

2016 The Days of Awe and Yom Kippur

Break 1

Signs of the times

Yom Kippur is a Sabbath of Sabbaths – just as every week has a sabbath, this is the sabbath for the whole year. Two things are required - rest and fasting.

Genesis 2:1-3 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and **made it holy**, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

In Romans fourteen, "One man esteems one day above another: another man esteems every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Romans 14:5). In Colossians chapter two he said, "Don't let any man judge you in respect to holy days, new moons, Sabbath days: Which are all a shadow of things to come; for the substance is of Christ" (Colossians 2:16-17).

In other words, the Sabbath days were just a shadow of things to come. Substance creates a shadow. The substance is Jesus. The shadow that Jesus cast on the Old Testament was the Sabbath day, the day of rest. So that Jesus has become our Sabbath as Christians.

He is our rest. We have ceased from our labors; we enter into His rest. The Sabbath days of the Old Testament were all looking forward to Jesus Christ who would bring rest. No longer is there a righteousness of works or of the law, but the righteousness now is by faith resting in Jesus Christ.

You could also say this resting is encountering Christ intimately - becoming one with Him and His will.

Yom Kippur is an anniversary of a bad thing, but it's an awesome day of hanging out with God
Rosh Hashanah was the creation of man

Yom Kippur was probably the Fall of Man

This was the day that Adam missed his appointment with God (to walk in the cool of the day)

This was the day God killed animals to make skins for Adam and Eve

This was the day that was spoken of as Jesus was slain from the foundation of the world

Before the Jews, before Moses, before the law, there were days that would become the fall feasts

And these days are eternal in the sense that we will celebrate them on into eternity

Jesus celebrated them

Yom Kippur is probably the return of Christ

It has 25 hours (no one knows the hour)

So, we fast on Yom Kippur, wearing white in death, choosing not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge, as a return to the Garden spiritually. To start anew our walk with God.

Isaiah 58 is a wonderful summary of Sabbaths and what God calls fasting

6 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?"

13 "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, 14 Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Break 2

3 Spring Feasts

Think holy week - Palm Sunday - Good Friday - Easter Sunday

Passover - First Fruits Resurrection Day - Pentecost Holy Spirit was poured out (Moses received the first set of 10 commandments - after fasting 40 days)

He broke them at the golden calf but also interceded for the people telling God to strike his own name from the book of life rather than killing all the people (beautiful picture of Jesus).

3 Fall Feasts

Actually begins on the 1st day of Elul (exactly 30 days before Rosh Hashanah when Moses started his 2nd 40 day fast)

Rosh Hashanah - New Year - first day of the civil calendar

The 10 Days of Awe (Awesome Days) end on Yom Kippur with fasting and prayer all day

Sukkot - Feast of Tabernacles (prefigures the new garden, the new heavens and earth)

5 days after fasting and repenting and meeting with God on Yom Kippur

Your sins are atoned, so it's time to start your new life

You spend 8 days celebrating during Sukkot - the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths

And you construct a sukkah - a lean-to or hut where you eat your meals during the festival.

Yom Kippur is this is the only holiday that fasting is explicitly commanded by the Lord - Leviticus 16:31 "It is a Sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you shall afflict your souls. It is a statute forever."

Afflict doesn't mean to punish yourself but to humble yourself.

The Jews wear white (or burial clothes) - to live all day as if they were dead (fasting)

It's humbling yourself before God and a reminder that you are mortal

White burial clothes have no pockets

(no possessions can be taken - only the Word and good works)

One of the fringes (tzitzit) is cut off - it represents the law - the dead are no longer under the

law.

Ordinarily, the high priest's outfit had bright colors and a breastplate of precious stones. But on Yom Kippur, the high priest was required to take off these glorious robes in exchange for simple, white linen garments, in order to go into the holy of holies.

He looked just like any other priest. This foreshadowed Jesus, our great high priest, putting aside his heavenly glory and putting on flesh to become one of us - and yet remaining holy.

Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow (Isaiah 1:18)

It's a day to encounter God personally

(Moses received the second set of 10 commandments - his face was glowing)

These days are for repentance - so they determine your destiny

Every time you repent - you change your destiny

Leviticus 10:11 "distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean"

As a Christian you might say these days help set the course for your year

The choices you make and directions you choose

These 10 days are like a preview of the year ahead or a snap shot of trends

What you conquer now - impacts your entire year ahead - decision count more now

Yom Kippur is all about the sacrifice and forgiveness of God - first we repent - then He makes a way for our forgiveness

Yom Kippur represents judgment day when all men will stand before God

The word Satan (letters are numbers in Hebrew) adds up to 364 -

Yom Kippur is the 365 day when he can't accuse you (like in heaven at the judgment for Christians).

