

# Leviticus 16:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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**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.**

This verse falls within the section on **Day of Atonement**. The most sacred day in Israel's calendar, when the high priest entered the Holy of Holies to make atonement for all Israel's sins.

The Hebrew word *kaphar* (כַּפֵּר) means 'to cover' or 'to make atonement.' The sacrificial system provided temporary covering for sin, pointing forward to Christ's perfect, once-for-all sacrifice.

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

## Historical Context

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The most sacred day in Israel's calendar, when the high priest entered the Holy of Holies to make atonement for all Israel's sins. The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) described in chapter 16 became Israel's most sacred day. Only on this annual day could the high priest enter the Holy of Holies, making atonement for the entire

nation. This ceremony, still observed in Judaism, found ultimate fulfillment in Christ's entrance into heaven itself (Hebrews 9:11-12). Israel received these laws while encamped at Sinai, before entering Canaan. The laws prepared them for life in the promised land, distinguishing them from Canaanite practices and establishing their identity as God's holy nation. The portable tabernacle, central to Levitical worship, accompanied them through wilderness wanderings and eventually found permanent form in Solomon's temple. Ancient sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. In what ways does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice and the seriousness of sin?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

## Interlinear Text

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לְעִזָּז לְ	הַגּוֹלֵל	עַל יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר	וַיַּפְשַׁע יְרֵא	But the goat	H834	fell	H5921	on which the lot	for a scapegoat	H1486	H5799
יִצְחַם	לְפָנֵי	יְהוָה	לְכַפֵּר	עַל יְ	יְמִינָה	שָׁלֹשׁ	לְפָנֵי	to make an atonement	H5921	H3722	H5921
shall be presented	alive	before	the LORD	with him and to let him go	H853	for a scapegoat	H5799	into the wilderness	H4057		
H5975	H2416	H6440	H3068	H7971							

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 John 2:2** (Parallel theme): And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

**1 John 3:16** (Parallel theme): Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

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