

## END TIME ISSUE MINISTRIES

FOR WE ARE ALL ONE BODY IN MESSIAH

(Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12)



(1A1.01.09.10)

## YOM KIPPUR – DAY OF ATONEMENT AN END TO TERRIBLE DAYS

by  
Scott Brown

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

**ABSTRACT:** This article is a continuation of the series on specific Scriptural Holy Days. This item has been taken from the web site of the Son of David Congregation, located in Rockville, Maryland, U.S.A. at the leading of the Set Apart (Holy) Spirit of Yahweh.

It provides an overview of the key aspects of the Day of Atonement from a Scriptural perspective supported by other information of relevance. Yom Kippur this year is from sunset 27 September 2001 to sunset 28 September 2001.

Insofar as significant dates in Yahweh's calendar are linked to specific Holy Days, there is reason to consider the timing of the attacks on 11 September 2001 relative to the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles as being significant with the possibility that the war threatened by the U.S.A. could start on Yom Kippur OR that some other event of major significance might take place.

The article provides a detailed analysis of the Scriptures relating to the Day of Atonement and clearly demonstrates the manner in which Yahshua Messiah fulfilled the provisions for this Holy Day. Various items of Jewish tradition and historical account are provided to demonstrate that there were miraculous signs given to the people of Judah before and after the death of Yahshua which could further have led them to understand that the expected Messiah had, indeed, come.

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**KEY VERSE OF SCRIPTURE:** Leviticus 16:29-31 <sup>29</sup> "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. <sup>30</sup> "For on that day the priest shall make atonement for

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"Yahweh" is the correct anglicisation of the Name of the Almighty Creator commonly known as "the LORD", recognizing that "the lord" is in fact the translation of the Hebrew word "Baal" -- the name of a pagan Phoenician deity. "Yahshua Messiah" is the correct translation of the words generally incorrectly translated "Jesus Christ". Other Hebrew words and other terms defined in this document are available on request.

*you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before Yahweh. <sup>31</sup> "It is a sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you shall afflict your souls. It is a statute forever." (NKJ adjusted)*

**SUPPORTING ARTICLES:** None

**PREVIOUS ARTICLES IN SERIES:** 1A1.01.04.01; 1A1.01.04.02; 1A1.01.05.11

**NEXT ARTICLE IN SERIES:** As led, possibly regarding Tabernacles

**DECLARATION:** I James Alexander Robertson hereby testify before Almighty Yahweh that i have prayed over this document and that i am satisfied that in broad terms the message is Scripturally correct and in accordance with the Word AND Will of Yahweh at this time. While i have no personal knowledge of the source of the information and have not verified the details, it is my understanding, by the Spirit, that this document is about **75%** as Yahweh would have it.

I confess that were it not for events earlier in the year for which i accept full responsibility, it would have been possible to research the subject more fully and obtain further information on this subject. I confess this as sin and ask for forgiveness.

I acknowledge and accept that i will be judged for any false statements made by me knowingly or unknowingly and ask Father Yahweh now in the Name of Yahshua Messiah Adonai that should there be any such errors He judge me in this life that i may come to repentance and not be judged in the life to come.

**PRAYER:** Father, in the Name of Yahshua Messiah, if there is anything in this document that is not according to Your Word or Your perfect will please prevent it taking root in the heart of the reader and let all that IS according to Your Word and Your Will take deep root in the hearts of all who read it.

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## **SUMMARY**

Refer abstract.

## **END TIME / GLOBAL CONTEXT**

The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) this year occurs from sunset on 27 September to sunset on 28 September 2001.

This article is provided within the context of previous teachings specifically providing information to enable readers to more fully return to observance of the Holy Days set out in Scripture.

In particular, the articles:

1A1.01.04.01      Why Easter is Unkosher (02 April, 2001)

1A1.01.04.02      Pesach (Passover) Feasting to Freedom (05 April, 2001)

1A1.01.05.11      Shavuot (Pentecost) The Feast of Weeks - Sunday 3 June 2001 (31 May, 2001)

have a bearing.

