

**Excerpt from: From Holidays to Holy Days": God's Plan for You**

“ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years” (verses 1-2). The apostle John describes Satan as the one who “deceives the whole world” (Revelation 12:9). Satan uses his evil influence to broadcast ungodly attitudes and sinful thoughts to gullible humanity

(Ephesians 2:2). We cannot shirk our personal responsibility for our sins and just blame Satan (James 1:14), but we can recognize his subtle but pervasive influence that has thwarted most people from having a close relationship.

After Jesus Christ’s return, Satan must be removed in order to pave the way for reconciliation of humanity and God. With Satan around, real, lasting peace is not possible. The rituals God gave ancient Israel for the Day of Atonement included one involving two goats. The high priest was to present them before God, and God would show which one was “for the Lord” to be sacrificed (representing Jesus Christ) and which was for Azazel (the Hebrew word translated as “scapegoat” in the New King James Version). The goat for Azazel was left alive.

“And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel ... and shall send him away by the hand of an appointed man into the wilderness. And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land which is cut off; and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness. ...

“And he that letteth go the goat for Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his flesh in water” (Leviticus 16:21-22, 26, Jewish Publication Society).

The connection between the goat for Azazel and the binding of Satan in Revelation 20 becomes more clear when you note that most scholars believe Azazel is the name of a demon inhabiting the wilderness (*Dictionary of the Bible*, Vol. 1, p. 326). With Satan removed, humanity will find it easier to see how awful sin is and how wonderful our merciful God is. Over time each person will come to recognize his or her own sins and will have the chance to repent and seek God’s forgiveness and reconciliation. Atonement and unity with God will become the norm rather than the exception.

The removal of Satan helps make possible the sixth step in God’s plan, a utopian world pictured by the sixth festival, the Feast of Tabernacles.

	<b>Victoria</b>	<b>Corpus Christi</b>	<b>Harlingen</b>
Sunset Tuesday 9-18:	7:29pm	7:30pm	7:31pm
Sunset Wednesday 9-19	7:28pm	7:29pm	7:30pm



**Victoria**

*Sermon:* Jim Chapman  
*Sermonette:* Larry Tucker

**Corpus Christi**

*Sermonette:* DVD  
*Sermon:* Arnold Mendez

**Harlingen**

*Sermonette:* Orlando Mascorro  
*Sermon:* Arnold Mendez

"Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. And you shall do no work on that same day for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the Lord your God.  
Leviticus 23:27-28

## Announcements and Schedule

<b>Sabbath 9/22</b>	No services in Corpus Christi, Victoria, or Harlingen. Regular times and locations for San Antonio.
<b>Sabbath 10/6</b>	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

## Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

### GOD'S FEASTS:

Day of Atonement – September 19

**Victoria** – 10:00 a.m.

**Corpus Christi** – 3:00 p.m.

**Harlingen** – 10:00 a.m.

Feast of Tabernacles and the 8th day – September 24 – October 1

Please note there will not be services on the Sabbath before the Feast, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> in Corpus Christi, Harlingen, or Victoria.

**Corpus Christi:** The brown bag social and Bible study that was originally scheduled for the Sabbath of September 15<sup>th</sup> and was cancelled due to inclement weather is rescheduled to the Sabbath of October 6<sup>th</sup>, the Sabbath immediately after the Feast of Tabernacles.

### DALLAS GOLF SCRAMBLE – OCTOBER 14

The Dallas congregation is hosting an 18-hole golf scramble Sunday, October 14th, 2018 with an 8 am “shotgun start” at The Traditions Course at Watters Creek (7201 Chase Oaks Blvd, Plano, TX 75025). The cost is \$70.00 per golfer which includes green fee, cart, range balls, prizes, as well as a Burger Buffet immediately following your round. If you'd like to play but not enjoy lunch, the price drops to \$57.00 per person. Golfers of all skill sets are invited and encouraged to join us for what will surely be a fun filled, mildly stressful, exciting day! You can form your own foursome or request to be placed on a team. If interested, please let Aaron Greider (aarongreider@yahoo.com / 561-707-2592) know as soon as possible, as we must reach a minimum number to make the event happen.

**DALLAS FAMILY CAMPOUT** – October 26-28

**HOUSTON NORTH FAMILY CAMOUT**- November 2-4