

## Why Leviticus Feels Like Another Planet

### Leviticus 16

#### Big Idea

Leviticus feels strange because it takes holiness, sin, cleansing, and access to God very seriously. But once we ask, “Where have I seen this before?”, Leviticus starts helping us see Jesus more clearly.

## Question of the Day

**What is something that seemed strange or confusing until you realized you had seen something like it before?**

- Sometimes things make sense once we recognize the pattern.
- The same thing happens in Scripture.
- Strange passages often connect to larger biblical themes.

## Introduction: The Fourth Question

### The Four Questions

1. What kind of thing is this?
2. What is this text doing?
3. What is the main thing that is clear?
4. Where have I seen this before?

### Why This Matters

- The Bible is deeply connected.
- Images, patterns, and themes repeat.
- Leviticus teaches the language of:
  - sacrifice
  - priesthood
  - blood
  - cleansing
  - atonement
  - access to God

# Text Setup Leviticus 16

## The Day of Atonement

- Once a year
- High priest enters the Most Holy Place
- Makes atonement for Israel

## The Central Problem

How can a holy God dwell among sinful people?

## Nadab and Abihu

- Wrong approach to God
- Access to God is serious

## Repeated Themes

- preparation
- sacrifice
- cleansing
- blood
- mercy

## Core Truths

- God is holy.
- Sin is serious.
- Access to God is mercy.

## Main Point 1

## Nearness to God Is Not Casual

Leviticus 16:1-10

## **We Are Used to Access**

- prayer
- worship
- calling God Father

## **But Leviticus Reminds Us**

- Aaron could not approach casually
- there was preparation and mediation
- there was sacrifice and cleansing

## **“Where Have I Seen This Before?”**

### **Eden**

- God’s presence
- sin leads to exile

### **Exodus**

- God dwells in the tabernacle

### **Leviticus**

- How can sinful people live near a holy God?

## **Main Point 2**

## **Sin Must Be Dealt With**

### **Leviticus 16:11-22**

#### **The Two Goats**

- one sacrificed
- one carries sin away

#### **What This Reveals**

Let the Bible Be Weird Week 4  
Outline

- sin must be cleansed
- sin must be carried away
- sin cannot simply be ignored

## Modern Tendencies

We minimize sin:

- mistake
- struggle
- bad habit
- coping mechanism

## But Leviticus Says

- sin pollutes
- sin damages
- sin disrupts life with God

## Grace

- God provides mercy
- God provides cleansing
- God provides a way

## “Where Have I Seen This Before?”

### Isaiah 53

- bears griefs
- carries sorrows
- bears sin

### Jesus

- bears sin
- carries it away
- fulfills the pattern

## Main Point 3

# Leviticus Helps Us See Jesus

## John 1:29

“Behold, the Lamb of God...”

- sacrifice
- atonement
- sin carried away

## Mark 5 The Bleeding Woman

In Leviticus:

- uncleanness spreads through contact

In Jesus:

- cleansing spreads through contact

## Matthew 27 The Torn Veil

- veil guarded access
- only high priest entered
- Jesus opens the way

## Hebrews 9-10

Jesus:

- Great High Priest
- enters the true holy place
- offers His own blood
- once for all

# Applications

## 1. Ask:

## **“Where have I seen this before?”**

- Look for biblical connections.
- Strange passages often connect to bigger themes.

## **2. Let Leviticus Deepen Your Understanding of Jesus**

Jesus is:

- Priest
- Sacrifice
- Lamb
- Sin-bearer
- Way to the Father

## **3. Do Not Treat Access to God Casually**

- We come boldly because of Jesus.
- Grace should produce gratitude and reverence.

## **4. Do Not Make Sin Smaller Than Grace Says It Is**

- Grace does not minimize sin.
- Grace says Jesus carried it fully.

# **Conclusion**

## **Leviticus Is Asking:**

**How can sinful people live near a holy God?**

## **Leviticus 16 Is:**

- a signpost
- a category-builder
- a road leading to Jesus

## **Final Questions**

Let the Bible Be Weird Week 4  
Outline

- What kind of thing is this?
- What is this text doing?
- What is the main thing that is clear?
- Where have I seen this before?

## **Final Christ Focus**

Jesus is:

- the Lamb
- the Priest
- the Sacrifice
- the One who opens the way

**Jesus does not make Leviticus irrelevant.**

**He makes it glow.**