

# Numbers 28:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And one goat for a sin offering, to make an atonement for you.

## Analysis

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**One goat for a sin offering, to make an atonement** (שְׂעִיר־עִזִּים אֶחָד לַחֲטָאת לְכַפֵּר, se'ir-izzim echad lechattat lechaper)—the sin offering (חֲטָאת, chattat) dealt with unintentional sins and ritual impurity. The verb kaper (כָּפַר, "to atone") means "to cover" or "to purge." Even during joyful Passover celebrations, atonement remained necessary, acknowledging persistent human sinfulness requiring ongoing cleansing.

The goat's blood was applied to the altar, purifying the sacred space from contamination by human sin (Leviticus 16). This daily sin offering during Passover week anticipated Yom Kippur's comprehensive atonement. Hebrews 10:4 declares such blood could not actually remove sin but was a "reminder" (ἀνάμνησις, anamnesis) pointing to Christ, who by one offering perfected forever them that are sanctified (Hebrews 10:14).

## Historical Context

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The sin offering was introduced in the Mosaic law, distinct from older patriarchal sacrifices. It addressed Israel's covenant relationship, providing ritual means to restore fellowship broken by sin. In Jesus's sacrificial death, all categories—burnt offering (total consecration), sin offering (purification), peace offering (fellowship)—converge in one sufficient sacrifice.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. Why would even a feast celebrating redemption (Passover) require ongoing sin offerings?
2. How does the repeated need for atonement in the Old Testament highlight the sufficiency of Christ's once-for-all sacrifice?
3. What does it mean that Christ serves as both the sacrifice and the High Priest offering it (Hebrews 9:11-14)?

## Interlinear Text

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וְשֶׁעַ יֵר	חַטָּאת	אֶחָד	לַכִּפֹּר	עֲלֵיכֶם:
goat	for a sin offering	And one	to make an atonement	H5921
H8163	H2403	H259	H3722	

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