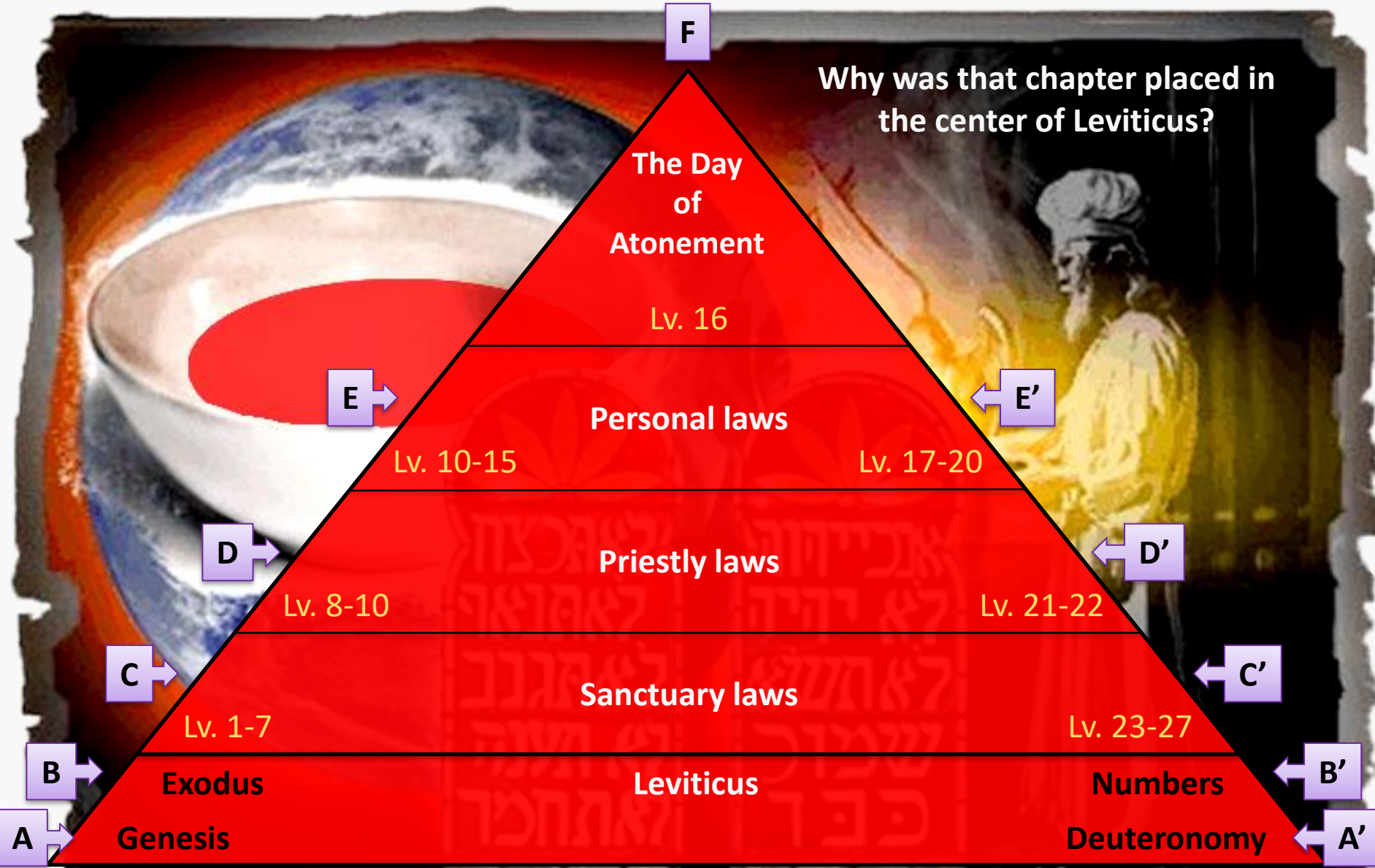


# THE DAY OF ATONEMENT



# THE DAY OF ATONEMENT: THE CORE OF PENTATEUCH

Why was that chapter placed in the center of Leviticus?



The process of cleansing the sin from the people ends in the Day of Atonement.

# ANNUAL PURIFICATION

1. Daily sacrifices: The sins were **TRANSFERRED** to the Sanctuary.
2. The Day of Atonement: The sins were **REMOVED** from the Sanctuary.
  - The priest's purification offering: The High Priest must be clean when carrying out the rites of purification.
  - Purification offering; the goat "for the Lord": It cleansed the Sanctuary with its blood.
  - Removing the sin; the goat "for Azazel": It was sent to the desert with the sins of Israel on it.



Let's study this rite by studying its main characters:

- ❖ The High Priest.
- ❖ The goat "for the Lord".
- ❖ The goat "for Azazel".
- ❖ The people.

