

INTRODUCTION: Leviticus 16

- Today we look at what is referred to as a double portion of Torah
- It's 2 parshas, 2 sections of scripture
- The first is known as Acharei Mot which is translated "after the death of" and it refers to the death of Aarons sons Nadab and Avihu
- This parsha covers the institution of Yom Kippur, the national day of atonement or as the Jews refer to... the month of forgiveness
- The second is known as Kedoshim which refers to the holiness laws
- It begins in Chapter 19 with the command... you shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy
- It ends Chapter 20 with you shall be holy to ME, for I the LORD am holy, and have separated you from the peoples that you should be Mine
- What we will see is Yom Kippur is a reminder of man's need for a New Covenant in order that man might be able to enjoy complete and total fellowship with God
- We also see God's expectation for His relationship with man in that God wants an exclusive relationship with man... that is the definition of holy

Leviticus 16:1–2 (NKJV)

16 Now the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered *profane fire* before the LORD, and died; ² and the LORD said to Moses: "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at *just* any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which *is* on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud above the mercy seat.

- Now... why does Leviticus 16 begin by reminding us of the death of Aaron's two sons... Nadab and Avihu?
- Remember, they were the 2 sons who offered incense with strange fire and as a result God consumed them with fire

Leviticus 10:3 (NKJV)

³ And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.' "

- Because it says... those who come near Me... the Rabbi's believe Aaron's sons entered into the Holy of Holies and in Leviticus 16:2 this is confirmed

- The LORD instructs Moses to tell Aaron not to come any time into the Holy Place inside the veil (speaking of the Holy of Holies)
- You see, only the High Priest could enter into the Holy of Holies once a year at Yom Kippur... the High Priest representing Jesus
- In Leviticus 8, Moses (who also represents Jesus) clothes Aaron in the garments of the High Priest and as long as Aaron was clothed in the garments of the High Priest, he could enter into the Holy of Holies

Yom Kippur reminds us we need a Great High Priest

- Jesus is our High Priest and as long as we are in Christ, clothed in His righteousness... we can enter into the Presence of God without fear of judgment from sin
- Nadab and Avihu drew near to God clothed in their regular garments, not in the holy garments of the High Priest and as a result they were judged, condemned by their unholiness
- Thus Yom Kippur points us to the ultimate Redemption that Messiah (Jesus) will bring at the true “acharei” (after) also known as the “End of Days” when Jesus will return with His saints
- The Rabbi’s teach that God will transform the nations to speak a pure language, so they will all call upon the Name of God, to serve Him with one accord... both Jew and Gentile

Yom Kippur also points to a future Covenant

- Remember in Exodus 19 God gives the Torah to Israel on 2 tablets of stone written by the finger of God
- But Israel danced around the golden calf and the original Covenant was broken in Exodus 32... literally
- In Exodus 34 God makes another Covenant with Moses and this Covenant will be placed in the Ark as a Testimony against man
- BUT... the Covenant is made of 2 tablets of stone cut by Moses, but written by God... created by man and yet it is the Word of God
- What is this a picture of? JESUS
- Jesus is our Yom Kippur, He is the future Covenant, the New Covenant that God will make with Israel

Leviticus 16:3–5 (NKJV)

³“Thus Aaron shall come into the Holy *Place*: with *the blood of a young bull* as a sin offering, and *of a ram* as a burnt offering. ⁴ He shall put the holy linen tunic and the linen trousers on his body; he shall be girded with a

linen sash, and with the linen turban he shall be attired. These *are* holy garments. Therefore he shall wash his body in water, and put them on.
5 And he shall take from the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats as a sin offering, and one ram as a burnt offering.

- There are 4 pieces of clothing Aaron is to wear
- Everything is made of white linen... representing the righteousness of God
- He is to offer 2 goats as a sin offering and 1 ram as a burnt offering

Leviticus 16:6–10 (NKJV)

6 “Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering, which *is* for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his house. 7 He shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD *at* the door of the tabernacle of meeting.
8 Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat. 9 And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD’s lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering. 10 But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, *and* to let it go as the scapegoat into the wilderness.

