

The Atonement in the Old Testament

Lesson Forty-Six

1. Why was Abel's sacrifice more acceptable to God than Cain's?

"By faith Able offered unto God a more _____ than Cain." Hebrews 11:4.

2. To what did his sacrifice point forward?

"Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things,... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a _____ and _____: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world." 1 Peter 1:18-20.



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3. By his sacrifice, what did Abel obtain?

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"He obtained witness that he was _____." Hebrews 11:4.

4. With what sacrifice did God command Abraham to worship Him?

"And he said unto him, Take me a _____ of three years old, and a _____ of three years old, and a _____ of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another." Genesis 15:9, 10.

5. How did Jacob manifest his faith in the promised Redeemer?

"And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered _____ unto the God of his father Isaac." Genesis 46:1.

6. What did the Lord command Moses to have made?

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering;...and let them _____: that I may dwell among them" Exodus 25:1, 8.

"Moreover thou shalt make the _____ with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubim of cunning work shalt thou make them." "And thou shalt make curtains of goats' hair to be a covering upon the tabernacle: even curtains shalt thou make." "And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins." Exodus 26:1, 7, 14.

7. How many apartments had the sanctuary?

"And the veil shall divide unto you between the _____ and the _____." Exodus 26:33.

8. What was in the first apartment?

"For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the _____, and the _____, and the showbread; which is called the sanctuary." Hebrews 9: 2.

9. What other article was in the first apartment?

“And he put the _____ in the tent of the congregation before the veil.” Exodus 40:26.

10. What was contained in the second apartment, or the most holy place?

“And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called Holiest of all; which had the _____, and the _____ overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron’s rod that budded, the tables of the covenant.” Hebrews 9:3, 4.

11. By what name was the cover of the ark known?

“And thou shalt put the _____ above upon the ark, and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee.” Exodus 25:21.

12. Where was God, by the symbol of His presence, to meet with Israel’s high priest?

“And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the _____, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony.” Exodus 25:22.

13. What was in the ark, under the mercy-seat?

“And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten _____...And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made.” Deuteronomy 10:4, 5.

14. When this building was completed, for what purpose was it used, and who daily officiated in the first apartment?

“Now when these things were thus ordained, the _____ went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.” Hebrews 9:6.

15. Who only was allowed in the second apartment? How often? And for what purpose?

“But into the second went the _____ alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people.” Hebrews 9:7.

Note: The round of service in the earthly sanctuary was God’s service. It had to do with the sins of the people; not that the blood offered there could take away their sins. For the Bible says expressly (Hebrews 10:4) that it could not do so. It could, however, show their faith in the efficacy of Christ’s blood yet to be spilled, and to which the sanctuary work constantly directed their minds. The work done there was a type, or shadow, of Christ’s atoning work.

16. How does one commit sin?

“Whosoever committet sin _____ also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.” 1 John 3:4.

17. What is the wages of sin?

“The wages of sin is _____.” Romans 6:23.

Note: Then if a man sinned in Israel, he violated one of the ten commandments that were in the ark, and under the mercy-seat of God. These commandments were the pillars of God’s government; to violate one of them was to rebel against God’s government, and so become subject to death. There was a mercy seat reared above these holy and just commandments. In the dispensation of His mercy, God grants the sinner the privilege of bringing a substitute, to meet the demands of the law.

18. When one of the common people thus sinned, what must he then do, to save his life?

“And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance, while he doeth somewhat against any of the commandments of the Lord,...then he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin which he hath sinned. And he shall _____ upon the _____ of the sin-offering, and _____ the sin-offering in the place of the burnt-offering.” Leviticus 4:27-29.

19. What was done with the blood?

“And the priest shall take of the blood thereof with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt-offering, and shall _____ all the _____ thereof at the _____ of the _____.” Leviticus 4:30.

20. How was the body of the sin-offering to be disposed of?

“This is the law of the sin-offering: In the place where the burnt-offering is killed shall the sin-offering be killed before the Lord; it is most holy. The priest that offereth it for sin shall _____; in the _____ shall it be eaten.” Leviticus 6:25, 26.

Note: After a person discovered his sin by the law which demanded the death of the transgressor, he first brought his offering; then he confessed his sin while laying his hands on the head of the victim, thus transferring (in a figure) his sin to the victim; the victim was next slain, and some of its blood was put on the horns of the altar of burnt-offering; and the priests ate the flesh, thus transferring the sins to the priest.

21. After the accumulation of the sins of the year in this way, what took place on the tenth day of the seventh month?

“And this shall be a statue forever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls;...For on that day shall the _____ for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.” Leviticus 16:29, 30.

Note: It seems by this that the atonement was not completed till the end of the ceremonial year. Atonement signifies “expiation; satisfaction or reparation made by giving an equivalent for an injury.” Webster.

22. After making an offering for himself, what did the high priest next do?

“And he shall take the two goats, and present them before the Lord at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And Aaron shall _____ upon the two goats; one lot for the Lord, and the other lot for the scape-goat.” Leviticus 16:15.

23. What was done with the goat upon which the Lord's lot fell?

“Then shall he kill the goat of the sin-offering, that is for the people, and bring his blood within the veil, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and _____ it upon the _____, and before the mercy seat.” Leviticus 16:15.

24. Was it necessary to make this atonement?

“And he shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the _____ of the _____, and because of their _____ in all their _____: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness.” Leviticus 16:16.

Note: As already seen, sins were conveyed into the sanctuary during the year by the blood and the flesh of the personal sin-offerings, which were offered daily at the door of the tabernacle. Here they remained until the day of atonement, when the high priest went into the most holy place with the blood of the goat on which the Lord's lot fell; and bearing the sins of the year in before the mercy-seat, he there atoned for them before, and so cleansed the sanctuary.

25. After the high priest came out of the sanctuary with the sins still on him, having atoned for them in the most holy place, what did he next do?

“And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: and Aaron shall _____ upon the _____: and confess 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 shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness.” Leviticus 16:22.

26. Then who bore the sins of the people, after the high priest had put them off, and the camp was cleansed from them?

“And the goat shall bear upon him all their _____ unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.” Leviticus 16:22.

Note: In this way the sins of Israel were disposed of each year. It will be noticed, however, that the atonement work of that dispensation only availed for those whose sins had been confessed and conveyed unto the sanctuary by the sacrifice of the victims offered daily at the door of the tabernacle. If any one chose to keep his sins upon himself, he received no atonement, but instead, was cut off from God's people at the close of that day's work; though the privilege of making an offering was extended to the people, even while the high priest was engaged in the closing exercises of the year. It is clear, then, that no atonement can be made for a person before he confesses his sins.