



# Our High Priest Our Substitute Our Scapegoat

12 September 2021

## Leviticus 16

Zechariah 12:1-10; Hebrews 9:11-15

### Feasts of the LORD (Leviticus 23)

- The LORD (**Yahweh - the Eternal Sovereign Covenant Lord**) gave seven feasts to His redeemed people to **remember** His great works on their behalf and His promises of what He still will do for them.
- God's feasts are memorials **and** prophetic!
- God's has fulfilled four of His feasts and has yet to fulfill His last three.
- Every feast is an expression of His love, mercy, and grace for His people - NOT ALL - only those who have been redeemed and radically changed by His great love, abundant mercy, and the riches of His grace. (Ephesians 1:7; 2:4-5; 1 Peter 1:3; 1 Timothy 1:14)
- All of God's feasts are centered around Him *sharing* His Son, His Joy, with His people. The feasts are shadows of the Substance. The Substance is Christ. (Colossians 2:17; Ephesians 3:11)
- God is the HOST of ALL HIS feasts has planned, predestined, appointed everything. Nothing was left to the guests except to rejoice in everything that God, the Host, has provided. His guests are those whom He **called**. (Romans 8:28-30; 9:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:19; John 10:27-29; 1 Peter 5:10; **2 Peter 1:10**)

### God's Calendar

- **Spring feasts:** Those feasts fulfilled by Christ already.
- **Harvest season:** The church age - Matt 9:37-38; Rom 11:25; Jer 8:20; Luke 21:24.
- **Fall feasts:** Those feasts that have **not** yet been completely fulfilled by Christ.
  - **Feast of Trumpets:** the ingathering of Christ's church and the ingathering of Israel back to their land.
  - **Day of Atonement:** fulfilled by Christ on Golgatha for His Church and will one day be fulfilled by Christ for the nation of Israel. (Zechariah 12-14; Jeremiah 33:8; 50:20; Romans 11:15)
  - **Feast of Tabernacles:** fulfilled in part by Christ at "Christmas" (John 1:1, 14; Matthew 1:21-23) and will be fulfilled at the end of the ages. (Revelation 21:1-8)

### The Day of Atonement - יוֹם הַכִּפּוּרִים - Yom Kippur (Lev 16)

- MOST SOLEMN DAY ON GOD'S CALENDAR!
- It is a day of . . .
  - Work for the high priest and the high priest ALONE. The work of complete atonement could only be performed by the high priest. The high priest was the mediator between a sinful people and a holy, holy, holy God.
  - Humiliation - the high priest removed his garments of glory.
  - Bloody Sacrifice - a bull, a ram, two goats.
  - Imputation - ALL the sins of **God's** people, and only God's people, were imputed unto the goats. One goat as a SUBSTITUTE would die and another, the SCAPEGOAT, would take the people's sins far far away. Two goats/one offering
  - Propitiation - God's anger at His people being appeased.
  - In the Presence of God - the veil was opened and the high priest went into the Holy of Holies, the presence of God, as a representative of the people.
  - Affliction - sin is no religious thing; sin is serious; atonement is no trivial thing and should never be taken lightly and for granted!
  - Forgiveness - Every sin was atoned for! Every sin forgiven!
  - NO WORK - the high priest worked alone, did all the work and the people were commanded to rest! No work was to be done.
  - Victory - atonement was promised and made!

- ▶ Grace - the high priest did the work and the people watched, did nothing and received atonement for all their sins!
- ▶ Rejoicing - when the high priest finished his work the people rejoiced!

