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PRAYER

Heavenly Father, how I praise and thank You for the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ. Thank You that He was the sacrifice for my sin and acts on my account as my heavenly High Priest Whose sinless blood has been sprinkled on the heavenly altar as the full and final payment for all my sin and the sin of the world. Thank You for all the word pictures and Old Testament typology that helps me to understand so much of what Christ has done for me. It is so wonderful to know that by grace through faith in Him, my sin has been forgiven, once and for all. The power of sin in my life was defeated at the Cross, and the presence of my sinful nature will be finally gone forever when I see Him face to face. Thank You, in Jesus' name, AMEN.

https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com/Leviticus/16

OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

Can you think of a time when you didn't treat something with the right value, only to realise that it was more or less valuable than you thought? What was it, and how did you respond when you found out its true value?

WORD

1 The Lord spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they drew near before the Lord and died, 2 and the Lord said to Moses, "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat that is on the ark, so that he may not die. For I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. 3 But in this way Aaron shall come into the Holy Place: with a bull from the herd for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. 4 He shall put on the holy linen coat and shall have the linen undergarment on his body, and he shall tie the linen sash around his waist, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy garments. He shall bathe his body in water and then put them on. 5 And he shall take from the congregation of the people of Israel two male goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering.

20 And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall present the live goat. 21 And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins. And he shall put them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is in readiness. 22 The goat shall bear all their iniquities on itself to a remote area, and he shall let the goat go free in the wilderness.

29 "And it shall be a statute to you forever that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall afflict yourselves and shall do no work, either the native or the stranger who sojourns among you. 30 For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you. You shall be clean before the Lord from all your sins

Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-22, 29, 30

Leviticus 16, on the Day of Atonement is arguably the most important chapter in Leviticus, introducing the highest and most sacred day in the Israelite calendar. Its importance is seen in the elaborate preparation ritual that Aaron undergoes to conduct the main sacrifice. The Day of Atonement was and is the most solemn and sacred day in Judaism. It provides a general remedy for the problem of uncleanness described in Leviticus as well as the problem of sin generally.

The Day of Atonement ritual shows the incompatibility of the holy God dwelling with the people's impurities. The regular sin offering deals with this to a considerable degree.

Christians meditating on the Day of Atonement will naturally end up examining themselves and how their sins offend God. But we will also consider what Christ has done for us in making atonement for our sins by bearing them away so that our sins can be completely forgiven and forgotten.

Joe M Sprinkle: "Leviticus and Numbers - Teaching the Text"



In 1829, George Wilson robbed the US Mail, jeopardizing the mailman's life. He pleaded guilty to the charges, andthe court sentenced him to death by hanging. Friends arranged for President Andrew Jackson to issue Wilson a pardon. But Wilson refused the pardon, and the case went to the Supreme Court. Chief Justice John Marshall wrote the official ruling for the court. "A pardon is an act of grace," he said, "the validity of which is not complete without acceptance. It might be rejected by the person to whom it was offered, and the court could not force it upon him. The court cannot give the prisoner the benefit of the pardon unless he claims the benefit of it." Have you received the pardon that Christ offers you in:

- 1. We cannot receive the benefits of Christ's atonement unless we receive it by faith. Have you received the benefits of Christ's atonement by faith?
- 2. Atonement means "the action of making amends for a wrong" or "the process by which people remove obstacles to their reconciliation with God" What might this mean for you in your life?
- 3. Do you want to trust in Jesus and his gift of atonement, having sacrificed His life that we may live forgiven and now made holy?Do you want to trust him with your life by accepting His call for you to enter into relationship with Him? Please take this moment to pray with your group. Ask your lifegroup leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to be the master of my life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Saviour. I declare that I am Yours, and You are mine, In Jesus name, AMEN.