~ATONEMENT DAY (713)

- ·· Features Of The Atonement Day
- ·· Cessation Of Legitimate Observance
- .. Antitypical Fulfillment
- The Day of Atonement Hebrew, *yohm hak-kip-pu-rim'*, day of the coverings, was one of propitiation or sin covering, commemorated by Israel on the tenth day of the seventh month of the sacred year, or on Tishri 10, Tishri corresponds approximately to September-October.
- On this day Israel's High Priest offered sacrifices as a sin covering for himself, for the other Levites, and for the people. It was also a time for cleansing the tabernacle or the later temples from the polluting effects of sin.
- The Atonement Day was a time of holy convention and of fasting, as is indicated by the fact that the people were then to afflict their souls. This was the only fast enjoined under the Mosaic Law. It was also a Sabbath, a time to abstain from regular labors.
- And it must serve as a statute to time indefinite for you people: In the seventh month on the tenth of the month you should afflict your souls, and you must not do any work, either the native or the alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst. (Leviticus 16:29)
- For on this day atonement will be made for you to pronounce you clean. You will be clean from all your sins before Yehowah. (Leviticus 16:30)
- It is a Sabbath of complete rest for you, and you must afflict your souls. It is a statute to time indefinite. (Leviticus 16:31)
- And Yehowah spoke further to Moses, saying; (Leviticus 23:26)
- However, on the tenth of this seventh month is the day of atonement. A holy convention should take place for you, and you must afflict your souls and present an offering made by fire to Yehowah. (Leviticus 23:27)
- And you must do no sort of work on this very day, because it is a day of atonement to make atonement for you before Yehowah

your God. (Leviticus 23:28)

- Because every soul that will not be afflicted on this very day must be cut off from his people. (Leviticus 23:29)
- As for any soul that will do any sort of work on this very day, I must destroy that soul from among his people. (Leviticus 23:30)
- You must do no sort of work. It is a statute to time indefinite for your generations in all places where you dwell. (Leviticus 23:31)
- It is a Sabbath of complete rest for you, and you must afflict your souls on the ninth of the month in the evening. From evening to evening you should observe your Sabbath. (Leviticus 23:32)
- And on the tenth of this seventh month you should hold a holy convention, and you must afflict your souls. No sort of work must you do. (Numbers 29:7)
- As considerable time had passed and by now it was hazardous to navigate because even the fast of atonement day had already passed by, Paul made a recommendation. (Acts of Apostles 27:9)
- On only one day a year, on the Atonement Day, was the High Priest permitted to enter the Most Holy compartment of the tabernacle or of the temple.
- But into the second compartment the High Priest alone enters once a year, not without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of ignorance of the people. (Hebrews 9:7)
- And Yehowah proceeded to say to Moses; Speak to Aaron your brother, that he should not at all times come into the holy place inside the curtain, in front of the cover which is upon the Ark, that he may not die, because in a cloud I shall appear over the cover. (Leviticus 16:2)
- And he must take the fire holder full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before Yehowah, and the hollows of both his hands full of fine perfumed incense, and he must bring them inside the curtain. (Leviticus 16:12)
- And he must take some of the bull's blood and spatter it with his finger in front of the cover on the east side, and he will spatter

some of the blood with his finger seven times before the cover. (Leviticus 16:14)

- And he must slaughter the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, and he must bring its blood inside the curtain and do with its blood the same as he did with the bull's blood, and he must spatter it toward the cover and before the cover. (Leviticus 16:15)
- The Jubilee year, when due, began with the Day of Atonement.
- And you must cause the horn of loud tone to sound in the seventh month on the tenth of the month, on the day of atonement you people should cause the horn to sound in all your land. (Leviticus 25:9)
- Moses brother Aaron was Israel's High Priest when this observance was instituted in the wilderness of the Sinai Peninsula in the 16th Century B.C.E. What he was instructed to do furnished the pattern for later observances of the Atonement Day.
- Visualizing the impressive events of the day makes possible a better understanding of what it meant to the Israelites. Undoubtedly they were then moved to greater consciousness of their sinfulness and the need of redemption as well as to a fuller appreciation of Yehowah's abundant mercy in making this arrangement to cover their sins of the past year.

