



HIGHLIGHTS OF LEVITICUS

Sermon Series Notes

“The Day of Atonement” (Leviticus 16)

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Intro: Quickly summarize chapters 11-15; Note Lev.11:47, 9-12, 20, 29-30; In Mark 7:19 Jesus declared all foods clean. We must remember that the OT regulations are “shadows” (Heb.10:1). State headings of Lev.11-15, then begin reading Lev.16.

THE TEXT

vv.1-2 Lev.10:8-9 may be a clue that Nadab and Abihu were intoxicated when they offered the unauthorized fire that cost them their lives. These verses give a clue that perhaps they went beyond the curtain that separates the The Holy Place from The Most Holy Place. Nadab and Abihu went regularly into The Holy Place to do their ministry. But only their father, Aaron the High Priest, was allowed into The Most Holy place, and then only once per year, on The Day of Atonement, which just happens to be our study tonight.

v.3 A substitutionary sacrifice, and a life sacrificed as a burnt offering. Whenever anyone is truly saved, they experience repentance, and in that repentance they turn from going their way and desire to go God’s way.

v.4 Sacred garments are mandatory, but before any sacred garments are placed upon him, he is to be bathed with water.

vv.6-10 Scapegoat: A person bearing the blame for the sins, shortcomings of others. Also means “goat of departure.”

v.13 The idea is that because the sacrifice is acceptable, the fragrance is pleasing to the Lord. If it is displeasing (unauthorized), Aaron would be “toast!”

v.14 Seven is the number of completion, so this suggests a complete cleansing.

vv.15-19 The area where God dwells (Most Holy Place), where the people congregate (Tent of Meeting), and the altar itself must all be sprinkled with blood to make atonement for the uncleanness (sin) of the Israelites.

vv.20-22 This is of course suggestive that their sins have been removed from them to a place far away.

vv.23-25 The high priest then took off his glorious garments, washed at the laver, and put on ordinary linen garments. Laying aside his glorious garments was an act of *humiliation*, and washing at the laver was an act of *sanctification*. He was setting himself apart (sanctifying himself) to serve the Lord and His people on this special day.

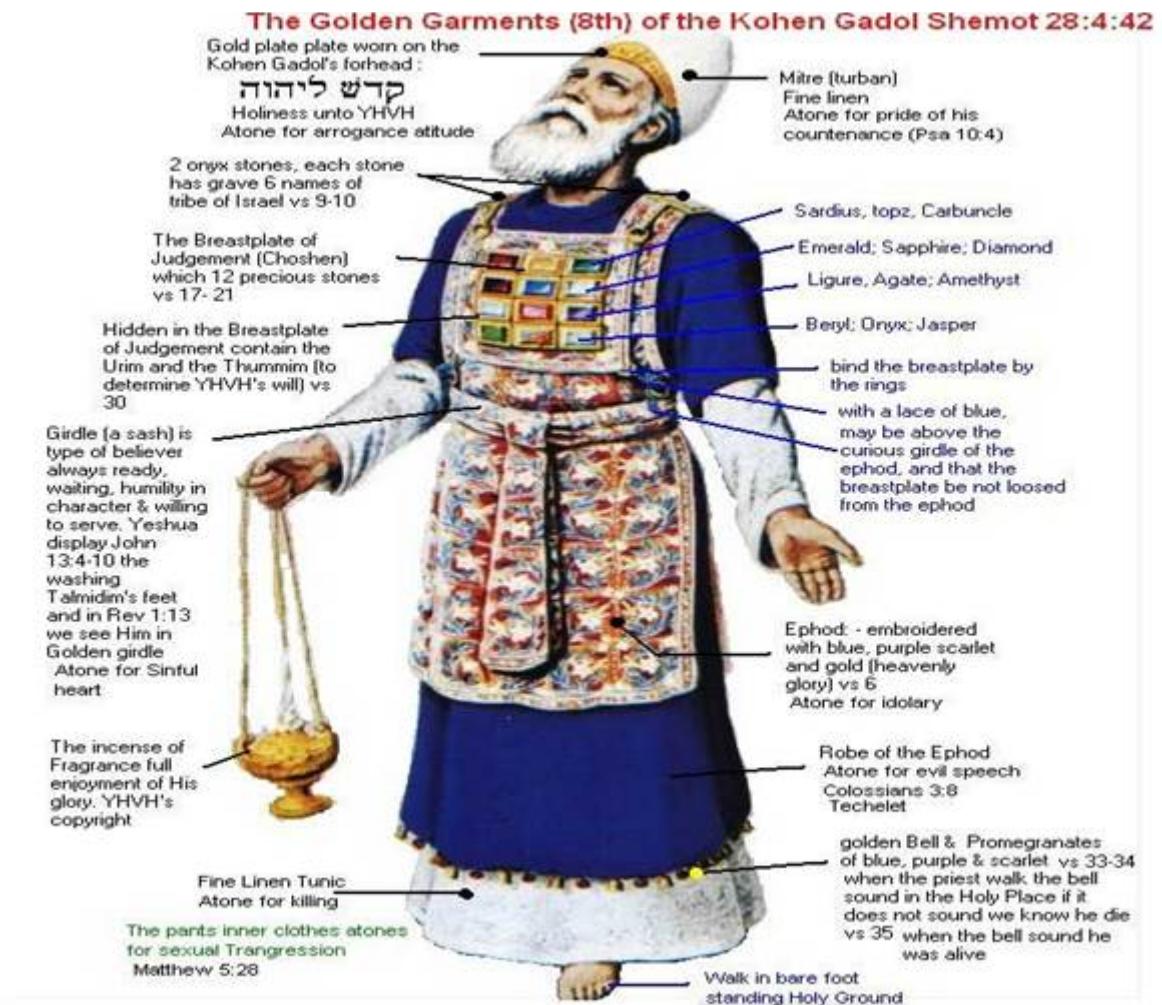
vv.29-31 The one who did all the work on this day was the high priest, the people did nothing.

