

The history of the Day of Atonement is almost as old as creation itself. Today is called Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, but also the Day of Covering. What's implied is atonement for sins. Or covering of sins. Today I'm talking about the solution to a very old problem.

Slide 2 YHVH Elohim commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."(Gen 2:16-17)

YHVH Elohim made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them. (Gen 3:21)

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. (Rom 5:12-14)

The Garden of Eden had one rule. When they broke that rule, death entered the world. The skins used to cover them were animal skins. Their sin caused the first animal sacrifice. The blood that was initially shed was that of an innocent animal. This had to be painful to Adam as he had named all the animals.

We can get hung up on them not dying immediately, but death did not exist until sin happened. They began to die that instant. They were never going to die prior.

"From Adam to until Moses" means that Yahweh brought the system for atonement with Moses. The Torah brings life.

Slide 3 Cain told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. Then YHVH said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. (Gen 4:8-10)

To further matters, Adam and Even lost their second born son to murder by the hands of their firstborn. Death was really in the world at this time. The cascading effect of eating from that tree generated jealousy, covetousness, and murder. Our world has been a violent and sinful place since.

Slide 4 Then YHVH saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. YHVH was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. YHVH said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from

the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the eyes of YHVH. (Gen 6:5-8)

The word for man there is adam. Adam is the name given to the first man, but it is also the word for mankind. The wickedness of mankind was so great that YHVH decided to kill everything that lived above the water. All of this stemming from that first sin in the Garden.

The history of mankind comes in cycles. There's even a symmetry to it as the second creation, the post flood world, is on the same path as the pre-flood world. The cycles can be smaller and bigger in scope and size. The cycles of Israel's faithfulness, falling away, and repentance follow a similar pattern. The world was destroyed with a flood of water the first time. This allowed for it to largely remain as it was. The water was used to kill all the surface dwellers, with just what as on Noah's ark as the seeds of the second try. The connection to the first remained, so our connection to the first blessings and curses remain. We are spiraling toward another judgment day. A final judgment day at that.

Slide 5 So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. (1Co 15:45)

the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. (Luk 3:38)

Yeshua calling Himself the Son of God is important on many levels. In this vein, though, Him being the Son of God means He can put it all right. He lived sinless to bear the iniquity of all, including Adam, the first human being. This is a gigantic cycle and one we could speak about for hours and hours. But the crux of the matter is that sin entered the world through Adam. That sin required atonement, the death of animals foreshadowing the death of the Messiah. Yeshua came into the world to live sinless and put that back right. He bore the sins of all mankind by dying innocently, as the last Adam, to ultimately put an end to this cycle of death and sorrow.

Now that we know the problem and the solution, let's look some details in between!

Slide 6 YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, "On exactly the tenth day of this seventh month is the day of atonement; it shall be a holy convocation for you, and you shall humble your souls and present an offering by fire to YHVH. You shall not do any work on this same day, for it is a day of atonement, to make atonement on your behalf before YHVH your Elohim. If there is any person who will not humble himself on this same day, he shall be cut off from his people. As for any person who does any work on this same day, that person I will destroy from among his people. You shall do no work at all. It is to be a perpetual statute throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. It is to

be a sabbath of complete rest to you, and you shall humble your souls; on the ninth of the month at evening, from evening until evening you shall keep your sabbath."(Lev 23:26-32)

This is the institution of what we are doing today and why we are doing it. Today is the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month. It is also Shabbat, which means it's a double. Having a holy convocation means to get together for the purpose of worship. In other words, have church.

Humble your souls – anah, means afflicted or humbled. Not just fasting. Fasting is the most applicable because of how food took so much work and was such a blessing in ancient times. Today, we take it for granted. Today we can have any style or type of food we wish nearly every day because we live in the USA. In ancient days, not so much. Back then, food was quite a bit harder to come by and harder to prepare. So it was much more appreciated.