This article should be considered in the context of the events in the USA on 11 September 2001 with a view to building a clear understanding of the spiritual situation. While there does not appear to be any Scriptural significance associated with these events occurring 17 days before the Day of Atonement, there does appear to be some significance in the context of messages last year leading up to Yom Kippur:

1A1.00.04.01      A Vision Concerning Zephaniah 1 and 3 (Tuesday, April 04, 2000 06:37)

- 1A1.00.04.03 Is the bride ready for the wedding or is she about to face judgment? (Tuesday, April 18, 2000 06:06)
- 1A1.00.04.08 Surely the abomination of desolation is come upon the temple of Yahweh? (Tuesday, April 25, 2000 08:12)
- 1A1.00.07.02 A Mayim Urgent Update - The Temple Mount Archaeological Destruction (17 July, 2000)
- 1A1.00.08.01 Some Thought Provoking Web Sites (18 August, 2000)
- 1A1.00.10.01 Developments In Israel: The War of Gog and Magog and The Beginning of Great Tribulation? (03 October, 2000)

These articles, amongst others, pointed to coming judgment on the church and also to the possible commencement of a global war against the Nation of Israel which was seen prophetically fulfilled by the United Nations resolution against Israel on the night of Yom Kippur 2000.

Subsequent articles have further identified the possibility of coming judgment on the church:

- 1A1.00.11.04 Judgment and the Church - Tribulation FIRST
- 1A1.00.11.06 Wheat and Tares (re Persecuted Christians)
- 1A1.00.11.08 Facts on Israel - Helpful Information (14 November, 2000)
- 1A1.01.01.01 The Wrath of Yahweh for the Church : Why Judgment is Coming on the Church Today (04 January, 2001)

This last article included a prophetic vision of massive spiritual destruction in the Body of Believers during 2001 through 2003.

In the months that followed, i became aware of Scriptures, teachings and other information and received confirmation from the Spirit of Yahweh that the Western European nations and their descendants, including the people of the United States and Australia were in fact members of the ten tribes (Ephraim) exiled from the Northern Kingdom of Israel (Israel) to Babylon and then into the dispersion. Subsequently the Spirit of Yahweh also revealed that there were substantial concentrations of blood descendants of Israel in Africa and Asia. It therefore became apparent that first Britain and now the United States had been heirs of the blessings of Yahweh on Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) and that Britain had lost the position of leadership because of spiritual apostasy. The United States has followed suit by falling away from the way's of Yahweh progressively removing the things of Yahweh from the centre of their constitution and daily life.

This took on a new significance to the writer in the light of the events of 11 September 2001 as i became aware of previous judgments on the U.S.A. as discussed in the articles "A Message Linking Disasters In The USA To US Policy Toward Israel" (reference 1A1.01.09.05, dated 19 September 2001) and "Public Stands Against Israel" (reference 1A1.01.09.07, dated 20 September 2001). This was more sharply focussed by the article, posted earlier today, "Abortion -- Another Factor in Understanding the Events of 11 September 2001" (reference 1A1.01.09.09, dated 23 September 2001).

The probability that the United States of America, as the leader of the "Christian" world is about to face massive judgment UNLESS she repents VERY SOON is becoming increasingly clear to the writer. The World Trade Centre disaster, the NINTH "worst of it's kind" disaster in a decade, coming shortly before the Day of Atonement provides an opportunity for the United States to Repent on the Day of Atonement. If it does not, the next judgment will be orders of magnitude more severe!

Subsequent to 11 September 2001, a series of articles have been published analysing a diversity of physical, spiritual and scriptural factors that have contributed to the events of 11 September and various analyses have been presented with a view to understanding the exact context of these events, what the REAL ISSUES ARE and how Yahweh expects Believers to respond to them. These articles therefore, of necessity, provide context to this article.

