

Erev Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur in the Bible was the only day the High Priest went into the Holy of Holies and procured *forgiveness for the sins of the nation and its citizens*. Therefore, *Yom Kippur* is considered the holiest day of the Hebrew sacred year. After the ceremonies, the Aaronic benediction was pronounced with the Sacred Name being spoken. In Judaism this is the only time that the Sacred Name was actually verbalized.

This holiday carries the *forever* tag. We should keep it in obedience to the Father. According to *1 Peter 2:9*, we are *Yah Adonai's royal priesthood*. If we are His royal priesthood AND we are the temple of the Holy Spirit, then shouldn't we learn about coming into the Holy of Holies? We have daily access to the Holy of Holies, but how should we come in? What is our Mercy Seat covered with? Is it hidden under some ornate slipcover so no one can see it, or is it covered with the required incense? (*Lev. 16:12-13*) How often is our Mercy Seat used? How often does the cloud of God's presence dwell there? Repent and uncover it for Him!

A central point in *Yom Kippur* is to *afflict your soul*. Some translations render this as *deny yourselves*, or *humble yourselves*. In the JPS it is translated as fasting. Fasting, however, was not the main point of the holiday. The main points were the sacrifice, the scapegoat, and the entering of the High Priest into the Holy of Holies. Scripture is clear that God is not interested in our *sacrifices* of bulls and goats. What He desires is a broken spirit and a contrite heart with sacrifices of praise and worship. We need to experience the cloud of *Adonai's* presence hovering on the Mercy Seat of our hearts more often.

Yeshua obtained for us eternal forgiveness. Yes, our sins can be forgiven. But we are still required to *confess our sins – to bring them before The Almighty*. There are two sides to the biblical confession coin, both of which pertain to declaring the truth. One feels more pleasant than the other, but we need both for a healthy, honest view of ourselves as we walk each day with the Lord. We need to confess the truth about our sins and also the truth about what *Yeshua* has done for us. Confession is indeed good for the soul. As we humbly face some perhaps ugly truths about ourselves, we lay ourselves bare before the Lord and ask His Holy Spirit to work wonders in our hearts and behavior, conforming us to the likeness of *Yeshua*. Confessing the truths about what *Yeshua's* blood has accomplished for us leaves us awestruck as we realize that when God looks at us, though He knows our sin, He sees *Yeshua's* payment for it, and we stand utterly forgiven and loved. We can do this daily, but having one day a year that is separated for *fasting and prayer* is good medicine. It gives us a yearly opportunity to do what Paul told the Corinthians to do: *"Test yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Examine yourselves!" (2Cor 13:5).*

We are coming into a new realm. Many voices the prophetic world continue to say so. In a prophetic newsletter we received today *Adonai* said: *'My people, I am calling you to sow into the new. I am calling you to step forward in faith into the next step that I am highlighting to you, and actively sow your faith and trust into the promise and the vision that I have given you. I say unto you, that as you sow into the next step and sow into the vision and the promise that I have given you in the ways that I am calling you to sow: I say unto you that as you sow in obedience, you shall see a ripple effect of fruitfulness come forth as you walk in obedience to how I am leading you to sow and where I am calling you to sow. I say unto you, that where I am leading you into the new things that I have for you, see through My eyes that even where mountains are before you, these are places of My greatest miracles. I say unto you, that I will level mountains. I will turn that which in the natural is impossible to some of the greatest demonstrations of My power. I say unto you, turn not back to what was. Entertain not chatter from past seasons of disappointment, disillusionment and grief. I say unto you, lean your ear upon My chest and listen to what I am speaking. For I am increasing My intel in your lives right now as I lead you into the new things that I have for you. And as I lead you forth and you follow Me in obedience, you shall see MULTIPLE MOVES of My Spirit in your midst. For I shall do more than you have ever seen Me do as you follow Me into the new and in obedience to Me than you have seen before.'*

Gmar Chatima Tovah & Yom Tov!