



DAY OF ATONEMENT



DESCRIPTION

GARMENTS

CEREMONIES

SIN OFFERING

SCAPEGOAT

SYMBOLISM

- This Holy Day came once a year, on the day of Tishri. On this day, the High Priest would venture into the Most Holy Place and offer a sacrifice on behalf of all Israel.
- On no other day of the year was anyone allowed in the Most Holy Place, even on this date only the High Priest was permitted.
- This was a solemn day, unlike other festivals and holidays. It was characterized by mourning, fasting, and repentance.

- The High Priest had to set aside his normal High Priest garments, and replace them with very simple garments.
- Instead of his splendid clothing arrayed in beauty and honor worn the rest of the year, the priest wore simple white linen garments.
- *“In the presence of God even the high priest is tripped of all honor, he becomes simply the servant of the King of kings whose true status is portrayed in the simplicity of his dress.” (Deffinbauth)*

Bob, Deffinbaugh. "The Day of Atonement." *Monergism.com* :: *Classic Articles and Resources of the Historic Christian Faith*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Sept. 2010

- The High Priest sacrificed a bull for his own sin; he had to make an offering on his own behalf, before offering on behalf of the Israelites.
- The altar of incense was lit, creating a cloud of smoke in the Most Holy Place. This veiled the fullness of God's glory from the priest, lest he die.
- The High Priest sprinkled some of the bull's blood on the mercy seat seven times, to cleanse the High Priest.

- Two goats were brought forward; lots were cast to determine which goat would be sacrificed and which would be cast from the camp.
- The sacrificial goat (offered for the people's sin) was slaughtered, its blood brought into the Most Holy Place and sprinkled on the mercy seat 7 times, to cleanse the tabernacle from the impurities of Israel.
- The second goat (scapegoat) symbolically took the nation's sin upon itself, and was driven out of the community never to return.

- Then the High Priest washed and bathed himself. Before continuing. The man who released the scapegoat also washed himself before returning to the camp.
- Then the High Priest offered a burnt offering with the fat of the sin offering on the altar. The remainder of the bull and goat for sin offering were brought outside of the camp.
- The men who burned carried this out had to likewise bathe themselves before returning to the camp.

- The Day of Atonement cleaned both the people (of Israel) and the place (tabernacle).
- It offered a sacrifice for two kinds of sin: that which was inherited through Adam and personal sin.
- Of the two goats, the goat which was sacrificed dealt with double imputation— sin was transferred unto the goat, purity unto the offerers.
- The goat sent away represented the effects of the sacrifice (sins being carried away into the wilderness). However, this view is sometimes debated.