

Prophetic Fall Feasts of The LORD

June 19, 2019 Lesson #24 The Scapegoat

Lev. 16:7-8 And he shall take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for the scapegoat.

- Scapegoat = Hebrew = #5799 = Azazel = goat of departure; entire removal

This random selection ensured that the high priest would not be able to sway the decision; God Himself would make the decision.

Prov. 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

Lev 16:10 But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

Lev. 16:20-22 And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness. [Note: uncleanness is missing]

Remember: The two goats were one sacrifice. The transaction with the living one, scapegoat, was the completion of that with the slain, the sacrificial goat.

Goat #1 = Sacrificial Goat = Represents Christ's Work Of Propitiation

Propitiation: Basic idea of appeasement or satisfaction. It is a 2 part act that involves appeasing the wrath of an offended person and being reconciled to him.

It is an action meant to regain someone's favor or make up for something you did wrong.

- ❖ Represents the sacrifice for an offering for sin
- ❖ Symbolized Jesus' sacrifice on the cross
- ❖ The goat's death symbolized the means of propitiating the wrath of God through the death of an innocent victim substituted in the sinner's place.
- ❖ Its blood was sprinkled on and before the mercy seat.
- ❖ It is the work of Christ saving us from that wrath by absorbing it in His own person as our substitute.

I John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Heb. 7:27 Who needs not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

Result: God accepted Christ's propitiation and is satisfied and appeased with the sacrifice of our Lord on the cross. [Rom. 3:23-25]

- God's JUSTICE is now satisfied.
- God's WRATH has been turned away.
- God's MERCY is freely available to anyone who desires it.

Aaron, the High Priest, had used the blood of the bull and the goat to atone for the sin and uncleanness of himself, his family, the people, and the Tabernacle. [16:33]

The worshipers would think with awe of the high priest going into the immediate presence of God, coming out thence alive, and securing for them by the blood the continuance of the Old Testament privileges of sacrifices and of access unto God through them.

Now their own personal guilt and sins were to be removed from them in a symbolical rite. All this time the scapegoat is standing at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, waiting for the terrible load which it was to carry away "unto a land not inhabited."

Goat #2 = Scapegoat = Represents Christ's Work Of Expiation

Expiation: The prefix *ex* means "out of" or "from," so expiation has to do with removing something or taking something away. In Biblical terms, it has to do with taking away guilt through the payment of a penalty or the offering of an atonement.

- ❖ Represents the effects of the slain goat's sacrifice
- ❖ Symbolically, the scapegoat took on the sins of the Israelites and removed them (v. 10).
- ❖ Iniquities, transgressions in all their sins were confessed and transferred over the scapegoat
- ❖ Represents the complete innocence of Jesus as he accepted and removed our sin and our guilt.
- ❖ Expiation, removal, accompanies propitiation and speaks of Christ's work in removing or putting away the sins that were against us.
- ❖ The sending away of the second goat set forth the effect of this propitiation, the complete removal of the sins from the presence of the Holy God and from His people.
- ❖ Since both goats represented Christ, we may say Christ became our scapegoat, bearing the guilt of our sins in His propitiatory sacrifice and by that act bearing them away from the presence of His holy Father.
- ❖ The goat was led out of the camp and released in the wilderness, never to be seen again.

Ps. 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.

Heb. 10:17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Key Point: The two goats together constituted one offering [Lev. 16:5], and both represent the work of Christ on our behalf. It would have been a blasphemous affront to a holy God to send one goat away into the desert without first sacrificing the goat whose blood symbolized the blood of Christ that alone propitiates the wrath of God.

There must be a blood sacrifice BEFORE there can be forgiveness.

Day of Atonement: There is 1 offering; 2 victims; 2 phases

The Day of Atonement was a solemn day. The worshipers were to humble themselves, afflict their souls and do no work. If they refused, they were cut off from among the people.

The sins of the people were only atoned for by the death of a victim. Their sins were separated from them and banished to forgetfulness through the second victim in another phase.

While in the typical sacrifice this could be effected only by means of two victims, it is a type or shadow pointing to the one Savior who died and rose again. Jesus Christ becomes at once the atonement Sacrifice and the risen Sanctifier by whom our sin is removed.

We must regard them as if they were but one offering, for it needed both of them to set forth the divine plan by which sin is put away. One goat was to show how sin is put away in reference to God by sacrifice. The other goat was to show how it is put away in reference to us, God's people, by being carried into oblivion.

The Ultimate Scapegoat: Jesus Christ

- The word is never used of Him in the Bible.
- It is used of a male goat in the Old Testament sacrificial system.

