

Azazel's Goat (Lev. 16:1-10)

I do believe God will give us his covenantal word and he will receive the utmost glory through our worship. Right now the pandemic continues on, that is why worship is not at the center of the heart for all people. May God's abundant grace be upon all those who are giving worship at home and out of state. Today's message is entitled Azazel's goat. It speaks of the goat that bears all sin and curses and went to the wilderness to die for us. It is the goat that has been selected. The one that has been appointed by God to die on the cross has been crucified. This goat has been selected bearing all the sin and curses and has been taken to the wilderness to die for you instead. This is the message that God gives to us today. May this be your covenant and grace once again. All thoughts and the work that takes place in your life must be aligned to 237. The ideology and the work that you do must be aligned and matched to world evangelization. Those who hear of this for the very first time may be dumbfounded to hear it; however, it's the same for them as well. They must quickly come to know who God is and God's will. By faith you have been saved so it is so rightful of you to live your life aligned to saving the 237 nations. That is according to God's word of Christ and world evangelism. For the Israelites for 2,000 years they had no choice but to wander and face suffering. The reason is because they continuously did things that were not aligned to God's word. That is why they face such tribulations. Your thoughts and life must be aligned to God's word. Israel itself is the representative model for all nations. It is Israel's history that stands as a model to all nations and how the people must live their lives. Whenever their lives and thoughts were not aligned to God's word there was a tribulation that came to them. There was always a war that took place upon them to which they suffered. They were enslaved, captives, and colonized. At that time when their lives were aligned to God's word the invading nation had no choice but to perish but yet they would receive God's blessing. In the end, they put Jesus Christ on the cross and they had no choice but to wander for 2,000 years. God's word is the covenant and it testifies of the covenant. Whenever there was a great event or tribulation that came to them they would take the incorrect path. Of course, they say that they were waiting for the Messiah to come but yet they put the Messiah on the cross. The result of that was that their posterity had no choice but to wander for 2,000 years. This is the reason why the adults must be able to live according to God's word. When they were enslaved to Egypt they fervently prayed before God however they lost hold of the covenant. They greatly suffered to which they fervently prayed before God but yet they lost hold of the covenant God had given to them. When they were captivated by Babylon God sent tremendous prophets to go and testify of God's word to them. Rightfully so the prophets told them to return back to the covenant but yet they were the ones who put the prophets to death. In the end, they fell inside captivity for 70 years in Babylon and served tremendous idols. These contents are not just simply recorded in the bible but it is recorded in world history as well. In the past when I was an unbeliever and did not know of the gospel when I learned world history, the book records that the Jews fell into captivity by the Babylonians for 70 years. I thought to myself that may be the case so I simply memorized that just in case it might be on the exam. But of course, this has taken place in world history as well. The bible in God's perspective records the cause and the root to all. All believers must live their lives according to God's word if not there will be complications. Even if you live according to God's word you will

be blessed. You must not do so much. All you have to do is believe in the fact that Jesus Christ died on the cross and finished all your sins and curses. We say it is the covenantal journey that lives according to God's word and that direction is towards world evangelism. Of course they were taken as slaves however the end result brought them for world evangelization to take place through them. We all know it so well it was in an uproar the world was completely overturned. Through the important disciples such as Daniel many great important works arose even within the captivity in Babylon for 70 years. Through Daniel God was able to testify who he was. The incident of the Lion's den is the same as the Red sea. The nation Babylon is so tremendous compared to India all the way to Ethiopia but of course all the rumors were spread regarding this. This was God's ultimate goal. God desires to do world evangelism. That is why your thoughts and ideology to life must be matched to God's word. It's not so easy and to be honest it is the darkness that binds you from not doing that. That is why you must bind the darkness. You know it must take place however it is the work of Satan that hinders you. May this be your covenant once again. You must live a life that is matched and goes according to God's word.

