christ.**

NO ONE ELSE was to do ANY work. Just the high priest. There were several animals to sacrifice – ALL OF WHICH POINTED TO Yeshua.

Read Leviticus 16. Nobody was supposed to work – except one man, who did ALL the work. Do you have any idea how much work is involved in killing and offering up a bull? And the ram, and a goat?

There was a bull slain for the priests; there was a ram sacrificed, and a special goat that was killed and whose blood was sprinkled on the altar and ark of the covenant. The High Priest's white tunic that he started with on this day (not the special robes on this day) was a bloody mess by end of the day.

My point is this: You and I can do no work to atone and reconcile ourselves to God by the removal of our sin. Though we confess and depart from our sin, the One who cancels and erases our sin is Yeshua. Not you. Not me. I cannot save myself by any amount of good works. Even the good works I do are really "GOD IN ME" doing it as Philippians 2:12-13 clearly explains.

You and I are not the creators of us being a new creation. You and I are not our own savior. You and I are not saved by our works. This day pictures the ONE PERSON who does all the saving. The rest of Israel was simply to watch and rest and let the High Priest do the work of atonement and salvation. We've got to learn and see this!

After he sacrificed the goat for YHVH, all the sins of the nation are put on to azazel and taken far away. Again, who takes away the sins of the WORLD? Yeshua! John 1:29.

Isaiah 53:11

He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.
By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many,
For **HE** shall bear their iniquities."

Also **1 Peter 2:24** – “for he himself bore our sins on his own body...”

I will post much of Leviticus 16 in the notes but read just selected verses for time's sake. But those of you who wish to study it further, here it is.

I recommend you also on your own carefully read Hebrews 9. I'll pick some verses from that chapter also, later.

Even the COALS from the altar – that were used to fuel the incense – pictured Yeshua. Everything in the tabernacle service pictured Yeshua reconciling us back to God the Father. Even the coals – which were from burning the bull and goat – pictured Yeshua.

Lev. 16:12-14 speaks of taking coals from the altar where they offered sacrifices – and use those hot coals to be the FIRE or HEAT that FUELS the incense to produce the cloud of incense. Those coals came from the BULL that was sacrificed, that pictures Christ.

So it is Christ who fuels the incense. Christ is our intercessor and HE intercedes for us – and HE in us – keeps interceding. Remember Yeshua is our advocate, our defense attorney if you will (1 John 2:1-2), The prayers of a righteous man avails much – and “THE righteous man” is, again, Christ, in us – even as WE intercede for others, it's Christ fueling all that in us. It's all about Yeshua – who points us to a RESTORED relationship with YHVH.

Brandie – You may have to “title” various verses completely, as the passage is too long to put up all at once. Call me if you have a question.

Leviticus 16:15-24

"Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering, which is FOR the people, bring its blood inside the veil, do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat.

16 So he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, for all their sins; and so he shall do for the tabernacle of meeting which remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

17 There shall be no man in the tabernacle of meeting when he goes in to make atonement in the Holy Place, until he comes out, that HE may make atonement for himself, for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel.

18 And he shall go out to the altar that is before YHVH, and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and some of the blood of the goat and put it on the horns of the altar all around. 19 Then he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, cleanse it, and consecrate it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

20 "And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place, the tabernacle of meeting, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat.

21 Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, concerning all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a suitable man.

22 The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to an uninhabited land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness. (**Psalm 103:12**)

(Remember also that BOTH goats were picturing "a sin offering". Lev. 16:5. Satan can NEVER be a sin offering.)

23 "Then Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of meeting, shall take off the linen garments which he put on when he went into the Holy Place, and shall leave them there. 24 And he shall wash his body with water in a holy place, put on his garments, come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, and make atonement for himself and for the people.

Leviticus 16:29-31

29 "This shall be a statute forever for you: In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, **you shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all**, whether a native of your own country or a stranger who dwells among you.

30 For on that day the PRIEST shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.

31 It is a sabbath of solemn rest [Hebrew: "shabbat shabbaton" – sabbath of sabbaths; CJB "a sabbath of complete rest] for you, and you shall afflict your souls. It is a statute forever."

**** JEWS TRY TO WEAR WHITE to picture their desire to be seen as righteous. But we rejoice because we put on Christ! HE is our righteousness!**

Romans 13:14

"But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts."

Galatian 3:27

“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ, have PUT ON Christ.”

