

the Day of
Atonement



The Lamb of God

Understanding Leviticus 16

Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement

- The things of God are polluted by the human hands that touch them, and must be purified before service.
- The high priest first bathes himself in water to prepare for the ordeal.
- In contrast to his normal high priestly garments, on this day the high priest wore simple clothing of linen.

Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement

- Once in his garments of humility and simplicity, he presents himself to the people for the occasion.
- ESV - “Azazel” - the goat that departs, or the goat of the wilderness.
- The high priest would lay his hands on the goat that departs and confess the sins of the people, then someone selected would send it outside the camp.

Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement

- The leftovers from the sacrificial animals would also be deposited outside the camp.

Atonement through Christ

- Hebrews 9:
 - Christ is the sacrificial lamb that makes purification for the people. No bull is needed, because He is without sin.
 - Christ is also the Azazel / scapegoat that carries our sin away into the wilderness.

Atonement through Christ

- 1 John 1:5-10:
 - This forgiveness is conditional upon our confession of sin (verse 9).
 - If that confession is made, the sin is taken away (and driven into the wilderness).
 - We have to strive to live a life without that sin.

Atonement through Christ

- Unlike for the Jews, our atonement is not once-a-year event. It is a continual presence in our lives.
- This includes:
 - Righteousness.
 - Confession of sin.
 - Forgiveness.