

“The Day of Atonement:
Growing in Awe and Reverence in Worship”
Leviticus 16:1-34

“The high point of Israel’s year was the Day of Atonement. Like an annual spring clean that sweeps away the accumulated dirt of the previous twelve months, which the routine cleaning of a house had overlooked, so the Day of Atonement swept away all the accumulated sins of Israel that had escaped the attention of even the most conscientious worshipper in Israel.”

“A great danger in our culture is drowning in an ocean of blandness, silliness, emptiness, and the need to be entertained. Our souls have shrunk and lost the capacity to feel the depth and height of what we ought to feel in the presence of God.” (John Piper)

- **Leviticus 16:1-2:** Never trivialize God’s holiness or obedience to God’s Word.
 - Hebrews 12:28-29; John 3:36
- **Leviticus 16:3-14:** Enjoying the presence of God: Preparing to worship God.
 - **Leviticus 16:3-4:** Preparing in personal repentance (1 John 1:6-10), humility (James 4:6-7), and honoring Christ as Holy (1 Peter 3:15).
 - **Leviticus 16:5-10:** Celebrating the work of Christ in taking on the punishment of our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21) and walking in a new life because our sins have been taken away (Romans 6:4-8).
 - Azazel: This word means to be put away or to be removed.
 - The lots: God’s will is sovereign. We are saved according to His will and plan.
 - **Leviticus 16:11-14:** God has made a safe way into His presence (reconciliation) through the work of Christ (Hebrews 4:14-16).
- **Leviticus 16:15-22:** Christ our Righteous Advocate and Intercessor:
 - **Leviticus 16:15-22:** Both sacrificed and set free.
 - Intercessor: Christ is continually saving us by His life (Hebrews 7:25).
 - Advocate: He is the great defender of our standing (1 John 2:1-2).
 - Sin must be publicly dealt with (Judgment and Removal).
 - The shame of Christ (Hebrews 12:1-2).
 - Our public repentance/baptism (Acts 2:41-47).
 - Church Discipline (Matthew 18:15-17).
 - The Great White throne judgment (Revelation 20:13-15).
- **Leviticus 16:16:23-28:** Leaving worship to walk in worship.
 - **Leviticus 16:23-24:** Worshipping God in your daily work (Colossians 3:23-24).
 - **Leviticus 16:24-25:** Daily rededication to God (1 John 1:5-9).
 - **Leviticus 16:26-28:** Daily putting your sin to death/Different from the world (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; Colossians 3:5; Romans 8:12-13).
- **Leviticus 16:29-34:** The eternal work of Christ:
 - Hebrews 7:25-28 & 8:6 & 9:11-14 & 10:3-4 & 10:10-12 & 19-22
- **Interesting facts about the Day of Atonement:**
 - The High Priest would die if he would enter the presence of God outside of one day a year. We live by daily entering into the presence of God.
 - The High Priest would spend seven days in the temple chamber, away from his family, preparing himself for the Day of Atonement.

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Worship: Glorious Christ (Sovereign Grace Music) Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor (Matt Boswell)

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays:(In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- The High Priest was required to bathe himself five times and wash his hands and feet another ten times on this day. All of this washing still didn't make them truly clean.
- The fasting was to remind the people of the suffering from and the severity of sin. Sin is put to death by self-denial. The Sabbath rest was to point to the hope that someday they would be free from their slavery to sin and have eternal rest in Christ.
- Some theologians and historians believe that the seventh month was when Israel came out of Egypt. Some hold to that this was the time period in which Adam and Eve fell into sin. And some believe that this was honoring the day that Moses brought the Law down from the mount and God forgave them of their sin of worshipping the golden calf and gave them the means of reconciliation. Atonement of sin was always done God's way.