

Lesson 106 Yom Kippur 9-26-2012

Day of Atonement

In **Leviticus 23: 27** The Lord spoke to Moses and said,

Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. And you shall do no work on that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the Lord your God.

He declares this to be a statute forever, a solemn day of rest. Consequently, Yom Kippur is a day set aside for fasting, depriving oneself of pleasure and repenting from our sins of the previous year.

Yom Kippur commemorates the day the Lord forgave the Jewish people for making the Golden Calf. Forty days previous to that they were given the Ten Commandments, one of which says, ***"you shall not make for yourself a graven image,"*** Moses spent nearly three months on top of the mountain pleading with the Lord for forgiveness. The Lord forgave them on this day. Therefore, it has become known as the Day of Atonement or Yom Kippur. It is the day we confess our sins and it is the most solemn day of the year. However, it is also a joyful day because we are confident that God will forgive our sins and seal our verdict for a year.

You can read about the Day of Atonement in the following places in the Bible:

Leviticus 16:1-34

Leviticus 23:26-32

Numbers 29:7-11

Remember, this is a day to be reflective of one's sins, to confess them to another (believer) and it is a time to be repentant. It is a day of "afflicting our soul" or fasting as well. We are to do no customary work on this day. And it is important to remember that:

THIS IS THE HOLIEST DAY OF THE YEAR!

You know, sacrifice is one of the things that comes to my mind, when I think about this day. I guess this is because back in the day, animals were sacrificed to make atonement for sins. And then Jesus came and He became the ultimate sacrifice for you, and for me.

Hebrews 9:11-15 *But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.*

Therefore, as we observe this Day of Atonement, as we reflect upon our past mistakes, as we confess and repent, afflicting our souls; I think a fitting close for this day would be to give praise and thanksgiving for our Lord Jesus Christ who made the ultimate sacrifice for you and I. And let us be inspired to live a life in this coming year that is worthy of His sacrifice.

Hebrews 13:1-16 *Let brotherly love continue. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. Remember the prisoners as if*

chained with them--those who are mistreated--since you yourselves are in the body also. Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge. Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say:

The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

09/24/12 CT – King of Kings, Lord of Lords, show respect for your King in every area of your life, in every calling of your life. You must always remember that you work for Me – 24/7, 7 days a week. You are always on call, therefore, you should continually remember to be your best.

Grace is important. I showed you grace, now you show My grace, that same grace, to others. Be merciful, be compassionate, be loving, be kind, and gentle. Don't lift yourself up with the sound of your own voice, going on and on, be a person of few words, words chosen carefully in humility. But in saying all this let them see your joy and your thanksgiving. This is the recipe for this New Year. Follow it and be worthy of your calling. That is all for now.

Introduction

Some of the first words that the Lord said this week were "show respect for your King". But what is respect?

Respect, in this context, is defined as:

esteem for or a sense of the worth or excellence of a person (a person of quality or ability), deference (respectful submission to judgment, opinion or will) to someone considered to have certain rights or privileges, proper acceptance, or courtesy; acknowledgment; the condition of being esteemed or honored.

Therefore, the Lord is asking us to honor Him. He is asking us to properly acknowledge His sovereignty and His excellence. But more importantly, we are to respectfully submit to His will, His judgment. Thus as we continue on through this lesson we will learn of some of the expectations for this coming year, a year of joy, a year of thanksgiving, a year of mercy, compassion and love through kindness and gentleness built upon His foundation of grace.

Honor Him

King of Kings, Lord of Lords, show respect for your King in every area of your life, in every calling of your life. Part of showing respect for your King is giving Him the Honor and praise worthy of the King of King, the Lord of Lords.

1 Chronicles 16:25-27 *For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is also to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and gladness are in His place.*

Psalms 96:4-6 *For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.*

Hence, the Lord is worthy of praise and honor as the King because He is for real. He is the one true God, the God of Abraham and Isaac. This is our God.

