**2017 The Days of Awe and Yom Kippur

Break 1**

1. This morning we will discover what the Day of Atonement
is all about for Christians.
2. Learn what it means to be Dead to the World.
3. Talk about a cool miracle that took place on this day
4. Look at what it means to transition from
the Biblical year of 5777 to 5778
5. Look at Swords, Walls, Borders, Boundaries, and our Authority
6. Get to know Rocket Man and Anthem Man (the Kneeling Men)

**Break 2

A Memo to the NFL:** To draw attention to social and racial injustices, you’ve chosen to protest during the National Anthem. Because you believe your message is honorable, it gives you the right to dishonor the flag to get your message out. As a veteran with three police officers in my family, who have always treated everyone, regardless of their race, with respect, your current message will never find a home here. And I speak for a large segment of this nation. You’re offending and alienating instead of inspiring, and your message is not resonating.

Not convinced? Just Google “fans burning NFL gear”. On Thursday it was up to 2,500,000 results. Are you aware that 77% your fans are white, 12% are black, and 5% are Hispanic? Countless of them are veterans or first responders. Many have been fans of their team since before you were born. You might have cheered in the stands with us when you were young. Your jerseys are supplied free for you, but your fans pay from $100 - $400 for one jersey. And now they’re burning it and celebrating America instead of cheering for you.

**Break 3 - He Is Our Rest**

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.

Tonight people from around the world will celebrate Yom Kippur.
In Israel, nothing, absolutely nothing will be open --
No Radio, No Television, No Cable; Even the Street Lights Won't Work!

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 Colossians chapter two Paul says, "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.

Sabbath days were all looking forward to Jesus who would bring rest.
We can’t become right with God (righteous)
from what we do or even obedience to the law
Righteousness comes by faith – trusting in Jesus to be in charge
– or resting in confidence
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 when Jesus was “slain from the foundation of the world”

 **Break 4 - Your Sins Are Like Scarlet, They Shall Be White As Snow**

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 of His coming

Two things are required - Rest and Fasting.

1. Resting represents death so we wear white clothing to represent death – burial clothes are white
The Jews wear white 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 (tzitziot) is cut off - it represents the law -
the dead are no longer under the law.
2. 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.

Why are we to Fast -
because we have learned from the failure of Adam and Eve
We are choosing not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge
As we return to the Garden spiritually to start anew our walk with God.

Isaiah 58 describes what God calls fasting on a Holy Day:
Turn away your foot from doing your pleasure on My holy day
Call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable
Honor Him by not doing your own ways
Nor finding your own pleasure
Nor speaking your own words

Isaiah 58 describes what God calls fasting on an Ordinary Day:
“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
To break every yoke
To share your bread with the hungry
To bring to your house the poor who are cast out
When you see the naked, to cover him
To not hide yourself from your own flesh

 **Break 5 - The Day of Atonement**

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 the 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.

Each of us who knows Jesus as Messiah belongs to a royal priesthood.
We are called to enter the presence of God -
but in order to do that, we need to strip ourselves
strip ourselves of our pride, our egos, our worries, our concerns.
And we must come humbly into the presence of God.

**The Day of Atonement** is when the High Priest sacrificed a bull
that would cover the sins of the priesthood.

To enter in, he would go through the Parokhet (פרוכת / veil or curtain)
that separated this holiest of places from the rest of the Temple.
The word “parokhet” is derived from the root perek (פרך)
which can mean to break apart or to fracture, but also rigor and severity.

The veil represented the separation between God and man due to man’s sin
That the veil represented Jesus, and when He died on the cross for sin,
which separated us from God, the veil was torn.

The High Priest would be covered in blood from making the sacrifice
Then he went into the Holy Of Holies to pour the blood on the Mercy Seat

The Hebrew word is Kapporet (כפורת), which is derived from kaphar, meaning cover.
Kaphar also means to purge, make atonement, ransom or redeem (the cross)

Kapporet is also related to the word kippur (as in Yom Kippur),
which is translated as purge, atone, expiate, and propitiate.

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

 **Break 6 – First a Bull – Then The Goats**After the High Priest finished with the Bull, 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. **[He would throw it over a cliff]**

1 Goat is to be the Sin Offering (blood on the mercy seat)
The Second Goat was 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
As 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

**How the Blood Was Sprinkled Is Interesting**
The priest entered with incense before him as he approached the ark, and sprinkled the blood on it. 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 suggested that originally it was the word “ke-matzliv” – “
“Like A Cross”, instead of like a whip,
but the obvious implications of this were too much for the Jewish sages
and it was changed to “ke-mazlif” instead.

There are continual sacrifices throughout the year,
but Yom Kippur the “reset” button is pushed – taking sin 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.
Zechariah 3:9 “I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day”
 **Break 7 - Of Swords and Walls**

What did the Days of Awe and the meaning of 5778 say about prophetic expectations we can have for the year ahead?

