

Wonderful Day of Atonement, 2022

Yom Kippur (kippurim)



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Philip Shields

www.LightontheRock.org

All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

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Summary: *Can this day be a positively joyous day? What is the Day of Atonement all about – in just 2-3 sentences? Is it really about punishment, God’s wrath, God’s judgment – as so many believe? Or is this day really all about Satan, and having him be put away, or is that the wrong emphasis? Who was allowed to work, and worked hard, on this Day? What does Kippur or Kippurim mean? May the true meaning of this day fill your heart with joy.*

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OPENING PRAYER

(Originally given in the Fall of 2021, Atonement is in October this year 2022. God’s truth is timeless.)

So welcome to this solemn day of Fasting, which is hopefully not the only day we ever fast. Welcome any of you teens and children hearing this who are also fasting. When was the last time you fasted? Was it last year’s day of Atonement? I hope not. Paul said he was in fastings often (**2 Cor. 11:27**).

Welcome also – welcome to Lightontherock.org. We focus on bringing you and all of us to a deeper love for God and our Savior through the Holy Spirit – and a deeper love for one another. Learning to live by faith, no matter what we see. We’re also hoping to bring all God’s children – even with some doctrinal differences – to come tighter together.

Know this: The Son of God, I promise you, is not marrying a bride composed of people who for the most part want nothing to do with each

other. We here at Light on the Rock – we do not box God into preconceived corporate organizations. Be willing to meet with and talk to any spirit-led believers. I do draw the line, however, if they believe wrongly in very salvational doctrinal issues. But God's church of true believers is composed of any and all who have and are led by His Holy Spirit, no matter where they currently worship God. (Romans 8:9, 14).

Check out our blogs too. Check out “Don't just go hungry on Atonement”. Be sure to understand we have sermons that are either just **audio only – or full video** sermons. Check both categories out – as we're putting new material *into each one* more regularly starting after the Feast.

AFFLICT YOUR SOULS

I'll get into the many nuances of Atonement shortly, but let's start with this. The Bible says on this day we are to “afflict our souls” in **Lev 16:31 and Lev 23:27**. I'm sure MOST of you hearing this know already that “afflict your soul” means to fast.

David said he humbled and afflicted his soul with fasting (**Psalm 35:13; 69:10**). Daniel was fasting during the **Daniel 9** prayer when God answered mightily. Fasting is often combined with intense prayer and seeking after God – *especially in times of repentance and determining to change*, to overcome the ongoing habitual weaknesses we have. When Yeshua lands on earth – there will be a lot of fasting in repentance and seeking his forgiveness.

That's the point I want to make right off the bat. *Don't let this just be a day of going without food.* **Make a point to read my 2021 BLOG on “Don't just go hungry on the Day of Atonement.”**

Make it a day of true personal repentance of areas you need to still change, overcome, shore up in your life to make it be in more harmony with the heart and mind and WAY of God; to be more and more like our GOD! See the blog. If we just go without food, without making real changes that God enumerates in Isaiah 58, then you just went without food!

Yom Kippurim

YOM = “day” in Hebrew. “Kippur” = atonement or covering from Strong's 3722, “kappar”.

When we read of “day of Atonement” (Lev 23:27) however, the Hebrew goes PLURAL – “ha yom Kippurim”. Kippurim - from Strong’s 3725. It is translated atonement, covering.

“Ha yom kippurim” (Strong’s 3725) - the day of coverings/atonements.

“Ha” = the. Yom = Day. Kippurim = the plural of Kippur. Why plural? Because there is a LOT of covering, forgiving, reconciling, and atoning going on, when blood sacrifice was offered as a forerunner pointing to the perfect Messiah who shed his own blood for us for a perfect atonement (Romans 5:9-11). And once you fully “see” how this applies someday to the whole world – there are definitely a lot of coverings (kippurim) that will be going on.

For time’s sake, I urge you to go back with the notes and look up all these verses I’ll cite today. It could make for a good study for you.

Leviticus 16:30-33 says that the High Priest on this day makes atonement *for* you, so you may be clean before God (v. 30), then in verse 33, he makes Kippur for the holy sanctuary, the tabernacle itself, the altar, atone for the priests and ALL the people ... *everything got covered by God’s grace and forgiveness*. So that’s why in Hebrew it is the Day of Kippurim – of atonements and coverings. Plural.

