

Days of Awe 2026

We currently find ourselves amid some of the most anticipated times of the year – the Fall Festivals or Mo'edim! Having celebrated Yom Teruah, the Day of Shouting, we now look towards the next appointment of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement which is of course followed by the Festival of Sukkot! Yet the spaces in between speak just as much as the appointments themselves. The ten days between Yom Teruah and Yom Kippur are traditionally referred to as the days of awe – Yamim Nora'im. A pause purposefully placed on the calendar. Yom Kippur itself offers a paradox, the day of judgement, and yet also the declaration of the yovel! A day we are commanded to “afflict our souls”, and yet prophetically the wedding miqvah. How do we reconcile these concepts? As believers walking in Covenant with Messiah Yahshua who has provided the ultimate atonement, how we do approach this day? Is there perhaps a provided clue found within the 10 days pause?

Let's take a moment to understand the days we are currently in – the Days of Awe/Yamim Nora'im ימים נוראים Nora'im/Awe.

Nora'im, from the root nora' נורא is first seen in the Scriptures in **Genesis. 28:17** – “And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful (nora') is this place! This is none other but the house of Elohim, and this is the gate of heaven.” – Jacob's exclamation upon his dream of the ladder!

Dreadful: nora' נורא from Strong's #3372 yare' ירא to fear, revere, be afraid, to stand in awe; to shoot or pour; the fundamental meaning of this verb has to do with the observing of an external force, which is about to change the observer to the core! Abraham was told do not fear/lo' tira' לא־תירא (**Genesis 15:1** – “After these things the word of Yahweh came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.” Leading into the covenant of the pieces!) this command is the single most repeated command in the Bible (more than 50x's in the Old Testament alone)!

**Abarim Publications* points out that turning off one's fear does not erase the danger ahead. Fear has the function of telling the observer that whatever is out there is incompatible with him. For instance, if the observer has a rightful fear of bears, he will arm himself with other men. That means the command to “have no fear” does not lead to him foolishly running out to hug a bear, but it is obeyed by developing defenses and being wise about his goings. Likewise, someone who rightfully fears Yahweh and hears the command “fear not”, will work to be as perfect/in the image of Yahweh!

Could this be the purpose of this season, the yamim nora'im? As we prepare for Yom Kippur, it is not a season of fear or dread, but it is the season where we understand that His holiness is not compatible with the condition of fallen man, therefore like Abraham, like Jacob, I am to understand that I need a transformation so that I once again can be seen in His image!

This is the understanding that we approach Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement with -
Atonement: Strong's #3722 kaphar כָּפַר to cover, purge, make an atonement, make reconciliation, cover over with pitch; its ancient meaning signaled the annulment of a former covenant – pointing towards the covenant with death at the fall of Adam! Simultaneously as that covenant is being annulled, the shout of the Yovel is being released as the position of Adam is being restored!

Directly before this appointment, the Fall equinox or marking of the straight-line shadow would have occurred (Yom Teruah). The shadow reveals the pattern in the heavens of the sun's circuit revealing the message of the Son's circuit as a Bridegroom leaving His chuppah! Shadow in Hebrew is tsel (#6738) צֶל shadow, shade; it's the root of tselem צֶלֶם image! It was pointing towards the One whose image they were to be transformed into! At Yom Kippur could it be this is who was expected to be presented – one who was in His Image?

Genesis 1:27 – “So Elohim created man in his own image, in the image of Elohim created he him; male and female created he them.”

Image: Strong's #6754 tselem צֶלֶם image, a likeness, or shadow; implies not the appearance but the function! Elohim placed within man a representation of His own function (character, mindset, purpose)! Adam was entrusted with the Mind of Elohim!

Kaphar has a numerical value of 300 the same as Yatsar (#3335) יָצַר to form, fashion, or frame; first seen in **Gen. 2:7** – “And Yahweh Elohim formed/yatsar man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” – this time frame of the 10 days seems to follow the pattern of Gen. 1-2! Man is created (bara') in His image – bara' points towards a covenant cutting process being initiated regarding one who will house His image! In Gen. 2 He now forms (yatsar) a vessel for it to be deposited within! At Yom Teruah He reveals His Image, at Yom Kippur He gathers the vessel for it to be housed within!

The first reference of yare'/"fear" in this form nora' seems to emphasize this concept as Jacob is shown the ladder – the DNA helix of Yahweh meant to change him and his future house as He becomes the vessel laid out on the earth – just like Adam in the Garden!

Leviticus 16 provides in-depth details regarding the ceremony of Yom Kippur prior to our Messiah's atoning work – the one time of the year access was granted into the Holy of Holies by the High Priest! The Holy of Holies represented the mind of the Tabernacle Man! The very tselem/image that they should be mirroring – and yet the instructions reveal the purpose of this access revealed Israel's failure to do so! **Leviticus 16:16** – “And he shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness.”

Uncleanness: Strong's #2932 tum'ah טִמְאָה uncleanness, pollution; a concept that's hard to understand – ritual purity and ritual impurity; yet all the connections that are found with

tum'ah (uncleanness) conveys the idea of mortality, finitude, that which withers away or has decay/death working in it!