In the context of the previous articles, the observation in this article by Scott Brown "*Largely because of one prominent rabbi, Judaism's view of atonement shifted from Yahweh's way to man's way; from Yahweh's doing -- by means of a mediator bringing a blood sacrifice -- to man's doing -- by means of righteous deeds.*" (adjusted by introduction of Sacred Name) is IMMENSELY SIGNIFICANT!

The writer suggested in the article "What is The Bridge To Bring The Jews To Salvation" (reference 1A1.01.02.07, dated 12 February, 2001) that one of the critical issues facing the Jews was the reality that since the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD there had been no way for them to atone for their sins. It was suggested that this must surely trouble devout Jews and that a sensitively presented message that clearly demonstrated from Scripture that Yahshua was INDEED the fulfilment of the provisions of Torah in this regard would surely produce a rich harvest of souls.

In the "bridge" article and the article "Of Evangelism to Other Denominations and Faiths, of Marriage Across Denominational Boundaries, of Yahweh's Truth and A Better Way" (reference 1A1.01.02.09, dated 15 February, 2001) amongst others, it has been noted that a similar issue applies to Muslims.

Both Jews and Muslims are forced today to seek atonement through "good works" because they are not aware of or do not accept that Yahshua was who He was. Yet those who study the Torah (Jews) or Tawratt (Muslims)

faithfully must surely be constantly troubled by the absence of the various animal sacrifices for sin provided for. Deep down, they must surely realise that there is something missing. That "something" is a spiritual key in the form of Yahshua Messiah! However, this message can only be effectively presented against a background of sincere and deep repentance by believers in Yahshua Messiah ("Christians") for all the terrible crimes that have been committed against Jews and Muslims in the name of "Christ" – a thread that has been touched on in the articles following the events of 11 September and over the previous eighteen months.

In this regard, and particularly in the context of the article "Vital Spiritual Principles Required To Understand What Was NOT Seen In The Attacks On The USA On Tuesday 11 September 2001" (reference 1A1.01.09.04, dated 19 September 2001) it is also important to recognize that there are an enormous number of "good" men and women in the world today in Western leadership positions and elsewhere, whether Jew, Muslim, Free Mason, nominal denominational "Christian", unbeliever or atheist or agnostic and in all the other major religions of the world who are ALL SEEKING ATONEMENT THROUGH GOOD WORKS and who must, secretly at least, know that they are failing!

If believers, led by the Spirit of Yahweh, can find the "Yahshua shaped" spiritual keys that Yahweh has preserved in the hearts of each of these groups, it is quite possible that massive breakthroughs can be achieved with hundreds of millions coming to a saving knowledge of Adonai Yahshua Messiah in the next few years as set out in the article "The Evangelism Iceberg in 2001: Strategic Objectives Of The Kingdom Of Yahweh" (reference 1A1.01.08.11, dated 21 August, 2001).

We must also expect that the cavalier manner with which the Western "Christian" world has effectively distained the sacrifice of Yahshua at Golgotha will, in the context of repeated prophetic messages of coming judgment, provoke great Judgment from Yahweh commencing on the Day of Atonement. We should not be surprised at further catastrophic events in the days ahead!

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# **YOM KIPPUR – DAY OF ATONEMENT AN END TO TERRIBLE DAYS**

by

Scott Brown

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From <http://www.windowview.org/JandG.files/yomkip.html>

## **Could the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur bring a message equally valuable to Jew and Gentile alike? Take a look!**

The following presents the words of Scott Brown, a congregation leader and a Messianic Jewish believer. He speaks of Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of atonement, such that everyone can learn of a link between the Old and the New. This is only one of many examples of Messianic shadows cast over the Jewish holy days. Yom Kippur is a yearly Jewish observance concerning personal atonement. First there is the new year celebration, then ten days referred to as terrible days leading to this day of atonement. This is a serious occasion, not like other holy days that bring a spirit of celebration. The subject of forgiveness of sin involves a Messianic type (a foreshadow of the coming Messiah) presented as two goats. How often have you wondered about the origin of the term: scapegoat? Perhaps you use this term in your daily life and yet do not know its connection to the past. The following words were spoken aloud before a Jewish and Gentile audience on the occasion of Yom Kippur eve:

'Listen as I read the first four verses of Leviticus 16:

*'Now the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron when they offered profane fire before the LORD and died. The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to come simply at any time into the Holy Place, inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die, for I appear in the cloud above the mercy seat.'* (Leviticus 16:1,2)

'Remember the picture here, we have the children of Israel in the wilderness, the tabernacle, the gorgeous tent, wherein the presence of God dwelt. The Holy of Holies above the Ark of the Covenant, the mercy seat...

*'Thus Aaron shall come unto the holy place with the blood of a young bull as a sin offering and of a ram as a burnt offering. He shall put holy linen tunic, and the linen trousers on his body; he shall be girded with a linen sash and with the linen turban he shall be attired. These are holy garments; therefore he shall wash his body in water and put them on.'* (Leviticus 16:3,4)

## Holiness

'It's a little strange that the whole passage begins with a reminder of the death of Aaron's two elder sons...Nadab and Abihu. But it's not so odd when you consider the theme we see in the first four verses. What word was repeated four times in three verses? The word holy. God is speaking of his holiness. And he begins this view of Yom Kippur to remind them that these two boys Nadab and Abihu were virtually fried because they had no respect for his holiness. And the God of Israel is not a Henny Youngman God! He doesn't stand around with a fiddle and complain about getting no respect! He demands holiness.

'... Do you want a God who is less than holy? I don't. I want a holy, perfect God. Like Groucho Marks once said, "I don't want to belong to a club that would have me as a member!" Now if you think about that it's good sense. I don't want to belong to a God, or accepted by a God, who winks at sin... I want a holy God.

'God's holiness is essential to Yom Kippur. It's spoken of 87 times in the book of Leviticus alone, and a bit more than another word, which is spoken 86 times... lets see if we can spot it. In verses 14 and 15...

'He, Aaron, shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat, on the east side, and before the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times. Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, bring its blood inside the veil, do with the blood as he did with the blood of the bull and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat.

## Life is in The Blood

'Did you spot it? Yeah... this reads like a high school biology textbook! Blood. Blood is another key idea for Yom Kippur from God's perspective. But why blood and why is it tied so close to holiness? Eighty-six times blood, eighty-seven times holiness! Why? A few reasons. Number one, God considers life sacred. And he said the life is in the blood. The life of the flesh is in the blood. In Leviticus 17 he says it at least four times... the life of the flesh is in the blood.

'Number two, if God is holy, he is perfectly just. Now that's great news for those of us in this room who are perfect! But for the rest of us it's reason to *schmitz*--we should *sweat* about this thing--because perfect justice demands payment--for how many transgressions? Yeah. All of them, all 613 of the Hebrew Scriptures... But you're probably saying I'd never murder anyone, well that's great... have you ever disobeyed your parents? Did you ever covet, ever desire, something that never belonged to you?

'God says I've given blood, remember it's a gift. Totally apart from our works. I've given blood on the altar to make atonement for the soul. So the

key ideas of Yom Kippur are what? Holiness, blood, and mediation. Mediation... the term cohen (pronounced koh-hane), priest (one acting as a mediator), is said more times than holy and blood all together, 189 times in the book of Leviticus. Speaking of a mediator between man and God, those are the big ideas of Yom Kippur. All right, we have now got those themes in mind, let's describe the ritual sacrifice for this ancient day of atonement. I'm not going to read Leviticus 17, let me describe what's going on, it's very dramatic.