1. Azazel's Goat

Today's passage speaks about the seventh month of the ten days. It speaks about the day of atonement in verse 29, "And it shall be a statute to you forever that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall afflict yourselves and shall do no work, either the native or the stranger who sojourns among you." On the seventh month on the tenth day that is the day that has been set for all the people to partake within the day of atonement. It's not only for the Jews either the native or the strangers that sojourn among you. Verse 30, "For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you. You shall be clean before the Lord from all your sins." It speaks about the forgiveness of sins in verse 31, "It is a Sabbath of solemn rest to you, and you shall afflict yourselves; it is a statute forever." The day of the atonement is one of the commemorative offerings that we must always keep but now what has it changed it to? It has changed to the custom where when you believe in Jesus Christ, you are freed from all sins and curses. The Day of Atonement was the day in which all of the people would go before the Lord to be freed from all of their sins and curses. Even for the high priest, they had to wear the holy garment and linen before the lord. Once a year, the high priest could enter the Holy Place. In Verse 2, the Lord tells the high priest, Aaron, "No one shall enter into the Holy Place. If they do, they will die." Once a year, the high priest would enter into the Holy Place to give the sin offering on his behalf. It says that he should take a ram for one burnt offering for his own self. And he should take one male goat for the sin offering for his people, and the two male goats for the sin offering for the people of Israel. Today's bible passage speaks of the one male goat amongst the two. That one male goat is recorded in Verse 8. "And Aaron shall cast lots over the two goats, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for Azazel." The Lord tells Aaron to cast lots over the two goats and it is the Lord who will choose. Verse 9 states, "And Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for the Lord." Verse 10 states, "but the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the Lord to make atonement over it, that it may be sent away into the wilderness to Azazel." Today's passage that we are pinpointing on is Azazel's goat. Azazel means that you are sending the goat into the wilderness to die in your stead. This is what it states in Leviticus 16:21, "And

Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins. And he shall put them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is in readiness.” So sin is the result of the curses, for all of the sins and curses were laid on the head of the goat. It is by the hand of the man who is in readiness and who has been selected to appoint it. The man who was appointed would take the goat and send it away into the wilderness. Verse 22 states, “The goat shall bear all their iniquities on itself to a remote area, and he shall let the goat go free in the wilderness.” He would go with the goat to a very far and remote area. It is a remote area that is far away for which the goat could not return back. So he shall let the goat go free and the man should return back to the land. This is Azazel’s goat. So what happens to the goat? The goat cannot return back and will die. It is not a remote area that has a lot of grass. It is the wilderness. We’ve seen photos of the wilderness, it is only sand and rocks. It is a remote area in which the goat is not able to return, but the man is able to return to his people. This is the Day of Atonement of statute that they must keep. I do believe that after all of the atonement they gave to the Lord, they were able to send Azazel’s goat into the wilderness. Picture how the Israelites would have felt as they let the goat go. It was a goat that was sent, bearing all of their sins and curses and was left to die. The goat could not return. The man is able to return back to the people, but the goat will die in the wilderness. It may be a prey to another animal, but may die from starvation, but it will never return back. This is who Christ is. This is one of the hearts that you must have when you think of Christ. He is the one who bore all your sins and curses and was put on the cross to die on your stead. He became just like Azazel’s goat. The goat was sent to the remote area where he could not return, but the man could. It signifies the suffering on the cross that Christ went through. Some of us may have pets at home that you truly adore. Many value their pets to the extent where when they are sick, they do not go to the hospital, but rush their pets to the hospital when they show sickness. Yesterday, I went on a hike and witnessed something for the very first time. A dog had its own shoes. As the dog was walking, I could hear the footsteps of the dog. We adore and cherish pets that we have at home, but imagine yourself placing your pet in a remote area in which they can never return from but you can. Of course, I do believe that our female congregation members would be in tears because they have grown fond of them. Imagine placing your pet in a remote area and returning back home alone. That is one of the hearts that we must have towards Christ who died in our stead. We are truly sorry for the death of the cross. Of course we can never explain in words if we meditate on Christ. It is the goat that was in the remote area in the wilderness all alone, but I am able to return. Of course we have pets who consider us as their mom or dad. If it was left in a remote area, it would be barking or calling for you. That is the heart you must have for Christ. It is Jesus Christ who died on your stead when you should have died. This is Azazel’s goat. We are truly sorry to the Lord for what He has done, but He doesn’t want us to be seized by that. That is not God’s will. Jesus Christ died on the cross because He desired to. If you are seized by that, that is incorrect. So, there is one thing you must confirm. It is that sin will no longer come back to you. Sin is the cause of all curses. Curses also will no longer come back to you because Azazel’s goat bore all the sins. Just as Azazel’s goat left to the wilderness and could not come back, all curses are finished. You must confirm this and be in thanksgiving to the Lord. That is

