



The Quarry Gospel Church

BIBLE STUDY - 14.04.21

BIBLE STUDY - LEVITICUS - 10. THE MANUAL OF ATONEMENT - Leviticus 16

So far:

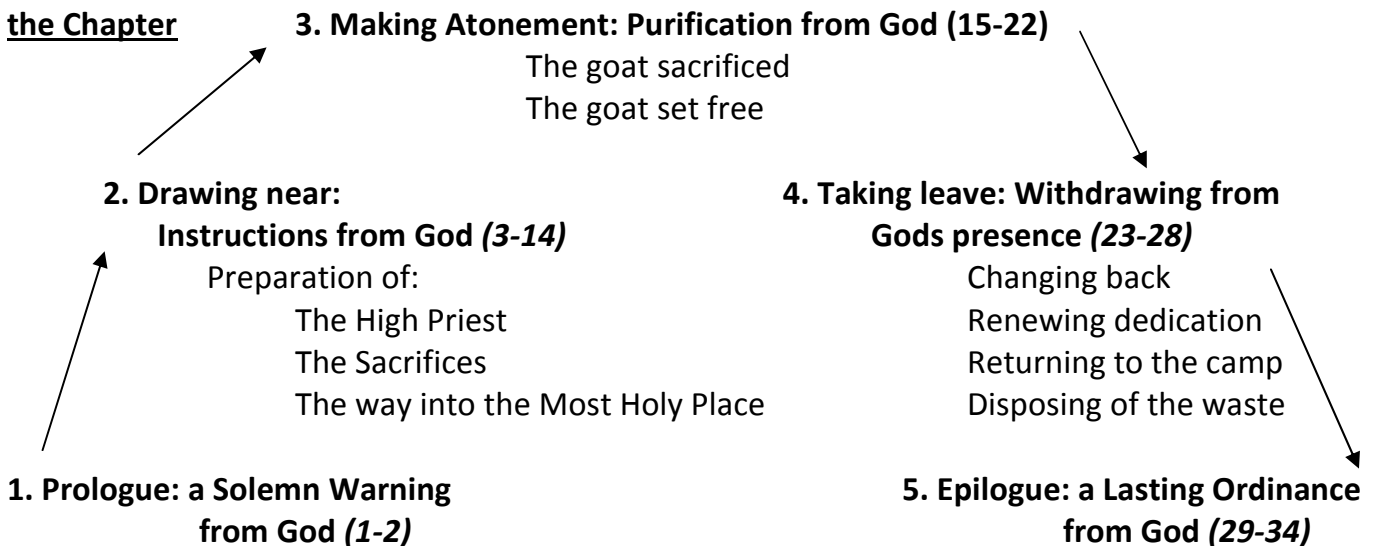
- *Ch.s 1-7* The Manual of Sacrifices
- *Ch.s 8-10* The Manual of Priesthood
- *Ch.s 11-15* The Manual of Purity
- **Now *Ch.16* - The Manual of Atonement**

Both this chapter and the Book of Leviticus as a whole have a pattern.

The central point of Leviticus is *Chapter 16*

The central point of *Chapter 16* is the Act of Atonement, as shown below:

Pattern of the Chapter



The Day of Atonement was an opportunity for the nation to come together to put right everything that had been missed throughout the year, even though daily/weekly sacrifices had been performed.

1 . Prologue: A Solemn Warning from God (vv1-2)

- Death of 2 of Aaron's sons refers to Ch.10 - the offering of unauthorised fire.
- A clear warning that God's rules were to be adhered to strictly and this was something that could only be performed once a year.

2. Drawing near: Instructions from God (vv3-14)

A) Preparation of the High Priest

- sacrifice
- washing
- garments - plain linen - symbol of purity and humility

B) Preparation of the Sacrificial Animals

- 5 animals in total used for the day - a bull and a ram for the High Priest, 2 goats and a ram for the people
- All chosen with care - and inspected to check no blemishes.
- N.B. Both goats identical - God chose by lot which would be sacrificed and which the scapegoat.

B) Preparation of the way into the Most Holy Place

- God's holiness was a tangible force - dangerous to enter the presence of God
- vv11-14 - The High Priest's protection: sin offering; incense; blood on the mercy seat.
- Incense like a smoke screen shielding the High Priest from God.

A clear picture of seriousness of man's sin.

3. Making Atonement: Purification from God (vv15-22)

- Everyone leaves the tent of meeting except Aaron
- Attention now to the 2 goats:

N.B. - Up to this point in Leviticus, sacrifices offered on behalf of the people
"so that they may be forgiven"

but - v.16 - *"He shall make atonement for the most holy place and for the tent of meeting"*

- v.19 - *"to cleanse the tent of meeting because of the sins of the people"*

The sacrifice was for the tent of meeting AND the people:

- 1st goat - sacrificed to atone for the tent of meeting; after this -
- High Priest symbolically took sins of the people on himself and laid them onto the 2nd goat - the "scapegoat".
- 2nd goat - the "scapegoat" was released into the wilderness, symbolically removing the sins of the people. (*Psalm 103:11-12*)

2 GOATS = 1 SACRIFICE

Together the 2 goats removed the guilt of the people - purifying the sanctuary from "ritual" pollution and the people from "moral" pollution - both were needed.

Cleansing the people was part of cleansing the tabernacle and vice versa.

Sin was "forgiven" and "forgotten"

- **A Picture of Christ - both the sacrifice and the scapegoat** - 2 animals needed to represent Christ's work in His death and resurrection because one could not show the death and resurrection!

4. Taking leave: Withdrawing from God's Presence (vv23-28)

- Aaron still had to bathe, change back into High Priest garments and offer the 2 burnt offerings (rams) for himself and the people.
- The burnt offerings represented rededication and were a reminder that receiving forgiveness has to be accompanied by a change of heart.
- The man who had gone out to release the scapegoat returned, bathing before coming back into the camp.
- The man who had disposed of the waste outside the camp likewise bathed before coming back into the camp.

THE END OF THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

5. Epilogue : A Lasting Ordinance from God (vv29-34)

This day pointed to a greater day to come and the perfect fulfilment of this day, when all would be able to come into the presence of God, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

APPLICATION

SIMILARITIES:

- 1st goat sacrificed - Christ's blood poured out as sacrifice to remove the sin of the whole world - *Isaiah 53:7*
- 2nd goat led out into the wilderness bearing the sins of the people - Christ had our sin transferred onto Him
Isaiah 53:4-6; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 2 Cor.5:21; Heb.13:11-14
- High Priest represented the people before God - Christ is our "Advocate" the one "Mediator" between God and men. *1 John 2:1-2; 1 Timothy 2:5.*

DIFFERENCES:

- High Priest was a sinner - Christ was without sin - *Hebrews 7:26-28*
- High Priest offered blood of bulls and goats - Christ offered His own blood, that of the Son of God
- This blood could not cleanse the conscience of the worshipper - Christ's blood provided and inner cleansing in addition to an outer cleansing - *Hebrews 7:9,14*
- High Priest had to perform this act once every year - Christ's sacrifice was "ONCE FOR ALL"
His cry from the cross - "*It is finished*"
Torn Curtain - there is no longer barrier between man and God if we draw near having been cleansed by the blood of Christ. - *Hebrews 10:19-22*

**IN CHRIST WE ARE RECONCILED TO A HOLY GOD
JESUS IS THE ALL SUFFICIENT SACRIFICE FOR SIN**