And what carry-over there might be from 5777 since there are still 2 (7)’s in the year.

We focused on the Hebrew number 7, whose pictograph is a sword
Revelation says of Jesus: coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword.
The three 7’s represented God holding the sword, or holding back the sword.

5778 is very different – all that conversation should have led to repentance
Revelation 2:16 Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

777 is gone but 77 remains
Without the third sword you have no one bringing restraint.
Which means some type of war is inevitable – and there are many kinds of war both hot and cold

You can probably feel the Spirit of Offense that is on the earth right now
In every situation the 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.

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

God works to bring humility and repentance –
Here is what we need to do this year:
Isaiah 58 “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.

**The number 8, means change -** the start of a new order, to protect, separation

America is in a spiritual spotlight right now.

There will still be war - 2 sevens remain in 5778,
but change will dominate and the kingdom will triumph.

The Hebrew number and word 8 is Chet – Het (guttural H)

The letter or pictograph looks like a **fence or a wall**

Since it’s a fence or a wall, boundaries will be significant
Boundaries enable safety - the right people to be in community together -

So depending on your perspective:
It’s a good year to be a Christian who loves ministering to people
OR

It’s a tough year because people will be facing issues that require ministry

The immigration issue will be in the forefront – with two dynamics
we love people – but we have to have boundaries
Grace will play a big part in the success or failures of this next year

It’s when we reap what we sow. You did this - now you do that

Jesus is the Lord of the Harvest.
One kernel becomes an ear of corn.
One seed becomes a plant with many seeds.

The bad you do is often very fruitful

A seed becomes a plant that can cause much damage

 **Break 8 - Borders and boundaries = authority**

We have been given authority from Jesus for such a time as this and we need to understand how it works and pray for the grace to walk in it every day and in every situation

**Isaiah 54:11-17**
“Afflicted city, lashed by storms and not comforted,
I will rebuild you with stones of turquoise…
All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be their peace.

In righteousness you will be established:
Tyranny will be far from you; you will have nothing to fear.
Terror will be far removed; it will not come near you.
If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing;
whoever attacks you will surrender to you.

16 “See, it is I who created the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame
and forges a weapon fit for its work.
And it is I who have created the destroyer to wreak havoc **;**
**There is an intended pause here**
17 no weapon forged against you will prevail,
and you will refute every tongue that accuses you.
This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord,
and this is their vindication from me,” declares the Lord.
**The reason for the pause:**God has done something that appears to be bad but wait
God also placed boundaries and rules in the game so that the outcome would be sure

In the time of the 777’s, we couldn’t always see the boundaries.

This year, they become more visible.

Borders and boundaries = authority

What you do, others do, and God does will affect your authority,
empower your authority or steal from your authority

Proverbs 25:27-28 It is not good to eat much honey;
So to seek one’s own glory is not glory.
Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down,
without walls.

**There has been a Spirit of Deception over this nation for many years.**There is no understanding of the concept of Respect.
Disrespect is the natural outflow of that struggle.
But they can’t hear those trying to tell them the truth.
Whenever people on the left tell one of these lies, they believe what they are saying.
Which is more frightening than if they knew they weren’t telling the truth. With people who know they aren’t telling the truth there is always hope.
But there is no hope for people who believe their lies.

Isaiah 58:12 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.

**Break 9 – Rocket Man and Kneeling Men

The pictograph for the Hebrew number 8 is A Wall or a Fence
Offense is** One of the strongest characteristics of the year ahead will be offense.
It was huge last year,
but this year it will be like a wall built up by people to protect themselves
– from hearing the truth.

**North Korea**

**Innocent people are going to suffer**

1. Learned this week Chinese banks will no longer do business with them
2. President Trump signed an executive order targeting North Korea’s trading partners
3. North Korea - no official end to War – the border may finally be drawn

**Anthem / Flag / Monument protests**

Earlier this year, the liberal political left and socialists tried to get every Confederate monument removed across the US.
Essentially to rewrite history
and to stop the celebration or honoring of our history.

The National Anthem has its roots in that same Civil War period
and now it is the focus, with the intended result of probably eliminating the playing of it to avoid offending anyone.

The National Anthem being played before a sports contest originated during the Civil War at the opening of Union Grounds park in Brooklyn on May 15, 1862 for a baseball game.

Playing the national anthem before regular season games was not universal in baseball until 1941 and 1942 at the start of World War II.
Since then, the national anthem has been played before virtually every professional
- and many collegiate and high school -
baseball, football, basketball, hockey and soccer contests in this country.

Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began sitting or kneeling during the anthem a year ago to try to make a statement about social inequality and police treatment of blacks. Currently those kneeling claim it’s their free speech right to protest.