*Hence the reason a dead body, or a leper is considered “unclean” there is decay and mortality at work! It directly points back to Genesis 3 when this tum'ah condition is first unleashed at the fall of Adam.

Transgressions: Strong's #6588 pesha' פֶּשָׁא transgression, rebellion, to fall away, break away, break covenant; it describes a willful and purposeful breaking of covenant/sin! From the root #6585 pasa' פָּסָא to step, or march, indicates one's movement when marching, your step or pace

Gematria = 450, same value as the phrase 'etsem me'atsamai – “bone of my bone” – **Genesis 2:23** – “And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

*Now: Strong's #6471 pa'am פָּאָם stroke, beat, foot, step, footstep – another connection to pesha'

Could it be that it is only when the Bride chooses to walk in the same beat, follow in the footsteps of the Adam (upon His circuit) that this is now what enables her to be “bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh”? They are walking in unity! This enables us now to understand the significance of the pesha'/transgressions! It is a willful decision and choice to step/march to a different beat, breaking unity with the Adam/Messiah that Israel chose when holding a “feast” and worshipping the molten Calf!

* **Ezekiel 39:24** – “According to their uncleanness (tum'ah) and according to their transgressions (pesha') have I done unto them, and hid my face from them.” – the same result – His FACE/Mind/Tselem is hid from them!

Yom Kippur is the appointment when He waits for the one who walks in step with Him, the Bride, to be presented before Him to be entrusted and restored to His Image! Yet every time the High Priest prior to Messiah entered to sprinkle the animal blood it revealed and declared that Israel, the Bride, still had death and tum'ah operating in her – unfit to reveal His image. In the meantime, His mind/face/image is guarded within the cyclical tabernacle, mirroring the pattern in the Heavens, as He continues to walk His circuit and reveal His redemption. For anyone that chose to step into that circuit, He could be found! His Face wasn't visible again until Messiah bodily walked the earth! **John 14:9** – “...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father...”

*And in preparation for the yovel of His Bride in these last days...the knowledge of His circuit, His calendar, His comings and goings is being restored! Yet the question remains, will we walk in step with Him?

Proverbs 1:7 – “The fear/yare' of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

*Hmm...could that be the purpose of these days, to have knowledge regarding the upcoming encounter with the King? The Hebrew term for knowledge is da'at (#1847) דָּאָת knowledge, perception, discernment; the first usage of this word being in the Garden regarding the Tree of Knowledge/da'at. To know good and evil

evidently means to discern or distinguish the one from the other. Hence the tree of the knowledge of good and evil according to *Parkhurst* was so named by Elohim not from any natural power which it had of conferring this knowledge, but from its being appointed by Elohim as the moral cause of teaching it! In that by the divine precept of abstaining from it, though it appeared good for food, pleasant for the eye, and a tree to be desired, it revealed true understanding, prudence, and discretion as being departing from or avoiding evil (from a Hebraic mindset is to cease to function in the capacity that you were created to)!

The moment Adam and Eve deviated from the instructions they were given, they ceased to be in the image of Elohim and therefore ceased to function in the capacity that they were created to having chosen to listen to the voice of another. It revealed their inability to distinguish between the purpose for which they were created and the plan of the enemy to circumvent that. They ceased to walk in step and another appointment/mo'ed was kept with another! From the time we're shown the pattern/Image at Yom Teruah to the appointment of Yom Kippur have we too changed the image putting off our own yovel for another cycle?

Da'at is formed with the same letters that form 'atad עָתָד (#6257) to be ready, make ready, or prepare; it has the sense of something destined or prepared for a purpose or goal! The 2 letter root forms 'et עֵת (#6256) time (from the same root as mo'ed) and attached to this root is the letter א a point of access, a doorway; the fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge/da'at – indicating that these days or nora'im (awe) give us knowledge regarding how to access this door in time – the appointment of Yom Kippur! In fact, another cognate of these terms is 'edut (#5715 עֵדוּת or עֵדוּת) indicating a testimony or witness, which bears witness to some other person or thing not seen, as being either past, absent, or future!

*Remember this is the root of the term mo'edim itself! So, every divine appointment or mo'edim is intricately connected to this!

The mo'edim themselves serve as a testimony, a witness that declares something that is simultaneously from the past as well something that is future -revealing da'at/intimate knowledge of the end from the beginning! In tandem, when we are obedient to appear, we too function in this capacity – we are to serve as a witness, to give testimony regarding the one who has set this appointment which requires us to have spent time walking with Him to intimately know Him and in turn be able to witness regarding Him (perhaps sheds even more light on the significance of the weekly Shabbat?)!

Let's take a closer look at Jacob's encounter with the ladder in Genesis 28, the first reference of nora' (awe).

Genesis 28:10-17

Lighted: Strong's #6293 paga' פָּגַע to encounter, to meet, reach, intreat, make intercession, to strike a covenant; paga' has a numerical value of 153, the same value as benei Ha'Elohim - Sons of Elohim בְּנֵי־הָאֱלֹהִים (**Romans 8:19** – “For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God/benei ha'Elohim.”) 153 is also the value of

the name Bezaleel בְּצַלְאֵל (the chief artisan and craftsman of the Tabernacle) whose name translates as “In the Shadow of El”!

