JUSTICE AND JUDGMENT FOR ALL

Those who most adamantly cry out for justice are often young adults, for they want to do something about the corruption they have only recently begun to see. They wonder why progress is so slow and regression so fast. Thankfully, Leviticus brings hope to every soul that dreams of a world in which equity and justice are valued.

Leviticus 16 details the Day of Atonement. On the tenth day of the seventh month (Sept. or Oct. in the Jewish calendar), Israel’s high priest entered the Most Holy Place of the sanctuary wearing the breastplate of judgment (Exod. 28:15). On this day, every Israelite repented of their sins and earnestly prayed that God would atone for them with the blood of the sacrifice. God promised that those who sincerely repent of their sins can be assured that they are forgiven and atoned for (Lev. 16:34), and that same promise is offered to us today.

The Feast of Trumpets was on the first day of the same month. As the name suggests, trumpets would blast, preparing the people for God’s approaching presence and judgment. What a reminder to make sure our own lives are right with God and with those around us if we seek to hold others accountable! Perhaps we can discern the sound of modern trumpet blasts in the many cries for justice in the world today, for God’s judgment is coming.

We should humbly enter the work of bringing justice, mercy, equity, and compassion to our communities, knowing our shortcomings and remembering the mercy God extends to us through Christ. This kind of activism is both biblical and world changing if it comes from a place of humility, not from judgment or self-righteousness.
Write out Leviticus 16:29–34 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out Leviticus 16:29–31. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map it.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/ phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/ phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Revelation 13. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

How would you answer someone who asks why the sanctuary in heaven requires cleansing?

What is Jesus doing now in heaven?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/stw11-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What does it mean to be living in the time of the end? What should our daily lives look like in light of the coming persecution and Jesus’ soon return? What’s keeping you from living that way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/stw11-4
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What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Hebrews 8:1, 2
Hebrews 9:11, 12, 23, 24
Leviticus 23:26–32
Numbers 29:7–11
Revelation 1–5

What other verses come to mind in connection with Leviticus 16:29–34?

Review your memorized verse from Leviticus 16:29–34.
What is He saying to you through these texts?

How is understanding of Leviticus and the Day of Atonement congealing your experience with Jesus’ first coming and His second coming?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer Response:

Meditate on Leviticus 16:29–34 again and look for where Jesus is.

Read more at www.inversebible.org/stw11-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the passage, what are your personal takeaways?

What are your practical takeaways?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/stw11-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

Have we minimized sin in the church today? What does the Day of Atonement teach us about sin?

Is there a need for more solemnity in the church today? If so, what would that look or sound like?

What aspect of Christ’s work in the Most Holy Place do you appreciate the most?

How can we be conquerors over sin and why is this important if salvation is not by works?

How is the Day of Atonement good news for those who want to see justice prevail?

How does the Day of Atonement help us be more balanced in our Christian activism?

Like Jesus, are you praying for your enemies?