

# Sanctuary Study

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## The Ark of The Covenant ~ *The Day of Atonement*

★ In the last study we examined everything surrounding the ark in the book of Exodus. We discovered all the minute details in which God instructed the Israelites in order for its construction. We discovered the Bible verses that speak of its exact location and that it had been anointed by oil. God even gave talents to men to construct it in beautiful way that glorified Him. There is still much to learn. We will go on to other books of the Bible in their order, which speak on the Ark of the Covenant.

I. The book of Leviticus only mentions the “Ark” one time in all the book. It is found in **Leviticus 16:2** However, this same chapter does mentions “mercy seat” in 4 verses and the theme of this Chapter is the Day of Atonement. Let us take the time to study this chapter.

1. Were the priest allowed to come whenever they wanted into the the Holy place *within the veil*? **Leviticus 16:2** \_\_\_\_\_

2. What happened before God decided to share these instructions with Moses? **Leviticus 16:1** \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did the sons of Aaron die? **Leviticus 10:1, 2** \_\_\_\_\_

4. What was the vice which led them to offer strange fire? **Leviticus 10:9,10** \_\_\_\_\_

- *The sons of Aaron did not take the sacred fire from the altar, which the Lord himself had kindled, and which he commanded the priests to use when they offered incense before him. They took common fire and put in their censers, and put incense thereon. This was a transgression of God’s express command, and his judgment speedily followed. Aaron’s sons, who officiated in holy things, would not have thus transgressed if they had not indulged freely in the use of wine, and were partially intoxicated. They gratified the appetite, which debased their faculties, and disqualified them for their sacred office. Their intellects were beclouded, so that they did not have a realizing sense of the difference between the sacredness of the fire which God let fall from Heaven, and was kept burning continually upon the altar, and the common fire, which he had said they should not use. If they had had the full and clear use of their reasoning faculties they would have recoiled with horror at the presumptuous transgression of God’s positive commands. They had been especially favored of God in being of the number of the elders who witnessed the glory of God in the mount. They understood that the most careful self-examination and sanctification was required on their part before presenting themselves in the sanctuary, where God’s presence was manifested. {4aSG 11.3}*
- *The case of Aaron’s sons has been placed upon record for the benefit of God’s people, and should teach those especially who are preparing for the second coming of Christ, that the indulgence of a depraved appetite destroys the fine feelings of the soul, and so affects the reasoning faculties which God has given to man, that spiritual and holy things lose their sacredness. Disobedience looks pleasing, instead of exceeding sinful. Satan rejoices to see men, formed in the image of his Maker, yield themselves as slaves to a depraved appetite, for he can then successfully control the faculties of the mind, and lead those who are intemperate to act in a manner to debase themselves and dishonor God, by losing the high sense of his sacred requirements. It was the indulgence of the appetite which caused the sons of Aaron to use common instead of sacred fire for their offerings. {4aSG 13.4}*

☼ We can see clearly that God expects his people to recognize that sacredness must surround every aspect of the work of salvation. How much more now should we honor that sacredness as we enter into the study of the “Most Holy place”. God certainly would have everyone remember the sins of Aaron’s sons in the study of this chapter.

5. What attire was to be worn by the priest at the commencement of this service? **Leviticus 16:4** \_\_\_\_\_

- *As the high priest laid aside his pontifical dress, and officiated in the white linen dress of a common priest, so Christ emptied Himself, and took the form of a servant, (Philippians 2:7) and offered sacrifice, Himself the priest, Himself the victim. ... {1BC 1111.5}*

6. What was the first animal sacrifice that Aaron was to gather and who was it for? **Leviticus 16:3,6**
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7. Why did Christ and God find it necessary to be thus humbled? **Hebrews 2:14-18 / 4:14-16**
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8. What principle is brought forth in **John 17:19**? \_\_\_\_\_
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- *Our prayers are not to be a selfish asking, merely for our own benefit. We are to ask that we may give. The principle of Christ's life must be the principle of our lives. "For their sakes," He said, speaking of His disciples, "I sanctify Myself, that they also might be sanctified." John 17:19. The same devotion, the same self-sacrifice, the same subjection to the claims of the word of God, that were manifest in Christ, must be seen in His servants. Our mission to the world is not to serve or please ourselves; we are to glorify God by co-operating with Him to save sinners. We are to ask blessings from God that we may communicate to others. The capacity for receiving is preserved only by imparting. We cannot continue to receive heavenly treasure without communicating to those around us. COL 142.3*
- ☼ Now that we understand the work of the Priest, in offering for himself a sacrifice was to prepare him to officiate in behalf of the people, we are now ready to study the chief service of the day.
9. What animals were taken for the sin offerings of the people? **Leviticus 16:5** \_\_\_\_\_
10. Where did God want Aaron to bring these goats? **verse 7** \_\_\_\_\_
11. What was Aaron instructed to do and why? **verse 8** \_\_\_\_\_
12. What were the two distinctions between the goats and which one was for the sin of the people? **verse 9,10** \_\_\_\_\_
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13. What was to be done with the blood of the "Lord's goat" and why was this done? **verse 15-19**
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14. What was the last act of the priest with the blood? **verse 20-22** \_\_\_\_\_
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15. What does **Hebrews 9:1-7** say about this service of the sanctuary? \_\_\_\_\_
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16. Why was blood so important? **Hebrews 9:22 & Leviticus 17:11** \_\_\_\_\_
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17. What distinction is made between the blood of animal sacrifice and the blood of Christ sacrifice? **Hebrews 9:11-14** \_\_\_\_\_
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☼ *Important truths concerning the atonement were taught the people by this yearly service. In the sin offerings presented during the year, a substitute had been accepted in the sinner's stead; but the blood of the victim had not made full atonement for the sin. It had only provided a means by which the sin was transferred to the sanctuary. By the offering of blood, the sinner acknowledged the authority of the law, confessed the guilt of his transgression, and expressed his faith in Him who was to take away the sin of the world; but he was not entirely released from the condemnation of the law. On the Day of Atonement the high priest, having taken an offering for the congregation, went into the most holy place with the blood and sprinkled it upon the mercy seat, above the tables of the law. Thus the claims of the law, which demanded the life of the sinner, were satisfied. Then in his character of mediator the priest took the sins upon himself, and, leaving the sanctuary, he bore with him the burden of Israel's guilt. At the door of the tabernacle he laid his hands upon the head of the scapegoat and confessed 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 as the goat bearing these sins was sent away, they were, with him, regarded as forever separated from the people. Such was the service performed "unto the example and shadow of heavenly things." Hebrews 8:5. PP 355.5*