*Hmm...connecting the dots do you think that Jacob directed his course here with the mindset that He was being transformed into the image of the one who he had been taught regarding (the Messiah), and was presenting himself as one who would become part of and bring forth the Sons of Elohim – those who are found in His Shadow? Both pointing towards walking with Elohim on His circuit/calendar of appointments, as well as being one who is transformed into His image from that walk!

Looking further, this root paga’ is directly connected to the Hebrew term for figs – specifically early or green figs! This root stem is seen in the naming of the city of Bethphage in **Matthew 21** which is linked to the city of Bethany. This is also the location where Yahshua curses the fig tree! Bethphage translates as House of Figs while Bethany translates as House of Misery, yet it stems from the Hebrew root ‘anah (#6031) אָנָּה to be occupied, busy, low or humbled; and it is the same term used in **Lev. 23:27** regarding Yom Kippur – “Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict/’anah your souls...”

This verb ‘anah אָנָּה can also indicate a returning, or replication, with the general meaning being to act upon some person or thing to affect or produce effects upon! The “afflicting of the soul” at Yom Kippur is about something taking place within you and I that causes us to be transformed or changed/returned back into His Image – to be replicate Him once again as we return (yovel)!

Bethany (directly pointing towards this concept of Yom Kippur) and Bethphage (the figs – symbolic of Israel His people) should have been following the pattern of the Sons of Elohim being transformed into His Image! Yet he curses the fig tree here for producing no fruit! **Matthew 21:19** – “And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.”

*The first reference of figs is in **Gen. 3:7** when fallen Adam and Eve cover themselves with fig leaves! What is happening here?? Yahshua is exposing the religious leadership of Israel who are in a fallen condition just like Adam, attempting to cover their flesh instead of circumcising their hearts, wanting the power and prestige without the cost to the flesh. And while in that fallen fleshly condition, there can be NO Godly seed produced! It is only by being transformed, once again within the confines of His Shadow (His Calendar), His Image, will they produce fruit! It is also in this location that He demonstrates the Kingdom work that the Sons of Elohim should be busy doing – He resurrects Lazarus, annulling the covenant with death, bringing forth life and restoration!

In Jeremiah 24 we also see the analogy of the figs used by Yahweh – 2 baskets of figs, one basket full of good figs and one basket of bad, both in exile! The good figs are promised to be returned, built up, and planted once again! The bad figs will remain exiled and cut off! Yahshua reveals this parable here at Bethphage and Bethany! For those of us in exile, He reveals the path of return

(teshuva) – His circuit where we are transformed into His sons and daughters and presented before Him at Yom Kippur. Exile remains for those outside of His Image! Judgment or Jubilee?

Back to Jacob!

Ladder: Strong's #5551 sullam סֻלָּם ladder; from the root #5549 salal סָלַל to lift up, to cast up, exalt, or to gather; especially to make level a way by casting up a bank, indicates to prepare the road/highway for royalty! Remember Isaiah 40 – prepare the way (Hebrew phrase panu derek פָּנּוּ דֶּרֶךְ with a gematria of 360!) Prepare His circuit, the same circuit His Bride is invited to join Him on! Could this be what Jacob was being shown in the midst of the spiraling ladder – the circuit that would transform His house to the Benei Ha'Elohim?

*By the way, Bethany is the location noted from which Yahshua started His grand entry into Jerusalem – the way prepared for the King!

It is interesting to note that this dream takes place at a location called Luz. Jacob renames the location Bethel (House of Elohim), but multiple verses from Genesis to Judges consistently include the name Luz as well, linking it to this new name of Bethel. A constant reminder!

Luz: Strong's #3870 Luz לֹזֶז almond tree; from the root #3869 Luz לֹזֶז almond tree or wood, seen only once in Gen. 30:37 when Jacob takes “almond”/hazel trees and peels them putting them in the watering troughs of Laban's herds and begins to change the DNA of the flock – following the same pattern of what took place here at the location of Luz with his own DNA!

*This root can also infer to turn aside, to decline, depart and according to *Parkhurst* may mean what is turned aside or diverted from the rightful owner! This is all about a Yovel – when property is returned to the rightful owner! The serpent attempted to circumvent this with Adam, as he mars the Image Bearer of Yahweh! Yet at Luz, Jacob boldly offers himself and his future house as those who will walk once again in that Image – restoring what had been diverted, returning what had been lost as he places himself within the circuit he sees in the heavenlies and stands at the Gate of Heaven!

In the midst of this encounter Yahweh makes a promise to Jacob that extends I believe all the way to His house today! It's a promise to you and I! **Gen. 28:15** – “And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.”

*In verse 13 Yahweh promises to give the land/'eretz that Jacob is lying upon to him and his seed. But in this verse 15 the land he is promised to return to is not 'eretz! It is the 'adamah אֲדָמָה the ground that Adam was formed from....the Image and Likeness! The Jubilee/Yovel of His people entails His Image being restored and returned to Him!