Isaiah 53:6 prophesies Christ's acceptance of the sin burden: "All we like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

John 1:29 Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

- ❖ None of us is without sin. God the Father laid on Jesus "the iniquity of us all." God sees followers of His Son as blameless—because Jesus took all the blame we deserve.

Hess: "Jesus our Savior left heaven above, coming to earth as a Servant with love; Laying aside all His glory, He came, Giving His life, taking all of our blame."

Lev. 16:22 The goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a solitary land.

F B Meyer - Unto A Solitary Land

What do we see in the live goat which was led away into the wilderness?

1. Christ Made Sin

- ❖ With both hands Aaron, in symbol, confessed and transferred all the iniquities, sins, and transgressions of the people to the head of the live goat.
- ❖ The goat became so identified with ALL the sins that it was accounted an unclean thing.
- ❖ Even the fit man who led it away must wash his clothes and bathe upon his return.
- ❖ After the sins were laid on the scapegoat, it was considered unclean and driven into the wilderness. The goat was cast out. Jesus was crucified outside of the city.
- ❖ Heb. 13:12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. [the fulfillment of the scapegoat]

Isa. 53:3a, 12 "He was despised and rejected by men ... He poured out His life unto death and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors."

I Pet. 2:24 Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree

II Cor. 5:21 He is our scapegoat. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. [The Great Exchange]

- ❖ Jesus was made sin for us. Our sins met in Him; were assumed by Him.
- ❖ God's wrath, God's anger, God's judgment, God's punishment were laid on Jesus Christ.
- ❖ He stood before God as though, in some mysterious sense, they were his own.

Exchange At The Cross

Jesus was punished	that we might be forgiven
Jesus was wounded	that we might be healed
Jesus was made sin with our sinfulness	that we might be made righteous with His righteousness
Jesus died our death	that we might receive His life
Jesus endured our poverty	that we might share His abundance
Jesus bore our shame	that we might share His glory
Jesus endured our rejection	that we might have His acceptance with the Father
Jesus was made a curse	that we might enter into the blessing

2. Christ Bearing Sin Away

John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

- ❖ As the goat went away, the eyes of the people followed it, and they were taught to believe that sin was no longer reckoned to them.

Ps. 103:12 Because Christ bore our sins, they have been removed as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Jesus, in his matchless grace, has borne away the sin of the world into a land of forgetfulness. "Their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." [Heb. 10:17]

Jesus embodied what the scapegoat represented - the removal of sins from the perpetrators.

- ❖ Aaron put off his linen garments, bathed & clothed himself in his high priestly garments.
- ❖ What rejoicing must have broken from the crowds! Sin covered for another year

This is the blessed truth represented by the Scapegoat.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought

My sin, not in part but the whole,

Is Nailed To The Cross, And I Bear It No More,

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul

It is well (it is well)

With my soul (with my soul)

It is well, it is well with my soul.

3. Christ's loneliness

He was alone in his mediatorial work. None could bear Him company. Loved ones might stand beside his cross. Later others suffered deaths of martyrdom; but none could do what He did as the sacrifice for sin. How lonely He was!

"It was a weary journey that the scapegoat took. It left the fertile fields, and the babbling brooks of Israel, far behind: the distant heights of Carmel disappeared on the far-off horizon; before it, there opened up a boundless waste of desert sand, while the "fit man" trudged on relentlessly, farther, and farther, many a weary mile, and still the scapegoat followed him, bearing the sins of the people. The grassy plains have disappeared; the last palm tree is lost in the distance; the sound of running waters has long since died upon the ear; and all around there is the barren waste of desert sand; and still the man trudges on, and still the scapegoat follows him. All alone in the desolate wilds, all alone in a blighted land, and not inhabited. Then the fit man disappears. He had led the goat into the solitude, and lo, it is left alone—all alone. Wistfully it gazes round on the dreary scene. Oh, for one blade of grass! oh, for one drop of water! In solitude and weariness it still goes wandering on, and every step it takes, brings it farther, and farther still, into the silent desolate desert: the scapegoat is all alone.

The weary day drags out its long hours: the dark and mournful night closes in; the morning sun rises up with blistering heat; its lips are parched, its limbs are trembling: it sinks amidst the desert sand, and dies.

So the scapegoat bore the sins of the people into the land of separation.
Leave it there and come to Calvary."

See our Scapegoat led by the hand of the "fit man." Hebrews 9:14 tells us that the Lord Jesus Christ, "through the Eternal Spirit" offered Himself to God.

