

**PURPOSE OF STUDY:** To show how the earthly sanctuary pointed forward to the work of Jesus in the heavenly sanctuary, and how He is presently working to cleanse us from sin and prepare us for His coming.

**TEXTS:**

- |                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. EX 25:8; JN 1:14     | 8. LEV 16:7-10                   |
| 2. HEB 9:9 (PS 77:13)   | 9. LEV 16:15                     |
| 3. HB 8:4-5 (REV 11:19) | 10. LEV 16:16                    |
| 4. HEB 9:1-5            | 11. LEV 23:26-28                 |
| 5. HEB 9:6-7            | 12. LEV 16:20-22                 |
| 6. LEV 4:27-29          | 13. HEB 9:11-12, 23-28 (AC 3:19) |
| 7. LEV 4:30; 6:24-30    |                                  |

**THE STUDY:**

- 1. What did God ask Moses to build in the wilderness, and why? EX 25:8; JN 1:14**  
*The Sanctuary was built as a means of God establishing His presence among fallen humanity that we might become familiar with His character and ways. This earthly tent veiled the glory of God, and pointed forward to the time when God would again pitch His “tent” among fallen humanity in the person of Jesus.*
- 2. What did God expect His people to learn from the services of the sanctuary? HEB 9:9 (PS 77:13)**  
*The Bible says the sanctuary and its services were a “figure” or “symbolic” (the Greek word is “parabole,” the word for “parable”) – it was a parable of the plan of salvation.*
- 3. According to what model did Moses build the sanctuary? HEB 8:4-5 (REV 11:19)**  
*The pattern that God showed Him in the “holy mountain” when He gave Moses the Ten Commandment – the temple of God in heaven.*
- 4. How many apartments did the sanctuary consist of? HEB 9:1-5**  
*Two - The Holy Place and the “Holiest of All” (also called the “Holy of Holies” or the “Most Holy Place”).*
- 5. What were the two phases of work that carried out in these two apartments? HEB 9:6-7**  
*The daily service, which the priests conducted in the Holy Place, and the yearly service, called the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), which only the High Priest conducted in both apartments.*
- 6. What steps was the sinner required to take in the daily service? LEV 4:27-29**  
*Every day sinners would come to the sanctuary, through the gate on the east side, with a sin offering. Sin offerings varied, depending on the sinner’s wealth and status. It could be a bullock, a kid goat, a lamb, two turtle doves or two pigeons (see Lev. 4 & 5). The sinner would bring a spotless offering to the gate of the sanctuary (we will use a lamb for illustrative purposes). The priest would meet him there, and would help him hold the lamb. The sinner would confess his sins on the head of the lamb, asking forgiveness, and in figure transferring his sins to the innocent victim. At this point the sinner was now considered innocent and the animal guilty. The sinner then cut the throat of the animal, having accepted the sinner’s guilt and incurred the sinner’s punishment – death. The lamb, by faith, pointed forward to the coming of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, who “takes away the sin of the world” (Jn. 1:29).*
- 7. How did the priest transfer the sin to the sanctuary? LEV 4:30; 6:24-30**  
*The officiating priest would catch the blood of the sacrifice in a basin, and place a thumbprint of blood on the horns of the Altar of Burnt Offering which constituted a record of sin (see Jer. 17:1), pouring out the remainder of the blood at the base of the altar. In this case, the priest would eat some of the sacrificial flesh, in this way bodily transferring the sin into the Holy Place of the sanctuary. At other times the blood*

would be taken into the Holy Place and sprinkled on the curtain and the horns of altar of incense, in this way transferring the sin into the sanctuary (see Lev. 4:16-18).

**8. What two animals were presented in behalf of the people on the Day of Atonement? LEV 16:7-10**

*At the conclusion of the sacrificial year was a special service called the Day of Atonement, in which two goats were taken, and lots cast for them. One was designated as “the Lord’s goat,” while the other was called “the scapegoat”.*

**9. How was the Lord’s goat slain, and where was the blood sprinkled? LEV 16:15**

*There was no sin confessed over the head of the Lord’s goat, the blood now representing the sinless and obedient life of Christ instead of the rebellious life of the sinner. The Lord’s goat was slain, and its blood brought into the Most Holy Place and sprinkled upon the mercy seat, underneath which was the Ten Commandment law of God. The blood was accepted as a life that had never violated the commandments.*

**10. What did the “Lord’s goat” make atonement for? LEV 16:16**

*The Lord’s goat was accepted as an atoning sacrifice for the sins of the people which had been confessed throughout the year and transferred to the sanctuary, symbolizing the sinless life of Christ being accepted in place of the sinful life of the worshiper.*

**11. What was the attitude of the worshipers during this solemn service? LEV 23:26-28**

*While the Day of Atonement service was being conducted, the people of Israel were to “afflict their souls”. They were to search their own hearts diligently to be sure that they had wholeheartedly confessed their sins and committed themselves to God. Called in the Hebrew language “Yom Kippur,” the day continues to be a national holiday, a solemn assembly, and is viewed as the Day of Judgment –*

*“According to Jewish tradition, God inscribes each person's fate for the coming year into a book, the Book of Life, on Rosh Hashanah, and waits until Yom Kippur to ‘seal’ the verdict... The evening and day of Yom Kippur are set aside for public and private petitions and confessions of guilt. At the end of Yom Kippur, one hopes that they have been forgiven by God.” – Wikipedia, art. “Yom Kippur”.*

*“The Unetanneh Tokef, a liturgical poem recited on Rosh Hashanah [Feast of Trumpets] and Yom Kippur [Day of Atonement], states ‘God, seated on His throne to judge the world, at the same time Judge, Pleader, Expert, and Witness, opens the Book of Records... On the Day of Atonement it is sealed; who shall live and who are to die...’” – Jewish Encyclopedia, art. “Day of Atonement”.*

**12. What was the final act of this cleansing service? LEV 16:20-22**

*The High Priest, after having made full and complete atonement with the blood of the Lord’s goat, confessed all sin upon the head of the scapegoat, which was carried into a desolate wilderness to die.*

**13. How did this sacrificial cycle point forward to the work of Jesus? HEB 9:11-12, 23-28 (AC 3:19)**

*Jesus, who would one day sacrifice Himself on Calvary’s cross for our sins, would then by virtue of His sacrifice enter into the temple in heaven as our High Priest. There he would carry out the daily work of the forgiveness of sins, standing in the presence of God as our representative, presenting His own blood as the mediator of the New Covenant. Soon He would enter into the last phase of His work, the “putting away” or blotting out of sins, so that we may be prepared for His coming when we will see Him face to face. Finally, when the sin of His people has been fully eradicated, He will place full responsibility for all sin upon Satan, the originator of sin, who will bear his punishment.*

**APPEAL:**

Just now Jesus is putting away the sin of His people in preparation for His return. When He comes again, He will not come as a priest to deal with sin, but as a King to execute judgment. Don’t you want to take advantage of Jesus’ work as mediator for your sins? Don’t you want to be ready when He comes? Don’t you want to choose just now to take your spiritual life in hand and reform, and serve Jesus with all your heart? Is that your decision today?