So this day is all about God’s COVERING of *everything* in his service that have been defiled by sin or sinful servants. The word Kippur has more to do with that – COVERING -- than **with at-one-ment** which is often spoken, but based on English and not the original Hebrew, though it IS true, once we’re covered by the blood of the son of God, and our sins taken far away by HIM, as I’ll explain, we are at-one with God again.

Today is a most POSITIVE day

JEWES believe, if they approach God right – that he’ll keep their names in His **Book of Life** – *but only for one more year*, until next year’s Yom Kippur. So from Trumpets (Rosh Hashana, they say) to Yom Kippur is what they call “**The 10 days of AWE**” -- when they don’t know if they’ll be judged “good” to be in the Book of Life for another year.

Jewish *tradition* also is that these are **10 days of Repentance or Awe**, and of YHVH dishing out his wrath on the earth for 10 days, until Atonement. So some Christians use this Jewish *tradition* to believe Yeshua returns on Atonement, at the end of God’s wrath, to eke out Judgment. Is that right?

Others believe Atonement is when God puts on the wedding supper for his Son? (A wedding supper on the fasting Day of Atonement? I don't see it.)

*When it comes to Jewish traditions or conceptions out there, ask - where does **Scripture** say that? Jewish traditions are often held higher than scripture itself. But to Orthodox Jews, and those who listen to Jewish traditions, which Yeshua disparaged -- Atonement is about judgment. That's wrong. I'll show you what scripture actually says. And READ what Yeshua says about Jewish tradition: **Mark 7:7-14**. He really knocks it!*

- God's wrath is "the Day of the Lord". It's not a 10-day event but a one-year event that starts and ends on Feast of Trumpets. I've spoken on that before. So by Trumpets of the year he returns, it's over and I believe He's landing on the earth.

DON'T go by Jewish traditions unless they support it with scriptures. They literally hold a rabbi's words or Talmudic or Mishna teaching higher than God's word. The Talmud, including Mishna, is the written compilation of what was called the "Oral Law" and what Yeshua called their "traditions".

I asked a rabbi friend some years ago how he viewed God's judgment.

His reply: "Ha Shem (The Name) puts my life in His weigh scales. If my good deeds outweigh my bad deeds, then I'm good." No mention of the need for a Savior or God covering his sins with His own righteousness as they still have the veil over their eyes when they read their Tanakh, their scriptures (**2 Cor. 3:14-16**).

QUICK RUN-UP TO ATONEMENT

So for many Jews, who know they've not been good, it's 10 days of dread. But The Day of Atonement is actually a positive day! So what's this day of Atonement all about? Let's do a quick review running up to the day of Atonement.

Passover – coming under the blood of the Lamb; God passes over our sins

Day of Wavesheaf – Yeshua went to heaven upon his resurrection, to be accepted on our behalf as firstfruits.

Days of Unleavened Bread – we now eat of the bread from heaven. **Yeshua is our Unleavened Bread, our life, our goodness.** It can't possibly picture our own perfect sinless life. No, it pictures our Savior's life.

HE is now our life. This is about the early harvest of barley and wheat-Pentecost, picturing those being called now. *God is not yet calling everyone.*

Pentecost: When God sets a pattern, it's worth heeding. God married *Israel* on Pentecost (Exodus 24). Boaz and Ruth married in the time of Pentecost. God gave his law to Israel at Mt Sinai and sealed his new covenant believers with His Holy Spirit – whom he'll also marry at a future Pentecost. That's the pattern. Book of Ruth is read on Pentecost, which again, is about a wedding picturing Christ and His Bride.

Pentecost is actually called the Day of Firstfruits (Num 28:26) and “the firstfruits of your wheat harvest” (Ex 34:22). WE are firstfruits (Jas 1:18) and the 2 loaves raised up to heaven by the High Priest -- “they are firstfruits to Yehovah” (Lev 23:17). This is the feast to feature firstfruits – not in the Fall, which is not about firstfruits.

So the SPRING holydays is about the early harvest, the firstfruits people being called out now. It's about those who will be in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:5-6), upon whom the second death has no power.

THE FALL holydays are never called firstfruits holydays but is about when God sets his hand to call the whole world to salvation, obedience, and grace. It will take considerable time, as God will not force them.

So Pentecost is about God rewarding those he's calling now as firstfruits, early harvest. We're resurrected on Pentecost at the 7th/last Trump of God, then go to heaven to be married (**Rev 19, Rev 14, 15**) just as he married Israel in Ex. 24 --and have a great feast – while the 7 last plagues (**Rev 16**) are poured out on earth, taking several months in earth time.

