

The Living Birds and the Scapegoat in Relationship to the Three Ceremonies Portraying Our Cleansing and Salvation

[CAVEAT: Everything between the pink brackets that is written in bold, ten-point, italic fonts are not to be taken as part of the scriptures. They are only my attempt to help the readers understand the scripture better. T.A.H.]

*The following old covenant parabolic prophetic ceremonies portrayed **Yahweh's plan to cleanse and provide a way through Yahshua for our Salvation**. The two most extremely important components leading to our Eternal Salvation is the death and resurrection of **Yahshua our Messiah**. Our Salvation depends on both!*

It seems that many scholars believe that the two Birds that were killed over running water in Leviticus chapter fourteen and the goat on which **Yahweh's** lot fell in chapter sixteen portrayed **Yahshua the Messiah**. Many scholars believe that the two Living Birds in Leviticus chapter fourteen that were dipped in the dead bird's blood and the Scapegoat in Leviticus sixteen also portrayed **Yahshua**. Some scholars believe both scenarios.

On the other hand, some scholars believe that the two living birds in these two ceremonies in Leviticus, chapter fourteen, portray Satan. They also believe that the Scapegoat in Leviticus, chapter sixteen also portrayed Satan. That has been a long time running debate. Please consider the scenarios in this article..

Ceremony one: The Law of Ceremonial Cleansing of a leper Concerning the two birds and what they prophetically portrayed or represented

Leviticus 14 (1) And **Yahweh** spake unto Moses, saying, (2) This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest. (3) And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, *if* the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper; (4) Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed **two birds alive and clean**, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop. (5) And the priest shall command that **killed** in an earthen vessel over running water: (6) As for the **living bird, he shall take it**, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and **shall dip** them and **the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed** over running water. (7) And he shall **sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy** seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and **shall let the living bird loose into the open field**.

Verse four and five above says to take for the leper that is to be cleansed **two birds alive and clean**. The **one bird had to be killed** over running water. Most scholars agree that **the one bird portrayed **Yahshua the Messiah being the sin offering** for the sins of the whole world**. (See John 3:16)

Verse six and seven above says to **take the living bird and dip** it and the cedar wood, the scarlet, and the hyssop **in the One bird's blood** & sprinkle it upon the leper & then let **the living bird** loose in the open field.

Who could that **alive and clean living bird** be portraying? Verse four above said both birds were to be **alive and clean**. Could Satan measure up to qualify? **Absolutely not!** The lying, murdering, deceiving and extremely blemished Satan was alive, but **he most definitely was not clean enough to qualify to be represented by a clean innocent animal**. Satan is only represented by unclean animal i.e.- a "serpent" and a "dragon,"

Revelation 20 (2) And he laid hold on the **dragon**, that old **serpent**, which is the **Devil**, and **Satan**, and bound him a thousand years,

Yahweh does not use anything clean or holy in His Old Covenant ceremonies to portray Satan. Furthermore, Satan was not washed in the blood of **Yahshua** or anything else as the law required. The verse below also disqualifies Satan.

Hebrews 9 (20) Saying, This *is* the **blood of the testament** which **Yahweh** hath enjoined unto you. (21) Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. (22) And almost all things are by the law **purged with blood**; and **without shedding of blood is no remission**.

It certainly appears that Satan does not qualify to be portrayed by the living bird. There are many scriptures that reveal the only one who does qualify and that is **Yahshua**. Therefore, the **living bird was dipped in the blood of the dead bird portrayed Yahweh giving Yahshua His Life** back from the dead. Why was **Yahshua** portrayed as being dipped in His own blood? According to Leviticus 17:1, **Yahshua's** life was in His own blood and **the blood makes the atonement**.

Leviticus 17 (11) **For the life of the flesh is in the blood**: and I have given it to you upon the altar **to make an atonement for your souls**: for *it is the blood that makes an* ***atonement for the soul**.

*The connection to the atonement is more clearly seen in the third ceremony portraying the very same things. This connection is of vital importance in understanding all three ceremonies.

Leviticus 16 (10) But the goat, on which the lot fell to be **the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before Yahweh, to make an *atonement **with him**, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

***Atonement** is a root word meaning "**to cover**" (H3722) **The Hebrew word #5921 could also be translated as "upon" as well as "with."

It certainly appears that **Yahweh** needed **to cover the sacrificed Yahshua** with something **to make Him a living covering** for the people. **What kind of a covering did Yahweh need to make for Yahshua? Yahshua** revealed that it was the **LIFE & GLORY** that He had with **Yahweh** before He laid His **Life** down for us.

