

Yom Kippur looks forward to Yeshua as the coming Judge of all humanity



10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be paid back according to what he has done while in the body, whether good or evil. 11 Therefore, because we know the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade people. 2 Corinthians 5:10-11a

Yom Kippur - Appearing Before the Judge

Three years ago I had the sobering responsibility (along with 8 other jurors) of sitting in judgement over a first amendment federal free speech case. We as jurors were the ones who decided the outcome that affected many people and served as an ultimate judge over a local city leader. It was a big responsibility that none of us asked for.

The Yom Kippur convocation coming up reminds me that there is ultimately coming a day of appearing before the Judge for all humanity. There are two distinctly different types of appearing. The Scripture states that Yeshua's recorded words in the Scripture will serve as the judge over our lives (John 12:48). We as Believers will appear before Yeshua at the bema seat to have a review of our lives (2 Corinthians 5:10-11). For all true Believers, this appearing will not be in regards to our eternal judgement but to be a review of our life for the sake of the measure of rewards (or lack of rewards--see 1

Corinthians 3:15) from Yeshua to us for how we lived our lives.

There is another more sobering Great White Throne judgement (Revelation 20:11-15) for unBelievers to give a review of their lives. The Scriptures are clear that anyone whose name is not recorded in the Book of Life will be thrown into the Lake of Fire.

Our gratefulness for Yeshua's covering for us as Believers on the Day of Atonement is intended to evoke the following:

1. Gratefulness for forgiveness through Yeshua.
2. Motivation to tell others about this gracious offer and of our beautiful God.
3. A holy fear of the Lord that encourages us to walk in a manner that pleases Him.
4. A greater desire to know and actively apply Yeshua's words to our lives.
5. A humble confidence to draw near to Yeshua and ask Him to tenderize our hearts again to give us a greater desire to grow in the First Commandment.

I hope in this season of Yom Kippur that we are motivated to focus on God's truth, ask Him for help and a tenderness in our hearts towards Him, and to be renewed in our commitment to live our lives more completely for Him.