The fasting is an incredible blessing and a humbling because we all go through the same exact thing at the same exact time. IT shows we are all sinners in need of a savior. It shows we fully depend on God for our lives. Even while fasting, we must consume His oxygen to stay alive. There is no situation whatsoever where we can live independently of the Creator of the universe.

Yom Kippur is a day of complete rest. We do as little as possible. This alludes to the food part. But this also shows the ridiculous error of those who accuse us of being works based. Salvation has always been dependent upon what SOMEBODY ELSE did. The Israelite, the Jew, and the Christian all agree on this. Our part is to do nothing so atonement can be made on our behalf.

The 9<sup>th</sup> of the month at evening to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month at evening shows, with no doubt, that a day starts at sunset and ends at sunset.

Slide 7 "This shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls and not do any work, whether the native, or the alien who sojourns among you; for it is on this day that atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you; you will be clean from all your sins before YHVH. It is to be a sabbath of solemn rest for you, that you may humble your souls; it is a permanent statute. So the priest who is anointed and ordained to serve as priest **in his father's place** shall make atonement: he shall thus put on the linen garments, the holy garments, and make atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar. He shall also make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly." (Lev 16:29-33)

From inception, atonement has been on behalf for mankind. Adam and Eve could not undo what they did. Yahweh had to actually kill one of more of His creatures to make atonement for them. That had to be awful. Cain could not restore Able. All those drowned at the flood cannot restore

themselves. Neither can any of use. The sins we have committed have been committed. Those that were against others, they can forgive us. And we need to forgive those who have sinned against us. But the sins we have committed in the sight of Yahweh and His Son, those are stuck. Unless a way is made to cover those sins.

Slide 8 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Messiah Yeshua, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time. (1Ti 2:1-6)

We know now that Yeshua, the Messiah, the Son of God, is the true and ultimate mediator between us and Yahweh. And this includes us to make petition, prayers, and praises for all mankind. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. All need a Mediator. This stems from the end of the 10 commandments when the people cried out and demanded Moses become their mediator. And Moses marched himself up that mountain, likely terrified with each step, and he mediated on behalf of the people. On the second trip, Moses offered to have his own name blotted out of the book of life if Yahweh was to destroy the Israelites. Moses offered to die eternally for the people. Yeshua actually did die for those who will accept Him, which is why the Messiah had to be one like Moses. In reality, Moses was one like the Messiah, but out of time.

Side 9 When considerable time had passed and the voyage was now dangerous, since even the fast was already over, Paul began to admonish them, (Act 27:9)

To bring it into New Testament observances, yes, the first century church continued to keep Yom Kippur. This is the key reference. The author of Acts, most believe that to be Luke these days, used the Day of Atonement as a time marker. Since the fast was past, meant that Yom Kippur was over, and it was fall so people would not normally sail anywhere because the seas would be rough. Think hurricane season. Or winter. In rickety sail boats. But the point here is that the author of Acts used the reference very casually, like how an American would say "Thanksgiving was near, so there was a chill in the air." Every American would know that meant mid to late fall. So we know they kept it.

What this also tells us, bluntly, is that it's a fast. That's not all that anah means by any stretch, but for goodness sakes let's not challenge things we know to be true. This day is a blessing because we all do the same thing at the same time. Whether rich or poor, male or female, tall or short, preacher or teenager, we do the same thing at the same time. The unity here is incredibly powerful and

precious. To be joined together with believers all over the world displaying our faith and gratitude to the Messiah for dying for us all at once is just remarkable. So let's keep it up.

Slide 10 Now when these things have been so prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship, but into the second, only the high priest enters once a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance. (Heb 9:6-7)

But when Messiah appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. (Heb 9:11-12)

The second Adam bore sins voluntarily. The animals never had a choice. The second Adam restored immortality by bearing the guilt of the sins. And we know it includes sins committed in ignorance. Today is a memorial of much, but chiefly that Yahweh has made a way. We don't fully understand that way, but He has made a way that if anyone recognizes His Son's sacrifice, they have their sins covered. May your names be sealed in the book of life! Praise Yahweh in the Name of His Son, Yeshua.