

# BEIT EI



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Greetings! It's the month of Elul. It's the Season of Repentance.

Elul (*'ělûl*) is the Hebrew word for nothingness. It is the 6<sup>th</sup> month on God's calendar, and it is the month that brings in Teshuvah, which means to 'return'. Elul is the time to remember we are nothing without God. Teshuvah is a season of 40 days of repentance, prayer and fasting. It's a season for the children of God to turn back to the Father, self-retrospect, forgiving and going the extra mile to help the poor.

The season of Teshuvah begins Elul 1, which is usually in the month of August. Elul 1 begins August 18, 2023, and goes on for 30 days, which leads into the '10 Days of Awe' (September 16-25, 2023) and Yom Kippur the Day of Atonement (September 25, 2023) (Exodus 29 & 30; Leviticus 4-25).

In the old days and the New Testament, the children of Israel and the stranger that lived amongst them would go into Teshuvah a time of repenting for their sins. This a time that God gave them as specific season that God will hear their cries of repentance. Teshuvah is also the time of Solomon asking God to hear the cries of the people after they had sinned and sought Him for repentance. Teshuvah is God's answer during Teshuvah in 2 Chronicles 7:14.

During the time of Teshuvah, every family had to bring a sacrifice, according to their wealth; the red heifer would be brought into the sanctuary as 'THE ULTIMATE' sacrifice. The Hebrews would lay palm branches down on the ground so that the red heifer could walk into the sanctuary without allowing its feet to touch the ground. The red heifer could not touch the ground, because it had to be perfect without spots, wrinkles, or a blemish.

The forty days is taken from time that Moses went up to the mountain to receive the 10 commandments a second time and atone for the Hebrews sins. In Leviticus 16, the bible explains that a scape goat would be used to send out into the wilderness as a sign of the people sins being forgotten and forgiven, but if the goat came back to the camp the process had to start all over again. Thank Abba for sacrificing His only son, Jesus Christ who became the 'ULTIMATE SACRIFICE'. We know longer must depend on a goat.

When Jesus died on the cross, He became the ultimate sacrifice replacing the red heifer. It is why the people laid palm branches down in Jerusalem, and Jesus rode on a donkey into the temple. Jesus' feet could not touch the ground, because He had to be perfect without spot or wrinkle. When Jesus entered the temple the first thing He says is "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised," (Luke 4:18); Jesus is quoting Isaiah 61:1. It is also why Jesus said, "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill (Matthew 5:17)." Jesus fulfilled the law of atonement when He became the ultimate sacrifice and died on the cross. Therefore, we no longer need to sacrifice animals, but we should and are to celebrate, honor and recognize Teshuvah. During Teshuvah, Christ believers are to recognize God's gift of grace that keeps on giving; recognize it's a time and season God is listening with a graceful ear to cries of His people.



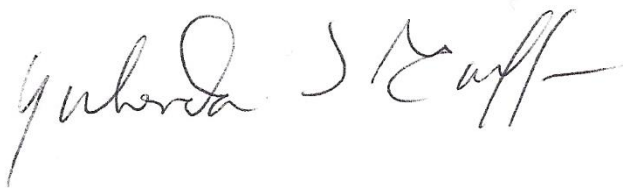
Teshuvah is a permanent law (Leviticus 16:34); it is a time for the people of God to come together and repent of our sins as a nation. Prophets are to repent and seek God for revelation of the things to come. Prophetic intercessors are to become Prophetic Warriors and pray prophetically God's will and kingdom come. After the 30 days of Teshuvah, we celebrate 'Rosh Hashanah' (September 15, 2023), which is the 'head of the year'; it is the new year on God's calendar. Praying and repenting for the 30 days is a time of cleansing to enter the new year with a clean sleight. After 'Rosh Hashanah' we are to pray for the last 10 days as the 'Days of Awe' heading into Yom Kippur the day of atonement. Yom Kippur is a day of 25 hours of fasting, no water or food (Leviticus 23:27; John 6:26-27). This is the day that Christ believers are looking for Jesus to return, this is why this time of 'Teshuvah' and the 'Days of Awe' or taken so seriously. In addition, consider Matthew 26:40-41, whereby Jesus requested His disciples to watch and pray. Twice Jesus return to them and found them sleeping. He told them to watch and pray that "ye enter not into temptation". He left them at the cross, arose from the dead in three days and He left them again in the upper room. The question to ask oneself "will Christ find me sleeping" when He returns?

No man knows the day or the hour that Jesus is coming back, but as believers or Christ we are to surely know the time and season. I want to encourage believers of Christ all over the world to join us during this season of Teshuvah. I believe 2024 is going to be a pivotal positioning year for the nation of America. I will go more into 2024 on Rosh Hashanah.

We pray you join us beginning, August 18 – September 25, 2023, for a Season of 'Repentance, Fasting and Prayer'. We fast from 6 am – 6 pm drinking water and herbal tea. No artificial sugars: lemon and honey may be added to the water and tea; fruit smoothies are allowed with no sugar. Teshuvah is not a time of selfish prayers, but a time to intercede for the nation. America is in trouble, and she needs Christ believers to get on God's calendar and intercede. If America is in trouble, the world is in trouble. We will be live at 6 pm CST nightly. We are seeking Prophetic Warriors to pray. If you are interested in praying for one or two of the 40 nights, please sign up.

Finally, every month is aligned with one of the twelve tribes of Israel. Elul is aligned with the tribe of Gad. The tribe of Gad was like a warlike tribe, and pastoral. They were leaders of leaders. When you put Elul and Gad together, you can understand that Elul tied to Gad is a season of spiritual warfare. It's a time for the leaders to step up, humbly seek God's face for the good of the land and people. There is nothing sweeter to God than when the leaders repent on behalf of the nation, especially the prophets.

Happy Rosh Hashanah! May you have a sweet new month! May the Lord bless you, keep you and shine His face upon you. This is my prayer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yulonda T. Griffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Yulonda T. Griffin, PhD  
Beit El  
Founder