

Calgary L'chaim Bible Fellowship

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A study series with Saskatchewan & Bontoc Ekklesia group

Text: Lev. 16:29-34, 23:26-32; Num 29:7; Heb 9:11-14, 22-24, 10:1-25

Date: _____

Yom Kippur – Day of Atonement

Background

The Day of Atonement occurs 10 days after the Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah). Yom Kippur has been considered the holiest day of the year in the Biblical calendar. Every year on the Day of Atonement, the High Priest enters the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle (Temple) and apply the atoning blood of the sin offerings on the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant.

Leviticus 16 goes into great detail on what is happening on this day when the High priest goes through a set of complex sacrifices for himself and then the people of Israel. One goat (chatat) will be slain symbolizing the sins of the people and then another goat (Azazel) the scapegoat is led outside the walls of the city to the wilderness symbolically taking the sins of the people with it. This time also of the year when the High priest goes out to give the Aaronic blessing on the people, the NAME (Y-H-V-H) the tetragrammaton would be invoked.

Theme of the Day of Atonement

The most important theme of All Scriptures is the Atonement for sins! A picture of God's gracious provision. Atonement and forgiveness by way of "blood sacrifice."

However the blood of animals could not provide true and permanent forgiveness or blotting away of the sins of the people and so God's Son (Yeshua) came to provide the ultimate sacrifice (Propitiation) ---Himself! He was enticed to death in the Temple by the High priest who said prophetically...that "it was expedient...that one man should die for the people (John 11:50).

Other Significant References

The Days of Awe, the Ten days from Yom Teruah to Yom Kippur. In the context of Isaiah 58:5 on "fasting" the people is to "humble each one's soul." During these days believers in the congregation looks inward with self-evaluation on personal relationships; forgiveness and restitution are offered and reconciliation is attempted.

The Fast Days mentioned in Zechariah 8:19 are 1. The 10th of Tevet (early December) marks the beginning of the Siege of Jerusalem in 586 BCE. 2. The Fast of Esther (Feb/ March) 3. 17th of Tammuz (July) when the walls of Jerusalem were breached in 586 BCE and the last 4. Fast of Gedaliah (Tishri 3, September) remembers the assassination of the last King of the first Temple period (Zedekiah).

The Promise to be fulfilled is in Zechariah 8:19 that these days of mourning will all be forgotten in the days of the Messiah.

Prophetic Fulfillment

The significance of the shed blood of Yeshua in the context of Yom Kippur is well presented in Romans 3:23-26 (Kapparah – Propitiation). At-ONE-ment in time the Final and ultimate Sacrifice, fulfills Yom Kippur and the expectation of the coming of the Messiah King!

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