

# “Not My Will, But Thine, Be Done”

Lesson  
**25**  
Summary

*Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46*

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**Scripture Summary:** *Jesus suffers in Gethsemane.*

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**Supplemental Holy Land and Jewish insights:** **Red – the Color of Atonement, Mercy, and Forgiveness:** The key words in this lesson are mercy, forgiveness, and atonement. There is also a significant illustration using the color red. Unfortunately, the rich Jewish tradition of mercy, forgiveness and atonement has lost the identity of the Atoner, yet in the last days, the symbolism of time, places, events, and color (red clothing) will identify the sinless One who said, “Not my will, but thine, be done.” “Mercy and forgiveness, says the Talmud, are distinguishing characteristics of Abraham and his seed, and these characteristics motivated God to choose Israel as His people.” (Encyclopedia Judaica Jr.)

**Yom Kippur – Day of Atonement:** One of the most important holidays in Judaism is Yom Kippur, The Day of Atonement. Fasting, special prayers, and the reading of the Book of Jonah establish symbols that will eventually be used to recognize the Atoner. A further discussion of the subject of Jonah will follow in Lesson # 27. The sign of the prophet Jonah (three days and nights) was not and is still not recognized by many, neither were nor are the connections between the way temple sacrifices were carried out and the ultimate sacrifice made on Mount Moriah and the Mount of Olives.

**Goat tied with a Red Ribbon:** For example, a special sacrifice of a goat, tied with a red ribbon, was performed in the temple in similitude of the Holy One taking our sins upon Himself. One offering at Yom Kippur was a goat, tied with a red ribbon. It was helped to escape the temple confines through the Gate Beautiful with the sins of the people. It had to die on its own outside the temple. The Gate Beautiful is also known by the names The Gate of Mercy and The Gate of Forgiveness. “In the times of the Temple in Jerusalem, the ritual performed by the high priest was the central feature of the Day of Atonement. The high priest, representative of the people, carried out the special service known as *avodah*. He took two identical goats and cast lots to see which would be sacrificed and which would be sent to *Azazel*. After sacrificing one of them, he sprinkled its blood on the altar and then confessed the sins of the people while placing his hands on the head of the live goat.” (Encyclopedia Judaica Jr.)

“How do we know that a crimson-coloured strap is tied to the head of the goat that is sent [to ‘Azaz’el]? because it is said, if your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.” (Talmud, Shabbath 86a)

**A Rare Sacrifice of an Absolutely Red Haired Calf:** Another symbolic sacrifice was that of the red calf as mentioned in the scriptures. It was to be brought outside the temple, sacrificed and its ashes kept for a separate washing for a purification of sins. “This is the ordinance of the law which the LORD hath commanded . . . bring thee a red heifer without spot . . . no blemish . . . bring her forth without the camp (Temple), and one shall slay her . . . and one shall burn the heifer . . . And a man that is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up without the camp (Temple) in a clean place, and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin.” (Numbers 19:1-9) “The Bible is very specific about the kind of cow to be used. It had to be in perfect physical condition -- "a red heifer . . . faultless, containing no blemish . . ." The rabbis interpreted "faultless" to mean perfect in color also, ruling that even two non-red hairs in its hide were enough to disqualify it. Obviously such an animal was very rare and apparently the ceremony was performed only a very few times in all of ancient Jewish history.” (Encyclopedia Judaica Jr.) According to Dr. Asher Kaufman in Israel, an important connection with the red heifer is the Jewish tradition that it was offered high on the Mount of Olives, east of the Gate Beautiful and in line with the north end of the temple’s altar.

**Gethsemane, on the Mount of Olives is a “Wine Press” – Red Stained Clothes:** The most significant offering in eternity started with the “red” offering of the Sinless One on the Mount of Olives in spring of that year, it was the preparation day preceding Passover. Astonished at the suffering He was experiencing as He was taking all the sins upon Himself, He cried out, “Not my will, but thine, be done.” He bled from every pore in his body. His clothing must have been stained red. Isaiah’s prophetic statement: “Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?” (Gethsemane is transliterated from the Hebrew word for winepress/winevat.)

I have trodden the winepress alone . . . their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.” (Isaiah 63:2-3) “Which suffering caused myself, even God, the greatest of all, to tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit--and would that I might not drink the bitter cup, and shrink-- Nevertheless, glory be to the Father, and I partook and finished my preparations unto the children of men.” (Doctrine and Covenants 19:18-19)

**The “Lilies of the Field” Are Scarlet Red:** Kings of Israel were instructed to dress simply in red clothes (very expensive dye). Over the years the red garments of royalty have become a “purple color,” yet, originally they were deep blood red, just like the Lilies of the Field ( Luke 12:27). These lilies bloom in the spring – at Passover. They cover the Mount of Olives like droplets of blood. They testify of Him. The following verses came to my mind sitting in the Garden of Gethsemane.

### Lilies of Red

The season bursts forth in radiance,  
painting the landscape in shades of green.  
Flowers add their rythmn in cadence,  
splashing color to brighten the scene.

Most precious are the lilies of red.  
They spin not, they toil not, yet in their way,  
they teach of the color of Him who bled,  
on Gethsemane’s most fateful day.

His glory is to lighten our load.  
He heals us with joy and harmony .  
A landscape of love for young and old,  
His radiance opened eternity.

Chorus:

Lilies of red, they testified of Him who bled and died,  
Lilies of red, witness they give, He died so we could live.  
He lives, he’s risen from the dead, praise God for Lilies of red.

**Memories Remind us of Mercy:** The next few lessons carry us through the first night of Passover two thousand years ago. There are remembrances of the symbols of sacrifices, the appointed days, and established hours that were pre-set to commemorate the eternal atonement that the Father planned for us. That unequivocal merciful atonement prompts us to share the same blessings on all others. It is an exercise of mercy. “The exercise of mercy is an obligation for all Jews. By this it is meant that they must act with compassion and forgiveness towards all mankind, and perform deeds of charity and kindness. This quality is an essential characteristic of God who is known as *Rahum* ("Merciful") and, in accordance with the tradition which sets as man's goal the imitation of God: "As He is merciful, so be you merciful." Just as God is bound by His covenant of mercy with His people, so is the Jew bound by specific commandments to act mercifully to the oppressed, the alien, the orphan, the widow, and indeed, every living creature.” (Encyclopedia Judaica Jr.) “Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and show mercy and compassion every man to his brother:” (Zechariah 7:9)

We serve the Living God by serving each other. That is the way to thank Him for His first born son who said, “Not my will, but thine, be done.”

Daniel Rona, born in Israel and living in Jerusalem has authored Old & New Testament and Book of Mormon Supplement Study Materials to be used in conjunction with the weekly LDS Gospel Doctrine Lesson study. NOTE: Three versions of the supplemental study materials are available *FREE* at [www.HolyLandsRevealed.com](http://www.HolyLandsRevealed.com). (Just click “LDS SUPPLEMENTS”)

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