- Before he offers the offerings for the people, he must offer a sin offering for Himself
- Then he takes the 2 goats, cast lots to determine which goat is sacrificed for a sin offering and which goat becomes the scapegoat

Vs. 11-28 describes the main ceremony of Yom Kippur in detail

Leviticus 16:11–14 (NKJV)

11 “And Aaron shall bring the bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his house, and shall kill the bull as the sin offering which *is* for himself. 12 Then he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, with his hands full of sweet incense beaten fine, and bring *it* inside the veil. 13 And he shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that *is* on the Testimony, lest he die. 14 He shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle *it* with his finger on the mercy seat on the east *side*; and before the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

- First the sin offering for the High Priest is offered and the blood applied to the mercy seat...

Leviticus 16:15–19 (NKJV)

¹⁵ “Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering, which *is* for the people, bring its blood inside the veil, do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat. ¹⁶ So he shall make atonement for the Holy *Place*, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, for all their sins; and so he shall do for the tabernacle of meeting which remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness. ¹⁷ There shall be no man in the tabernacle of meeting when he goes in to make atonement in the Holy *Place*, until he comes out, that he may make atonement for himself, for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel. ¹⁸ And he shall go out to the altar that *is* before the LORD, and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and some of the blood of the goat, and put it on the horns of the altar all around. ¹⁹ Then he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, cleanse it, and consecrate it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

- After making a sin offering for himself, the High Priest made a sin offering for the people
- He places the blood on the mercy seat while completely alone

Paul writes concerning this...

Hebrews 9:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ But into the second part the high priest *went* alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and *for* the people’s sins *committed* in ignorance; ⁸ the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing.

- Now the High Priest does not understand he is doing what he is doing
- He knows what to do, but the meaning was not yet made manifest
- The Bible calls this a mystery
- A secret is something that can’t be known
- But a mystery, something that is not yet known
- The primary mystery is Yom Kippur is pointing towards the finished work of Jesus on the cross

- But a second mystery is Yom Kippur is pointing towards the day when Israel will celebrate the New Covenant with Jesus at His return

Leviticus 16:20–22 (NKJV)

²⁰ “And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy *Place*, the tabernacle of meeting, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat. ²¹ Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, concerning all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send *it* away into the wilderness by the hand of a suitable man. ²² The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to an uninhabited land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness.

- After the sacrifices, the High Priest laid his hands on the scapegoat and confessed the sins of the people over the scapegoat (a type of Jesus)
- With the laying on of hands, the sins of the people are transferred to the scapegoat and the scapegoat was released in the wilderness
- Later in Judaism, they started to hurl the scapegoat from a cliff
- In Luke 4:29 is the account where Jesus is almost thrown off a cliff outside his hometown of Nazareth... like a scapegoat
- The release of the scapegoat into the wilderness represented the removal of the sins of the nation
- As David would later write... as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:12)

Leviticus 16:23–28 (NKJV)

²³ “Then Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of meeting, shall take off the linen garments which he put on when he went into the Holy *Place*, and shall leave them there. ²⁴ And he shall wash his body with water in a holy place, put on his garments, come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, and make atonement for himself and for the people. ²⁵ The fat of the sin offering he shall burn on the altar. ²⁶ And he who released the goat as the scapegoat shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp. ²⁷ The bull *for* the sin offering and the goat *for* the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy *Place*, shall be carried outside the camp. And they shall burn in the fire their skins, their flesh, and their offal. ²⁸ Then he who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp.

- Notice... after they release the scapegoat they need to wash and then offer sacrifices again
- Why? Because they have touched sin (the scapegoat) and sin defiles

Leviticus 16:29–34 (NKJV)

²⁹ “*This* shall be a statute forever for you: In the seventh month, on the tenth *day* of the month, you shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, *whether* a native of your own country or a stranger who dwells among you. ³⁰ For on that day *the priest* shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you, *that* you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD. ³¹ It *is* a sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you shall afflict your souls. *It is* a statute forever. ³² And the priest, who is anointed and consecrated to minister as priest in his father’s place, shall make atonement, and put on the linen clothes, the holy garments; ³³ then he shall make atonement for the Holy Sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tabernacle of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. ³⁴ This shall be an everlasting statute for you, to make atonement for the children of Israel, for all their sins, once a year.” And he did as the LORD commanded Moses.