" Features Of The Day Of Atonement

- Aaron was to come into the holy place with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.
- With the following Aaron should come into the holy place: with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. (Leviticus 16:3)
- On the Atonement Day he set aside his regular priestly garb, bathed in water, and dressed himself in holy linen garments.
- He should put on the holy linen robe, and the linen drawers should come upon his flesh, and he should gird himself with the linen sash and wrap himself with the linen turban. They are holy garments. And he must bathe his flesh in water and put them on.

(Leviticus 16:4)

- Lot's were next drawn by the High Priest over two goats, male kids, that were exactly alike in their sound and unblemished condition, these having been obtained from the assembly of the sons of Israel.
- And from the assembly of the sons of Israel he should take two male kids of the goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering. (Leviticus 16:5)
- And he must take the two goats and make them stand before Yehowah at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (Leviticus 16:7)
- The High Priest drew lots over them to determine which of the two would be sacrificed to Yehowah as a sin offering and which would be released in the wilderness, bearing their sins as the goat for Azazel.
- And Aaron must draw lots over the two goats, the one lot for Yehowah and the other lot for Azazel. (Leviticus 16:8)
- And Aaron must present the goat over which the lot came up for Yehowah, and he must make it a sin offering. (Leviticus 16:9)
- And Yehowah continued to speak to Moses, saying; (Leviticus 14:1)
- This will become the Law of the leper in the day for establishing his purification, when he must be brought to the priest. (Leviticus 14:2)
- And the priest must go forth outside the camp, and the priest must look, and if the plague of leprosy has been cured in the leprous one. (Leviticus 14:3)
- The priest must then give command, and he must take for cleansing himself two live clean birds and cedar wood and coccus scarlet material and hyssop. (Leviticus 14:4)
- And the priest must give command, and the one bird must be killed in an earthenware vessel over running water. (Leviticus 14:5)
- As for the living bird, he should take it and the cedar wood and the coccus scarlet material and the hyssop, and he must dip them

- and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water. (Leviticus 14:6)
- Then he must spatter it seven times upon the one cleansing himself from the leprosy and he must pronounce him clean, and he must send away the living bird over the open field. (Leviticus 14:7)
- He then sacrificed the young bull as a sin offering for himself and his house, which included the entire tribe of Levi, of which his household was a part.
- And Aaron must present the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and he must make atonement in behalf of himself and his house. (Leviticus 16:6)
- And Aaron must present the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement in behalf of himself and his house, and he must slaughter the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself. (Leviticus 16:11)
- He thereafter took perfumed incense and the fire holder full of burning coals from off the altar and went inside the curtain, entering the Most Holy. The incense was burned in this innermost room, where the ark of the testimony was located, the cloud of the burning incense overspreading the golden Ark cover on which were two cherubs fashioned in gold.
- And he must take the fire holder full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before Yehowah, and the hollows of both his hands full of fine perfumed incense, and he must bring them inside the curtain. (Leviticus 16:12)
- He must also put the incense upon the fire before Yehowah, and the cloud of the incense must overspread the Ark cover, which is upon the Testimony, that he may not die. (Leviticus 16:13)
- And you must make a cover of pure gold, two and a half cubits its length and a cubit and a half its width. (Exodus 25:17)
- And you must make two cherubs of gold. Of hammered work you are to make them on both ends of the cover. (Exodus 25:18)
- And make one cherub on this end and one cherub on that end.

