

The Mysteries of Christ

Week 2. The Atonement.

1. Atonement Defined:

- Atonement refers to the reconciliation of humanity with God through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. It is the act of making amends or restitution for sin, thereby restoring harmony and fellowship between God and humanity.

- Supporting Verses:

- **Romans 5:10:** "For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!"

- **Colossians 1:19-20:** "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

Leviticus 17:11

11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.

In old Testament: **Leviticus 1:1** Now the LORD called to Moses, and spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting, saying, ²“Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of the livestock—of the herd and of the flock.

³‘If his offering *is* a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD.

⁴Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.

Exodus 30:10

¹⁰And Aaron shall make atonement upon its horns once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement; once a year he shall make atonement upon it throughout your generations. It *is* most holy to the LORD.”

1. Substitutionary Atonement:

- Message: Jesus Christ, as the sinless Son of God, served as a substitute for humanity, taking upon himself the punishment for our sins.

- Supporting Verses:

- **Isaiah 53:5-6:** "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

- **2 Corinthians 5:21:** "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

- **Example:** Just as the sacrificial lamb in the Old Testament took upon itself the sins of the people, Jesus Christ became the ultimate sacrificial lamb, bearing the sins of humanity on the cross.

2. Redemption through His Blood:

- **Message:** Through Jesus Christ's sacrificial death, believers are redeemed and forgiven, receiving the gift of salvation and eternal life.

- Supporting Verses:

- **Ephesians 1:7:** "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace."

- **Hebrews 9:22** And according to the law almost all things are ^[a]purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no ^[b]remission.

- **Hebrews 9:12:** "He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption."

- **Example:** Just as a ransom payment liberates a person from captivity, Jesus Christ's blood serves as the ransom payment that frees believers from the bondage of sin and death.

3. Victory over Sin and Death:

- **Message:** Jesus Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection achieved victory over sin and death, offering believers the hope of new life and eternal salvation.

- **1 Corinthians 15:55-57:** "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

- **Romans 6:11:** "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

- **Romans 6:23:** "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- **Example:** Just as a victorious king triumphs over his enemies, Jesus Christ conquered sin and death through his sacrificial death and resurrection, offering believers the gift of eternal life.