John 17 (1) These words spake **Yahshua**, and lifted up **His** eyes to Heaven, and said, **Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee**: (2) **As thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give Eternal Life to as many as Thou hast given Him**. (3) **And this is Life Eternal, that they might know Thee the only true Elohim, and Yahshua Messiah, Whom Thou hast sent**. (4) **I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do**. (5) **And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine Own Self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was**.

Digressing for the moment ... The letting the scapegoat go into the wilderness and the live bird loose in the open field foretold the following: It foretold the **resurrected Yahshua** the sin offering figuratively taking away the sins that He had just paid for with His own **life**. Where did He take them? Psalm 103 gives us a clue.

Psalm 103 (11) For as the heaven is high above the earth, *so* great is his mercy toward them that fear him. (12) **As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us**.

What a neat way of saying that **Yahweh would remember our sibs no more! Yahshua** accomplished this when He became the **High Priest** and the **Mediator** of the **New Covenant**, which says that **Yahweh would remember our sibs no more**.

Hebrews 8 (1) Now of the things which we have spoken *this is* the sum: We have such a **High Priest, Who** is set on the right hand of the throne of the **Majesty** in the heavens (2) A **minister of the sanctuary**, and of the true tabernacle, which **Yahweh** pitched, and not man. ... (6) But now hath He obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also **He** is the **Mediator** of a better Covenant, ... (8) For finding fault with them, He saith, Behold, the days come, saith **Yahweh**, when **I** will make a **New Covenant** with the House of Israel and with the House of Judah: ... (10) For *this is* the **Covenant** that **I** will make with the House of Israel after those days, saith **Yahweh**; **I** will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and **I** will be to them an **Elohim**, & they shall be to Me a people: (11) And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man

his brother, saying, Know **Yahweh**: for all shall know Me, from the least to the greatest. (12) For **I** will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and **their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more**.

Back to **Yahshua** receiving the **LIFE** and **GLORY** that He had with **Yahweh** before He laid it down for us. The first thing **Yahshua** had to accomplish after **Yahweh** gave Him back His **life** was to present Himself as the **Wave Sheaf Offering**. That signified that **He was the first fruits to be accepted from the dead to Eternal Life**. He accomplished that on the Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Leviticus 16 (9) And **Yahweh** spake unto Moses, saying, (10) Speak unto the Children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which **I** give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a **sheaf of the first-fruits** of your harvest unto the priest: (11) **And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.**

Yahshua, by His own blood, entered in once into the holy place, having obtained **Eternal Redemption for us**. Surely, this happened around the same time that the Priest waved the sheaf of of the first-fruits.

Hebrews 9 (11) But **Messiah** being come a **High Priest** of good things to come, by a greater & more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (12) Neither by the blood of goats & calves, but by **His Own blood He entered in once into the holy place**, having obtained **Eternal Redemption for us**.

In addition to the many ministries that **Yahshua** is still performing for us we should be very thankful that He is our advocate with our **Heavenly Father Yahweh**.

First John 2 (1) My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not: And if any man sin, we have an **Advocate** with the **Father, Yahshua Messiah the Righteous**: (2) And **He** is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*.

Summary of the cleansing of the Leper

#1:The leprosy portrayed sin. **#2:** The leper portrayed each and every unclean sinner. **#3:** The ceremonial cleansing of the leper foretold **Yahshua** cleansing, healing & saving each and every repented person who believes **Yahshua** and obeys Him. **#4:** The bird that was killed portrayed **Yahshua** dying for the sins of the whole world. **#5:** The living bird portrayed the **resurrected Yahshua** taking away the sins that He had paid for with His very own **Life**. **#6:** It also portrays **Yahshua** continuing His **redemptive** work even until this day.

Ceremony Two: Ceremonial laws for cleaning a House with the plague of leprosy *Concerning the two birds and what they prophetically portrayed or represented*

Leviticus 14 (33) And **Yahweh** spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, (34) When ye be come into the land of Canaan, which **I** give to you for a possession, and **I** put the plague of leprosy in a house of the land of your possession; ... (48) And if the priest shall come in, and look *upon it*, and, behold, the plague hath not spread in the house, after the house was plastered: then the priest shall pronounce the house clean, because the plague is healed. (49) **And he shall take to cleanse the house two birds**, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop: (50) **And he shall kill the one of the birds** in an earthen vessel over running water: (51) And he shall take the cedar wood, and the hyssop, and the scarlet, and **the living bird**, and **dip them in the blood of the slain bird**, and in the running water, and sprinkle the house seven times: (52) And he shall cleanse the house **with the blood of the bird**, and with the running water, and **with the living bird**, and with the cedar wood, and with the hyssop, and with the scarlet: (53) But he shall let go **the living bird** out of the city into the open fields, and make an atonement for the house: and it shall be clean. (54) **This is the law for all manner of plague of leprosy**, and scall, (55) And for the leprosy of a garment, and of a house, (56) And for a rising, and for a scab, and for a bright spot: (57) To teach when *it is* unclean, and when *it is* clean: *this is* the law of leprosy.