On the cover you are to make the cherubs at its two ends. (Exodus 25:19)

- And the cherubs must be spreading out their two wings upward, screening over the cover with their wings, with their faces one toward the other. Toward the cover the faces of the cherubs should be. (Exodus 25:20)
- And you must place the cover above upon the Ark, and in the Ark you will place the testimony that I shall give you. (Exodus 25:21)
- And I will present myself to you there and speak with you from above the cover, from between the two cherubs that are upon the ark of the testimony, even all that I shall command you for the sons of Israel. (Exodus 25:22)
- This act paved the way for Aaron afterward to reenter the Most Holy safely.

See Also AZAZEL

- Aaron, returning from the Most Holy, obtained some of the bull's blood, entered this compartment with it, and spattered some of the blood with his finger seven times in front of the Ark cover on the East side. Thus was completed the atonement for the priesthood, which rendered the priests clean and able to mediate between Yehowah and his people.
- And he must take some of the bull's blood and spatter it with his finger in front of the cover on the east side, and he will spatter some of the blood with his finger seven times before the cover. (Leviticus 16:14)
- The goat on which the lot fell for Yehowah was sacrificed as a sin offering for the people.
- And Aaron must draw lots over the two goats, the one lot for Yehowah and the other lot for Azazel. (Leviticus 16:8)
- And Aaron must present the goat over which the lot came up for Yehowah, and he must make it a sin offering. (Leviticus 16:9)
- But the goat over which the lot came up for Azazel should be stood alive before Yehowah to make atonement for it, so as to

send it away for Azazel into the wilderness. (Leviticus 16:10)

- The High Priest then took the blood of the goat for Yehowah into the Most Holy, using it there to make atonement for the 12 non-priestly tribes of Israel. In a manner similar to the handling of the bull's blood, the blood of the goat was sprinkled toward the cover and before the cover of the Ark.
- And he must slaughter the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, and he must bring its blood inside the curtain and do with its blood the same as he did with the bull's blood, and he must spatter it toward the cover and before the cover. (Leviticus 16:15)
- By these means Aaron also made atonement for the holy place and the tent of meeting. Then, taking some of the blood of the bull and of the goat for Yehowah, he made atonement for the altar of burnt offering, putting some of such blood upon the horns of the altar. He was also to spatter some of the blood upon it with his finger seven times and cleanse it and sanctify it from the uncleannesses of the sons of Israel.
- And he must make atonement for the holy place concerning the uncleannesses of the sons of Israel and concerning their revolts in all their sins, and that is the way he should do for the tent of meeting, which is residing with them in the midst of their uncleannesses. (Leviticus 16:16)
- And no other man should happen to be in the tent of meeting from when he goes in to make atonement in the holy place until he comes out, and he must make atonement in behalf of himself and in behalf of his house and in behalf of the entire congregation of Israel. (Leviticus 16:17)
- And he must come out to the altar, which is before Yehowah, and make atonement for it, and he must take some of the bull's blood and some of the goat's blood and put it upon the horns of the altar round about. (Leviticus 16:18)
- He must also spatter some of the blood upon it with his finger seven times and cleanse it and sanctify it from the uncleannesses of the sons of Israel. (Leviticus 16:19)
- When he has finished making atonement for the holy place and

the tent of meeting and the altar, he must also present the live goat. (Leviticus 16:20)

- The High Priest now turned his attention to the remaining goat, the one for Azazel. He laid his hands upon its head, confessed over it all the errors of the sons of Israel and all their revolts in all their sins, put these upon its head, and then sent it away by the hand of a ready man into the wilderness. Thus, the goat carried the errors of the Israelites into the wilderness, where it disappeared.
- When he has finished making atonement for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he must also present the live goat. (Leviticus 16:20)
- And Aaron must lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat and confess over it all the errors of the sons of Israel and all their revolts in all their sins, and he must put them upon the head of the goat and send it away by the hand of a ready man into the wilderness. (Leviticus 16:21)
- And the goat must carry upon itself all their errors into a desert land, and he must send the goat away into the wilderness. (Leviticus 16:22)
- Thereafter the man who led the goat away had to wash his garments and bathe his flesh in water before reentering the camp.
- As for the one who sent the goat away for Azazel, he should wash his garments, and he must bathe his flesh in water, and after that he may come into the camp. (Leviticus 16:26)
- Aaron now came into the tent of meeting, stripped off the linen garments, bathed, and put on his usual attire. He next rendered up his burnt offering and the peoples burnt offering, using the rams mentioned in,
- With the following Aaron should come into the holy place: with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.
 (Leviticus 16:3)
- And from the assembly of the sons of Israel he should take two male kids of the goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering. (Leviticus 16:5)