God’s will. With this, you must be in thanksgiving and give all glory to God. And what’s more important is that you must have faith in this. There are many cases where we don’t have faith. You must have faith in order for works to arise and curses to be cast away. The faith will make the forces of darkness crumble to which you will be strengthened and you will have His power. If you do not hold onto sin, Satan cannot be at work. But you cannot resolve the sin on your own. That is why He has died for your sins instead. You must believe that. You may lack faith. That is why you must pray, “God, why do I lack faith? Please give me the faith.” It is Azazel’s goat in which you no longer have to deal with sin and curses. This is what it says in Romans 8:1: “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” Because of Azazel’s goat, because of the cross, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. This is what it says in Psalms 103:12: “As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” He removed our sins so that it would no longer return. You must be in thanksgiving and give the utmost glory to God. This is the covenant you must believe and hold onto. Don’t try to die on your own. Don’t continuously weep because of your own sadness, for that is not God’s will for you. Must you die for yourself? May the blessing be upon you in which you hold onto and believe in the covenant and fight the spiritual battle against sins and curses.

2. Enjoyment

The second point we must look at is “Enjoyment.” You must know, believe, and enjoy. You must hold onto it as your covenant and pray. Azazel’s goat is one of the representations of the promises contained in Christ. This is the fundamental aspect as well. All sins and curses have been finished. All your sins and curses have been removed and will no longer return. You may think it might come back, but you are being deceived. It has been removed so far away. You simply lack faith. That is merely a process. Was it a curse for Joseph to be sent away as a slave? It wasn’t. For those who know the end, the process is not a problem. Correlated to Azazel’s goat mentioned today, what is the end for us? There are no sins and curses. Incidents that may seem like curses are simply the process, but the end is that there are no curses. Why did Jesus Christ die on the cross? And what did he fulfill on the cross? When you have faith, you will be saved and go to heaven. And we all believe in this. But when you are faced with death, that is when your faith crumbles. But all curses have been finished. Do you have faith in this? This is the truth. Then, why are there problems that seem like a curse to you? It’s merely a process. What is the answer? That there are no sins and curses. It’s a process, and it will be overturned into a blessing and become a springboard to save many. That is the conclusion of the Bible. You must have faith in it. What else would we put our faith in? All curses have been finished. Even if you may sin, all sins have been resolved. Even if there are problems like curses that come because of the sin, the end result is freedom from sin. This is the content you must have faith in. May you believe it. It is impossible for enjoyment to take place without faith. Countless times, we commit sin. However, the Lord says, “I no longer remember your sins.” This is what it says in the latter half of Jeremiah 31:34: “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” And we all know that we shouldn’t try to sin. However, you must not be seized by sin in which you are enslaved to Satan. Of course, even if you commit sin, you are not enslaved to Satan. This is merely a process. You may even enjoy the sins. Even if you enjoy sin, it’s okay. You might just face

