

Now, on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be for you a time of holy convocation, and you shall afflict yourselves and present a food offering to the LORD. - Leviticus 23:27

I. A DISHONORED GOD

- Every act of sin is an act of rebellion against the whole character and life of God (Gen. 2:16-17; Num. 20:12; 1 Sam. 2:29; Isa. 29:13, 58:1; Mal. 2:2).

II. A SUBSTITUTE AND SACRIFICE

- Since all Israel has sinned, every sin must be addressed. It starts with the high priest, the mediator between Israel and her God (Lev. 16:6, 11; Heb. 5:1-4).
- Once the priest is purified and a sacrifice made for his sin, then the people's sin can be addressed.
- The Lord chooses the sacrifice and the scapegoat. It was he who was offended, it is he who makes the choice (Lev. 16:8; Ps. 51:4; Matt. 1:18-25).
- Two goats are brought forth. One for the LORD, the other for Azazel. The sin of the people was carried away to the wilderness, where Azazel and his demons abide (Lev. 16:8; Isa. 34:14; Mark 5:1-20).
- Sin is atoned for by the shedding of blood (Gen. 22:13; Lev. 17:10-12; Heb. 9:22).

III. CHRIST, OUR SACRIFICE OF ATONEMENT

- All that took place on the Day of Atonement has been fulfilled in Christ's life, death, and resurrection (Heb. 7:26-28).

KNOW: Sin must be atoned for. God made a way (temporary) to expiate the sins of his people. It required both the shedding of blood and the removal of sin from the camp. Both the Passover sacrifice and the works accomplished at Yom Kippur are fully and finally fulfilled in Jesus and his work on the cross.

DO: Turn to Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins. Do not be cut off from God and his people.

Suggested Reading:

The Atonement by Leon Morris
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

For Children:

Darkest Night, Brightest Day by Marty Machowski
(Available in the LifePoint Kid's Library)

Next Week's Preaching Text: Hebrews 10:1-4

**Questions/Discovery Points for
Life Groups/Families**

Please read Leviticus 23:26-32 and 16

1. What was the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) all about?
2. How often was it celebrated? For how many years was it to be celebrated? Has it been fulfilled?
3. Why, do you think, is God so exact in his instructions when it comes to the sacrifices he required of his people?
4. What did the Day of Atonement accomplish for the people?
5. How has Jesus accomplished what Yom Kippur was meant to accomplish?
6. Has the sacrifice of Jesus been applied to you?