The spring-summer holydays are past... which pictured the firstfruits.

The fall holydays begin with Yom Teruah, Day of Blasts, shouts, trumpets. In this case, the joyous blasts and shouts will undoubtedly come from Jews around Jerusalem so glad that their Messiah has finally come, with power and might to destroy the armies around Jerusalem. There will be blasts alright. And shofar blasts from the Jews, for sure. The Feast of Blasts or Trumpets is falsely called Rosh Hashanah by Jews. It is NOT the new year or head of the year (Ex.12:1-2). Always go by scripture – not Jewish traditions.

So Autumn holydays picture God working now with the rest of the world. Spring holydays depicted God working with US, His FIRST FRUITS.

The Fall holydays is the time to focus on the rest of the nation and the world, starting with the **Feast of trumpets (Day of BLASTS)** when he returns on an unknowable day (due to darkness) 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. Who's going to be able to see that first sliver in that year with all the debris in the air – from wildfires, volcanic ash, war, earthquakes, and plagues of darkness?

Yeshua is coming as a warrior this time – and he annihilates the 200-million-man army down below – all told in Zech 14 and Rev 17 and other places. So we land on the Mt of Olives led by Yeshua, Jesus the Christ – who is now in full control. Remember with our glorified spirit bodies, nothing can hurt us now.

The DAY OF ATONEMENT is next. The world and its people have destroyed God's earth (**see Rev 11:17-18**). God's Son is ticked off. He's landed on the Mount of Olives with his spirit-body BRIDE, glorious like His. Millions of holy angels are with him. The world is being judged. But this is a GLORIOUS day when we understand it.

Revelation 20 tells us Satan will be put away for 1,000 years. Cast out the mocker and strife shall cease (**Proverbs 22:10**). I think Satan being bound could very possibly happen on the day of Atonement, *though we're not told WHEN exactly Rev 20:1-3 happens. But there's nothing here stating any sins are placed on Satan's head, because sins are placed on Yeshua's head, for us. It's not Satan's role to atone for sin. How could he, with all the sins HE has!?*

Revelation 20:1-3

"Then I saw **an angel coming down from heaven**, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while."

I believe the day of Atonement is actually a day of God's offer to the survivors of the world to reconcile and ATONE for the world's sins if they accept his offer. The Jews – by their traditions – focus on Atonement as a day of Judgment. But God's WORD says it's the day for ATONING sins and reconciling.

The Fall holy days is all about God now offering his salvation to the world. The Spring holydays was about God working with the firstfruits, those being called now, before his return. The Day of Atonement is his day to show his boundless grace; a day to forgive and start being reconciled to a world that has, for the most part, been very sinful and destructive of his people and his creation. Yeshua certainly will have their attention by now, after all those plagues, wars, earthquakes and more. Lev 23:26-32 is the full text about this holy day.

Leviticus 23:26-32

“And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 27 **“Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement.** It shall be a holy convocation for you; **you shall afflict your souls**, and offer an offering made by fire to YHVH.

28 And **you shall do NO WORK** on that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement ***FOR you*** before YHVH your God.

29 For any person who is not afflicted in soul on that same day shall be cut off from his people.

30 And any person who *does ANY work* on that same day, that person I will destroy from among his people. 31 You shall ***do no manner of work***; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.”

Did you notice how many times God insists that we do NO work towards our Atonement, or on this day – for God and the High Priest “make atonement ***FOR*** you...” (v. 28).

Now notice the timing of when this day starts and ends, v. 32:

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.**”

God’s sabbaths are kept starting the evening before at sundown and ending the following sundown.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT OVERVIEW

To Jews this is an awesome and fearsome day, as many of them may repent to be included in the Creator’s Book of Life for another year. Year to year, is their

understanding. There's nothing in scripture that tells us that on Atonement, God puts or removes our names in the Book of Life for another year. It's not there.

No, this is an incredibly positive day.

The work of atoning for the sins of the world is done by the High Priest alone. Much more on this later. God does not want you trying to attain your own forgiveness and reconciliation. The High Priest does ALL the work and works hard to atone for our sins through the blood sacrifices. We are not saved by our works but by grace through faith in Yeshua (**Eph 2:8-9**). Of course we are called to do good works (v 10), but not for salvation.