# THE HIGH PRIEST

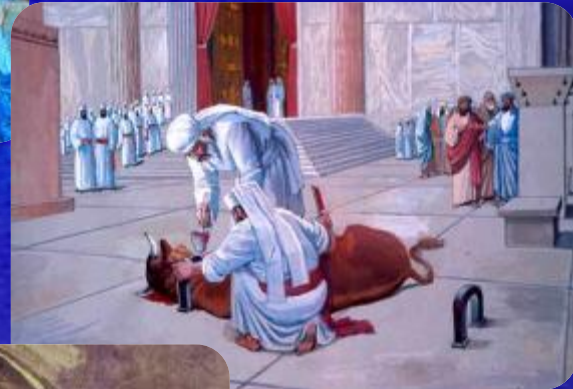
“And the priest, whom he shall anoint, and whom he shall consecrate to minister in the priest's office in his father's stead, shall make the atonement, and shall put on the linen clothes, even the holy garments: And he shall make an atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make an atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar, and he shall make an atonement for the priests, and for all the people of the congregation” (Leviticus 16:32-33)

The High Priest was the mediator between God and His people.

His first task in the Day of Atonement was to offer sacrifice for himself and the whole clergy. The *MEDIATOR* must be without sin.

“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15)

Jesus Christ is our High Priest in the Heavenly Sanctuary.



# THE GOAT "FOR THE LORD"

"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 sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat" (Leviticus 16:15)



**There was no laying hands or confessing sins or sprinkling the blood on the horns of the brazen altar.**

**The blood of that animal was without sin.**

**That blood was brought before the Ark of the Covenant in the Most Holy Place. It was sprinkled on the mercy seat.**

**So that blood was not used to forgive sins but to purify the Sanctuary only.**



**“Important truths concerning the atonement are taught by the typical service. A substitute was accepted in the sinner’s stead; but the sin was not canceled by the blood of the victim. A means was thus provided by which it was transferred to the sanctuary. By the offering of blood the sinner acknowledged the authority of the law, confessed his guilt in transgression, and expressed his desire for pardon through faith in a Redeemer to come; but he was not yet entirely released from the condemnation of the law. On the Day of Atonement the high priest, having taken an offering from the congregation, went into the most holy place with the blood of this offering, and sprinkled it upon the mercy seat, directly over the law, to make satisfaction for its claims”**

# THE GOAT "FOR AZAZEL"

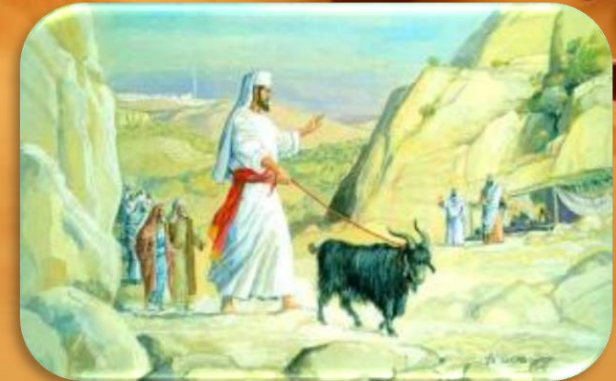
**"And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions 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: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness" (Leviticus 16:20-22)**

**"Azazel" was a name used to call Satan. He is responsible for the birth of sin in the Universe.**

***THE SANCTUARY AND THE PEOPLE HAD ALREADY BEEN PURIFIED*** when the sins of the people were confessed on the head of that goat.

**There is no expiatory death there. Satan is the ultimate responsible for the sins he provoked.**

**Just like Amman was hung in the gallows he set up for Mordecai, the great accuser will suffer the punishment he wanted the innocent ones to suffer (i.e. those who washed their sins away with the blood of the Lamb)**



# THE PEOPLE

"And this shall be a statute for ever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth among you" (Leviticus 16:29)

**What should the Israelites do in that day? What can we learn?**

- ✓ They should afflict their souls (to humble)
- ✓ They should not to work at all.
- ✓ They should come before the Sanctuary and to pay attention to the rites the High Priest carried out.

If someone in ancient Israel did not follow these instructions, he was to be cut off and destroyed (Lev. 23:29, 30). The Day of Atonement was truly about nothing less than life and death. It demanded the believer's complete loyalty to God.





**“We are now living in the great day of atonement. In the typical service, while the high priest was making the atonement for Israel, all were required to afflict their souls by repentance of sin and humiliation before the Lord, lest they be cut off from among the people. In like manner, all who would have their names retained in the book of life should now, in the few remaining days of their probation, afflict their souls before God by sorrow for sin and true repentance...**

**... There must be deep, faithful searching of heart. The light, frivolous spirit indulged by so many professed Christians must be put away. There is earnest warfare before all who would subdue the evil tendencies that strive for the mastery. The work of preparation is an individual work. We are not saved in groups. The purity and devotion of one will not offset the want of these qualities in another. Though all nations are to pass in judgment before God, yet He will examine the case of each individual with as close and searching scrutiny as if there were not another being upon the earth. Everyone must be tested and found without spot or wrinkle or any such thing”**