Currently kneeling during the National Anthem during NFL games has taken the spotlight.
These exploded after President Trump challenged the league to step into their roles as authority.

Statistics from an independent Harvard study
doesn’t show any truth to the accusation that the police treat blacks differently,
so regardless of the current motivation for the kneeling,
the one relevant thing considering the history of the anthem
is the disrespect being shown by those currently kneeling.

NFL teams stood for the playing the British National Anthem -
God Save the Queen - while playing in London
but kneeled on foreign soil to disrespect the American National Anthem
with dozens of Baltimore Ravens and Jacksonville Jaguars taking a knee.

NFL has a handbook of rules – as well as a Game Operations Manual -
It’s the boundaries - and it defines how The Anthem is to be handled -
NFL refused to maintain its rules borders so they will pay the price –

It will affect the players and communities -
Endorsement deals for players have been ending
as the focus has been shifting from teams to individual players.

One report on Watchdog.org said that over the past two decades,
the NFL has raked in about $7 billion of taxpayer money to spend on stadium renovation and building.
Look for a lot of backlash.

Another study from the Brookings Institution showed that federal taxpayers have subsidized the construction of 36 stadiums at a cost of over $3.2 billion since 2000. Look for a lot of backlash.
 **Break 10 - What is the message of the Storms and what will America look like?**

Long range effect of people not watching NFL?
Their Sunday will be returned to them.
They may rediscover what life can truly be like with 3-6 hours and a lot of money back in their pockets. They may regain a vision of God's calling.

That tells me, beyond this specific crisis, it's not going to be easy to get it right. Challenges are ahead.

Our Supreme Court looks more like a democracy than the republic that America was formed to be.
We need to return to righteous laws and order that is respected.

Good governing federally and among the states can help that, but there is a huge divide in America.

Ultimately the battles and disrespect, the walls, boundaries, socialism, violence, and offenses will force those who see the nation as more liberal and socialistic to return to a stronger Republic of law and order with a respectful level of democracy.
OR
Strong leadership will force the Walls and Boundaries to go up higher to further separate and protect the country politically, governmentally, socially, morally, etc.
Hurricanes point to what happens when you build walls poorly or near the water.

Hosea 8:7 They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. The stalk has no head; it will produce no flour. Were it to yield grain, foreigners would swallow it up

At Rosh Hashanah, the Fall Harvest has just ended. It's time to grind and store and take advantage of your labor. What was sown will impact the reaping. Which is to say when you plant or do wrong you won't just have no fruit or grow bad fruit, you will grow poison destructive fruit. The reaping will be done by the whirlwind. It will be scattered and lost.

 **Break 11 - What is the message of the Storms and what will America look like?**

[Proverbs 22:8 He that sows iniquity shall reap vanity:
and the rod of his anger shall fail.](http://biblehub.com/proverbs/22-8.htm%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

[Job 4:8 Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.](http://biblehub.com/job/4-8.htm)

Bowing your knee at a football game will not achieve your hopes.
If they are not already feeling it,
The NFL will soon feel like they were hit by a hurricane.
Those crying for justice for supposed police violence
by disrespecting the flag will not reap justice but the whirlwind.

[Galatians 6:7-8](http://biblehub.com/galatians/6-8.htm) Be not deceived; God is not mocked: “for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.
The one who sows to please his flesh,
from the flesh will reap destruction;
but the one who sows to please the Spirit,
from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

[Ecclesiastes 5:16 And this also *is* a severe evil -
Just exactly as he came, so shall he go.
And what profit has he who has labored for the wind?](http://biblehub.com/ecclesiastes/5-16.htm)

The Detroit Riot of 1967 devastated the city, as it shifted from a white majority city to a black majority city, Coleman Young, Detroit's first black mayor, wrote in 1994:

The heaviest casualty, was the city. Detroit's losses went a lot deeper than the immediate toll of lives and buildings. The riot put Detroit on the fast track to economic desolation, mugging the city and making off with incalculable value in jobs, earnings taxes, corporate taxes, retail dollars, sales taxes, mortgages, interest, property taxes, development dollars, investment dollars, tourism dollars, and plain money. The money was carried out in the pockets of the businesses and the white people who fled as fast as they could. The white exodus from Detroit had been prodigiously steady prior to the riot, totaling twenty-two thousand in 1966, but afterwards it was frantic. In 1967, with less than half the year remaining after the summer explosion—the outward population migration reached sixty-seven thousand. In 1968 the figure hit eighty-thousand, followed by forty-six thousand in 1969.

**Our Calling Revealed**
Abraham left a greatly advanced civilization to live a life of a nomad in tents.
Isaac and Jacob followed that calling.
None used their great wealth to build homes or cities.

They kept their eyes on their calling.
They were wealthy but stayed Separate from the world of their day
waiting to inherit the promises of God.

Canaan was a land filled with cities they didn't have to build.