

*"And ye shall have on the tenth day of this seventh month An Holy Convocation; And Ye Shall Afflict Your Souls: ye shall not do any work therein:" Numbers 29:7 KJV*



The tenth day of the seventh month was “a day of atonement” for the Israelites. It was to be a day of soul searching and confession. The word “afflict” used here was translated from the Hebrew word ‘ânâh (pronounced: aw-naw’) meaning to chasten or abase. Atonement for their sin required the sacrifice of “one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year without blemish.” Innocent animals were sacrificed every year, year after year as atonement for sin. “Whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people.”

When “the Lamb of God,” Jesus, was slain at Calvary, It Was The Final Sacrifice Needed for the sin of all. “He Is The Propitiation (Atoning Sacrifice) for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. There Is One God, And One Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. Who Gave Himself A Ransom for all. There is no more sacrifice for sin.” The sin of the whole world past, present, and future Was Laid Upon Him And He Atoned for all sin for all time. Sunday Worship is a Day of Remembrance of the Resurrection of Christ on the “first day of the week,” but it is imperative we also remember why He Resurrected. He Was The Innocent that died for the guilty! “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD Hath Laid On Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: Surely He Hath Borne our griefs, and Carried our sorrows: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities: The Chastisement of our Peace Was upon Him; and with His Stripes we are healed.” How often, dear Believer, do you meditate upon Calvary and “afflict your soul” while contemplating the Agony of your Saviour? It should be a daily removal of self: a chastisement of your soul to confess and remove all that would separate from the Divine Presence that surrounds us. We must mortify or slay the deeds of the body, that is, deny the fleshly desires that drive us to sin against our Holy God. Jesus Said, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.” Of course if there’s no desire in your heart to please God, you are still dead in trespasses and sin and under condemnation of eternal death! If you Are Saved, and your heart is cold, make a visit to Calvary and weep there with the mourners who have come in contrition and repentance to the “Lamb that was slain.”

Is your soul by sin worn down?  
Behold your Saviour’s thorny crown;  
Bewail the stripes for you He bore,  
And let not sin tempt any more. –CGP

Confession is the Path to Cleansing which is the Path to Communion with God. “The LORD Is Nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. If we confess our sin...we have Fellowship.”

*"If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the Truth: But if we walk in The Light, As He Is In The Light, we have Fellowship one with another, and the Blood of Jesus Christ His Son Cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the Truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He Is Faithful And Just To Forgive us our sins, and to Cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:6-9 KJV*