## Two Goats

'Now the sin offering for the entire nation consisted of two so-called he goats--male goats. Now think of this scene. Picture the tabernacle, it's a relatively small tent, outside of which is the altar--where the sacrifices were made. Outside of this tent are two to three million Jewish worshipers. And they are all facing the altar. Between the people and the altar are two goats. It's an incredible sight if you think about it. The two goats stood with their backs to the people. They were facing the sanctuary. Both of these goats had the same size, appearance, they cost exactly the same, and they appeared to be identical. This is by no coincidence. In an urn nearby were two tablets which were also identical, except for the inscriptions that were on the tablets. One of the tablets said: 'Yahweh', the Tetragrammaton for the name of God. The other one said: 'Azazel.' That's a very difficult word to interpret. The word for goat in Hebrew is Ez; the Arabic term Azela means to remove; and the Hebrew term azel means to turn away or reject. So, the best we can come up with is: The get outta here goat! That's what this azazel was. Yahweh... Azazel... Now, it's got to be stressed--please don't miss this--the two goats represented one being serving two functions. I can say that because the Scripture says the two goats were together appointed a sacrifice for sin, for the congregation. Not two, but a sacrifice. The two lots emphasize this point, again they are identical in every way except for the duties for which they were assigned. One is for Azazel, the other is for Yahweh.

'The lots were assigned randomly. It didn't matter which goat was assigned which, for their identities intermingled identically. The goats were one in terms of their identity, but distinctively two in terms of their function. So, what is this two-fold function? Here it is, the lots are drawn, the one that says Yahweh is applied to the first goat. That goat is slaughtered. Its blood is sprinkled in front of the Ark of the Covenant. Why? Leviticus 16:16 says, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, because of their transgressions, for all their sins. In other words, it was a sin offering for the whole nation.

'Now, this is the third and final time the High Priest would enter into the presence of God, taking in with him the blood of this Yahweh goat. But what follows this is the pinnacle the most dramatic point of the whole service. One goat remains in the outer court facing the altar. Suddenly he is turned around and two to three million Jews are facing one goat. All eyes are on

him, the High Priest goes up to this animal, he lays his hands on the animal and Leviticus says *the animal became sin*. Not speaking metaphorically, not speaking symbolically, *the animal embodied sin*, it became the sin of Israel. Then the second goat, the Azazel goat, the get outta here goat, becomes a despised object. Despised and rejected, this goat was to be removed from the camp as quickly as possible.

'If you think about it, it's ironic, that the very thing which is to carry away the sin of Israel, should be so despised and oh so rejected. At this point Jewish history, I'm speaking of temple times, the Mishna records that a scarlet sash was tied to the horns of the goat. He is led to a high precipice by what the Scripture calls the fit man. His name was something like Schwatzenagerburg! Well, maybe... anyway... He is taken out about ten miles to this precipice, a high precipice, where the sash is cut. A piece of this scarlet sash is then tacked to the precipice. Next, the High Priest pushes the goat off the cliff. Jewish history records that as the life passed out of the sin bearing goat, which had become sin for Israel, the scarlet sash--supernaturally--turned white. As though God were saying--through Isaiah as he said in chapter 1, verse 18--'though your sins be as scarlet, yet will they become as white as snow.'

### **Coincidence of Timing or A Message for Us!**

'According to Jewish history this miracle occurred every year as though God were confirming the viability of the Yom Kippur sacrifice. He was saying: Yes, One more year I have pushed away the judgment, one more year I have accepted this sacrifice. But the Talmud, the rabbinic commentary on the Hebrew Scriptures, also records a turn of events which shocked and terrified the people of Israel. Listen to this... reading from the Babylonian tractate, Yoma 39b, speaking of the last years when the Second Temple stood, something odd was happening in those parts of the world:

'our rabbis taught: During the last forty years before the destruction of the Temple the lot ['For the Lord'] did not come up in the right hand; nor did the crimson-coloured strap become white; nor did the western-most light shine; and the doors of the Hekal would open by themselves, ...'

'Something is going on! The scarlet sash that would constantly turn white--when the sin bearing goat dies--suddenly stopped turning white. The doors of the Temple would swing open as if to say: 'you are all welcome now. Come into my presence.'

'The western most light of the golden lampstand kept going out as if to say the Ruach-HaKodesh, the spirit of God, was no longer present. And the lot that had always come up in the right hand started to come up randomly. Why? What happened? Had God forsaken his principles. Was he no longer willing to atone for the sins of Israel.