Summary of the cleansing of a house plagued with leprosy

#1: **The leprosy** portrayed sin and here it especially represents false worship. #2: **The house plagued with leprosy** portrayed each and every unclean place with false worship. #3: **The ceremonial cleansing of the house plagued with leprosy** foretold of **Yahshua** cleansing each and every believer and teaching them to worship in Spirit and in truth with other Believers. #4: **The bird that was killed** portrayed **Yahshua** dying for the sins of the whole world. (See John 3:16) #5: **The living bird** portrayed the resurrected **Yahshua** figuratively taking away the sins that He paid for with His own **Life**. #6: **The living bird** also portrayed **Yahshua** continuing His redemptive work building and caring for His Assembly and giving them **Eternal Life**.

John 4 (21) **Yahshua** saith unto her, **Woman, believe Me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.** (22) Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. (23) **But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.** (24) **Yahweh is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.**

Ceremony Three: The Ceremony with the Sin offering and the Scapegoat Concerning the two Goats and what they prophetically portrayed or represented:

Leviticus 16 (5) And he shall take of the congregation of the Children of Israel **two kids of the goats for a sin offering**, and one ram for a burnt offering. (6) And Aaron shall offer his bullock of the sin offering, which *is* for himself, and make an atonement for himself, and for his house. (7) And **he shall take the two goats**, and present them before **Yahweh** at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. (8) And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for **Yahweh**, and the other lot for the **scapegoat**. (9) And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which **Yahweh's** lot fell, and **offer him for a sin offering**. (10) **But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before Yahweh, to make an atonement with him,** and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

Starting with Leviticus sixteen verse five we find that the **two kids of the goats** were for a sin offering for the sins of the whole world. The reason it was stated that way is because the first goat portrayed ***Yahweh's Passover sacrifice, Yahshua the Messiah**. and the ****Scapegoat** portrayed the **Resurrected Yahshua**.

*John 3 (16) **For Yahweh so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life.**

The **Scapegoat portrayed the **Resurrected Yahshua**, the **author of our Eternal Salvation**, our **High Priest**, the **Mediator of the New Covenant**, our **redeemer**, and our **intercessor**. He is also the **Sovereign** of sovereigns, and the **King** of kings, just to name a few of His titles.

In Leviticus sixteen, verses seven through ten, the **two goats** were brought before **Yahweh** at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. Lots were cast etc. In the ceremony, the goat for **Yahweh** would be for a **sin offering** and then the goat, on which the lot fell to be the **Scapegoat**, shall be presented alive before **Yahweh**, to ***make an atonement with him**.

*If the Scapegoat portrayed Satan **where was his blood shed and used during the ceremony or any where else** to cleanse every thing as the law required? **No blood; No atonement!!!**

Leviticus 17 (11) **For the life of the flesh is in the blood:** and I have given it to you upon the altar **to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that makes an atonement** for soul.

Yahweh used **Yahshua's** own blood to make the atonement with the **resurrected Yahshua**. This was shown as the **live bird being dipped in the dead bird's blood** in the first ceremony above, It was also shown by the house **being washed in the dead bird's blood** as seen in the second ceremony above.

Serious Questions: Was Satan ever **cleansed** or **washed** in the blood of **Yahshua**? Will he ever be? Where is there any scriptural evidence of either?

Picking back up where the priest actually starts utilizing the two goats in the ceremony, we find the following concerning the the sin offering.

Leviticus 16 (15) **Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that is for the people, and bring his blood within the veil, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat. (16) And he shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleanness of the Children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins;** and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness. (17) **And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goeth in to make an atonement in the holy place, until he come out, and have made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the Congregation of Israel.** (18) And he shall go out unto the altar that *is* before **Yahweh**, and make an atonement for it; and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put *it* upon the horns of the altar round about. (19) And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and **cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the Children of Israel.**

As one can see in the above scripture **Yahshua**, the **Messiah** was portrayed by the **sin offering** was dead. With **Yahshua** left dead in the grave who would be doing His **ongoing redemptive and intercessory work as our High Priest and our Advocate with the Father**? Did **Yahweh** leave out that most crucial part of His plan of our cleansing and our **salvation** by leaving **Yahshua, the author of our Eternal Salvation** dead in this ceremony **to show Satan's fate? Absolutely not!!!**

In the next three verses, the Resurrected **Yahshua** was **figuratively** taking away the sins that He paid for with His own **Life**. It also portrayed **Yahshua** continuing His redemptive work building and caring for His Assembly and giving them **Eternal Life**.

