



NOTES FROM Rev. Abe Sandler Sr. YOM KIPPUR teaching

In the year 70 C.E. the temple was destroyed, the Priesthood disbanded and the nation of Israel dispersed. Gone was the sacrificial system of blood sacrifice for atonement that God had required for so many centuries. The only acceptable place to God for sacrifice was the temple and only the Jewish high priest could offer it. and now the temple and the high priest were no more.

At the council of Yavneh (a city in Northern Israel), a few years after the Temple and Jerusalem were destroyed, the Rabbis met to formulate a new way, a substitute way to provide for the atonement of Israel's sins. They decided that Fasting, good deeds or mitzvot, Tzedakah or giving to charity, Tefillah or prayer, And repentance or Teshuvah, would substitute for the blood sacrifice. Ironically, **Rabbi Yohanan ben Zakki**, the one primarily responsible for that decision died despairing for his soul's salvation.

Scholar Jacob Neusner in his book Development of a Legend. Studies on the Tradition concerning Yohanan ben Zakkai, there is this quote:

"In his last hours, Rabbi Yohanan ben Zakkai kept weeping out loud. "O master," his disciples exclaimed, "O tall pillar, light of the world, mighty hammer, why art thou weeping?" ... "I go to appear before the King of Kings, the Holy One, blessed be He," Yohanan replied, "Moreover I have before me two roads, one to paradise and one to Gehenna (hell) and I know not whether He will sentence me to Gehenna or admit me into paradise ..."

In the Talmud we read, "Sincere repentance is equivalent to the rebuilding of the Temple, the restoration of the altar, and the offering of all sacrifices" (Pesik., ed. Buber 24:158; Lev. R. 7.; Sanh. 43b)

However, this does not line up with what God commanded Israel in the Scriptures. We read in Lev. 17:11 -"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement. "

**In the High Holyday Prayer book by Rabbi Philip Birnbaum, Heb. Pub. Co.,1951**

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**Leviticus 1:11**

"He shall slaughter it on the north side of the altar before the Lord; and Aaron's sons, the priests, shall sprinkle its blood all around the altar.

May it be thy will, Lord our God and God of our fathers, that this recital be favorably regarded and accepted by thee **as if** we offered the daily offering at its proper time, its right place, and according to rule."

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"Almighty God, guard as the apple of the eye those who seek thee. Bless them, cleanse them, pity them; ever grant them thy truth. Mighty, holy God, in thy abundant grace, guide thy people. Exalted God, turn to thy people who proclaim thy holiness. Accept our prayer, hear our cry, thou who knowest secret thoughts.

Blessed be the name of his glorious majesty forever and ever. Lord of the universe, thou hast commanded us to sacrifice the daily offering at its proper time with priests officiating, Levites (singing) on the platform, and lay representatives of Israel attending the Temple service. Now, through our sins the Temple is destroyed, the daily offering is abolished, and we have neither priest officiating, nor Levite (singing) on the platform, nor Israelite attending the Temple service. However thou hast declared that we may substitute the prayer of our lips for the sacrifice of bullocks. Therefore, **may it be thy will, Lord our God and God Of our fathers, that the prayer of our lips be favorably regarded and accepted by thee as if we offered the daily offering at its proper time and attended at its service."**

Even though the sacrifice is not available, it is acknowledged that it is necessary, and the Jewish people are looking for ways to satisfy the requirement of God by man made ways.

We believe that God promised to send the Messiah of Israel to be our Atonement. Through His shed blood our sins would be forgiven. Listen to the words of the Prophet Isaiah as he speaks of God's Righteous Suffering Servant: Isaiah 53 (read all)

In the Machzor, the prayer book for the Day of Atonement, we read:

"Our righteous anointed is departed from us: horror hath seized us, and we have none to justify us. He hath borne the yoke of our iniquities and our transgression, and is wounded because of our transgression. He beareth our sins on his shoulder, that he may find pardon for our iniquities. We shall be healed by His wound, at the time that the Eternal will create Him (the Messiah) as a new creature." (From of Prayers For Day of Atonement. Revised Ed. pp. 287-8. Rosenbaum & Werbelowsky, New York, 1890)

There was an sense among the ancient Jewish sages that God would send Someone, Anointed by God (chosen and empowered by God) ~ The Messiah who would "bear our sins on His shoulder, that we may find pardon from our iniquities."

That hope is almost completely lost on the Jewish people of today.

Would you please pray for the salvation of the Jewish people that can only happen through the finished work of Messiah Yeshua (Jesus)?