Break 3

The Day of Atonement

The day the high priest sacrificed a bull that would cover the sins of the priesthood (he would be covered in blood) and went in to the holy of holies to pour the blood on the mercy seat (kapporet - the cover of the mercy seat where the blood ran - from the word kippor)

Then he would take 2 goats to cover the sins of the people -

Leviticus 16:6-10, 21-22 "Aaron is to offer the bull for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household. Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the entrance to the tent of meeting. He is to cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the Lord and the other for the scapegoat. **The high priest put both his hands into a wooden case, and took out two labels, one inscribed "for Yahweh" and the other "for absolute removal" (or "for Azazel").** Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the Lord and sacrifice it for a sin

offering. But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the Lord to be used for making atonement by sending it into the wilderness as a scapegoat. He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness.

1 goat is to be the sin offering (blood on the mercy seat)
and the other goat is to be the scapegoat who would carry their sins into the wilderness
Both goats die so that the people's sins would be forgiven

In the same way Christians ask for forgiveness of sins, there is confession

The Talmud states (ib. 39a) that a strip of scarlet-dyed wool was tied to the head of the scapegoat which would turn white as soon as the goat was thrown over the precipice: a sign that the sins of the people were forgiven.

It didn't always turn white. Beginning with the death and resurrection of Jesus, it no longer turned white. The Talmud bears record to a spiritual decay among the people, such that murders became so widespread that the Sanhedrin ceased to adjudicate capital crimes such as homicide.

The miracle of the thread turning white was to show them (and us) that if we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive them

When Jesus died on the cross it tore the curtain forever and a permanent sacrifice was made and accepted for everyone forever

The same scripture that prophesied of this spiritual decay, described why God turned the scarlet strip white:

Isaiah 1:2-4, 11-18 Hear me, you heavens! Listen, earth! For the Lord has spoken: "I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its master, the donkey its owner's manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand." Woe to the sinful nation, a people whose guilt is great, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the Lord; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.

"The multitude of your sacrifices— what are they to me?" says the Lord. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations— I cannot bear your worthless assemblies. Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood! Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

“Come now, let us settle the matter,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

Here God hints at what is really happening.

The Israelites and people in general hear God saying: “You shall be holy because I am holy”, and hear it as a demand or a requirement.

But what God is saying is a promise that He will perform: “You are going to become holy because I am going to come into you and transform you so that you are holy just like I am holy.” The word shall is a promise, not a demand.

Holiest day of the Jewish year - Yom ha-kadosh

Kippur comes from kafer - ransom or redeem (the cross)

Written Plural - Yom Kippurim (a day like Purim) It cleanses us from a multitude of sin
Ester/Haman - Purim was a day of deliverance and salvation

The priest entered with incense before him as he approached the ark, and sprinkled the blood on it. Unlike any other sacrifice which requires the sprinkling of blood, on this most holy day of the year, the rabbis agree that the priest’s motion should be “ke-mazlif” (כמצליף), or as if they were whipping someone. Here is how it is written in the Mishna and the Babylonian Talmud

The motion is once upwards and seven times downwards, aiming to sprinkle neither upwards nor downwards but kemazlif [making the movement of swinging a whip]

Some have even suggested that originally it was the word “ke-matzliv” - like a cross, but that the obvious implications of this were too much for the Jewish sages and it was changed to “ke-mazlif” instead.

Even this rabbinic mandate serves to reinforce the picture of God himself paying the price for our sins, being whipped and suffering at the hands of humanity.

Throughout the year, in sacrifice after sacrifice, the tabernacle absorbed all the sins of the people, but Yom Kippur the “reset” button is pushed - going back to zero. It is called a Sabbath of Sabbaths - a bit like the Year of Jubilee (seven Sabbath years), when everything goes back to its original owner.

Scripture clearly points to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus, and how he would redeem us all by his blood one day. “I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day” (Zechariah 3:9).

Break 4

Moses spent 40 days to receive the 10 commandments then smashed them by the golden calf. After destroying the golden calf and judging the guilty, Moses went back up Mt. Sinai for 40 more days to intercede for the Israelites.

Moses came back to camp and one day later on Elul

1st God called him back up the mountain to receive the 2nd copy of the 10 commandments.

Moses came down the mountain on Yom Kippur with the new tablets.

So, the month of Elul (plus the first 10 days of Tishri in the New Year) is used for repentance in preparation of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Teshuvah - often translated as repentance but it's much bigger than that.