'The scarlet sash had stopped turning white because this imperfect atonement--which needed yearly maintenance ... provided access to God for only one man (the High Priest), only one day of the year, and then not without fear and trembling--this imperfect atonement was made perfect by the sacrifice of a perfect Messiah.

'Is it just coincidence that this Messiah willingly sacrificed himself forty years before the destruction of the Temple? It was precisely when these things began to happen. Is it just a coincidence, the Scriptures say of the Messiah, that he too was despised and rejected. That we hid our faces from him. Surely he has borne our grief the Lord says, carried our sorrows as the scapegoat. He was led as a sheep to the slaughter. And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. And the B'irt Chadashah (i.e., New Covenant; see Jeremiah 31:31), confirms that God made Him, Messiah who knew no sin, to become sin for us, exactly as we saw in Leviticus--of the scapegoat. Why? That we might become the righteous of God.

## **Paying the Price**

'Why two identical goats for the Yom Kippur sacrifice? It's clear, the first goat paid the price sin demands; and revealed the means of the payment, that was blood--he was slaughtered. The second goat shows the glorious result of that payment. Removal of sins from the camp, purification and cleansing, and together they form a dramatic portrait of atonement. And a foreshadow of the One who would come twice to the Earth. One individual, dual functions. A Messiah who had come once to pay the price, life for life. Scriptures say that in due time Messiah died for the ungodly. The just for the unjust. You see the picture. But he comes again to purge and remove sin.

'The Bible says in Hebrews 9:28 *'Messiah 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. He comes again, not to deal with the sin problem, it's been dealt with the first time. He comes again to consummate the work of salvation--to remove the presence and power of sin. Hallelujah!

'Folks Yom Kippur is here. We know what God requires, he requires a mediator and an offering. We've seen it in Scripture, he demands blood.

'I've got a question for you, it's an obvious one. First of all, who is going to be your mediator? Are you going to mediate? Psalm 49 says nobody can mediate for himself, no one can provide redemption for himself or for another. The cost of redemption is too high. Give it up!

'There's another question: What's your offering going to be? It has to be blood, is it going to be your blood? Will you fast? The rabbis say that when we fast our body produces fewer red blood cells, and therefore we come before God with this so called sacrifice of blood, and say 'God please receive this as an offering.'

'Don't waste your time! Don't you see the Tanach says that God has laid his hands on him, the Messiah. And all the inequity has been laid on him. Psalm 40 and Hebrews 10 tell us: 'Sacrifice an offering the Lord doesn't desire; but a body he has prepared for us.'

'Do you see it? God has provided both a mediator and an offering in the King Messiah, the Hope of Israel, the Light to the Gentiles. And if he is your Kippora, you have passed over life's greatest crisis. I don't know what you're involved in right now, I am sure there is some trial in your life, but it's nothing like the judgment of God. If you have received the Kippora through the perfect mediation, the perfect blood sacrifice, that Messiah has provided, then that's all behind you. The crisis point of the world is behind you. That's great! No reason to despair.'

## Themes

'There are various themes for Yom Kippur that we are going to explore. The first one, unfortunately, concerns sin. Sin isn't a very popular subject. But it's the reason for the season! And sin is, frankly, the reason we need forgiveness. Technically--especially within the context of rabbinical Judaism--sin is breaking one of the 613 commands of the Hebrew Scriptures. But the Scripture amplifies the meaning of sin beyond the 'verb' dimension. There is a power of sin that the Scripture reveals. "Through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin..." Everybody was created to live eternally. The reason people have a fear of death is because it is not natural for us to die. We die because of the power of sin which has invaded our very fabric. A rabbi, Rabbi Paul, said: 'I wouldn't have known sin unless the Torah had revealed it.' And so what we have here is a Ashamnu, a meditation of self examination.

