



Introduction

Why doesn't God just forgive us apart from the death of Christ?

Why doesn't God just leave us in our sin and under condemnation?

1 John 4:8

Isaiah 45:21

Forgiveness and the Death of Christ

Matthew 6:12-15

Matthew 18:21-35

We need to consider four things: the gravity of sin, human moral responsibility, true and false guilt, and the wrath of God.¹

The Gravity of Sin

Romans 2:15

1 John 3:4

Mark 12:28-31

Romans 5:10

Romans 8:7

Ephesians 2:1

Psalms 51:4

Human Moral Responsibility

Romans 5:12-14

¹ John R. W. Stott, *The Cross of Christ* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986, 2006), 90-91.



Romans 5:18

Romans 9:19

Deuteronomy 30:15

Joshua 24:15

Matthew 23:37

John 5:39-40

John 12:36b-40

Romans 10:5-17

Romans 1:18-20

True and False Guilt

Jeremiah 8:8-11

Romans 3:19

God's Holiness and Wrath

Isaiah 6:3

Revelation 4:8

Habakkuk 1:13

Isaiah 59:2

Isaiah 6:5

Luke 5:8

Leviticus 11:44

1 Peter 1:16



Matthew 3:7

John 3:36

Ephesians 2:3

Revelation 6:15-17

Ephesians 4:26

Psalms 97:9

1 John 1:5

1 Timothy 6:16

Hebrews 12:29

Hebrews 10:26-27

Leviticus 18:24-28

Romans 3:18

1 Peter 1:17

2 Corinthians 5:21

Forgiveness and the Love of Christ

Genesis 3:15

Romans 3:21-26

Hebrews 10:4

Romans 3:20

Deuteronomy 7:7



Psalm 47:4

Ephesians 1:3-6

John 3:16

John 13:1

Conclusion

The Atonement was absolutely necessary because God is holy, just, gracious, merciful, and loving.

Revelation 5:1-14