



Traditional rabbinic commentary teaches “Yom Kippurim, Yom K’Purim” which literally means that Yom Kippur is a day like Purim. How is this possible? These two days could not be more seemingly different, and yet, our rabbis teach us that beneath such obvious and glaring differences, there is much that these two holidays have in common. Both holidays serve as a reminder that things are not what they seem... that all of us wear masks at different points in our lives... that we must look beyond appearances and seek to find holiness in those moments when it is most difficult.

This reflection is especially profound for us as we begin 2021, a nation seemingly divided, uncertain of who or what to believe or trust... searching for redemption and miracles, hope and healing. The story of Esther illustrates the ways in which evil can masquerade as goodness and vice-versa.