- NOTE: The national day of atonement is not just for the Jews
- It includes any stranger that lives in the land of Israel
- Thus, it is a day of forgiveness for the entire world
- Paul said... to the Jew first and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16)
- Luke wrote in Luke 24:47 that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed to all the nations
- It is a shabbat shabbaton – a day of rest, a day of no work at all
- It is also a day to afflict your souls... how do you afflict your souls?
- According to the Mishna, they were abstain from 5 things
 - Food and Drink (fasting)
 - Bathing
 - The use of oil or perfume
 - Wearing leather shoes
 - Physical intimacy in marriage
- The word itself suggests a submission, a bowing down of one’s desires, appetites, emotions or passions through what the Jews refer to as Teshuva or Repentance
- Teshuva means “return” and repentance means to turn back to God

- Through repentance we receive cleansing, forgiveness and healing from the consequences of our sin

Leviticus 17:1–7 (NKJV)

17 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to Aaron, to his sons, and to all the children of Israel, and say to them, ‘This *is* the thing which the LORD has commanded, saying: ³“Whatever man of the house of Israel who kills an ox or lamb or goat in the camp, or who kills *it* outside the camp, ⁴ and does not bring it to the door of the tabernacle of meeting to offer an offering to the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD, the guilt of bloodshed shall be imputed to that man. He has shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people, ⁵ to the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices which they offer in the open field, that they may bring them to the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, to the priest, and offer them as peace offerings to the LORD. ⁶ And the priest shall sprinkle the blood on the altar of the LORD *at* the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and burn the fat for a sweet aroma to the LORD. ⁷ They shall no more offer their sacrifices to demons, after whom they have played the harlot. This shall be a statute forever for them throughout their generations.” ’

- Chapter 17-26 are known as the Holiness Laws
- To be “holy” means to be set apart for God...
- Thus the holiness laws govern worship, sexual relationships, business and social ethics, the priesthood, offerings, festivals, blasphemy, land ownership and the Sabbath Year, idolatry
- Vs. 1-9 state all sacrifices are to be offered at one altar
- The Gentiles offered sacrifices to demons wherever they wanted, but the worship of God was to be conducted only at the Tabernacle of Meeting

Leviticus 17:8–12 (NKJV)

⁸“Also you shall say to them: ‘Whatever man of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell among you, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice, ⁹ and does not bring it to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, to offer it to the LORD, that man shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁰ ‘And whatever man of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell among you, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people. ¹¹ For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your

souls; for it *is* the blood *that* makes atonement for the soul.’¹² Therefore I said to the children of Israel, ‘No one among you shall eat blood, nor shall any stranger who dwells among you eat blood.’

- The Gentiles were also known for eating blood, but worshippers of God were not to eat blood because the life is in the blood
- The shedding of blood is not for food, but for forgiveness
- By the way... when you look at the restrictions put on the Gentile believers... where did they come from? From the Holiness Laws

Leviticus 17:13–16 (NKJV)

¹³ “Whatever man of the children of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell among you, who hunts and catches any animal or bird that may be eaten, he shall pour out its blood and cover it with dust; ¹⁴ for *it is* the life of all flesh. Its blood sustains its life. Therefore I said to the children of Israel, ‘You shall not eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off.’¹⁵ “And every person who eats what died *naturally* or what was torn *by beasts*, *whether he is* a native of your own country or a stranger, he shall both wash his clothes and bathe in water, and be unclean until evening. Then he shall be clean. ¹⁶ But if he does not wash *them* or bathe his body, then he shall bear his guilt.”

- This is a prohibition about eating flesh that was found dead due to being torn apart by an animal (this is touching death)
- You are also to drain the blood out of an animal before eating it (because the life is in the blood)

Leviticus 18:1–5 (NKJV)

18 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘I am the LORD your God. ³ According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. ⁴ You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I *am* the LORD your God. ⁵ You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, he shall live by them: I *am* the LORD.’”

