

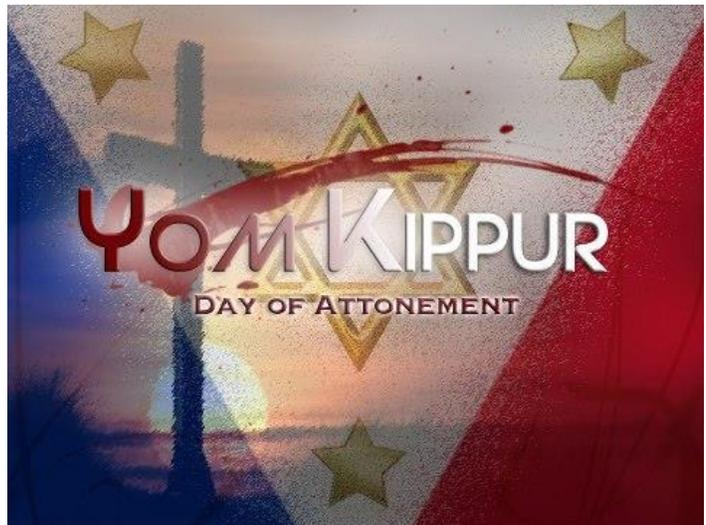
“Through the Bible in a Year with Pastor Don and the FBC Family”

March 25, 2016

- ✓ Numbers 29:1-40 – Feasts and offerings.
- ✓ 1 Corinthians 11:17-12:11 – The Lord’s Supper and spiritual gifts.
- ✓ Psalm 24:1-10 – “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.”

REFLECTIONS:

Numbers 29:1-40. This section notes the Feast of the Blowing Trumpets offerings (1-6), Day of Atonement offerings (7-15), and Feast of Booths offerings (16-38). The Day of Atonement was the holiest day of the Israelite/Jewish calendar, the time when the people gathered in solemn assembly to humble themselves before the Lord. The term “deny” (verse 7) means to afflict, oppress, humble and is a term of self-denial and used occasionally in the context of fasting. The Day of Atonement prefigured the work of Christ on the cross as “a lamb without blemish or defect” (1 Pet 1:19), who brought the ultimate fulfilment to the ritual of Yom Kippur. Christ was the High Priest (Heb. 7:22-28), who offered Himself as a once-for-all eternal sacrifice (Heb. 9:11-28). Christ’s word accomplished our redemption from sin and cleansed our guilty consciences (Heb. 10:19-22). While the Jews of the Old Testament had a faint idea of the Messiah to come, there is no way they could have *clearly* grasped the thought that their omniscience, omnipotent, eternal God would take on human flesh to accomplish an eternal day of atonement. No other religion on Earth makes such a claim. Christianity is unique. Christianity is not essentially a moral or ethical religion. It is one of grace from which moral and ethics flow. Of all the people in the world, only Christians have complete forgiveness and righteousness. Only Christians are eternally blessed—this may not be politically or religiously correct, but it is a fact established by Jesus Christ Himself nonetheless (John 14:6; Acts 4:12). By the way, it is a common error to think that modern Judaism recognizes the need for substitutionary atonement. Reform Jews have given up looking for a messiah. They are working for a world in which the messianic ideals of peace and justice are realized. Moreover, modern Judaism does not view man as born with a sin nature, and salvation is all about good works. Modern Judaism is not a redemptive religion. Like the rest of the religions of the world, it is a moral or ethical system—even if it does contain the highest moral system of loving God with all of one’s heart, soul, mind, and strength, and loving one’s neighbor as oneself; in sum, it is all done in the power of the flesh rather than a response to God’s grace in salvation as per “we love because He first loved us.”

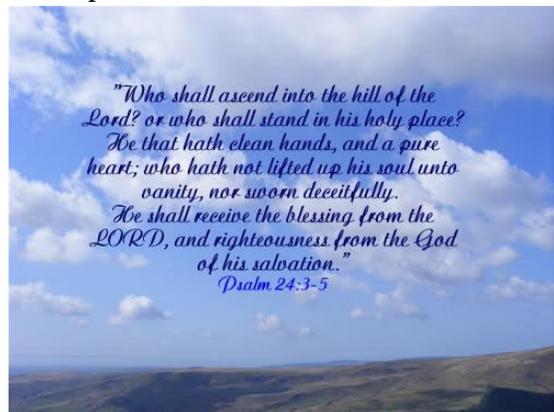


1 Corinthians 11:17-12:11. In the spiritual gift section, we have nine gifts listed. (1) “Wisdom” refers to insight into doctrinal truth. It is one thing to be able to state a truth, it is another to “get it” in the context of other truths. (2) “Knowledge” refers to the ability to apply doctrinal truth to life. Paul also exercised and expressed this gift in this letter (e.g., 12:1–3; 11:3). (3) “Faith” as a spiritual gift was an unusual measure of grace given as God raises up the mind and will to the

Spiritual Gifts Spirit	Service Gifts Son	Working Gifts Father
1 Corinthians 12:8-11	Ephesians 4:11-13	Romans 12:6-8
1. Message of Wisdom	1. Apostle	1. Serve
2. Message of Knowledge	2. Prophet	2. Encourage
3. Distinguishing of Spirits	3. Evangelist	3. Give
4. Faith	4. Pastor	4. Lead
5. Healings	5. Teacher	5. Mercy
6. Miraculous Powers		6. Help (1 Cor. 12:28)
7. Prophecy		7. Guidance (1 Cor. 12:28)
8. Tongues		
9. Interpretation of Tongues		

supernatural level. (4) “Healing” is the ability to restore health (e.g., Acts 3:7; 19:12) and also to hold off death itself temporarily (Acts 9:40; 20:9–10). (5) “Miraculous powers” may refer to exorcising demons (Acts 19:12) or inducing physical disability (Acts 13:11) or even death (Acts 5:5, 9). (6) “Prophecy” is the ability, like that of the Old Testament prophets, to declare a message of God for His people (1 Cor. 14:3). (7) “Ability to distinguish between spirits” is the gift to differentiate the Word of God proclaimed by a true prophet from that of a satanic deceiver (cf. 2 Cor. 11:14–15; 1 John 4:1). If the Corinthians possessed this gift (cf. 1 Cor. 1:7), it was not being put to good use (cf. 12:1–3). (8) “Tongues” refers to the ability to speak an unlearned, living language (e.g., Acts 2:11). (9) Interpretation was the ability to translate an unlearned, known language expressed in the assembly (1 Cor. 14:27). While the miraculous gifts no longer exist since we have the completed Word of God, every believer has a spiritual gift that is designed to help other believers, to build them up. Every believer should be part of a local church interacting with other believers, serving the Body of Christ and thus serving Christ.

Psalm 24:1-10. What a beautiful attitude we see in David. He praised the Lord because everything in the world belongs to Him. He recognized the need for man to be cleansed to come into His presence: the clean hands refer to right actions, and a pure heart refers to a right attitude and will. He notes that only those who do not worship an idol can be true worshipers and walk by faith in integrity. Moreover, David affirms that those who seek after God will be blessed with righteousness, which illustrates the principle of concurrence and actualization in the life of the believer: God actualizes all of our activities so that when we seek Him, He raises up our intellect and will, making Him more real and thus more desirable.



All because of Christ,

Pastor Don