

# MOMENTUM YOUTH BIBLE STUDY SERIES

THE CHRONICLES OF JENIAH & URIA  
#24 - CHRIST'S MINISTRY IN THE  
HEAVENLY SANCTUARY





**Y**outh group was packed this week. Pastor Greene was excited for the new faces but he wasn't sure if the new guests would be able to follow along with this week's topic. The young people were reviewing the Old Testament and one of the students asked about the sanctuary and if it was still relevant today. He prepared this lesson to answer this question and to his surprise twice the number of students showed up. Jeniah's world history class was studying ancient civilizations and one of their lectures covered ancient Israel and their focus on the sanctuary.

Pastor Greene allowed the students to text him their questions so no one would be embarrassed. As the students grabbed their phones and sat down, Pastor Greene repeated the questions and pointed the students to the Bible to find the answers.

### 1. What was the purpose of the sanctuary?

“Great question. God wanted to use the sanctuary as an illustrative tool to connect with His people. It was placed in the center of the Israelite camp for the entire company to see how much He wanted to be with them. It was similar to Jesus’ purpose in coming to earth.” Pastor Greene said.

*"Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ among them."* Exodus 25:8

### 2. What kinds of sacrifices took place there?

“There were two major events that happened in the sanctuary. Since sin can only be forgiven by blood, a spotless animal was sacrificed on behalf of the sinner. This process was done in two major services: the Daily Sacrifice and the Day of Atonement. Sins were forgiven and transferred to the sanctuary each day - the Daily sacrifice.

*"You are to lay your hand on the head of the burnt \_\_\_\_\_ , and it will be accepted on your behalf to make \_\_\_\_\_ for you. You are to slaughter the young bull before the Lord, and then Aaron’s sons the priests shall bring the blood and splash it against the sides of the \_\_\_\_\_ at the entrance to the tent of meeting."* Leviticus 1:4,5

“While the individuals were forgiven, their sins were still in the sanctuary. Because God and sin cannot dwell together, the sins and the sanctuary had to be cleaned.”

### 3. How was the sanctuary cleaned?

“Cleaning or cleansing of the sanctuary happened once a year on the Day of Atonement. It was on this day that the people were to confess their sins and the high priest made atonement by symbolically placing the sins on a “scapegoat” which was lead so far out of the camp that it could not find its way back and thus the sins were taken away and the sanctuary and its people were free from sin.”

The tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. Lev 23:27

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

### 4. Is there a sanctuary in heaven?

“The Bible is clear that there indeed is a sanctuary in heaven. In fact, the earthly tabernacle was a copy of the one in heaven,” Pastor Greene replied.

[The]sanctuary... is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the \_\_\_\_\_ shown you on the mountain." Hebrews 8:5

### 5. Is Jesus connected to the Sanctuary?

“Just about everything in the sanctuary points to Jesus,” Pastor Greene said. “John the Baptist understood this when he pointed the people back to the sanctuary services, letting them see that they revealed Jesus’ work and mission on earth.”

“Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world!” John 1:29

## 6. Wasn't Jesus also a priest?

"Yes. In fact, this is also a major reason why we see Jesus serving in the temple in heaven, Pastor Greene said. "He is our High Priest, the one that stands as a mediator between God and man.

"... We have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God..." Hebrews 4:14

## 7. Daniel 8 says "In 2300 days the sanctuary would be cleansed." Is that talking about the heavenly or earthly sanctuary?

"Many people thought the sanctuary he was referencing was the earthly one. Further study of the sanctuary revealed that the cleansing would be in heaven. Pointing people to the Day of Atonement where God will remove sin from the earth, which will be similar to the sanctuary service in Leviticus 16 & 23."

"... Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the \_\_\_\_\_ be cleansed." Daniel 8:14

"And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the Lord your God." Leviticus 23:28

## 8. Why cleanse heaven if Jesus died on the cross?

"Excellent question!" Pastor replied. "Jesus' death on the cross forgives us of sin."

"Jesus' ministry in heaven will cleanse the world of sin, just as in the Day of Atonement, where at the end of the service the sins from God's people were placed on the scapegoat and it was taken away from the camp. When Jesus returns, sin will be taken from this earth and placed on its rightful owner – Satan. We will be cleansed from sin and sin will have no place on earth again.

“When Aaron has finished making \_\_\_\_\_ for the Most Holy Place, the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat. He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat’s head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. The goat will carry on itself all their \_\_\_\_\_ to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness.” Leviticus 16:20-22

### 9. What is Jesus doing now?

“The Bible says He is doing several things 1) Preparing a place for us and 2) interceding on our behalf,” Pastor Greene answered.

“My Father’s \_\_\_\_\_ has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to \_\_\_\_\_ a place for you?” John 14:2

“ ... He always lives to \_\_\_\_\_ for [us].” Hebrews 7:25

“This was a lot, Pastor!” Jeniah said. “So, you are telling us that the sanctuary was designed for us to get a pictorial view of the plan of salvation. And the same way the Israelites had to have faith in their High Priest on the Day of Atonement, we have to trust that Jesus gave His life for us and is right now, preparing a special place just for us?”

“That’s exactly it, young lady,” Pastor Greene said with a smile. “Jesus is preparing a world without sin for us to dwell with him forever.”

“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s \_\_\_\_\_ place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.” Revelation 21:3