- Keep in mind who God is speaking to

- He is speaking to those who want to draw near to God, who do not want anything separating them from God and who want to be set apart from the world system to serve God
- I think of the rich young ruler... he believed he was a righteous man
- Jesus told him to sell all he had and give it to the poor and follow Jesus
- Then the man's true colors came out... he wasn't willing to remove what separated him from God
- In order to live a life that is set apart for God, God requires absolute surrender, submission to God
- A surrendered life isn't a perfect life... but it is a life that is being perfected by the power of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives
- The area this is most evident is in the area of our sexuality

Leviticus 18:6–23 (NKJV)

⁶ None of you shall approach anyone who is near of kin to him, to uncover his nakedness: I *am* the LORD. ⁷ The nakedness of your father or the nakedness of your mother you shall not uncover. She *is* your mother; you shall not uncover her nakedness. ⁸ The nakedness of your father's wife you shall not uncover; it *is* your father's nakedness. ⁹ The nakedness of your sister, the daughter of your father, or the daughter of your mother, *whether* born at home or elsewhere, their nakedness you shall not uncover. ¹⁰ The nakedness of your son's daughter or your daughter's daughter, their nakedness you shall not uncover; for theirs *is* your own nakedness. ¹¹ The nakedness of your father's wife's daughter, begotten by your father—she *is* your sister—you shall not uncover her nakedness. ¹² You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's sister; she *is* near of kin to your father. ¹³ You shall not uncover the nakedness of your mother's sister, for she *is* near of kin to your mother. ¹⁴ You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's brother. You shall not approach his wife; she *is* your aunt. ¹⁵ You shall not uncover the nakedness of your daughter-in-law—she *is* your son's wife—you shall not uncover her nakedness. ¹⁶ You shall not uncover the nakedness of your brother's wife; it *is* your brother's nakedness. ¹⁷ You shall not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, nor shall you take her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter, to uncover her nakedness. They *are* near of kin to her. It *is* wickedness. ¹⁸ Nor shall you take a woman as a rival to her sister, to uncover her nakedness while the other is alive. ¹⁹ Also you shall not approach a woman to uncover her nakedness as long as she is in her *customary* impurity. ²⁰ Moreover you shall not lie carnally with your neighbor's wife, to defile yourself with her.

21 And you shall not let any of your descendants pass through *the fire* to Molech, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I *am* the LORD. 22 You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It *is* an abomination. 23 Nor shall you mate with any animal, to defile yourself with it. Nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it. It *is* perversion.

- Here we see prohibitions against sexual relations with family... including underaged children (pedophiles)
- Prohibitions against sexual relations with a widowed or divorced woman, underaged children, adultery with your neighbor's wife, physical relations with a woman during their cycle, abortion, homosexuality or bestiality
- Keep in mind, God is speaking to people who want to follow Him
- God doesn't force His law on anyone... they are obeyed voluntarily by those who do not want to be defiled like the Gentile nations are defiled

Leviticus 18:24–30 (NKJV)

24 'Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you. 25 For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants. 26 You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit *any* of these abominations, *either* any of your own nation or any stranger who dwells among you 27 (for all these abominations the men of the land have done, who *were* before you, and thus the land is defiled), 28 lest the land vomit you out also when you defile it, as it vomited out the nations that *were* before you. 29 For whoever commits any of these abominations, the persons who commit *them* shall be cut off from among their people. 30 'Therefore you shall keep My ordinance, so that *you* do not commit *any* of these abominable customs which were committed before you, and that you do not defile yourselves by them: I *am* the LORD your God.' "

- NOTE: Vs. 28... the land will vomit you out when you defile the land
- Could the land be vomiting Americans out of America for defilement?
- What defiles people and the land? Fornication, Pedophilia, Adultery, Abortion, Homosexuality and Bestiality
- The state of California just passed a bill that classifies pedophiles as a gender choice... so now you have LGBTQ and P for Pedophile
- I think it's interesting that California passes this law before Epstein's mistress goes to court for sex trafficking... the timing is too convenient