Psalm 104:1-2 *Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty.*

Thus, the first part of honoring Him comes from acknowledgment, acknowledging that He is the One True God. Yes, we have come, to know the one true God. Jesus said, **John 17:3** *“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*

But there is a second part to honoring our King and that is honoring Him by being obedient unto Him. It is similar to how you would honor your mom and dad. I didn't understand this when I was younger, but as I have matured I have come to understand that being obedient to my parents was a way through which I could honor them.

I came to know what made my parents happy and what made them sad or disappointed. In other words, I came to know them. I loved them and it was always my aim to be pleasing to them. I hated it when they had a look of disappointment on their faces. Likewise, we should honor the Lord through our obedience. As we come to know Him, it will be easier to be obedient unto Him because we will have learned His ways. We will have learned what makes Him happy and what makes Him sad or disappointed.

1 John 2:3-4 *Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*

We honor the Lord by keeping His commandments. Consequently, our obedience is not only a demonstration of our honoring the Lord, but it is also a demonstration of the love we have for our Heavenly Father.

1 John 2:5-6 *But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.*

I guess the point that I am trying to make here is that when we come to know and love the Lord we will be obedient unto Him because we, at the very least, do not want to be any more disappointing to Him than we were to our parents. However we, of course, should understand that unlike our parents the Lord's plans are always perfect. He wants the very best for us. Consequently, obedience to Him should be a “no brainer”.

We received this about honor on 12/04/11. *Dress up and clothe yourselves righteously. As you do unto others you do unto Me (kindness, mercy, love, compassion, empathy, generosity – I'm not talking about generosity monetarily, I'm talking about giving of yourself). Honor Me in these ways. Sacrifice self will.* The Lord brought into my mind many ways we can honor Him (i.e. reverence, obedience, kindness to others, refining self, getting rid of self, etc.). *Honor, Honor, Honor.*

And the final thought for this section comes from when the Lord said, *King of Kings, Lord of Lords, show respect for your King in every area of your life, in every calling of your life.* The Lord has made it apparent that He wants this attitude of respect evident in every aspect of our life, in every area, in every calling. Therefore, respect for the Lord should be present in every part of our life.

On Call

We closed the last section by stating that respect for the Lord should be present in every part of our life, in this section, we will discover one of the reasons for this. It comes from this statement that the Lord made:

You must always remember that you work for Me – 24/7, 7 days a week. You are always on call, therefore, you should continually remember to be your best.

So right now you are maybe thinking, “How can we be ‘on call’ 24/7, 7 days a week and still keep the Sabbath for example?” “Aren't we supposed to get a day of rest?” “Aren't we to

keep it Holy?” “How can I be respectful of Him by breaking one of the Ten Commandments?” But I think the point the Lord is making here is that we are His. We know Him and He knows us. We are His children. And last but not least, we are His servants. Yes, the Sabbath is Holy. Yes, the Sabbath is supposed to be a day of rest; however, let’s look at what Jesus said, **Mark 3:1-5** *And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand. So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him. And He said to the man who had the withered hand, “Step forward.” Then he said to them, “Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?” But they kept silent. And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.*

Jesus was “grieved by the hardness of their hearts”. He was grieved by their lack of understanding. He was grieved by their “corporate” focus being on self, blindly adhering to the empty traditions of men, entirely missing the heart of the Lord. Jesus said this in, **Matthew 22:36-40** *“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

This is why we are to **remember that we work for Him – 24/7, 7 days a week. You are always on call.** Yes indeed, we are always on call because we are always to be available to **do good** even on the Sabbath. **Therefore, you should continually remember to be your best.** These actions provide a demonstration of our love for the Lord with all our heart, soul and mind.

Do you remember the analogy we used earlier of wanting to be pleasing to our parents? At this time we again need to reiterate the fact that we should want to be pleasing to the Lord in every area of our life, in every calling of our life as well. Being available to Him, as His servant, particularly, in the capacity of our calling. This is pleasing to Him, but it is also respectful to Him as well.

2 Timothy 2:15 *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

Let us go forth as a diligent, obedient servant unto Him.

