

JEW TO RECOGNIZE CHRIST JESUS' DEATH AS HIS RANSOM—CORRESPONDING PRICE

“*Yom Kippur*, or the Great Day of Atonement, was a remarkable day with my father; for he not only fasted, prayed and mortified himself on this holy day of expiation, but he actually spent the whole night at the synagogue in devotion. I have often seen my devout parent weep on this great day, when he repeated the pathetic confession following the enumeration of the sacrifices which were appointed by God to be offered up for the sins of omission and commission; and many a time have I shed sympathetic tears as I joined him in lamenting that we have now no temple, no high priest, no altar and no sacrifices. The day before that solemn day, he, in company with the rest of the Jews, took a cock; and, during the repetition of certain forms of prayers, he moved the living fowl round his head three times, repeating these words: ‘This be my substitute, this be my exchange, this be my atonement; this fowl shall go to death, and I to a blessed life.’ Then he laid his hands on it, as the hands used to be laid on the sacrifices, and immediately after it was given to be slaughtered. This is the *only blood* that is shed in Israel now. The blood of bulls and goats no longer flows beside the brazen altar.

“My father took the greatest pains to procure a white cock, and avoided a red one altogether; and when I asked him his reason for doing so, he told me that a red cock is already covered with sin, for sin itself is red, as it is written: ‘Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.’ (Isa. 1:18) He continued: ‘You will find that the Rabbis have laid it down in the Talmud, if the cock be white, he is infected with no sin, and can therefore bear the sins of the Jews; but if he be red, he is altogether covered with sins, and is unfit for bearing our iniquities.’

“The reason why they use a cock rather than any other creature is this. In Hebrew man is called *gever*. Now if *gever* (man) has sinned, *gever* must also sustain the penalty thereof. But since the punishment is heavier than the Jews can bear, the Rabbis have substituted for them a cock, which in the Chaldee dialect is called *gever*, and thus the divine justice is assumed to be satisfied: because, as *gever* has sinned, so *gever*, i.e., a cock, is sacrificed.

“This vain invention may be viewed as a remarkable evidence of a most striking fact, that, while many among the Jews at the present day deny the atonement altogether, the body of the nation still have some feeling of the absolute necessity of a sacrifice for sin, and that without an atonement repentance is of no avail for salvation. If, instead of reading Rabbinical fables, the Jews would study the Bible, they would find that the Lord Jesus, the true Messiah, in His own blessed person made that very atonement for sin which they in their ignorance imagine may be made by the sacrifice of a cock. *Gever* (man) has sinned, and *gever* (man), even the man Christ Jesus, has made his soul an offering for sin.” Isaiah 53:10

—THY KINGDOM COME—

(pp. C255, 256 - Extract from: *The Hebrew Christian*)

For there is one God,
and one mediator between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus;
Who gave himself a ransom for all,
to be testified in due time.
(1 Timothy 2:5-6)



THE MAN CHRIST JESUS

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