some consequences. But what is the end result? It is that you have been completely liberated from all sin and curses. Even if you enjoy committing the sin, everything has already been finished. Why? Because you have faith in Jesus Christ. One day, God will give you the time to which you will be completely liberated from all the ongoing sin that you continuously commit. It can be through events, or it can simply disappear without you even knowing. Of course, it is not God's will for you to sin, and you are being deceived by Satan. But that is not the end. That is a process. What is the end? All sins and curses has been finished. If you have an ongoing sin, that is your number one spiritual problem. But for those who enjoy Christ, all those spiritual problems will be resolved. Of course, it's impossible for any of us to not commit any sins. However, the moment you start thinking about why it is not being resolved, God will simultaneously resolve it for you. You must know that all the sins and curses has been finished, and God will not permit you to be inside that. You must never forget that. What is the answer? Liberation from sin. You may be in a certain state right now. But what is the answer? Liberation from sin. It has been finished. It can never come back to you. This is your status and authority. Isn't it truly outstanding? Even though you are weak and lacking and may commit the same sin over and over, it is okay because your end result is the fact that you believe in Jesus Christ who has completely liberated you from all sins and curses. It is only Satan that reminds you of the sins you commit. Regardless of that, Satan may attack you, but it does not matter. You know it clearly. In all the sins that you commit, all you need to do is simply repent to the Lord and he will forgive you. All you need to do is pray and ask for the strength to overcome your issues. You may tell God, God I do not want to commit this sin, but I have no choice but to. That time will come to you. That is who Christ is. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. This is your covenant. All the covenants God has given to us summarize down to Jesus is the Christ, the son of the living God. You must be set free from all sins and curses. You must be busy saving lives and everything else will follow. That is why you must enjoy what Christ has done on the cross. It is very simple, it is the three offices of Christ that are the gospel. To explain the three offices of Christ, God has created the Bible. May you confess the three offices of Christ every single day, if not write it. For it is God who has finished everything. We are truly thankful and apologetic to God for it is God himself who went to the remote area to die in our stead. We are truly thankful for it even though we are truly sorry before God. He is the one who has completely finished all of our sins and curses. That sin and curse can never return back to you. How thankful are you for this? The moment you accepted Jesus Christ and received him as your Lord and savior inside your heart, he has completely resolved all your sins and curses. This is not a theory. How can you know? How can you personally know this is not a theory? You will know when you are able to truly enjoy it. You will be able to know when you confess it. Answers will be upon you. With just one answer, it is impossible for you to come to the answer. When this answer continuously comes to you, that is when you will come to realize that this is it. When you confess, God will be at work. You must enjoy Christ, be victorious, and stand as a witness. This is very important. This one thing is the thing that Satan hinders the most. You must not be deceived by it. Even if you commit sin and your spiritual state is at the lowest, you must share the gospel. As time passes by, just because of your spiritual state, you do not share the gospel, you will regret it. In that spiritual state you are in, someone may ask to share the gospel but

you may not go, later on, you will regret that moment. Regardless of what the case may be, as long as you are able to testify the gospel, you will know that you have done a great job and your spiritual problems have been healed. Do you truly believe that you are the church that has been built on the Rock of Christ? We are the church that has been built on the Rock of Christ. The gates of Hades can never prevail against you. The gates of hell can never prevail against you because all the sins and curses have been finished. It is God who has given you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, when you simply enjoy, God will open the doors for you. It is our hope that it will be in 24 hours. To be in the 24 hours, you must look only to God and enjoy this covenant. Even now, we have the power to enjoy all of this as much as our hearts desire. Even in the smallest answers, you can transcend time and space. It is not something that is tremendous, but the small answers God gives to you will transcend time and space. No matter how weak and lacking your prayers may be, God will listen and answer them. God knows right now in real-time, your thoughts, your attitude, and even where you are sitting during this time of worship. God may ask, why is he in tears, why is he yelling during the sermon? He knows all things in real-time and this is truly amazing. Not only our church but for the entire world. God knows everything about you. Unseen to the eyes, the holy spirit is at work and the angels are being mobilized. Satan will be bound. Regardless of the noises of the world, it does not matter because everything will be completely bound. Those who enjoy the covenant will be able to confess that no matter how much Satan tempts me, he will be bound one day. There is the time period that God permits so that you are able to come to the answer of Christ. What is the end result? Satan can never defeat you. No one will go beyond God's word. Is it possible for Satan to go beyond God's word? No, that is impossible. The gates of hell can never prevail against you. With that word alone, everything is finished. May you hold onto God's promise. May you hold onto God's word as the covenant. May you live according to his word. Then your life will be aligned to God's work. This is what we call the Covenant Journey. To say that all our sins and curses have been resolved is saying that our lives have been resolved as well. All the problems, sins, and curses have been resolved within Christ. To be honest, everything is in vain when you take the incorrect path. I myself was like that in the past as well. As I continuously held onto Christ as the covenant, God restored and revived my life. Everything has already been set in stone. This is what it says in Psalms 139:2, "You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar." God knows even when we lie down. He knows when we raise up our right or left hand. Even before words are spoken, he knows it all. We are truly thankful for God who has become Azazel's Goat in which he has resolved all sins and curses in our stead. The sins and curses can never return back to you. He has sent Azazel's Goat to even the most remote areas. May this truth be your covenant once again. Satan will hinder you, so may you fight the spiritual battle. If you continue it, this will grow. May God's great blessing be upon you.