

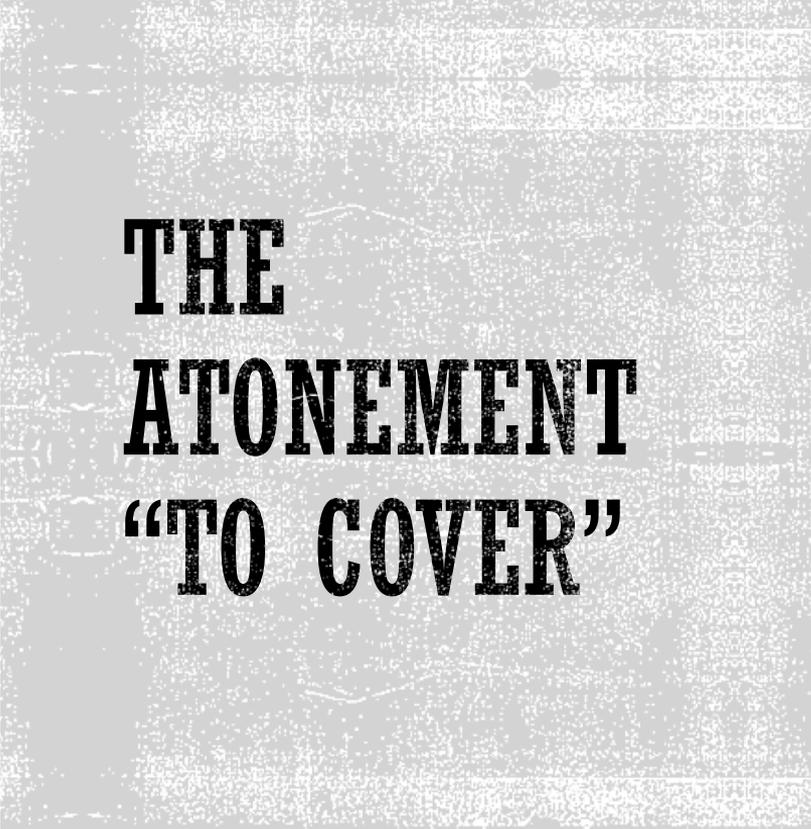
**THEOLOGY**  
**THURSDAYS**  
**THE WORK OF**  
**CHRIST**



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- **Five Important  
Background Elements**

**Romans 3:21-26**



**THE  
ATONEMENT  
“TO COVER”**

# THE JUST AND JUSTIFIER ROMANS 3:21-26

<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law **the righteousness of God has been made known**, to which **the Law and the Prophets testify**. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> **for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**, <sup>24</sup> and all are **justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus**.



# THE JUST AND JUSTIFIER ROMANS 3:21-26

<sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a **propitiation by his blood**, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, **so that he might be just and the justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus.



# 5 ELEMENTS OF THE ATONEMENT

**The Law** – The law is an expression of His character. To disobey the law is to offend God.  
*Romans 3:21b*

***Arbitrary vs Universal – speeding vs gravity***



# 5 ELEMENTS OF THE ATONEMENT

**The Human Condition** – Total Depravity has affected every human. We are all sinners deserving death. *Rom 3:23*

***Not INCAPABLE of doing good***

***The effect of sin is comprehensive and inescapable***



# 5 ELEMENTS OF THE ATONEMENT

**The Sacrificial System** – Sin is only removed/covered by the shedding of blood (Heb. 9:22). Sin is so grave that it deserves death. *Rom 3:25b & 26*

***The Day of Atonement – Leviticus 16***



# THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

## The Day of Atonement

- The Day of Atonement - *Yom Kippur (End of September)*  
Leviticus 16
- The sins of the priests and the people were “covered” another year.
- Hebrews 9:1-28 – Jesus is our Great High Priest and Sacrifice



# 5 ELEMENTS OF THE ATONEMENT

**Jesus Christ** – In perfect humanity he could serve as our representative. *Rom. 3:25a-26*





“But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.”



“And he said to them, ‘O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?’ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.



ROMANS

3:25

“...whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood, to be received by faith.”

# PROPITIATION

Jesus was the satisfaction of God's Wrath which has been patiently stored up throughout time making God propitious (favorable) towards us.





