

Leviticus 16:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he that let go the goat for the scapegoat shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp.

Analysis

And he that let go the goat for the scapegoat shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp.

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.

Every sacrifice and ritual in Leviticus points forward to Jesus Christ, who fulfills the entire sacrificial system as both perfect sacrifice and eternal high priest.

Historical Context

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. The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?

Interlinear Text

וְהַמָּשָׁלָה	אֶת	הַשְּׂעִיר	לְעֹזֹאן	יִכְבֶּה	בְּגָדָיו
And he that let go	H853	the goat	for the scapegoat	shall wash	his clothes
H7971		H8163	H5799	H3526	H899

וְכָחַץ	אֶת	בְּשָׁרוֹ	בַּמַּיִם	וְאַחֲרָי	כִּי	יָבֹאוּ	אֵל
and bathe	H853	his flesh	in water	and afterward	H3651	come	H413
H7364		H1320	H4325	H310		H935	

הַמַּחֲנֶה:

into the camp

H4264

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 7:19 (Parallel theme): For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

Leviticus 16:10 (Parallel theme): 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.

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