'Most are aware of the ten commandments. And if you don't know it, the ten commandments were really designed by the Manufacturer to reveal sin. The ten commandments are meant for anyone who thinks himself, or herself, perfect. God, in essence, says "Well, fine; there's an easy test! Just *sidle* up to these commands. See how you measure up. You may get through the first nine--although I doubt it--but the final one is a command that none of us has kept, that is one that deals with the heart--Thou shalt not covet...

'Rabbinic Judaism contains a special prayer called the viddui. Many believe--if this prayer is said on the death bed--this will atone for one's sin. Unfortunately that is not what the Scripture says. Psalm 49 tells us that no sinful person can redeem his or another's soul; it is too costly. Only the blood of a perfect sacrifice can atone for sin, according to Leviticus 17.

'The Hebrew prophets testified boldly of a sin bearer who would provide perfect atonement. According to the prophet Isaiah God has brought one from Israel, first for Israel, to provide himself a sin offering, and yet who would be despised and rejected by the Jewish people. ... He would render himself as a guilt offering. And by the way, anything that becomes a guilt

offering must die. But we are told "he will see his offspring, he will prolong his days;" in other words this one who dies--as an offering for sin--returns to life. And by knowing him many are justified.

## **Foreshadows of What is to Come**

'Torah contains many beautiful shadows which serve to define and highlight that which casts the shadow. And one of the most rich and majestic of these shadows is the very ordinance of Yom Kippur. I want to take a look at this 3500 year old ordinance through the eyes of rabbinic Judaism. We also want to look at this ancient observance through the eyes of biblical Judaism. Let's discover what is casting this shadow called Yom Kippur.

'How do modern Jewish people observe Yom Kippur? Certainly we don't celebrate it with the bubbly anticipation that we attach to the other Jewish holy days and holidays like Hanukkah, Purim, or Passover. There are several reasons for this sobriety. First, Yom Kippur is at the culmination of 'the 10 terrible days.' And at the end of 10 terrible days you're not exactly brimming with effervescence. We have had 10 terrible days, that's the technical term for it, also called the 'days of awe,' 'days of penitence,' the 'days of return,' and the 'days of repentance.' And if you hold to tradition, you are in a race against time during these 10 days so your name can be inscribed in the Book of Life before the book is closed on Yom Kippur. We are told by tradition that three books are opened; the Book of Life for the thoroughly righteous, the Book of Death for the not-so-righteous, and the Book of the In Between, for those of us who are trying to get in the Book of Life. And we have 10 days to get there. During that time there are no weddings, no simchahs--no rejoicings. Tradition says, if you fail the test of the 10 days your life will be cut short during the coming year. So you'd better succeed!

'Yom Kippur is a day of fasting, which probably explains why no one speaks of celebrating Yom Kippur. There aren't many people going around saying: "Happy Yom Kippur!" Fasting doesn't lend itself to happy celebrations. Rather, we say such things as "Yom Tov (good day) may your fast be easy." Another reason this is a sober day is because of the synagogue service itself. Five synagogue services beginning tonight with Kol Nidre and ending tomorrow night with the break-fast service.

'The synagogue services are very difficult. They're long and exhausting because of the endless prayers of rote confession and repentance. We are pleading to God to forgive us, as we replay every single category of transgression. It's amazing how many sins you can think of if you have enough time: Sins of omission, sins of commission, and everything in between. Now concerning the fast, the Bible contains no explicit instruction to fast. In fact, according to Isaiah chapter 58, God mocks the ritual fast. And again I am speaking of a fast that is only done ritually--not with a pure motive. The Lord seems to say in Isaiah 58: "Do you really think this is my idea of fasting? I can see your heart. My fast is not just abstaining from food. My fast is giving food to those who are hungry. My fast is liberating

those who are oppressed. My fast is speaking words that build up and don't tear down."

### **How Do You Believe?**

'But for the most part, sadly, the Jewish community fasts because that's what the Jewish community does. I recently spoke with a young Jewish woman.

I said, "Do you believe in God?"

She said, "Sometimes."

I said, "Do you fast on Yom Kippur?"

