

Christian Growth - August 13, 2023

What is a scapegoat?

Have you ever felt like one?

Leviticus 16:7-10 Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. ⁸He is to cast lots for the two goats - one lot for the Lord and the other for the scapegoat. ⁹Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the Lord and sacrifice it for a sin offering. ¹⁰But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the Lord to be used for making atonement by sending it into the desert as a scapegoat.

What was the selection process for choosing a scapegoat?

This was all done on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) a time to pay the price for the sins of the people, the High Priest was the official in charge.

Why two goats?

Isaiah 53:4-7kjv. Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace upon him and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶All like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth.

Who are these verses talking about?

Did He deserve any of this?

Why did he have to bear this burden?

Was he like the goat chosen for blood sacrifice or like the scapegoat who wandered off into the wilderness carrying the sins of the people into a place where they would be forever lost?

Matthew 4:1-10, Matthew 27: 46

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²After fasting forty days and forty nights he was hungry. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of the God." ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you and on their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." ⁸Again the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give

you, if you will fall down and worship me.”¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone , Satan! For it is written, “ You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”

Who did Jesus resemble here? The scapegoat or the blood sacrifice?

How did Jesus handle each and every temptation of the devil?

What does that tell you about the value of knowing God’s Word?

How many temptations were there? Where else do we see that number?

Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour he cried out with a loud voice saying, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

What did Jesus represent here, the scapegoat or the blood sacrifice?