Do you recall all the verses saying the people must do NO WORK at all on this day about atoning for sin? Lev. 23:26-30

The 2 kids of goats

There are 2 identical-looking innocent goats that play a part on this magnificent day. Both are without blemish. BOTH are INNOCENT and blameless. Both look perfect. God identifies which one is to be sacrificed and his blood sprinkled on the altar and mercy seat. **The other goat has all the sins of the nation pronounced over his head.**

Let me just say this right now: **the 2nd goat was as innocent and perfect as the first.** No blemish, no spot, no issues – just a faultless cute little kid goat. Satan has never ever been INNOCENT, never been faultless or perfect once he attacked God in his failed coup. So Satan simply **could not be the 2nd goat – the azazel, goat of departure.**

Let's read it. Lev 16. The first 4 verses are warnings to Aaron the High Priest to be careful and just dress in the simple attire of a regular priest on this day.

Leviticus 16:5-6

“And he shall take from the congregation of the children of Israel **TWO kids** of the **goats as A sin offering**, and one ram as a burnt offering.
6 "Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering, which is for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his house.”

Both goats are – in verse 5 -- considered “A” sin offering. Verse 8 will speak of a “**scapegoat**” – a terrible translation of the Hebrew word “azazel”. I do not capitalize it because it does not refer to a spirit demon. It just means goat of “departure”.

It CERTAINLY cannot be the name of a demon in the wilderness to which they were offering this goat! God NEVER would have taught or tolerated that! So the horrible translations that indicate this 2nd goat is sent into the wilderness TO Azazel – a demon of the desert ... Are you kidding me?

Leviticus 16:7-10

“He shall take the two goats and present them before YHVH at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

8 Then Aaron shall **cast lots for the two goats**: one lot for YHVH and the other lot for the scapegoat (departure).

9 And Aaron shall bring the goat on **which YHVH's lot fell and offer it as a sin offering**.

10 But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat [azazel] shall be presented alive before YHVH, **to make atonement upon it**, and to let it go as the scapegoat into the wilderness.”

Since when does SATAN make atonement for us? NEVER! That 2nd goat is NOT him. Keep the simplicity of Christ going! That's all we need.

Verses 11-14 is about the bull and its blood sprinkled to cover the priests. Then the other ram is killed as a sin offering by shedding its INNOCENT blood sprinkled on the altar, the mercy seat and so on.

V 15-19 is about the first goat that was killed, and its innocent blood sprinkled also – to cleanse everything with the bull's blood – to make atonement for the tabernacle, for the priesthood and for the entire population there. This included sprinkling blood on the horns of the altar of incense, just outside the veil into the Holy of Holies (v. 18-19).

Now the 2nd goat, the goat of departure (azazel):

Leviticus 16:20-22

"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.”

ON whom are ALL our sins placed? On Satan? No, no, no! Never on him.

Some of you, who have always believed the 2nd goat is about Yeshua, may wonder **why I bother to even bring up Satan. It's because significant church groups believe the "scapegoat" is Satan.** Besides, how could Satan be a *Scapegoat*, anyway!? Someone who is a scapegoat is someone falsely accused of something bad. It's just a bad translation anyway. But I'm addressing those who teach and believe this very misplaced doctrine of the 2nd goat receiving the sins of the nation being Satan.

How offensive that must have been to God when for years so many ministers preached the goat of departure, who had all sins pronounced over its head and who took those sins far from the camp of Israel -- is about Satan. Even I did, many years ago. But not anymore.

Of all the days in God's plan of salvation, Satan has ZERO part in atoning for our sins.

But most of all, NOT ONE SCRIPTURE has ever been shown to me that any sin has ever been put on Satan's head as my atonement.
Notice who DOES take away the sin of the world:

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!***”

Not just takes away the sins of “my people” – but ***of the whole world!***

Isaiah 53 and the end of Isa 52 are scriptures about the promised Messiah who would take on himself the sins of others. I don't think these 2 chapters, or Psalm 22, and other Messianic psalms are ever read in synagogues today.

Isaiah 53:5-6

“But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray;

We have turned, everyone, to his own way;
And YHVH has laid on HIM the iniquity of us all”.

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.***”

Again – where’s any scripture showing SATAN bears our iniquities? Where’s any verse that says SATAN takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29)?

Where’s any scripture that says God puts his hands on Satan’s head and confesses on SATAN all our sins? NONE. It’s not there, *because Satan is so sinful, he couldn’t pay for anyone’s sins anyway and he’s certainly not the Savior!* He isn’t innocent, he isn’t blameless, and he isn’t the 2nd goat.