Leviticus 16 (20) **And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat/ (21) And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, *confess over him all the iniquities of the Children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness. (22) And the [live] goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited:** and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

In verse 21 and 22, the **Scapegoat** (the **Goat of Departure**) had Israel's iniquities confessed over him and he was to figuratively **bear upon him all their iniquities** unto a land not inhabited.

The prophet Isaiah foretold who would **bear upon Himself all our iniquities**. He prophesied of **Messiah Yahshua** (not Satan) **to bear upon Himself all our iniquities**.

Isaiah 53 (10) Yet it pleased **Yahweh** to bruise Him; He hath put *Him* to grief: when **Thou shalt make His soul [life] an offering for sin**, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, and the pleasure of **Yahweh** shall prosper in His hand. (11) He shall see of the travail of His soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall My righteous servant **justify many**; for **He shall bear their iniquities**. (12) Therefore will **I** divide Him *a portion* with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because **He hath poured out His soul unto death:** and He was numbered with the transgressors; and **He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors**.

The Apostle Peter gives us a second witness.

I Peter 2 (21) For even hereunto were ye called: because **Messiah** also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps: (22) **Who did no sin**, neither was guile found in His mouth. (23) Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed *Himself* to Him that judgeth righteously: (24) **Who His Own Self bare our sins in His Own body on the tree** that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: **by whose stripes ye were healed.**

Here are a couple more witnesses from John.

First John 3 . (4) Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. (5) And ye know that **He [Yahshua] was manifested to take away our sins**; and in **Him** is no sin.

Revelation 1 (5) And from **Yahshua Messiah**, *Who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the **Prince** of the kings of the earth. Unto **Him** that loved us, and **washed us from our sins in His Own blood,**

CONCLUSION: Tying all three Ceremonies together

As stated at the beginning of this article. *“the following old covenant parabolic prophetic ceremonies portrayed **Yahweh’s plan to cleanse and provide a way through Yahshua for our Salvation. The two most extremely important components leading to our Eternal Salvation is the death and resurrection of Yahshua our Messiah. Our Salvation depends on both!**”*

The Birds that were killed over running water and the goat on which **Yahweh’s** lot fell was **offered for a sin offering** portrayed **Yahweh’s** Passover sacrifice (**Yahshua** the Messiah) for the sins of the whole world.

The **Living Birds** and the **Scapegoat** portrayed the **Resurrected Yahshua**, **Yahshua** still is and has been the **author of our Eternal Salvation**, our **High Priest** and the **Mediator of the New Covenant**. He continues to be our **redeemer**, and our **intercessor**. He is also the **Sovereign** of sovereigns, and the **King** of kings and our **advocate** with our **Heavenly Father Yahweh** to this day.

Would **Yahweh** leave that portion of His plan for our **Cleansing** and **Salvation** in these three ceremonies **to show Satan’s fate**? I think not!

In Ceremony number one above, we have one **Bird to die** and one **Bird to Live**. **LIVE** is the key word. In Ceremony number two above, we have one **Bird to die** and one **Bird to Live**. **LIVE** is the key word. In Ceremony number three above, we have one **Goat to die** and one **Goat to Live**. **LIVE** is the key word.

Here is who had to **die** and **LIVE** forever to **Cleanse** me and give me **Eternal Salvation**.

Romans 5 (8) But **Yahweh** commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, **Messiah died for us**. (9) Much more then, being now **justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him**. (10) For if, when we were enemies, we were **reconciled to Yahweh by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His LIFE**. (11) And not only *so*, but we also joy in **Yahweh** through our **Sovereign Yahshua Messiah**, by **Whom we have now received the atonement**.

Hebrews 7 (22) By so much was **Yahshua** made a surety of a better testament. (23) And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: (24) But this *man*, because **He continueth ever**, hath an **unchangeable priesthood**. (25) Wherefore **He** is able also to **save** them to the uttermost that come unto **Yahweh** by **Him**, seeing **He ever LIVES to make intercession for them**.

As far as I know the lying, murdering, deceiving and extremely blemished Satan has no part in my **Cleansing** and/or **Salvation**. I do know that the following scripture below is not part of the three ceremonies of which this article discusses.

Revelation 20 (10) And the **devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

May **Yahweh** bless those who read this article and were not offended by it. **Halleluyah!!!**

[Revised and/or in 2026 by T.A.H.]