

Carried Away

Leviticus 16



Undo

When might we want an “undo” feature in life?
God offers us something far better than “undo”

In Ancient Israel: When the people sinned

“Sin” =

doing or saying what they knew they should not
not doing or saying what they knew they should

“As a penalty for the sin they have committed, they must bring to the Lord a female lamb or goat from the flock as a sin offering; and the priest shall make atonement for them for their sin.” Leviticus 5:6

A crisis in the priesthood

“Aaron’s sons Nadab and Abihu took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, contrary to his command. 2 So fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. 3 Moses then said to Aaron, “This is what the Lord spoke of when he said:

“Among those who approach me I will be proved holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored.” Aaron remained silent.” Leviticus 10:1-3

Leviticus 16

1-2

How are sinful people to approach a holy God?
→ God is the only source of life

11

Priests had to sacrifice first for themselves

16-18

Sacrifices were needed even for Most Holy Place and the altar!!

20-22

“For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” Psalm 103:11-12

Where do the sin and guilt go?

“[Jesus Christ] himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” 1 Peter 2:24

“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.” Colossians 2:13-14

“But [Jesus Christ] has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.” Hebrews 9:26b-28

The Big Idea

**Jesus alone has carried away
and destroyed our sin and guilt
on the cross forever**

The Scapegoat

Sometimes a tangible expression is what we need
Confess sins onto the goat’s head. See it walk away, never to be seen again



Jesus

Jesus didn't merely carry the sins away
He destroyed them and their power. Gone forever!
Jesus wrapped Himself around our sin
Fully containing it in Himself
Then He destroyed it on the cross forever!

Application

Repent and have our sins wiped out, carried away, destroyed forever

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus." Acts 3:19-20

Boldly claim it by faith

"Many Christians live perpetually doubting whether they have been truly forgiven."

This is a lie from the devil who is the accuser

It is an act of faith to accept true forgiveness

Perhaps a tangible expression will help

Having been forgiven, now pursue godliness

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:1-2

Our Core Value

Superabounding grace and complete obedience to Jesus

God's forgiveness (grace) brings a deep hunger for godliness

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." Matthew 5:6

Journey together

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:15-16

Better than undo:

Sin and guilt destroyed completely, forever

God uses it for good and for His glory

Given Christ's righteous...with our name on it!

The Spirit brings transformation

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. "Many Christians live perpetually doubting whether they have been truly forgiven." Are there times when this is true for you? Why might that be?
2. What helps you accept by faith the work of Jesus to wipe away our sins? (see Acts 3:19-20)
3. In our journey of transformation, James 5 tells us to do the journey together with mature believers. Is there someone in your life who is helping on this journey? Are you helping someone else on their journey? If not, would you consider starting? Please reach out, perhaps to an elder or a mature Christian in your life.

Conversation starters

Imagine having an 'undo' button for life. Is there something you would want to undo?

Would you be interested if something even better were available?