- And made atonement, and he made the fat of the sin offering smoke upon the altar.
- And Aaron must come into the tent of meeting and strip off the linen garments that he put on when he went into the holy place, and he must lay them down there. (Leviticus 16:23)
- And he must bathe his flesh in water in a holy place and put on his garments and come out and render up his burnt offering and the peoples burnt offering and make atonement in his own behalf and in behalf of the people. (Leviticus 16:24)
- He will make the fat of the sin offering smoke upon the altar. (Leviticus 16:25)
- Yehowah God always claimed the fat of a sacrifice for himself, and the Israelites were prohibited from eating it.
- And the priest must make them smoke upon the altar as food, an offering made by fire for a restful odor. All the fat belongs to Yehowah. (Leviticus 3:16)
- It is a statute to time indefinite for your generations, in all your dwelling places, you must not eat any fat or any blood at all. (Leviticus 3:17)
- And he will remove all its fat, just as the fat was removed from off the communion sacrifice, and the priest must make it smoke on the altar as a restful odor to Yehowah, and the priest must make an atonement for him, and so it must be forgiven him. (Leviticus 4:31)
- The remains of the carcasses of the bull and the goat of the sin offering were taken from the court of the tabernacle to a place outside the camp, where they were burned. The one doing the burning had to wash his garments and bathe his flesh in water, after which he could come into the camp.
- However, he will have the bull of the sin offering and the goat of the sin offering, the blood of both of which was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, taken forth outside the camp, and they must burn their skins and their flesh and their dung in the fire. (Leviticus 16:27)

- And the one who burned them should wash his garments, and he must bathe his flesh in water, and after that he may come into the camp. (Leviticus 16:28)
- Additional sacrifices of the day are mentioned at;
- And on the tenth of this seventh month you should hold a holy convention, and you must afflict your souls. No sort of work must you do. (Numbers 29:7)
- And you must present as a burnt offering to Yehowah, as a restful odor, one young bull, one ram, seven male lambs each a year old. They should prove to be sound one's for you. (Numbers 29:8)
- And as their grain offering of fine flour moistened with oil three tenth measures for the bull, two tenth measures for the one ram. (Numbers 29:9)
- A tenth measure respectively for each male lamb of the seven male lambs. (Numbers 29:10)
- One kid of the goats as a sin offering, aside from the sin offering of atonement and the constant burnt offering and its grain offering, together with their drink offerings. (Numbers 29:11)

" Cessation Of Legitimate Observance

- While adherents of Judaism still celebrate the Day of Atonement, such celebration has little resemblance to that instituted by God, for they have no tabernacle, no altar, no ark of the covenant, there is failure to sacrifice bulls and goats, and there exists no Levitical priesthood. Christians, however, realize that servants of Yehowah are now under no such obligation.
- For sin must not be master over you, seeing that you are not under Law but under undeserved kindness. (Romans 6:14)
- Certainly, then, there occurs a setting aside of the preceding commandment on account of its weakness and ineffectiveness. (Hebrews 7:18)
- For the Law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in besides of a better hope did, through which we are drawing near to God.

