

LEVITICUS 15-16: BODY DISCHARGES & DAY OF ATONEMENT LAW.

1. (1-15) Abnormal bodily discharge.

The occurrence of any abnormal genital discharge, indicates some type of disease. When this occurs, the man was to be isolated in order not to pass on the infection to anyone else. After the discharge has stopped, a sacrifice had to be made.

2. (16-18) Normal bodily discharge.

When a man discharged semen, he had to cleanse himself and respect a brief time of ceremonial impurity. In marital union, both the man and his wife needed to ceremonially cleanse themselves and respect a brief time of ceremonial impurity.

3. (19-24) Impurity during menstruation.

4. (25-30) Unusual or abnormal bodily discharge.

5. (31-33) Summation of the laws of bodily discharge.

None of these discharges made a man or a woman *sinful*, only ceremonially unclean. This did promote hygiene in ancient Israel.

Luke 8:43-48 - *Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."*

6. (1-25) Aaron should come into the Holy Place only when invited.

- **Aaron must come with sacrificial blood to cleanse his and the nation's sin.**
- **He must come clothed with the described garments.**
- **He must come washed.**
- **He must come with two goats and one ram to complete the offering of atonement.**

7. (6-10) Casting lots to choose between the two goats.

After the sacrificing the bull as a sin offering for himself, the high priest cast lots to choose between the two goats. One goat was **for the LORD** and would be sacrificed as a sin offering and one goat would be **the scapegoat** and would be released to the wilderness. Each goat had an important role on the Day of Atonement.

8. (11-14) The bull for the sin offering.

This sin offering was **for himself and for his house**. Before the high priest could make atonement for the nation, he had to make atonement for himself.

9. (15-19) The goat selected for sacrifice is offered to make atonement for the tabernacle. This blood was applied to the mercy seat, but also the tabernacle and altar itself. This blood cleansed the house of God itself, which was made ceremonially unclean by man's constant touch.

After the high priest's sin was dealt with and after the tabernacle itself was cleansed, Aaron then dealt with the sin of the people through the transference of sin and release of the scapegoat.

This was a perfect demonstration of atonement under the Old Covenant. The sin-bearing goat, bearing the sin of Israel, was alive somewhere but put away.

10. (23-28) Completion of the sacrifices.

After releasing the scapegoat, the high priest and the one who released the scapegoat washed and the sin offering and burnt offering would be completed.

11. (29-31) What the people did on the Day of Atonement.

In contrast to other national days of gathering, the Day of Atonement was a day to **afflict your souls**. That is, it was a day of fasting and rest - **a sabbath of solemn rest**.

Traditionally, the Day Of Atonement ends with the blowing of the trumpet that heralds the coming of the Messiah.

12. (32-34) What the high priest does on the Day of Atonement.

Only once a year could the high-priest enter into the Holy Place and come near the presence of God.

Hebrews 7:26-28 - For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever.

Matthew 21:9 - Then **the** multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to **the** Son **of** David! 'Blessed is **He** who comes **in the name of the** LORD!' Hosanna **in the** highest!"

Colossians 2:13 - And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having **forgiven** you all trespasses,

Psalm 32:1 - Blessed is he whose transgression is **forgiven**, Whose sin is covered.

Psalm 85:2 - You have **forgiven** the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. Selah

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1 John 2:12 - I write to you, little children, Because your sins are **forgiven** you for His name's sake.