

The LIVE GOAT

in Leviticus 16:1-34 **was** / is ...

“Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for **the scapegoat**. And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD’S lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering. But **the goat** on which the lot fell to be **the scapegoat** shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, and to let it go as **the scapegoat** into the wilderness.” (16:8-10)

“And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place, the tabernacle of meeting, and the altar, he shall bring **the live goat**. Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, concerning all their sins, putting them on the head of **the goat**, and shall send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a suitable man. **The goat** shall bear on itself all their iniquities to an uninhabited land; and he shall release **the goat** in the wilderness.” (16:20-22)

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a key aspect
of the Day of Atonement
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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about the
removal of sin & guilt
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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an annual
object lesson on forgiveness
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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closely linked to
the first goat
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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foreshadowing
Christ’s work (John 1:29)
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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important but
neglected by theologians
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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in line with
Psalms 103:12 & Heb. 10:17
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

Descriptive



Meditation

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like and unlike
the second bird in 14:1-7
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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not
driven off a cliff & killed
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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not to be
worshiped (Lev. 17:7)
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

traditionally called

the scapegoat

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often wrongly
linked to a demon, Azazel
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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perhaps not just
a judicial illustration
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

* * *

serious and
somewhat sad at that time
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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to be applied
to the conscience (Heb. 10:22)
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

* * *

to help us
think about sin & salvation
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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unnecessary
today (Hebrews 10:1-18)
(Agree? yes, no, partly)

Directions: after reading through **Leviticus chapter 16** and **Hebrews chapters nine and ten** in a good study Bible, think about and discuss the many ways the scapegoat is described. **Do you agree with the various phrases above? Would you change the way some of the blank lines are filled?** — **At the end of the study, discuss the most important descriptive phrases and make applications.** In doing so, think about how our position in Christ enables us to have a clear conscience and greater joy than was possible in Old Testament times. Also, it may be helpful to think about the victory over sin that is yet to come (1 Cor. 15:53-57). — © 2022 by Jon F. Mahar, Hakusan City, Japan and Alexander, Maine, U.S.A.