



LEVITICUS

12/10/2023

KEYWORD: *Holiness*

PURPOSE: To instruct the nation of Israel how she must live and worship as God's chosen people in response to his holiness and in order that He might dwell among them.

Holiness of GOD

1. Majestic–Holiness – God is distinct from everything else
 - i. “As the majestic God whose qualities know no boundary, God’s being is infinitely above his creatures. Moreover, as distinct from creation, he does not depend on anyone or anything to bring him into existence or to sustain him in being. And, of course, there is only one being with such majesty and perfection. He is the unique (unity) God.” (John Feinberg *No One Like Him*, 340)
 - ii. “There is no one holy like the Lord, Indeed, there is no one besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God. (1 Sam 2:2)

Holiness of GOD

2. Moral purity and perfection – God is separated from everything
 - i. “God is free from the pollution of sin, for he cannot sin. In fact, he is so pure and perfect that the Scripture says he cannot even be tempted to sin (Jas 1:13). Though God could have decided not to obligate himself to obey any moral rules, the description of God’s actions in Scripture shows that he abides by the same standards he has set for us. In fact, God’s moral norms are expressions of his moral attributes, so in obeying those norms God is just being consistent with who he is. (John Feinberg *No One Like Him*, 342)
 - ii. “Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David. “His descendants shall endure forever And his throne as the sun before Me.”” (Ps 89:35-36)

OUTLINE

1. The Way to God Through Appropriate Worship (1-16)
 - i. Enjoying God's Presence (1-7)
 - ii. Entering God's Service (8-10)
 - iii. Encountering God's Design (11-15)
 - iv. Ensuring God's Forgiveness (16)**
2. The Walk with God Through Obedient Lifestyle (17-27)
 - i. Enacting God's Word (17-26)
 - ii. Enamored by God's Grace (27)

YOM KIPPURIM – DAY OF ATONEMENT

Now the Lord spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they had approached the presence of the Lord and died. The Lord said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, or he will die; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. "Aaron shall enter the holy place with this: with a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. "He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and the linen undergarments shall be next to his body, and he shall be girded with the linen sash and attired with the linen turban (these are holy garments). Then he shall bathe his body in water and put them on. (Lev 16:1-4)

YOM KIPPURIM – DAY OF ATONEMENT

“He shall take from the congregation of the sons of Israel two male goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering. “Then Aaron shall offer the bull for the sin offering which is for himself, that he may make atonement for himself and for his household. “He shall take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the doorway of the tent of meeting. “Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for the scapegoat. “Then Aaron shall offer the goat on which the lot for the Lord fell, and make it a sin offering. “But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell shall be presented alive before the Lord, to make atonement upon it, to send it into the wilderness as the scapegoat. (Lev 16:5-10)



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Holy Linen Tunic



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THE BRONZE ALTAR



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Limitations of the OT Sacrifices

- i. OT Sacrifices were unable to fully atone for sin (Ps 51:16; Mic 6:6-8)
- ii. The blood of bulls and goats could not clear the consciences of the offerers (Heb 9:9-10; 10:4)
- iii. Daily and annual sacrifices could not permanently remove the stain of repeated sins (Heb 9:25, 10:11).
 - i. Served as annual reminder of sins (Heb 10:3)
- iv. Under the old covenant were incapable of giving “the promised eternal inheritance” (Heb 9:15)
- v. They pointed beyond themselves to the “once for all” perfect sacrifice of Christ (Heb 10:10)

CENTRALITY OF ATONEMENT

- i. Genesis to Revelation (Gen 3, Rev 5:9-14)
 - i. Cardinal Truth (over 100 times in the OT)
 - ii. Emphasis of the gospels on the final week of Christ's ministry (Matt 33%, Mk 37%, Lk 25%, Jn 42%)
 - iii. Is the means whereby reconciliation, propitiation, and expiation are achieved (*The Cross and Our Salvation* Bruce Demarest 167)
 - iv. The death of Christ
 - i. is the basis of every spiritual blessing (Rom 8:31-32)
 - ii. is a source of true Christian living (Rom 6:1-11; 8:3-4)
 - iii. the foundation of the church's sacraments (Rom 6:1-4; 1 Cor 11:26)
 - iv. Motive of everlasting song (Rev 5:9-14)
- v. Atonement of Christ averted the wrath of God (John 1:29; Rom 3:25; Heb 2:17)

IMPLICATION OF THE ATONEMENT

- i. Realize That Christ Died for YOU (Gal 2:20)
- ii. Realize That His Death Is Final (1 Pet 3:18)
- iii. Allow the Message of the Cross to Transform You (Phil 2:5-8; Col 1:22-23)
 - i. Life of humility
 - ii. Life of holiness
 - iii. Life of love and compassion
 - iv. Life of peace-making
 - v. Life of patient endurance

IMPLICATION OF THE ATONEMENT

“This is what we should never forget on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. The Son of God was born for us in order to die for us. When we see that, then we have begun to understand love.” (*Love Came Down on Christmas* Sinclair Ferguson)



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