

Day of Judgment (Rosh Hashanah)
Numbers 29:1-6

Putting off the old ...

- I. Blow the Trumpets
 - A. A Week of Awe
 - B. A Cause for Reflection
 - C. A Solemn Day
 - 1. Holy Convocation
 - 2. Sacrifice for Sin
 - 3. Year after Year
- II. Judgment is Here
 - A. The Last Rosh Hashanah
 - 1. The Day Christ Died
 - 2. Faith and Repentance
 - B. A Perpetual Call
- III. Awaken God's People
 - A. Christian People
 - B. And Repentance
 - 1. Realize Guilt
 - 2. Confess Sin
 - 3. Seek Mercy
 - 4. Resolve Change
 - 5. Know Grace
 - 6. Take Action
 - 7. Be Vigilant

... and put on the new.

Next time: how your sins are forgiven

Children, Listen ...

- 1. What does it mean to be in "awe" of God?
- 2. If we know who God is and what He is like, what will we think of our sin?
- 3. What is repentance?
- 4. If we confess our sins to God, what will He do?
- 5. Will we ever be completely done with sin in this life?

Awakening to Judgment

The ancient Jews were instructed to start their new year off with ten days of national reflection that would further inspire their awe of God. While such awe should have been a perpetual state of being for God's people this annual refresher would serve to reinforce in their minds the intensity of what it means to live in the presence of the Holy God. It stands to reason that a fresh reminder of the nearness of the Lord would not only comfort and inspire God's people, but it would also remind them anew of their sinfulness in His presence and thus their need to repent. The days would start with a solemn convocation called Rosh Hashanah, announced with trumpets and filled with sacrifices to cover the sins of the people. It was not all somber as the celebration that reflected on God's good creation – and the renewal of that idea for the new year, but the prominent feature of the first seems to have been that of judgment and the necessity of God to judge sin. We know that Jesus came and satisfied for the righteous judgment for sin and with that the animal sacrifices have ended and the high holy days of the old Covenant have faded from the holiday celebrations of most Christians. Yet there is still a need to be constantly reminded of God's holy presence and the need for His people to continually repent of ongoing sinfulness as a group and as individuals. As we enter into a New year may we be awakened to a heightened awe in the presence of God, realize our need for ongoing repentance of our sin in light of his holiness, and go forward with a joyful confidence that as new creatures in Christ Jesus our sins have been forgiven – and with a resolution, by His grace, to live holy lives even as He is holy.