Christ becomes our life. I am crucified with Christ, as Paul said in Gal 2:20 – and the life you and I now live is to be Christ living in me and in you.

Colossians 3:2-7

“Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For YOU died, and *your life is hidden* with Christ in God.

4 When *Christ who is our life* appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.”

So now the sinful way of life is past. We're done with that. Yes, we still slip up in sin, and I certainly still do too. But the way of life of sin is gone.

Christ not only took upon himself our sins – but he also offered us HIS righteousness, which we receive by FAITH. HIS righteousness.

We are to seek first the kingdom of God and HIS righteousness (Matthew 6:33). We don't get that level of righteousness by our own efforts – but by faith. And some of you really struggle with that.

Some of you can't let just the High Priest save you. Some of you can't accept God's righteousness by faith. No amount of effort on your part will EVER attain to the righteousness of God, which is the goal. So God covers us with the life of Yeshua as I've just explained, which is seen by God as our righteousness when we accept him. Christ becomes for us, righteousness from God by faith, as **1 Cor. 1:30-31** says. In this way, we glory completely in Christ!

Notice these verses:

2 Corinthians 5:21 Holman

“He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, ***so that we might become the righteousness of GOD in Him.***”

Philippians 3:9

“...and be **found *in Him*, NOT having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which **is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith...**”**

Isn't that clear?

Even in the Old Testament, there are so many scriptures that speak of “YHVH OUR righteousness.” GOD- OUR – Righteousness. **Jeremiah 33:16.**

We could go on and on about the day of Atonement. It is a time picturing God reconciling the nation – and then eventually the whole world to himself.

AGAIN – the day of Atonement pictures how the nation was to rest in God's salvation and watch as our High Priest cleanses them, put all the sins of the nation on an innocent male goat – and then march him far away, out of the camp as Psalm 103:12 also explains.

So how are WE saved? We're REWARDED by our works –but not saved or given eternal life by our works. We're saved by the hard word the HIGH PRIEST does on this day of no work for everyone else.

Our works are imperfect and mess things up frankly, so God tells Israel to just sit in their tents and let the High Priest redeem them, do the blood rituals and have them cleansed.

So many of you have such a problem accepting that – and you want to do your own work for your eternity. You've got to repent of that. You can't do it to the holy perfection God requires. Only Christ – who was God in the flesh – could.

Ephesians 2:4-10

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 **and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us *in Christ Jesus*.

8 For ***by grace you have been saved through faith***, and that not of yourselves; it is the ***gift*** of God,

9 ***not of works, lest anyone should boast.***

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

So we're not SAVED by obedience and good works, but ONCE we're offered salvation, God does expect us to walk as Christ walked, or we can't say we know him (1 John 2:3-6). An unchanged life is NOT a saved life, that's for sure. But now the good works are really Christ's resurrected life in you doing the good works, that no flesh can boast.

“For by DEEDS of the law can no flesh be justified...” -- – **Rom 3:22.**

Romans 3:28

“Therefore we conclude that a man ***is justified by faith*** apart from the deeds of the law.”

I would urge you all to carefully read Hebrews 9. It's all about this day and what the High Priest did. Let's read a few high-lights and then wrap this awesome day up:

Hebrews 9:6-7

“Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services.

7 But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance...”

Hebrews 9:11-12

“But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, **but *with His own blood*** **He entered the Most Holy Place ONCE for ALL, having obtained ETERNAL redemption.**”

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hebrews 9:24-28

24 For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

25 not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another —

26 He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; **but now, ONCE at the end of the ages, HE has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.**

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

28 **so Christ was offered ONCE to bear the sins of many.** To those who **eagerly** wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation”.

Hebrews 10:11-14

“And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

12 **But this Man, after He had offered ONE sacrifice for sins forever, sat down** at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

14 For **by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.**”

I recommend you read and re-read the above scriptures as they are so deep, so awe-inspiring what God our Father through Yeshua has done for us. And we watch – and glorify his name – and ACCEPT HIS work on our behalf on this day. Some of you have such a hard time doing that. Surrender your self-will and desire for your own works to save you – and let Christ be your Savior.

So yes, this is a time of introspection. Yes. But it's a time of great relief, a time of Great JOY over all that Christ has done for us. This day is all about what our Father God and Yeshua our Savior have done for you and me. Nobody else. Amen and hallelujah.

Closing prayer....