Shuv means to return or to turn back (to God and from evil).

Since God is the means by which we turn from evil, shuv is more about turning back to God with all of your heart, soul, and strength to change your direction or destiny.

1 forsake the sin (agree with the Word of God - or saying the same thing)

2 regret the break in your relationship with God

3 confess the truth and make amends

4 accept forgiveness

On Rosh Hashanah we looked at some of the prophetic expectations we have for the year ahead 5777. Let's sum up what we talked about.

We looked at the trail of 7's in recent history to see what issues may mark this year:

100 years ago - 1917 (rest, perfection, purity)

Russian Bolshevik Revolution began - US entered WWI

Britain defeated the Turks and captured the land of Israel/Palestine

British forces under General Allenby captured Jerusalem

Balfour Declaration - It read: His Majesty's government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.

50 years ago - 1967 Jubilee (rest, perfection, purity)

Jun 5th-10 6 day war between Israel, Syria, Jordan, Iraq & Egypt

Israeli troops captured Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem, Gaza

We should keep our eyes on Jerusalem. Could this be the year America, the UN, and the world recognize it as the capital of Israel?

War is a continual theme in years ending with 7. Since God is holding the sword, will something spectacular and historical happen?

What is our response to war possibilities? Pray for those who lead and protect.

Jeremiah 29:7 And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace. (if it prospers, you too will prosper)

Stock market plunged 777 - **God was in it. Here we are 8 years later ready to enter 5777.**

Break 5

5777 a year of God's kingdom coming to earth, or the kingdoms of the earth becoming the kingdom of our God and His Christ.

Since the kingdom is within us, the first focus is to make our heart fully His.

If 7 is a sword, and 77 is a double edged broad sword, then 777 is God with the sword

Revelation 1:16 In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

Revelation 2:16 Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

6 = is the number of man (when we yield to the grace of God (5) and the word of God (77))
we shift from 5776 to 5777 by putting on Christ in a new and fuller dimension.

5777 may be a going forth of the Word in a Power we have not yet seen.
It could be revival like we have not seen. Evangelism with signs and wonders.

In the Book of Revelation, seven is a central figure: seals, trumpets, plagues, bowls, thunders, horns, eyes, diadems, and kings.

Jesus revealed himself to John walking in the midst of 7 candlesticks, holding 7 stars, and dictates a letter to 7 churches. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. **Jesus is going to walk in our midst in the coming year in a new dimension calling us to be those lively stones builded together with other believers**

God's eyes are looking over the earth for Cupbearers and armor-bearers.

God is raising up men and women who will invest themselves into another man's domain.

If you have a goal let it be to be faithful. There will always be those with more gifts and talents and strengths but you can always be the most faithful.

What happened of significance during the Days of Awe October 3rd-12th

Shimon Peres, the last of Israel's founding fathers, dies at 93 on the Eve of Day one of creation. His funeral and burial on the Eve of Rosh Hashanah

When the last founder dies, the foundation is completed.

God is ready to do a new thing we have not seen in the last century.

Moving from 6-7. 6 connects two things. Last year was the last year of the founding. It's time to build on that foundation.

Tel Aviv University researchers make Alzheimer's breakthrough

Researchers at Tel Aviv University have developed a new approach to innovative treatment of

Alzheimer's, providing hope to those with the degenerative disease. They have found a way to correct the flaw in the gene that causes Alzheimer's. Lab mice treated with the new therapy recovered from the illness.

Russia Warns US Not to Intervene in Syria, Threatens to Shoot Down Any Airstrike Attempts
Russia has warned the United States not to intervene militarily in Syria against forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad, threatening that it may shoot down any aircraft attempting to launch strikes.

Minimum violence in Israel

The US government no longer controls the Internet

No BLM protests but several cops were killed

Seems like there has been a spirit of offence released some time ago

Our default reaction is to be offended

Like the "7"/sword, offense, criticism and judgment also proceed from the mouth (are a sword), but it is not the sword of God, it's the work of The Accuser.

God works to bring humility and repentance

The Accuser works to bring shame, rejection, and to stifle courage, action, and obedience by dredging up the past.

Presidential Race with Debates and controversies and scandal

Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon formed against you shall prosper,

And every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.

This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me,"

Says the Lord

Break 6

Isaiah 58 Fasting that Pleases God

58:3 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?' "In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, and exploit all your laborers.

4 Indeed you fast for strife and debate, and to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high. 5 Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord?

6 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?"

8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. 9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, 10 If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.

11 The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. 12 Those from among you shall build the old waste places; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, the Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.

13 "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, 14 Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord has spoken."