- That same Spirit of God that led Him alone into the wilderness to meet with temptation, has led Him right up to Jerusalem. He set His face like a flint to go; [Luke 9:51] but still the Spirit led, and still He pursued His leading, until He finds Himself in Gethsemane.
- The terrible darkness is beginning to gather round Him, and the agony to oppress His soul; but the Spirit of God leads on, and the Scapegoat continues to follow.
- He finds Himself all alone in the judgment hall, separated from those who were dearest to Him, and not one friendly voice raised up on behalf of the dying Son of God.

They bound the hands of Jesus in the garden where He prayed;

They led Him thro' the streets in shame.

They spat upon the Savior so pure and free from sin;

They said, "Crucify Him; He's to blame."

Upon His precious head they placed a crown of thorns;

They laughed and said, "Behold the King!"

They struck Him and they cursed Him and mocked His holy name

All alone He suffered everything.

He could have called ten thousand angels
To destroy the world and set Him free.
He could have called ten thousand angels,
But He died alone, for you and me.

- The Spirit still leads on, and the Scapegoat must still follow.
- He finds Himself nailed to the cross, and His lips are parched with thirst, and His body quails in agony. Will He not now pause and call for the ten legions of angels?
- The Spirit leads on and the Scapegoat follows. Deeper and deeper, into the darkness; down into the solitude of sorrow, down into the desolate land not inhabited.
- How lonely He was! "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?"
- Before the universe, in that dread hour, the Savior, the Sin-bearer, stood in awful, unapproachable solitude!
- The Scapegoat has found the land of separation at last, all alone in the darkness.
- The isolating influences of sin have done their work. He is shut out from the light of His Father's eye, or to Himself He seems to be. The blessed fellowship seems broken: there is a horrible sense of loneliness within His heart, and a terrible desolation within His guiltless soul.
- He Bore Our Sins Into The Land Not Inhabited. No witnessing spirit can find them there. They are left amid the wastes of desolation; they are sunk like a stone into the depths of the vast ocean of infinite love. They are lost sight of by man; the very devils of hell cannot rediscover them.
- God Himself has turned His back upon them and left them in the land of separation.

The immutable [Never Changing] Word of God is given to sinners in danger of eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire!

Rom. 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Interesting: If you add an "e" to "scapegoat" you get a non-word but you would get a great word picture of what Christ's atonement accomplished for us on the old rugged Cross.

His death enabled our GREAT ESCAPE!

In Heb. 2:3 The writer of Hebrews warns his readers by asking a question "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?"

The "Escape" provided by the (E)Scapegoat is "so great" an answer to Jesus' probing question to all who think that "religion" can save them.

Matt. 23:33 "You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?"

It answers Paul's question in Rom. 2:3 "And do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment upon those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?"

Consider: - Either you will serve as your own "scapegoat" carrying away your sins for eternity in the "desert" of Hell, never to be found again or you place your faith in Christ's finished, fully atoning work on the Cross, and He becomes your "Divine (E)Scapegoat!"

The term, scapegoat, is used to describe the action of a man who wishes to lay upon another the blame of actions which he himself has done. We speak of certain men as being "mere scapegoats;" as if they had been dragged in to meet the necessities of a situation and to relieve others from the burden of just penalties. This is a perversion of the true scapegoat - Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ voluntarily took our sins and bore them away so that they never can be found again. He actually proposed Himself to become the Scapegoat of the human family.

The sinner must be a consenting party to this most mysterious arrangement.

Every sinner must put his hands, as it were, upon the Christ of God, and by that act intimate his desire that Christ would bear his sins away.

Do not consider the presence of the Scapegoat a license to sin.

The deceitful heart: "Take your own course, do just what you please, and at the end of the sinful day place all your iniquities upon the head of the Scapegoat, and He will bear them away into the wilderness of oblivion. This is perversion and presumption of *God's Grace*."

"In some mysterious way, sin is cast away where even the accuser cannot find it, or the enemy bring it back to fling it in our burning face. This is a divine dispensation. It is to be accepted by faith and by love. Being accepted, my heart is aware of its certainty of preciousness by the sweet peace which steals into it and rules it into profound repose."

[Leviticus 16 The People's Bible by Joseph Parker]

Jesus cried out again in a loud voice and died.

Sounds so routine. "Jesus executed at Golgotha!" "Convicted Blasphemer Crucified." "Jesus dies on a Cross." But underneath the headline is a powerful message:

Jesus would rather die for us than live without us.

This understanding is powerful when we realize He had the power to prevent it. It is convicting when we reawaken to the reality that it was our sin that made it necessary for him to die.

Even more powerful, Jesus dies alone, with no one to save him from his pain or ridicule, no one to comfort or care for him, no one to offer verbal comfort and assurance. Jesus died knowing his best friends have betrayed him, denied him, and forsaken him. He died alone so we would never have to face humiliation, agony, abandonment, or betrayal alone.

Hallelujah! What A Savior