



Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Gus Choi
September 27, 2009

Monday, September 28, 2009 is Yom Kippurs – Day of Atonements for the Jews. This is the beginning of their civil year, starting from the Day of the Trumpet, Day of Atonements (Yom Kippurs), and Feast of the Tabernacles, as instructed by YHWH. (Leviticus 16:1-34; 23:24-43; & Numbers 29:1-40). All the rituals in offerings and sacrifices typified Jesus Christ, the Son of God who is the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). Unfortunately, while the Jews are doing so and longing for the arrival of their Messiah, by their own rejection of Jesus the Nazareth, they rejected the very One that God hath provided for them and ultimately God Himself.

We Christians, as followers of Jesus, all knew and accepted what Christ has accomplished for us on the Calvary Cross. He shed His blood, atoned for our sin, paid the ransom and delivered us from God's wrath. So what is the teaching from these Old Testament passages intending for us?

On this day, God wants His people to get serious about sin, “deny yourselves” (NIV); or “humble yourselves” (NKJV). This means fasting and the confession of sin. This is exactly what the present day church need to heed, and CBMC is no exception.

Vance Havner observed, “Repentance is almost a lost note in our preaching and experience, and the lack of it is filling our churches with baptized sinners who have never felt the guilt of sin or the need of a Savior.”¹

Indeed, we have just celebrated our 10th Anniversary – we witnessed and testified God's abundant grace upon CBMC. Grace is something we do not deserve and it is the gift of God. However let us not to forget our shortcoming in the past as well as those in our daily lives. For a hurt or a wound to be healed, first it has to be recognized, we need to repent and seek the forgiveness and healing of our Lord Jesus.

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded. Lament and mourn and weep! ... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up” (James 4:8-10, NKJV).

¹ Wiersbe, W.W. Be Holy. An Old Testament Study-Leviticus; Wheaton Ill: Victor Books; 1994.



Pastor's Corner

蔡嘉師傳道

二零零九年九月二十七日

九月二十八日(星期一)是猶太人的贖罪日，這是他們新年的開始：由吹角節、贖罪日至住棚節都是耶和華命令祂百姓要遵守的節期(利 16:1-34; 23:24-43 & 民 29:1-40)。在這些節期中，大祭司會為自己、家人及百姓獻祭。在這些敬拜的禮儀和祭牲中，每一樣都是直指著耶穌基督就是那「神的羔羊，除去世人罪孽的」(約 1:29)。猶太人在這幾千年來都世代的遵守這些禮儀，並期望著那應許救世主的來臨，但正因他們拒絕了那拿撒勒人耶穌，也就是撇棄了神為他們所預備的救主並神自己。

基督徒-耶穌的門徒，我們應該知道並接受了基督為我們在各各他山上十字架所成就的救恩。主耶穌流出祂的寶血，為我們贖罪，付上罪債，並救我們脫離了神的忿怒。那麼這贖罪日對我們有甚麼教導呢？

在贖罪日，神要祂的百姓慎重地去思想到罪的問題。「克己/謙卑自己」。百姓要禁食和靜思己過和認罪。這正是今日教會要聆聽和遵行的。CBMC 也不例外。

侯溫斯(Vance Havner)說：「悔改」似乎已從今天我們的講道和經驗中消失。正因如此教會充斥了很多的受洗罪人卻是完全沒有罪疚感和對救主的需要。

我們剛慶祝了十週年的堂慶，從中我們見證了神在 CBMC 豐富的恩典。恩典是我們不配的，因為它是神的禮物。但在我們的過去及現在日常生活中實在有不少對神、對人的虧欠。若一個傷口或傷痛要痊癒，我們得先要承認它的存在，我們需要悔改，尋求主耶穌的饒恕和醫治。

「你們親近神，神就必親近你們。有罪的人哪，要潔淨你們的手！心懷二意的人哪，要清潔你們的心！你們要愁苦、悲哀、哭泣，將喜笑變作悲哀，歡樂變作愁悶。務要在主面前自卑，主就必叫你們升高。」(雅 4: 8-10)