### Jesus Christ, Our High Priest, Substitute, and Scapegoat

- Christ is the Substance of the Day of Atonement! (Col 2:16-17)
- ★ Christ was anointed/appointed to be OUR High Priest. (Hebrews 9:11; 2:17; 3:1-2; 4:15; 5:5; 6:19-20; 7:26; 8:1)
- ★ Christ, God's anointed/appointed One, humbled Himself and came to provide "atonement" for His people. (Philippians 2:6-8)
- ★ Christ came to lay down His life (sacrifice Himself) for His people. (Matthew 1:21; 20:28; Luke 22:19-20; John 10:15-18, 27-29; 15:13; Acts 20:28; Gal 1:4; 2:20; Eph5:2, 25; 1 Peter 1:18-21; Rev 1:5; 5:9)
- ★ Christ is the ONLY MEDIATOR between sinful man and a holy, holy, holy God. (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:22; 8:6; 9:15)
- ★ All of God's people's sins were imputed unto Christ - OUR SUBSTITUTE! Our INNOCENT SUBSTITUTE! (Isaiah 53:5-6; Romans 4:25; 1 Peter 3:18; **Hebrews 7:22**; Psalm 69:5)
- ★ Christ is our PROPITIATION. Christ is our MERCY SEAT! (Romans 3:25; Hebrews 8:12; 1 John 4:10-11)
  - Reminder: God's mercy is NOT free! It costs! The price was the sacrificing of His only begotten Son for sinners like us!
  - For whom does God bestow His mercy on: See Exodus 20:6; 34:6-7; Deuteronomy 5:10; 7:9; Nehemiah 1:5; Daniel 9:4; 1 Kings 8:23; Psalm 103:17-18; Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 5:2-3; see 1 John 2:3-4 with John 17:3.
- ★ Christ died to **bring** us to God! By His propitiation we can stand before God at peace with God. (1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:16-18; Romans 5:1, 10-11)
- ★ Christ is our SACRIFICE, SUBSTITUTE, and our SCAPEGOAT.
  - By His **blood** our sins are forgiven! (Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:12)
  - Our sins are BLOTTED out for His sake! (Isaiah 43:25; 44:22)
  - He promised never to REMEMBER our sins! (Isaiah 43:25; Jeremiah 31:34; Hebrews 8:12; 10:17)
  - He PARDONED our sins! (Isaiah 55:7; Jer 33:8; 50:20; Psalm 25:10-11)
  - His mercy is as high as the heavens! (Psalm 103:10-11)
  - He cast all of our sins into the DEPTHS of the sea. (Micah 7:18-19)

- He took our sins away as far as the EAST is from the WEST. (Psalm 103:12-13)
- ✳ **It is the highest of sins to take God's love, grace, and mercy for granted! It is the highest of sins to take God's love, grace, mercy and ignore His Word/commands.** (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 2:3-6; 1 John 5:1-3)
- ★ Christ is our REST. Christ "obtained eternal redemption" (eternal peace, rest, forgiveness) for ALL whom He died for! (Hebrews 9:12)
  - Our High Priest presented HIS BLOOD on the Mercy Seat in Heaven. (Hebrews 9:12)
  - Christ came to do the work of atonement for His people. He finished that work! (Matthew 1:21; John 4:34; 17:4; 19:30)
- ★ Christ is our VICTORY!
  - Christ was delivered up for our transgression and raised up for our justification. (Romans 4:25; 7:24; 8:28-30; 1 Cor 15:53-57)
- ★ We are "justified **freely**" ("without cause" - John 15:25) by His GRACE *through* the redemption (work) that is in Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:24; Titus 3:7)
- ★ The redeemed of the Lord REJOICE! We rejoice that our names are written down in heaven. (Luke 10:20; Philippians 3:20-21; Revelation 13:8; 17:8).
  - The redeemed of the LORD rejoice! (Psalm 71:23; 9:2; 13:5; 32:11; 35:9; 107:1-2)
  - God's gift of His Son and all that comes with this Gift is cause to rejoice ALWAYS! (Philippians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 9:15)
  - Christ came so that we might have REAL JOY! (John 15:11; 17:13; Matthew 25:21, 23)

### A Day of Remembrance

- The Day of Atonement, for the Church, is on God's calendar, for Her to remember Christ's GREAT WORK for Her. It is an annual reminder that He came . . .
  - ▶ As Her HIGH PRIEST, to do the WORK of ATONEMENT - PROPITIATION for Her. He came to bring reconciliation between HER and HER God.
  - ▶ As Her SUBSTITUTE to take Her place, to take Her sins unto Himself, and die for Her.
  - ▶ As Her SCAPEGOAT to take Her sins away as far as the EAST is from the WEST!