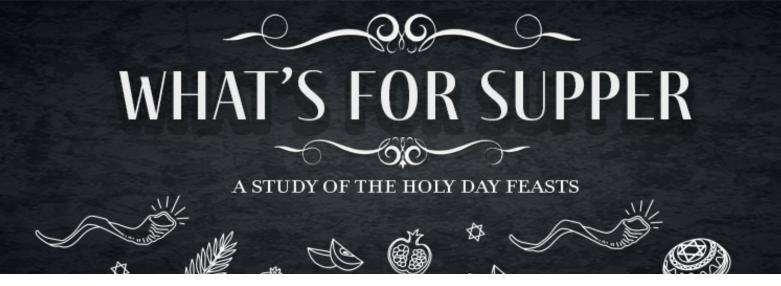


## **ROSH HOSHANAH / LEVITICUS 23:23-25**

- Have you ever made a fresh start in life or experienced a time of personal renewal?
  What were those circumstances?
- 2. Have you ever made a new years' resolution? Have you ever been able to follow through on that resolution?
- 3. Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year. One of the themes is God's work in creation. In what ways does the beauty of creation inspire you?
- 4. Pastor Mark discusses the way in which animals were sacrificed in ancient Judaism. What was the purpose of these animal sacrifices?
- 5. On Rosh Hashanah, as the animals were burning on the altar and the trumpets were blowing, the Hebrews believed that God moved from His "Judgment Seat" to His "Mercy Seat." What does that symbolize?
- 6. The meal at Rosh Hashanah included apples dipped in honey. The apples symbolized healing the past and the honey represented hope for a sweeter future. In what ways does our Christian faith bring healing from the past and hope for the future?



## **ROSH HOSHANAH / LEVITICUS 23:23-25**

- 7. The story of Abraham and Isaac is often told at Rosh Hashanah. Three lessons are emphasized: God does not want child sacrifice, Isaac is the obedient son, and God provides for the sacrifice. In what ways did Jesus fulfill these important lessons through his death on the cross?
- 8. Why do you think it is difficult for some people to ask for and receive God's forgiveness today?
- 9. Why do you think some people don't believe they need forgiveness?
- 10. Do you think the church does a good job of helping people experience God's goodness and grace? Why or why not?