

# Definite Atonement - Introduction

October 7, 2018

## Introduction: What do we mean by atonement?

Dictionary definition of atonement: reparation for a wrong or injury

Applied to Scripture:

1. We have wronged a Holy God by our sin against him.
2. We are separated by God because of that sin. His wrath is upon those who have sinned against Him.
3. To be reconciled by God, there must be an atonement for that sin.
4. In the absence of an atonement, that separation and wrath remains.
5. With the application of an atonement, there is no longer separation or wrath.

## **Atonement carries with it, the idea of:**

- **Reconciliation**

**katallagh**, - KATALAGAY

And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the **atonement**. (Rom 5:11 **KJV**) **katallagh**,

More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received **reconciliation**. (Rom 5:11 **ESV**)

All this is from God, who through Christ **reconciled** us to himself and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**; (2Co 5:18)

- **Sanctification**

**a`gia,zw** – HAGIATZO – to make holy

They shall eat those things with which atonement was made at their ordination and consecration, but an outsider shall not eat of them, because they are holy. (Exo 29:33)

- **Propitiation – the act of appeasing a god, spirit, or person.**

**evxila,skomai** – EXILASKOMAI – to propitiate

He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him. (Lev 1:4) – also the vast majority of other Leviticus passages dealing with atonement.

And David said to the Gibeonites, "What shall I do for you? And how shall I make atonement, that you may bless the heritage of the LORD?" (2Sa 21:3)

- **Expiation – the act of making amends or reparation for guilt or wrongdoing; atonement**

**i`lasth,rion** – HILISTARION – expiation, propitiation also **i`lasmo,j**

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1Jn 4:10)

**To summarize, then, the atonement makes reparation for our wrongdoing. It appeases God's anger against us. It reconciles us to God.** See Charleston Confession Chapter 8

### **The message of atonement was delivered through prophecy:**

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. (Isa 53:11)

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Mat 1:21)

### **Jesus spoke of his coming work:**

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (Joh 10:11)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mar 10:45)

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (Mat 26:27-28)

### **It was accomplished at Calvary**

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us--for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"-- (Gal 3:13)

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." (Rev 5:9-10)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for **you were bought with a price**. So glorify God in your body. (1Co 6:19-20)

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 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. (Rom 5:18-19)

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. (Eph 2:13-16)

who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. (Tit 2:14)

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1Jn 4:9-10)

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. (Act 20:28)

### **Its saving benefits are delivered by the work of the Holy Spirit**

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. (Eze 36:25-27)

The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." (Joh 3:8)

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. (Joh 1:12-13)

### **The beneficiaries of the saving work of Christ are made manifest in time through faith and repentance.**

But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. (Rom 4:23-25)

He himself bore **our** sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1Pe 2:24)

No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. (Luk 13:3)

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." (Act 16:31)

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. (Joh 17:20-21)

### **Next time: Consider 1 John 2:1-2 and this statement:**

**The atoning work of Christ is finished. And yet the Bible makes clear that there are still those who die under the wrath of God. This necessarily means that one of the following is true:**

1. The saving work of the atonement was not intended for all men without exception.
2. The work of atonement is unfinished. Christ's death did not make reparation for our wrongdoing, appease God's wrath, or reconcile us to God.