Forget all the details of the Hebrew words, forget all the stories about azazel in the apocryphal book of Enoch, forget all the mental gymnastics –just keep it simple: Jesus takes on our sins. SATAN does not TAKE OUR SINS!

Let’s read a few more about Christ’s role in taking on our sins on himself. 1 Peter 2:21-23 speaks of Christ’s example, and then in verse 24 says this:

1 Peter 2:24

“**who Himself bore our sins in HIS OWN BODY on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed”.**

WHO takes our sins on himself and then MOVES them far away?

Psalms 103:12

“**As far as the east is from the west,**
So far has HE removed our transgressions from us.”

Someone show me ONE verse that says our sins are put on Satan’s head and HE atones for us by taking our sins away. Just one verse please. There isn’t such a verse.

Everything about the holydays points to Yeshua. No exception. *I’ve had to repent of ever thinking Satan had any part in the most holy of holydays – the Day of Atonement.*

So what's happening on this day? JOY happens on this solemn day. Certainly in the Jubilee years there's great joy!

THE JOY of ATONEMENT

God's son has just returned with his resurrected bride. The world has just gone through the 7 last plagues (Revelation 16) – after the 7 seals, after the 7 trumpets – **and God's got their attention**. Frankly—BILLIONS have died in wars, inquisitions, atomic disasters, volcanic ash, hits from space on to our planet, and more. So now what?

THE JOY OF BEING FORGIVEN AND RECONCILED

The people of this world are petrified in fear at this point. But Yeshua will explain on this day that HE will atone for them and put on himself all their sins, like He did his Bride.

I believe this day – in the next step of God's plan of salvation for humanity – is when He and His Bride tell the world that they deserve punishment and death – but that their new King is willing to take their sins on himself and cast their sins as far as east is from the west.

It's the day of ATONEMENT – not the Day of God's wrath and Judgment! Atonement is about justifying, forgiving, covering, reconciling!

The Day of Atonement, I believe, is about God- through Christ – offering salvation now to the rest of the world; and opening their minds to receive His call. *This day is not about Satan. It might include Satan's binding – but nothing more about Satan.*

This Day is about offering a very evil world forgiveness and atonement and reconciliation to God. He has now begun to harvest the rest of the harvest – pictured by the Fall holydays.

That's the next logical step. Christ is now on earth at this point and is telling the world they can receive the same reconciliation His Bride did, **IF THEY, like we did ...**

- **Believe that Yeshua is the Son of God, who died for our sins and was resurrected by God.** (Should be obvious with him standing there)
- **Confess and REPENT of all their sins – acknowledge them and surrender them to King Yeshua their Savior and then be**

baptized/immersed in water into the body of Christ (Romans 6:3-6). I think we'll be busy helping.

- **And then believe into him, in him, and accept HIM as their personal Savior, Lord and King** and we will lay hands on these people, and they will receive the Holy Spirit – just as we did. They will receive their new heart from God and now they will love God's law and his ways. Then he will apply the meaning of this day of Atonement to them and reconcile them to the one true living GOD.

You **MUSLIMS** – Yeshua, whose name means “Salvation, Savior” – died to pay your death penalty (**Romans 6:23**) for your sins as well. Believe in the True God and not the moon god. If you want true blessings, Yeshua will tell Muslims coming out of that religion that He can bless them too.

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. Accept our Lord's teachings and not the Four Noble Truths. And know our true end – and it's not Nirvana.

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! Come to the one true living God and loves you too if you're part of the “untouchable” caste.

So though it IS a solemn day – it is also a day where we have elements of JOY as people realize the new King loves them and accepts them – with love.

Remember the book of Jonah is read on this day – reminding us of God's great mercy to very evil Nineveh when they repented.

But before we can have joy – the world will have to repent and come with weeping and mourning. Once the world repents, there's joy and peace.

Remember David spoke of “restore to me the JOY of your salvation” – which he said during his prayer of repentance (**Psalms 51:12**) of murdering a woman's husband (Uriah) to cover up his sin of adultery.

The work of the High Priest

Now let's talk about the High Priest.

When it comes to us being atoned for our sins and being reconciled back to God, **we are NOT SAVED BY OUR OWN WORKS.** But there WAS someone who DID work and worked like CRAZY on this day – and that was the High Priest. The nation of Israel had all their sins atoned for because of HIS work – while God told the people to all please just rest in their tents and let Him do the work of atoning and saving them.

Do you get it? The High Priest pictured Yeshua. HIS work is what saves us and atones for our sins and reconciles us with God Most High, Abba – our Father. We are to do NO work at all in terms of atonement for our sins. That's God's work. It's the High Priest's work.

