

Thus far in our examination we have seen that Feast of Atonement was a day of great humility, the people of Israel were to afflict themselves, it was not a feast of rejoicing, dancing or merriment.

[Lev 23:27](#) Also, on the tenth of this seventh month, this is a day of atonement. It shall be a holy convocation to you. And you shall **afflict your souls** and offer a fire offering to Jehovah.

This Feast is fulfilled after the return of the Lord to the earth at Trumpets and then Israel will look upon the one they had pierced and experience great humility. We looked at Zech.12, Isaiah 53, Matt. 24:29-31, Rev.1:4-7 and 11:15.

In the prophecy of Isaiah 53 we saw that Israel in this future day, with the aid of the "spirit of grace" (Zech.12:10) will realize their Messiah was bruised for their iniquities and in Him there is salvation and righteousness for the nation of Israel, see Acts 4:12.

The Day of Atonement was also pictured in the annual Feast observance when the High Priest entered the Holiest of All and presented the blood for his own sins and the sins of the nation of Israel, the reader should see all of Leviticus 16.

[Lev 16:30](#) For on that day an atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you, so that you may be clean from all your sins before Jehovah.

The Day of Atonement was a great day of expiation of sins and national cleansing. In this future day Israel's sins and iniquities will be totally removed and remembered no more for the Lord will bring in the New Covenant which was ratified by His own blood (Matt.26:28);

[Jer 31:33](#) but this shall be the covenant that I will cut with the house of Israel: After those days, says Jehovah, I will put My Law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

[Jer 31:34](#) And they shall no more teach each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know Jehovah; for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says Jehovah. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sins no more.

The New Covenant is one of grace and it can be equally said of Israel as it has been said of us;

[Tit 3:5](#) not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

The Word also tells us that when the Lord comes back to Israel He will be cleansing them as a nation; He will thoroughly purge His floor as John the Baptist says in Luke 3:17. Here are a few verses which could well describe this national cleansing of the Lord all in the spirit of the great Day of Atonement;

[Isa 1:24](#) And the Lord, Jehovah of Hosts, the mighty One of Israel, says, Alas! I will ease Myself of My foes, and avenge Myself of My enemies.

[Isa 1:25](#) And I will turn back My hand on you, and purge away your dross as with lye, and take away all your alloy.

[Isa 1:26](#) And I will restore your judges as at first, and your counselors as at the beginning; afterwards you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city.

[Isa 1:27](#) Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her returning ones with righteousness.

Like wise this passage makes interesting reading when we remember the Lord is Israel's good shepherd as per Ez.34 and John 10. Here is the good shepherd purging the sheep to remove those who are not really sheep. It is becoming increasingly popular for Gentiles believers to promote the replacement theories that Christians today are the real Jews, only the Lord knows who are descendents of Abraham through Isaac and His flock will undergo an examination in the fulfillment of the Day of Atonement, the reader is invited to read all of Ezekiel 20 noting the Covenant in v37;

[Eze 20:33](#) As I live, says the Lord Jehovah, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, I will reign over you.

[Eze 20:34](#) And I will bring you out from the people, and I will gather you out of the lands in which you are scattered among them, with a mighty hand and with a stretched out arm and with fury poured out.

[Eze 20:37](#) And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant.

[Eze 20:38](#) And I will purge out from among you the rebels and those who sin against Me. I will bring them out from the land where they reside, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am Jehovah.

Here is yet another passage foretelling the great Day of Atonement;

[Mal 3:1](#) Behold, I will send My messenger, and He will clear the way before Me. And Jehovah, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Angel of the Covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He comes, says Jehovah of Hosts.

[Mal 3:2](#) But who can endure the day of His coming? And who shall stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap.

[Mal 3:3](#) And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver. And He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may be offerers of a food offering in righteousness to Jehovah.

[Mal 3:5](#) And I will come near you to judgment.

It is a fundamental/universal truth that when the Lord begins to reign from the heights of heaven to the earth beneath He will judge not only His people in all spheres but the nations around Israel (See Matt.25) and the world using those servants worthy of judging with Him, see Matt.19:28, 1Cor.5:13-6:3 & Rev.2:27. This is also the cleansing feature of the Day of Atonement.

We are wise to remember that these Feasts were given to Israel and speak of God's purposes for them as a nation, please do not fall into the same error as most of Christianity which continues to see them as being relevant to the church which is His Body. It is Israel which will undergo this great day of Atonement, Israel will be cleansed from all their iniquities and purged in that wonderful day and then as a Nation they will be ready to enjoy the Kingdom of God on the earth with Christ as their Priest King and David reigning as co—regent (Jer.30:8-10).

The fulfillment of the Feast of Atonement is followed by that great Feast of Tabernacles which speaks of God's incredible and abundant provision for His people, Israel. Tabernacles is the Feast of rejoicing, the Feast of Harvest and Praise to God and while all these things are earthly in expectation, we too look for that great day when this pilgrim journey will be over and in bodies fashioned like His glorious body we will be seated in the heavenly places showing forth His glory unto all the generations of the age of the ages.