Grace

Thus far we have talked about having respect for our King of Kings, our Lord of Lord. We have talked about honoring Him in every area, in every calling of our life, and we have talked about being “on call” in service to Him. He helped us to understand that obedience and service, both are demonstrations, of this very same respect that we have for Him. And now we are moving on to discuss Grace. The Lord said:

Grace is important. I showed you grace, now you show My grace, that same grace, to others.

Grace is defined as: Favor, kindness, friendship; God’s forgiving mercy; Gifts freely given by God.

Through the years one of the definitions of grace that I have read that stuck with me was this:

When I have been given everything by God yet I do not deserve anything.

Ephesians 2:8-10 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before-hand that we should walk in them.*

This is grace. He has given us forgiveness. He has given us mercy. He has given us Christ. He has given us friendship and much, much more. And He wants us to share this

same grace with others. He said it is important. We have been created in His image. We have been created for good works, being **on call**, helping others.

Colossians 3:12 *Therefore, as the elect of God; holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing one with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.*

You can see the grace in the passage above can you not? We have learned that the Lord extended **favor, kindness, friendship**; and His **forgiving mercy**; and they were all **gifts** that were **freely given by God**. On 03/25/11 the Lord said this about grace: **Jesus is grace in action; a demonstration of My commitment to meet your needs. He paid the price for you. Yes, My grace is sufficient to cover all needs.** And this is the grace we are to share with others, that same, **favor, kindness, friendship**; and **forgiving mercy**. The Lord said,

Grace is important. I showed you grace, now you show My grace, that same grace, to others. Be merciful, be compassionate, be loving, be kind, and gentle.

This is the first part of grace we are to understand. The second part is this, we are to be humble, acknowledging the fact that the Lord loves us all the same. He shows no partiality, nor should we.

Romans 2:11 *For there is no partiality with God.*

Deuteronomy 10:17 *For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe.*

And this brings us around full circle to what Jesus said in the verse above, **'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'** You see it would be difficult to do this without humility wouldn't it? And from,

Luke 6:31 *"And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise."*

This week the Lord said, **Be merciful, be compassionate, be loving, be kind, and gentle. Don't lift yourself up with the sound of your own voice, going on and on, be a person of few words, words chosen carefully in humility.** This is that part of grace I was just speaking of. It is the grace of our Lord Jesus.

Remember, **Grace is important. I showed you grace, now you show My grace, that same grace, to others. Grace is favor, kindness, friendship**; and **forgiving mercy**. This is grace.

Your Recipe

And now the final bit that the Lord wanted to give us for lesson is this:

But in saying all this let them see your joy and your thanksgiving.

In this lesson we learned of some of the expectations for this coming year, a year of joy, a year of thanksgiving, a year of mercy, compassion and love through kindness and gentleness built upon His foundation of grace. At first glance, it may have sounded as if this assignment for the new year is going to be a chore, even somewhat difficult. However, the Lord wanted to close by reminding us to allow others to see that aforementioned joy and thanksgiving we have come to know in Him.

On 04/04/11 He taught us that the origin of joy comes from this: **Seek My love and relationship and intimacy. This is where your true happiness, fulfillment, and joy will come from. They come from a life with Me.** Joy comes from the Lord, a relationship with Him, this is what others should see in us.

This week the Lord said that all we have learned in this lesson thus far, the respect, the honoring Him, the obedience, the service, the grace, and the humility, these along with demonstrating joy and thanksgiving, this is **the recipe for this New Year**. He said we are to, **Follow it and be worthy of your calling.**

Colossians 1:9-12 *For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every*

good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Jesus said,

Mark 10:45 *“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”*

We should do no less. Let's close by reading the Lord's words once more in its entirety. 09/24/12 CT – King of Kings, Lord of Lords, show respect for your King in every area of your life, in every calling of your life. You must always remember that you work for Me – 24/7, 7 days a week. You are always on call, therefore, you should continually remember to be your best.

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May the Lord Bless and Keep You in this New Year, Cindy

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