vv.32-34 Succeeding priests and endless sacrifices.

The majority of Jews today completely miss the meaning & purpose of Yom Kippur. Both ultra-orthodox Jews and others simply do not get it. Let me show you what I mean. Play video.

LESSONS

- We can only approach God on His terms
 - Nadab and Abihu, Uzzah, others?
 - John 14: 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
- Man's tremendous need for cleansing from sin (Romans 3:10, 23; 6:23)
 - Isa.64:6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like *filthy rags*.
- The insufficiency of the Old Covenant (Heb.9:1-9)
- The insufficiency of the Aaronic priesthood (Heb.7:11-28)
- Our great High Priest – Jesus
 - He alone did the work (Lev.16:17a)
 - John 17: 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.
 - His humility; he took off his royal garments (Aaron's normal garments) and put on common linen garments; Phil.2:6-8; II Cor.8: 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.



- His exaltation; once he was sure that the scapegoat was officially lost in the wilderness, the high priest went into the holy place of the tabernacle, took off the linen garments, bathed, and put on his official robes. This reminds us of our Lord's return to heaven, where He received the glory He had laid aside when He was here on earth. His work completed, He returned to heaven and "dressed Himself" once again in the glory that is rightfully His (John 17:1, 5).
- John 17: 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.
- The completed work of the New Covenant (Heb.10:11-18)
- Perfect righteousness despite practical imperfection (Refer to Heb.10:14).
 - II Cor.5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
- Sins completely removed
 - Psalm 103: 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
 - Isa.38:17...you have put all my sins behind your back.
 - Jer.31:34...I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.

- Micah 7:19...you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl our iniquities into the depths of the sea.
- Acts 13: 38 Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. 39 Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses.
- Eph.1: 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace 8 that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.
- Access to the Father 24/7 (Matt.27:50-51a; John 19:30; Heb.10:19-22).
- God's expectation of our response
 - Romans 12:1 (context)
 - Heb.13:11 The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. 12 And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. 13 Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. 14 For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.
 - Col.2:6-7 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and ***overflowing with thankfulness***.
 - Heb.10:23-25
 - Col.3:16...sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.