(Hebrews 7:19)

- Therefore keep bearing in mind that formerly you were people of the nations as to flesh, uncircumcision you were called by that which is called circumcision made in the flesh with hands. (Ephesians 2:11)
- That you were at that particular time without Christ, alienated from the state of Israel and strangers to the covenants of the promise, and you had no hope and were without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)
- But now in union with Christ Jesus you who were once far off have come to be near by the blood of the Christ. (Ephesians 2:13)
- For he is our peace, he who made the two parties one and destroyed the wall in between that fenced them off. (Ephesians 2:14)
- By means of his flesh he abolished the enmity, the Law of commandments consisting in decrees, that he might create the two peoples in union with himself into one new man and make peace. (Ephesians 2:15)
- And that he might fully reconcile both peoples in one body to God through the torture stake, because he had killed off the enmity by means of himself. (Ephesians 2:16)
- Furthermore, the destruction of Jerusalem's temple in 70 C.E. forced the cessation of services of the true Levitical priesthood, and there is now no way to establish who could properly act as such priests.
- The Encyclopedia Americana (1956, Vol. XVII, p. 294] states concerning the Levites; After the destruction of the temple in the dispersion, they disappeared from history, being merged in the crowd of captives scattered over the Roman world.

·· Antitypical Fulfillment

• When it was suitably observed, the annual Atonement Day, like other features of the Mosaic Law, served as a picture of something far greater. Careful examination of this observance in the light of the apostle Paul's inspired remarks shows that Jesus Christ and his

redemptive work in behalf of mankind were typified by Israel's High Priest and by the animals used in connection with the ceremony. In his letter to the Hebrews, Paul shows that Jesus Christ is the great antitypical High Priest.

- Also, a man takes this honor, not of his own accord, but only when he is called by God, just as Aaron also was. (Hebrews 5:4)
- So too the Christ did not glorify himself by becoming a High Priest, but was glorified by him who spoke with reference to him; You are my son. I, today, I have become your father. (Hebrews 5:5)
- Just as he says also in another place. You are a priest forever according to the manner of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:6)
- In the days of his flesh Christ offered up supplications and also petitions to the One who was able to save him out of death, with strong outcries and tears, and he was favorably heard for his godly fear. (Hebrews 5:7)
- Although he was a Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. (Hebrews 5:8)
- And after he had been made perfect he became responsible for everlasting salvation to all those obeying him. (Hebrews 5:9)
- Because he has been specifically called by God a High Priest according to the manner of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:10)
- The apostle also indicates that the High Priests entry into the Most Holy one day a year with the blood of sacrificial animals foreshadowed the entrance of Jesus Christ into heaven itself with his own blood, thus to make atonement for those exercising faith in his sacrifice. Of course, Christ, being sinless, did not have to offer sacrifice for any personal sins, as did Israel's High Priest.
- However, when Christ came as a High Priest of the good things that have come to pass, through the greater and more perfect tent not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. (Hebrews 9:11)
- He entered, no, not with the blood of goats and of young bulls, but with his own blood, once for all time into the holy place and

- obtained an everlasting deliverance for us. (Hebrews 9:12)
- For Christ entered, not into a holy place made with hands, which is a copy of the reality, but into heaven itself, now to appear before the person of God for us. (Hebrews 9:24)
- Neither is it in order, that he should offer himself often, as indeed the High Priest enters into the holy place from year to year with blood not his own. (Hebrews 9:25)
- Otherwise, he would have to suffer often from the founding of the world. But now he has manifested himself once for all time at the conclusion of the systems of things to put sin away through the sacrifice of himself. (Hebrews 9:26)
- And as it is reserved for men to die once for all time, but after this a judgment. (Hebrews 9:27)
- So also the Christ was offered once for all time to bear the sins of many, and the second time that he appears it will be apart from sin and to those earnestly looking for him for their salvation. (Hebrews 9:28)
- Aaron sacrificed the bull for the priests and the rest of the tribe of Levi, sprinkling its blood in the Most Holy.
- And Aaron must present the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement in behalf of himself and his house, and he must slaughter the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself. (Leviticus 16:11)
- And he must take some of the bull's blood and spatter it with his finger in front of the cover on the east side, and he will spatter some of the blood with his finger seven times before the cover. (Leviticus 16:14)
- Christ comparably presented the value of his human blood to God in heaven, where it could be applied to benefit those who would come to rule with him as priests and kings.
- And I saw, and, look! The Lamb standing upon the Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand having his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads. (Revelation 14:1)

