

# THE ATONEMENT

## Hebrews 2:10-18

Sunday, April 4, 2017—Pastor Paul R. Martin

*Question: Why would a loving God require a blood sacrifice in order to forgive sin? Especially why would He require the death of His Son by Roman execution on a cross as a contingency for forgiveness and salvation.*

### I. The Atonement is Rooted in the Character of God and the Nature of His Covenants

The story of the redemption of the lost human race is the greatest epic story in human history. It is the passionate unfolding of God's great love for His ruined creation and His plan to restore the grandeur of the human race. (I Cor 15:45)

- A. The promise (covenant) to Adam & Eve and their children
- B. The Word which cannot be broken because God cannot lie
- C. The Second Man had to come to reclaim legally the lost race

### II. The Person Who Sins Will Die (Ezek 18:4 & 20; John 8:24)—The Life is in the Blood (Gen 2:17, 9:4; Lev 17:11 & 14; Debt 12:23)

- A. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin (Heb 9:19-28); the sharp pang of death is caused by sin, and the power of sin is derived from the Law which has been broken (I Cor 15:56)
- B. God is a holy God Who dwells in unapproachable light, a consuming fire Whose wrath is kindled against the evil enemy of sin, a God Whose character requires punishment for sin. He cannot merely forgive without satisfaction of the penalty—else there would be no peace, no salvation, and no heaven.  
*Imagine . . .*  
It is easy to **say**, "I'm sorry." bring the fruits of repentance. (Luke 3:8; I Jn 1:9)
- C. There must be payment, there must be a death, there must be the shedding of blood to satisfy the righteous requirement of the Law and quiet the wrath of God against the sinner before forgiveness and restoration can take place (Rom 3:23-26)
- D. Jesus Christ bore our sin and its penalty. He became sin for us that we might be restored in His righteousness. (II Cor 5:17-21)

### III. The Scope of the Atonement

- A. God desires everyone to come to repentance and the knowledge of the truth (I Tim 2:3-6)
- B. The Holy Spirit is sent to convict the world of sin and righteousness and judgment (John 16:8-11); Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved (Rom 10:11-15); For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life (John 6:34)
- C. Hell was not made for human beings but for the devil and his fallen angels. God takes no pleasure in the punishment of the wicked (Ezek 18:20)
- D. The atonement is in no way limited, it is available to anyone in the world who hears the good news message and turns in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness and eternal life. (John 3:16-18)

### IV. The Heart Wrenching Necessity of the Atonement & The Power of God's Love

*Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. It is a fact we should ponder and upon which we should meditate. MY sin put Jesus on the cross. It was the price of MY forgiveness and salvation. To the Jews He is a stumbling block and to the Gentiles He is foolishness, but to those who are called . . . Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God (I Cor 1:23). It was love, love for ME that motivated the Father to send His Son, and love for ME that compelled Jesus to go to the cross.*