The High Priest remember, pictures Jesus Christ. SO whenever we read of the High Priest, think Yeshua, the Son of God. Here are a few of **the many scriptures that Yeshua is High Priest for us (Hebrews 3:1; 4:14-15; 6:20; Hebrews 7:26; 8:1; 9:11).**

ALL the sacrificial animals also picture Yeshua – the bull, the 2 goats, the sheep and so on, that are mentioned. In fact, the whole TABERNACLE pictured Yeshua.

- The ONE entrance on the East side – HE is the ONE way.
- **The altar of sacrifice – pictures our repentance to him and his sacrifice for us, as all the sacrificed animals pointed to him.**
- The wash huge basin for the priests – HE washes us. We are immersed in baptism into Christ (Rom 6:3-6).
- The Holy Place (the first part of the Tabernacle) is Christ.
- The Menorah (lampstand) is Christ, especially the Center light.
- HE is the Shew bread on the table of Shewbread.
- HIS body is the VEIL to the Holy of Holies.
- HE is the BLOOD with which the High Priest enters and stands before the throne of God – represented by the LID of the Ark, called the Mercy Seat.
- And he is much more – the coverings over the tabernacle, the “curtains” surrounding the tabernacle, he is all of it!

One interesting thing about the High Priest that we should remember on this day:

The High Priest was only one allowed to work, besides a very few others who carried out carcasses to be burned -- and so worked hard. Yeshua does ALL the work when it comes to us being atoned before God. Anyone who tried to WORK on this day – picturing our sins being atoned for -- God said he would destroy, remember **(Lev.23:28-31)**.

So the High Priest is the one who killed the bull, collected its blood, sprinkled it. HE is the One who killed the goat for sacrifice. He is the One who laid hands on the other goat of separation and pronounced all the sins over it.

If you've ever so much as killed a lamb or goat in the past – there's some stress and work to it. The slaughtering of the animal, draining the blood, preparing it for sacrifice, carrying it... most of you can't imagine. I've had to kill chickens, turkeys, even a goat in years past when growing up in the Philippines.

*It struck me this year as I was studying all this that **Yah wants to make sure we understand that the work** of cleansing us, the work of saving us, the work of atoning for us, the work of reconciling us, the work of taking our sins on himself – **it is exclusively the work of His Son, Yeshua of Nazareth.***

ATONING, on this day, is **solely HIS work**. Abba in heaven does NOT want us thinking **WE are our own saviors or that we can work hard enough to qualify for His kingdom**. He does not want us thinking **we can save ourselves** except to take the steps of answering HIS call for us to repent, turn from our former ways, be immersed in water, and receive His Holy Spirit upon the laying on of hands, as we accept His Son as our Savior and King, and to walk with him.

So the High Priest, picturing Yeshua, was busy with very bloody business. What did the High Priest LOOK like after this day?

On Atonement, the High Priest was not dressed in his beautiful High Priestly robes – but the simple white linen garment of a regular priest. Remember he pictures Yeshua. I guarantee you the pristine white linen garment he started with **is now bloodied and soaking wet** with the blood of a bull, a goat, and sheep. Soaking wet red blood. That's how our Yeshua looked on the cross of course.

So it's very positive that God tells us to REST – and RECEIVE his atoning work through our high priest Jesus Christ.

For time's sake, I have to wrap up, but there are so many other things that can be said about Atonement. Here's the short version.

More 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, so now all our sins are forever forgiven. So guess what?

The veil was torn in two, and we can go into the Most Holy of Holies – to the literal throne room of God in heaven – any time we want!

We criticize Adam and Eve for not taking advantage of the Tree of Life – but do we do any better by praying OFTEN, since we have daily access to Abba!?

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.”

****THE DAY OF JUBILEE, EVERY 50 YEARS was definitely a cause of great joyful celebration. Leviticus 25:8-12**

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. Slaves were freed. Indentured Hebrew servants were freed.*

Jubilee year every 50 years on Atonement was great. No more debt. No more enslavement. Your family land is returned. And great shofars were blown!!

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. But that's not in the Bible! There is a book of life, but there's no mention of one year time spans!

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.**"

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.**"

**** 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 3:2-4

“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.

Then verses 5-7 say we must PUT TO DEATH the sinful vestiges in our lives.

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.

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.

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 also 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 – nobody else -- have done for you and me. Amen and hallelujah.

Closing prayer....