NOVEMBER 1, 2026

SERMON NOTES

Senior Pastor Subash Cherian

NATURAL AND SPIRITUAL LIFE (PART V)

Key Scripture: "*Also the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement; it shall be a holy convocation for you, and you shall humble yourselves [by fasting] and present an offering by fire to the Lord.*"- **Leviticus 23:27**

The 7 Festivals of the Lord

- Spring festivals: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, and Weeks (Pentecost).
- Fall festivals: Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Tabernacles.

1. **Passover - Leviticus 23:4–5 -** Redemption through the blood.
2. **The Feast of Unleavened Bread - Leviticus 23:6-8 -** Holiness and separation from sin.
3. **The Feast of First Fruits - Leviticus 23:10–14 -** Resurrection and new life.
4. **The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost - Leviticus 23:15–22 -** Harvest and the coming of the Holy Spirit.
5. **Trumpets - Leviticus 23:23-25** - Awakening and preparation.
6. **The Day of Atonement - Leviticus 23:26–32** - Repentance, cleansing, and atonement.
7. **Tabernacles (Booths) - Leviticus 23:33-43** - God's presence and dwelling with His people.

The Feasts as Shadows of Things to Come

Colossians 2:16–17 - Paul explains that the feasts, new moons, and Sabbaths were a shadow of things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

- Jesus Christ is the fulfillment and substance of God's redemptive plan.
- The Old Testament ceremonies help us understand the significance of Christ's sacrifice.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

The Day of Atonement was one of the most solemn and significant days in Israel's calendar. It was a sacred day established by God for repentance, atonement, and the cleansing of the people from sin. It was observed on the tenth day of the seventh month.

- **Leviticus 23:27 -** God instructed Israel to observe this day with:
  a. A holy convocation: A sacred gathering before the Lord.
  b. Affliction of the soul: A time of humility, self-examination, and repentance, traditionally associated with fasting.
  c. An offering made by fire: Sacrifices were presented to God as part of the atonement ceremony.
- **The Purpose of Atonement -** Atonement involves the covering or dealing with sin so that reconciliation with God can take place.

JESUS CHRIST: OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST AND PERFECT SACRIFICE

Hebrews 9:11–12 - The Old Testament high priest entered the Most Holy Place once a year with the blood of an animal sacrifice. However, Jesus Christ came as the Great High Priest and entered the greater and more perfect heavenly sanctuary.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT AND THE JUDGMENT OF GOD

- **Every Person Must Give an Account of ourselves to God - Romans 14:10–12**
- **2 Corinthians 5:10 -** *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ."*
- **The Judgment Seat of Christ - 1 Corinthians 3:10–15**
  - Jesus Christ is the foundation, and our works are built upon that foundation.
  - Every believer's work will be tested by fire.
- **The Great White Throne Judgment - Revelation 20:11–15**
  - God sits upon the great white throne.
  - The dead, small and great, stand before Him.
  - The books are opened, including the Book of Life.
  - The dead are judged according to their works.
  - Death and Hades are cast into the lake of fire.
  - Anyone not found written in the Book of Life is cast into the lake of fire.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT AND GOD'S FUTURE PURPOSE FOR ISRAEL

- **Israel Will Recognize the One They Pierced - Zechariah 12:10**
  - God promises to pour out upon the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication.
  - They will look upon the One whom they have pierced and mourn.
- **All Israel Will Be Saved - Romans 11:26**
  - This passage must be understood within the larger context of **Romans 9–11**, where Paul explains God's faithfulness, Israel's unbelief, the inclusion of Gentiles, and God's continuing purposes.
  - **Romans 11:33** - Paul responds to God's wonderful plan with praise.

The Finality of Christ's Sacrifice

- **Hebrews 10:10–14 -** Jesus offered His body once and for all as the sacrifice for sin.
  - The priests of the Old Testament repeatedly offered sacrifices that could never permanently remove sin.
  - Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins forever.

THE TWO GOATS: TWO IMPORTANT PICTURES OF ATONEMENT

One of the most meaningful parts of the Day of Atonement involved two goats. God instructed the high priest to present two goats before the Lord.

- **The First Goat: The Goat for the Lord - Leviticus 16:7–10**
  - The necessity of a sacrifice to shed blood for atonement, in need of cleansing before God.
  - New Testament Connection: **Isaiah 53:5–6 -** Isaiah prophesied about the suffering Servant who would be wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities.
  - **1 Peter 2:24** - Jesus bore our sins in His own body on the tree so that we might die to sin and live unto righteousness.
- **The Second Goat: The Scapegoat - Leviticus 16:21–22**
  - The second goat was presented alive before the Lord.
  - It communicated that God was not simply dealing with sin through sacrifice; He was also showing the removal of the people's guilt.
  - **Psalm 103:12** - *"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."*
  - **Hebrews 13:12–13** - Jesus suffered outside the gate to sanctify the people through His own blood. This connection reminds us of the shame and suffering Christ endured outside Jerusalem.