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### **Kingdom of God II: Jubilee Redemption and the Forgiveness of Sin**

The concept of Jubilee redemption and the forgiveness of sin is demonstrated as the release from debt. Based on the biblical tradition of the Jubilee and Day of Atonement, there were central festivals in ancient Judaism aiming at self-reconciliation and the cleansing of sins. The Day of Atonement was crucial for Judaism as it presented a chance for the forgiveness of sins. However, the forgiveness of sins in the current society is changing in its perspectives and dynamics, and it evolved from the ancient biblical practices of Jubilee redemption and the Day of Atonement in the Bible and its development in ancient Judaism. This can be analyzed through the sin of sin as a release from debt and its connection to the Jubilee cycle.

The Day of Atonement and the Jubilee Redemption were significant in ancient Judaism as they marked the community's healing and reconciliation. The Jubilee ceremony was performed and carried out after every 50 years. It was a time of redemption and restoration in the communities and societies, bringing about equality and fairness. During this time, debts were forgiven, land that had initially been grabbed was returned to its original owners, and enslaved people were set free (Notley 310). On the other hand, the Day of Atonement was a day that marked personal or inner purification and forgiveness of sins in Judaism. Through Matthew and Luke's Gospels, John the Baptist preached a message of repentance and forgiveness of sins. He emphasized inner purity and fairness to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah and the Kingdom of God (Anderson 45). He even acknowledged the powers that would come with his

successor, as he would baptize with spirit rather than water. He called people to be baptized as a symbol of their repentance and readiness for the coming of the Messiah.

The concept of forgiveness of sin was closely linked with the Jubilean cycle in the old Judaism beliefs. Jubilee was seen as a time of forgiveness and redemption from debt. The idea was built on the forgiveness of debts, land restoration, and freedom of the enslaved people in the Jubilee. Similarly, sins were forgiven, and people's ties with their creator were restored to inner purity and righteousness (Anderson 49). This concept might also be connected to the sacrificial system, where sacrifices and offerings were made by priests to intercede for the people's sins. Forgiveness of sins in ancient Judaism is linked to the Jubilee cycle as it was a release from debts and social injustices that God mandated in the Torah. The cycle touched on community issues such as land disputes and slavery with the restoration of justice and forgiveness of sins. The cycle was symbolic of the forgiveness of sin, restoring and purifying people to the state of purity and righteousness (Notley 310). Priests interceded on behalf of the people by offering up their sacrifices to God. The sacrificial system in the Jubilee cycle was among the processes that people underwent to atone for their sins. Therefore, forgiveness takes on the shape of the Jubilee cycle as people use mediators to ask for forgiveness.

The ancient Judaism ways of Jubilee redemption, the atonement of sins, and the forgiveness of sin as a cancellation of debt were important concepts that shaped the current concept of forgiveness in Christianity and, generally, the concept of fairness in societies. This ancient practice played a critical role in the teachings of John the Baptist and the preparation for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Works Cited

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