

DAY OF ATONEMENT

Leviticus 16:1-34 **Timing of the Instruction after the Death of Nadab and Abihu** Leviticus 10:1-7

1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered profane fire before the LORD, and died;

God will Appear in a Cloud above the Mercy Seat – Entry Restricted

2 and the LORD said to Moses: "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at just any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud above the mercy seat.

Requirements for Entering the Holy Place Beyond the Veil and Holy Clothing

3 Thus Aaron shall come into the Holy Place: **with the blood** of a young bull as a **sin offering**, and of a ram as a **burnt offering**. 4 He shall put the **holy linen tunic** and the **linen trousers** on his body; he shall be **girded with a linen sash**, and with the **linen turban** he shall be attired. These are holy garments. Therefore he shall **wash his body in water**, and **put them on**.

5 And he shall take **from the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats as a sin offering**, and **one ram as a burnt offering**.

Offerings of Atonement

6 "Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering, which is for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his house.

7 He shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. 8 Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat. 9 And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD's lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering. 10 But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, and to let it go as the scapegoat into the wilderness.

Atonement First for the Priest and His Household with Blood of the Sin Offering

11 "And Aaron shall bring the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his house, and shall kill the bull as the sin offering which is for himself.

12 Then he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, with his hands full of sweet incense beaten fine, and bring it inside the veil. 13 And he shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on the Testimony, lest he die.

14 He shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; and before the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

Atonement for the People with Blood of the Sin Offering

15 "Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, bring its blood inside the veil, do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat. 16 So he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, for all their sins; and so he shall do for the tabernacle of meeting which remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

No-One May be Present while Aaron makes Atonement in the Holy Place

¹⁷ There shall be no man in the tabernacle of meeting when he goes in to make atonement in the Holy Place, until he comes out, that he may make atonement for himself, for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel.

Atonement for the Altar that is before Yehowah

¹⁸ And he shall go out to the altar that is before the LORD, and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and some of the blood of the goat, and put it on the horns of the altar all around. ¹⁹ Then he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, cleanse it, and consecrate it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

The Scapegoat

²⁰ "And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place, the tabernacle of meeting, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat. ²¹ Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, concerning all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a suitable man. ²² The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to an uninhabited land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness.

Burnt Offerings of Atonement after changing his clothing

²³ "Then Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of meeting, shall take off the linen garments which he put on when he went into the Holy Place, and shall leave them there. ²⁴ And he shall wash his body with water in a holy place, put on his garments, come out and **offer his burnt offering** and the **burnt offering of the people**, and make atonement for himself and for the people. ²⁵ The fat of the sin offering he shall burn on the altar.

Return of the One Who Released the Scapegoat

²⁶ And he who released the goat as the scapegoat shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp.

Burning the Bull and Goat of the Sin Offerings Outside the Camp

²⁷ The bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp. And they shall burn in the fire their skins, their flesh, and their offal. ²⁸ Then he who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp.

Statute of the Day of Atonement

²⁹ "This shall be a statute forever for you: **In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month**, you shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether a native of your own country or a stranger who dwells among you. ³⁰ For on that day the priest shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD. ³¹ It is a sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you shall afflict your souls. It is a statute forever.

³² And the priest, who is anointed and consecrated to minister as priest in his father's place, shall make atonement, and put on the linen clothes, the holy garments; ³³ then he shall make atonement for the Holy Sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tabernacle of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. ³⁴ This shall be

an everlasting statute for you, to make atonement for the children of Israel, for all their sins, once a year." And he did as the LORD commanded Moses. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ The time in which God gave this instruction to Moses was after the death of Nadab and Abihu. [\[Leviticus 10:1-7\]](#)
- ✧ Aaron is restricted from freely coming beyond the Veil before the Ark of the Testimony and the Mercy Seat.
- ✧ God will appear in the cloud above the Mercy Seat.

Requirements for Entering the Holy Place beyond the Veil

- ✧ Aaron may only come before the Mercy Seat, if he has with him, the blood of the bull of the Sin Offering and the blood of the Ram of the Burnt Offering, and wearing the holy linen garments, once a year on the Day of Atonement which is the tenth day of the seventh month.

Offerings of Atonement

- ✧ Even though Aaron was the High Priest, still being human and living among a sinful people, he was in need of atonement for his own sins as much as the people were for theirs.
- ✧ Also Aaron needed to atone for his own sins before he could make atonement for the people.

Peter reminds us that judgment begins in the House of God with the people of God first. [\[1 Peter 4:17\]](#)

- ✧ Each of the creatures offered as both the Sin Offering and the Burnt Offering pointed to the need of an acceptable substitute providing the blood that would be acceptable to cover the guilt of the sinner which points us to Jesus our Messiah (Christ). [\[Hebrews 8:1 through 10:17\]](#)

No-one may be present while Aaron makes Atonement in the Holy Place

- ✧ This also points to Jesus our Messiah who could not be touched before He had ascended to the Tabernacle in Heaven to present His Own blood on the Mercy Seat in Heaven for atonement for the sins of the World. After which He was able to be touched and handled by those to whom He appeared. [\[John 20:16-18, 1 John 1:1-7\]](#)

Atonement for the Altar that is Before Yehowah

- ✧ The Tabernacle and all in it needed Atonement made for it to sanctify it, because of the uncleanness of the Children of Israel and because of their transgressions, for all their sins, because the Tabernacle of Meeting remained among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

This was a preview of the truth that Blood is viewed by God as the only agent that can cleanse away sin and impurity

And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. [\[Hebrews 9:22 NKJV\]](#)

- ✧ The seven sprinklings stand for completeness as also the Seven Spirits of God before His throne in Heaven represent the fullness of the person of the Holy Spirit along with the power of cleansing found in the blood of our Saviour, Messiah Jesus.
- ✧ The smoke of the incense represents the power of the prayers of the Saints Ascending up before the Throne of God in Heaven. [\[Revelation 5:8 & 8:4\]](#)

The Scapegoat

- ✧ The Scapegoat which is loosed in the wilderness bearing on itself all the iniquities of the Children of Israel represents Messiah Jesus Who carried all our sins far away when He departed from the earth after His death and before His resurrection. [[Colossians 1:19-23](#), [1 John 3:5](#), [Hebrews 9:28](#), [1 Peter 3:18-22](#)]
- ✧ The one who released the Scapegoat must wash his cloths and bathe in water before he comes back into the camp representing the fact that he is in need of cleansing after being with the goat that is carrying away the sins of the people.
- ✧ Likewise, the one who burns the Burnt Offering outside the camp must do the same, he must wash his cloths and bathe in water before he returns to the camp.

The Holy Garments

- ✧ Speak of the Priest being clothed in Jesus as he has cleansed his body and put on Christ as it were before he could appear before God.
- ✧ He is bathed before and after he performs his duties to represent Christ in making Atonement for himself and for the people, which represents the cleanness God requires of one serving as His representative.

The Purpose of the Day of Atonement

- ✧ To make Atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before Yehowah.
- ✧ This shall be an EVERLASTING STATUTE for you, to make atonement for the children of Israel, for all their sins, once a year.