She said. "Of Course, I'm a Jew!"

'In other words she was dogmatic about fasting, but not at all dogmatic about her faith in God. Unfortunately the Torah prescription for this day is all but abandoned in traditional Judaism. I'm not indicting, I'm only observing. The Torah prescription for atonement can be reduced to this: Access to God through a mediator by means of blood. That's it! The statement of Yom Kippur is: 'You have access to me by my terms...through a mediator who bears with him innocent blood.' Believe it or not, largely by the influence of one man, this whole concept has been abandoned. And the one man is a scholarly rabbi from the first century named Yochanan ben-Zakkai--a great man, a man who loved God. But, a man who made a fatal error for our people. I'm reading from a historic Jewish document:

'As Rabbi Yochanan ben-Zakkai was coming forth from Jerusalem, Rabbi Yehoshua followed after him and beheld the Temple in ruins. 'Oy vay,' (which is interpreted 'Woe unto us') Rabbi Yehoshua called... Woe unto us that this the place where the iniquities of Israel were atoned... the place of the Temple, is laid waste. 'My son,' Rabbi ben-Zakkai said, 'Don't be grieved, we have another atonement as effective as this. And what is it? It is acts of loving kindness.'

'Largely because of one prominent rabbi, Judaism's view of atonement shifted from God's way to man's way; from God's doing--by means of a mediator bringing a blood sacrifice --to man's doing--by means of righteous deeds.

'Further, upon reading Rabbi Kertzer's book, 'What Is A Jew,' I was shocked to discover how far we Jews have strayed from God's design for true atonement. The rabbi writes:

"Judaism cannot accept the principle of vicarious atonement."

'Did you hear that? Did you believe it? What is Passover all about but an account of national redemption by means of vicarious atonement? What are all the temple sacrifices about except an animal dying for a guilty worshiper- a life for a life... vicarious atonement. What is Yom Kippur all about?

'He goes on to say:

"No one, we believe can serve as an intermediary between man and God. We approach God, each man after his own fashion without a mediator."

'But in the Torah you will see no one subject addressed more than the subject of mediation between man and God. Ironically, the Rabbi Yochanan ben-Zakkai, who above all men should have been assured of his salvation, had no such occurrence. Encyclopaedia Judaica records that Rabbi Yochanan ben-Zakkai, at his death bed, was so stricken with fear and doubt that his disciples standing around him said: 'Master what's wrong?' He said "What's wrong... here I am about to meet my Creator and I know not where I go.'

How sad. His despair has become the legacy of the Jewish people. So much so that in synagogues all around the world tonight and tomorrow, Jewish worshippers will stand, open the siddur (the prayer book), and corporately say a prayer that goes something like this:

'Here we stand priestly and privileged, inheritors of the past and makers of the future. Yet here we stand burdened with sin and shame.'

And the last line of the prayer is this:

'Who shall save us now?'

-ooOoo-

If you are interested in contacting Scott Brown, he can be reached through the Son of David Congregation, located in Rockville, Maryland, or by direct e-mail at [scott@windowview.org](mailto:scott@windowview.org)

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## **CLOSURE**

It is hoped that this article has provided further insight into the enormous complexities of the current world spiritual situation and, in particular, has challenged you to see the critical nature of Yahshua's atoning sacrifice in a deeper way.

Father, in the Name of Yahshua may all that is according to Your Will and Your Word in this article find deep root in the hearts of the readers and if there is anything that is not of You let it find no root at all.

*It is our prayer<sup>17</sup> that the Elohim of our Adonai Yahshua Messiah, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,<sup>18</sup> the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,<sup>19</sup> and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power<sup>20</sup> which He worked in Messiah when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,<sup>21</sup> far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.<sup>22</sup> And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the Body,<sup>23</sup> which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:17-23 NKJ adjusted)*

May Yahweh bless you and keep you and make His face to shine upon you. In the name of Adonai Yahshua Messiah, King of kings and Adonai of lords. Amen.

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