

The Atonement: what did **Jesus'** death achieve?

The holiness of God and the horror of sin

I. "**The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.**" What happened at the Cross?

i) *Jesus died as our representative* - Mt 1:23; Jn 1:14; Gal 4:4; Heb 2:14-18, 4:15

ii) *Jesus died as our substitute* - Mk 10:45; Lk 22:37; Rom 5:8, 8:3; 2 Cor 5:21; Gal 1:4; 1 Pt 2:24

⁴ Surely he has borne *our* griefs and carried *our* sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for *our* transgressions; he was crushed for *our* iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought *us* peace, and with his wounds we are healed. ⁶ All
we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—*every one*—to *his* own way; and the LORD has
laid on him the iniquity of us all.

- Isaiah 53:4-6

iii) *Jesus died as our mediator* - 1 Tim 2:5; Heb 7:27, 9:11-28

Application: worship - Revelation 5:6-14

II. "It is finished!" What happened through the Cross?

i) *Expiation* - Lev 17:11; 1 Sa 3:14; Rom 3:25; Heb 2:17

ii) *Propitiation* - Rom 3:25; 1 Jn 2:1-2, 4:10 (cf Gal 3:13; 1 Thess 1:10;

iii) *Justification* - Rom 3:24-26, 8:33-34; Gal 2:15-16, 20-21; 1Pt 3:18

iv) *Redemption* - Rom 3:24; Eph 1:7 Heb 9:12

v) *Reconciliation* - Rom 5:8-11; 2 Cor 5:18-21; Eph 2:14-16

vi) *Victory* - Lk 11:21; Jn 12:31; Col 1:13, 2:15; Heb 2:14; 1 Jn 3:8; Rev 12:7-9, 20:1-3

vii) *Revelation* - John 3:14, 12:23, 17:1; Rom 3:25-26, 5:8; 1 John 4:10

III. "I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." What does life at the foot of the Cross look like?

- *Identity* - **Acts 20:28; Rom 6:3-4; Gal 2:20, 4:4-7; Rev 7:14**

- *Service* - **Gal 6:10; Phil 2:5-11**

- *Mission* - **1 Cor 1:20-25, 2:1-5; Gal 3:1; Col 1:28**

- *Future hope* - **Rom 5:6-10**

Further Reading

- *John Stott, The Cross of Christ*

- *Donald Macleod, Christ Crucified*

- *J.I. Packer, "The Logic of Penal Substitution," essay*

- *Hugh Martin, The Atonement*

- *John Murray, Redemption Accomplished and Applied*

- *Mike Ovey, Andrew Sach, Steve Jefferies, Pierced for our Transgressions*