- And I heard a sound out of heaven as the sound of many waters and as the sound of loud thunder, and the sound that I heard was as of singers who accompany themselves on the harp playing on their harps. (Revelation 14:2)
- And they are singing as if a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, and no one was able to master that song but the hundred and forty-four thousand, who have been bought from the earth. (Revelation 14:3)
- These are the ones that did not defile themselves with women, in fact, they are virgins. These are the ones that keep following the Lamb no matter where he goes. These were bought from among mankind as firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. (Revelation 14:4)
- Happy and holy is anyone having part in the first resurrection, over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of the Christ, and will rule as kings with him for the thousand years. (Revelation 20:6)
- The goat for Yehowah was also sacrificed and its blood was spattered before the Ark in the Most Holy, this to benefit Israel's non-priestly tribes.
- And he must slaughter the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, and he must bring its blood inside the curtain and do with its blood the same as he did with the bull's blood, and he must spatter it toward the cover and before the cover. (Leviticus 16:15)
- Similarly, the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ also benefits mankind aside from priestly Spiritual Israel. Two goats were needed, for just one goat could not serve as a sacrifice and still be used to carry away the sins of Israel. Both goats were referred to as one sin offering
- And from the assembly of the sons of Israel he should take two male kids of the goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering. (Leviticus 16:5)
- And were treated similarly until the casting of lots over them, which indicates that together they formed one symbol. Not only was

Jesus Christ sacrificed but also he carries away the sins of those for whom he died sacrificially.

- The apostle Paul demonstrated that, while it was not possible for the blood of bulls and of goats to take away sins, God prepared a body for Jesus, which he showed a willingness to sacrifice when presenting himself for baptism, and according to the divine will, Christ's followers have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time.
- For since the Law has a shadow of the good things to come, but not the very substance of the things, men can never with the same sacrifices from year to year which they offer continually make those who approach perfect. (Hebrews 10:1)
- Otherwise, would the sacrifices not have stopped being offered, because those rendering sacred service who had been cleansed once for all time would have no consciousness of sins anymore? (Hebrews 10:2)
- To the contrary, by these sacrifices there is a reminding of sins from year to year. (Hebrews 10:3)
- For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and of goats to take sins away. (Hebrews 10:4)
- Hence when he comes into the world he says; Sacrifice and offering you did not want, but you prepared a body for me. (Hebrews 10:5)
- You did not approve of whole burnt offerings and sin offering. (Hebrews 10:6)
- Then I said; Look! I am come, in the roll of the book it is written about me, to do your will, O God. (Hebrews 10:7)
- After first saying; You did not want nor did you approve of sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sin offering, sacrifices that are offered according to the Law. (Hebrews 10:8)
- Then he actually says; Look! I am come to do your will. He does away with what is first that he may establish what is second. (Hebrews 10:9)

- By the said will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time. (Hebrews 10:10)
- As the remains of the bodies of the bull and the goat offered on the Day of Atonement were finally burned outside the camp of Israel, the apostle notes that Christ suffered by being impaled outside the gate of Jerusalem.
- For the bodies of those animals whose blood is taken into the holy place by the High Priest for sin are burned up outside the camp. (Hebrews 13:11)
- Hence Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered outside the gate. (Hebrews 13:12)
- Hence it is evident that, while the Jewish Atonement Day did not produce complete and permanent removal of sin even for Israel, the various features of that annual celebration were typical in character. They foreshadowed the grand atonement made for sins by Jesus Christ, the High Priest whom Christians confess.
- Consequently, holy brothers, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the apostle and High Priest whom we confess, Jesus. (Hebrews 3:1)

See Also ATONEMENT See Also RANSOM