

Milltown Life groups Easter 2022 Study 2

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

Leviticus

Recommend you watch this 7 minute video
<https://youtu.be/WmvyrLXoQio>

BACKGROUND
 God had instructed Moses to build a tabernacle (a portable temple) where the Israelites could offer sacrifices to God. Leviticus gives the details of how the Israelites should live and worship.



What do you think when you hear the word holy?

Read Exodus 33 v 18-23. What does this tell us about God and about His relationship with people?

People are sinful and cannot enter God’s presence. (Is 59v2). The book of Leviticus gives detailed and quite complex instructions on how the Israelites could live (laws) and how to deal with sin (system of sacrifices and associated processes). The emphasis is on ethical and moral living, the need for repentance and redemption. God wants his people to live holy lives.

Rituals	Priests	Purity	Day of Atonement
Instructions for ritual sacrifices Lev Ch 1-7	Ordination of Priests Lev Ch 8-10	Laws about ritual purity. Lev Ch 11-15	The annual sacrifice for the sins of Israel. Lev Ch 16 & 17
Days set apart for God eg Sabbath, Passover, Tabernacle. Lev Ch 23-27	Qualification of the Priests. Lev Ch 21-22	Laws about moral purity. Lev Ch 18-20	

How many of the 10 commandments can you remember (without looking!)?

How relevant are they today?

DID YOU KNOW?
 Many of the laws make sense today as they provided health & safety advice to Israel by protecting against infection, pollution and hygiene. ie shellfish and pork were unclean. Leprosy – risk of infection. Marriage between those closely related by blood is forbidden.

DAY OF ATONEMENT

Once a year the high priest enters the innermost part of the tabernacle (Holy of Holies) after receiving forgiveness and cleansing for his own sin. A goat would be sacrificed as atonement for all the sins committed in ignorance (Hebrews 9v7). Another goat was released into the desert became the scapegoat (Lev 16 v20-22).

Read Leviticus 17 v 11. Why did God demand animal sacrifices?

What is atonement? (Leviticus 4v20)

LIVING HOLY LIVES

What part should rules and regulations have in our Christian lives to help us lead holy lives? (1 Peter 1 v 15-16)



EXTRA TIME

Why do many religions focus on rules and regulations as a way to salvation ie Islam, Catholicism?

What does the Old Testament teach us about relying on our own actions and behaviour as a route to salvation?