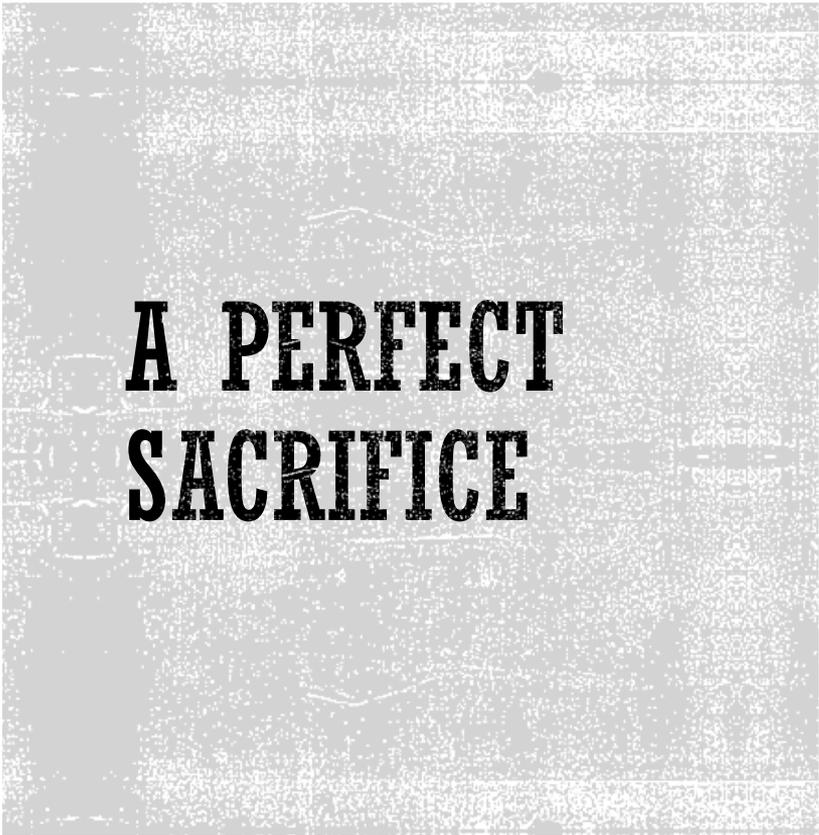
“This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.”

**The Credit Card**

- Jesus never sinned and had no inclination to sin.

Emptied himself *by taking on humanity* – Phil 2:7

Tempted in every respect *as we are, yet without sin...Heb 4:15*



**A PERFECT  
SACRIFICE**

- Jesus suffered completely and obeyed perfectly on our behalf.

**A PERFECT  
SACRIFICE**

Both passive and active  
obedience were necessary

- Passive Obedience – Suffering  
and dying for us

Physical Pain and Death

The Pain of Bearing All Sin

Abandonment

God's FULL wrath and fury

**PASSIVE & ACTIVE  
OBEDIENCE**



# MUCH MORE THAN PHYSICAL PAIN

Even more difficult than the physical pain, mental anguish [rejection and betrayal], and complete abandonment [of His disciples] was the pain of bearing the full wrath of God upon himself. As Jesus bore the guilt of our sins, God unleashed all wrath and punishment for our sins upon his own Son. Jesus became the object of the intense hatred of sin and vengeance against the world. Christ necessarily and willingly bore the full punishment for our sin on the cross. And so through his death, God's justice was met. Christ "put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." (Heb. 9:26)





<sup>18</sup> Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup> For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, **so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.**

## Active Obedience – Perfectly obeying God's Law for us

- Without Jesus' active obedience, we would be forgiven for our sin but then be expected to live from that day on in perfect obedience.
- **ALL** the work was **ALL** Jesus

## **PASSIVE & ACTIVE OBEDIENCE**



“There was an eternal, unchangeable, requirement in the holiness of God that sin be paid for.”

Wayne Grudem *Systematic Theology*



# PROPTIATION

- Jesus was the final and complete fulfillment of the sacrificial system. Jesus declared, “It is finished.” Then the temple curtain was torn from top to bottom!



**We owe a debt for our sin that we cannot pay and live**

- **Sacrifice** – Jesus paid our debt Heb. 9:26

**We deserve God's wrath for our sin**

- **Propitiation** – Jesus removes God's wrath 1 Jn. 4:10

**4 NEEDS**  
**4 PROVISIONS**



# 1 JOHN 4:10

- This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.



# We are separated from God because of our sins

- **Reconciliation** – Jesus restores fellowship with God

**4 NEEDS**  
**4 PROVISIONS**



# 1 COR 5:18

- All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:



**We are separated from  
God because of our sins**

- **Reconciliation** – Jesus restores fellowship with God

**We are in slavery to sin.  
We are only free to be  
as sinful as we desire.**

- **Redemption** – Jesus set us free from our bondage to sin

**4 NEEDS  
4 PROVISIONS**



# MARK 10:45

- For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



# FAULTY VIEW

- **Ransom to Satan Theory** teaches that Satan had a just right to demand payment.
- However, only God's righteousness was offended therefore only God was owed payment,



# FAULTY VIEW

- **Moral Influence Theory** teaches that Jesus only died as an example of God's great love for us to the point of death.
- However, this idea removes the objective nature of just penalty for sin.



# FAULTY VIEW

- **Example Theory**

teaches that Jesus' death was an example of self sacrifice and obedience to God.

- However, this denies God's just requirement of payment for sin. (Taken further, this theory of atonement leads to man-centered justification and redemption. One need only to follow Christ's example and obey as he did.



# FAULTY VIEW

- **Governmental Theory** teaches that Jesus died only to illustrate the importance of following God's laws. His death was to demonstrate that he was the supreme lawgiver and should be obeyed.
- This also removes the objective nature of offensive sin against a holy God.



**THEOLOGY**  
**THURSDAYS**  
**THE GOSPEL AND**  
**SALVATION**

