



*“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”*

## **Can Men Atone for the Sins of Others?**

Anti-missionary Jews and their converts are constantly challenging those who believe in the validity of Yeshua with the supposed "gotcha" that YHWH never expected a MAN (human sacrifice) to make atonement for the sins of others.

Here is how it often goes...

**RABBI ASSERTION:** One man could NOT make atonement for others sins! The Scripture never tells us that an innocent man can die as an atonement for the sins of the wicked. Such a message is utterly antithetical to the teachings of the Jewish scriptures.

**RESPONSE:** Well, then how do you account for the following passages in the Torah? In addition, Yeshua MARTYRED himself, against which there is NO Torah prohibition. For more on “human sacrifice” and the Torah, please see our teaching “[His Sacrifice](#).”

So let’s look at these verses that show a man can atone for others.

### **Exodus 28:36-38**

“You shall make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet, ‘Holy to the Lord (YHWH).’ And you shall fasten it on the turban by a cord of blue. It shall be on the front of the turban. It shall be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall bear any guilt from the holy things that the people of Israel consecrate as their holy gifts. It shall regularly be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the Lord (YHWH).”

### **Leviticus 6: 25**

Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, This is the law of the sin offering. In the place where the burnt offering is killed shall the sin offering be killed before the Lord (YHWH); it is most holy. The priest who offers it for sin shall eat it. In a holy place it shall be eaten, in the court of the tent of meeting. Whatever touches its flesh shall be holy, and when any of its blood is splashed on a garment, you shall wash that on which it was splashed in a holy place.

### **Leviticus 10: 16**

Now Moses diligently inquired about the goat of the sin offering, and behold, it was burned up! And he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the surviving sons of Aaron, saying, “Why have you not eaten the sin offering in the place of the sanctuary, since it is a thing most holy and has been given to you that you may bear the iniquity of the congregation, to make atonement for them before the Lord (YHWH)?

**Here is a wonderful excerpt from the MessianicTorah.org website:**

*Priests were established to help the people live in an intimate relationship with the Eternal. Many times people would, by mistake, enter the sanctuary being impure which generated guilt among the people. That guilt had to be removed in order for the people to keep enjoying the Eternal's presence without being exposed to the danger of His anger against sin.*

*In order to eliminate that guilt, they had to burn on the altar part of the animals destined for this purpose and then eat the rest. So, on the one hand, part of the sin that was transmitted to the animal that bore the guilt of the people was burnt on the altar; and on the other hand the priests ate the rest of the animal and the sin within it. Through these two ways of consuming the animal, sin was removed from the people who, thus, were atoned before the Eternal.*

*In the Torah this offering is not called "sin offering" but just "sin" chatat – חטאת. In other words, it is written in this verse that the priests had to eat the sin. Since the people's sin was transmitted to the animal through hand imposition, sin was in the sacrifice itself, so it is then called "sin". So when the priests ate from the sacrifice, sin entered in them, and in that way it decomposed in their intestines in the natural way and then got disposed of.*

*This teaches us that a priest may introduce the sin of the people in his own body, in the form of meat. This makes us think of the Messiah who took the sin of the people of Israel and the world in his body so the Eternal could forgive our sins and cleanse us to be sacred dwellings for Him and also to be able to enter the heavenly tabernacle without danger.*

**1 Peter 2:24**

*"...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed."*

**Revelation 5:12**

*"saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"*

*Blessed be the Eternal for having given us Yeshua as heavenly priest who took our sins in his body and eliminated them! And blessed be Yeshua for his faithfulness as priest becoming responsible for our sins and taking them away to give us everlasting hope! And blessed are those who believe in the Messiah's sacrifice!*

Quite often, an anti-missionary will point to Deuteronomy 24 as proof that Messiah Yeshua could not have died for our sins.

**Deuteronomy 24:16**

Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their fathers; each is to die for his own sin.

By quoting this, it is proposed that Yeshua could not have died for our sin, as all are to die for their own sin.

Yet, here is the problem. Ezekiel 18 states that all are to NOT die for their sin. More specifically, those who repent and walk righteously will NOT die for their sin.

Let's read:

### **Ezekiel 18:21**

“But if a wicked person turns away from all his sins that he has committed and keeps all my statutes and does what is just and right, he shall surely live; **he shall not die**. None of the transgressions that he has committed shall be remembered against him; for the righteousness that he has done he shall live

So how can this be? Is Deuteronomy 24:16 wrong?

No.

Deuteronomy 24:16 specifically states that no one is to be put to death, meaning INVOLUNTARILY, for the sins of another person.

### **Deuteronomy 24:16**

Fathers shall not be **put to death** for their children, nor children **put to death** for their fathers; each is to die for his own sin.

Yeshua was not “put to death” for our sin. Yeshua offered his life, voluntarily, for our sin.

In fact, Yeshua clarified this intentionally so that we would know that it was not a violation of Deuteronomy 24:16.

### **John 10:11-18**

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

So Yeshua's death was not forced upon him. He gave it willingly. Again, for more on this, please see our teaching “[His Sacrifice](#).”

Sometimes these anti-missionary criticisms of Yeshua and the Brit Hadasha can be initially confusing and can cause use to doubt. That is their intent, especially when they attempt to present several dozen similar arguments.

However, as you work through such things, just remember, just as in this example and as with most things in Scripture, context matters and how words are used also matters.

We hope that this teaching has blessed you, and remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)

**Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.**

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