

The Nature of Christ's Atonement

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial

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- Sacrificial

He was oppressed and
He was afflicted, Yet He
did not open His mouth;
Like a lamb that is led to
slaughter, And like a
sheep that is silent
before its shearers, So
He did not open His
mouth (Isaiah 53:7).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial

...For Christ our
Passover also has
been sacrificed
(1 Corinthians 5:7b).

Nature of the Atonement

■ Sacrificial

...Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma (Ephesians 5:2b).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial

- A once and for all sacrifice

By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:10).

Nature of the Atonement

■ Sacrificial

–A once and for all sacrifice

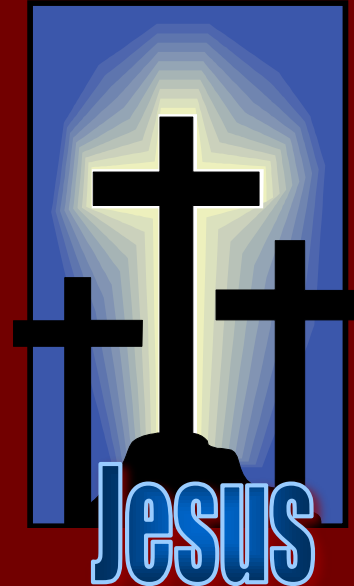
And every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; ¹² but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God (Hebrews 10:11-12).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious

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- Sacrificial
- Vicarious (a legal representative)



Nature of the Atonement

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So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men (Romans 5:18).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious (a legal representative)

For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous (Romans 5:19).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary

All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him (Isaiah 53:6).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary

And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions...
(Colossians 2:13).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary

...having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross (Colossians 2:14).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary
- Penal

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us-- for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" (Galatians 3:13).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary
- Penal
- Propitiatory
(satisfying)

Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make **propitiation** for the sins of the people (Hebrews 2:17).

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 - The price of propitiation was death

...Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith (Romans 3:24-25).

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- Propitiatory

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

- Propitiation presupposes anger
- The price of propitiation was death
- The initiation of propitiation was love

Nature of the Atonement

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- Propitiatory
- Expiatory

Propitiation

To appease or satisfy
wrath

Directed toward the
anger of God

The sacrifice in the
temple appeased the
just demands of a
righteous God...

Expiation

To erase or remove
guilt

Directed toward the
guilt of man

...by covering the
guilt of the sins
committed

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- Expiatory

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:12).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary
- Penal
- Propitiatory
- Expiatory
- Redemptive

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial – Presupposes inadequacy of animal sacrifices
- Vicarious – Presupposes man's sin
- Substitutionary – Presupposes man's inability to save himself
- Penal – Presupposes a penalty
- Propitiatory – Presupposes anger
- Expiatory – Presupposes guilt
- Redemptive – Presupposes slavery

Slavery in the Ancient World

The Kinsman Redeemer

- He must be a Kinsman
- He must be free Himself
- He must be able to pay the ransom Price
- He must be willing to pay the price

The Kinsman Redeemer

■ Jesus was our Kinsman

Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵ and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. (Hebrews 2:14-15).

Kinsman Redeemer

- Jesus was our Kinsman
- Jesus was Free Himself

For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

Kinsman Redeemer

- Jesus was our Kinsman
- Jesus was free Himself
- Jesus was able to pay the ransom price
- Jesus was willing to pay the price

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:5-8).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary
- Penal
- Propitiatory
- Expiatory
- Redemptive
- Triumphant

...The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8b).

Nature of the Atonement

- Sacrificial
- Vicarious
- Substitutionary
- Penal
- Propitiatory
- Expiatory
- Redemptive
- Triumphant

Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out (John 12:31).

Nature of the Atonement

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- Expiatory
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- Triumphant

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in His triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.
(2 Corinthians 2:14).

Nature of the Atonement

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- Triumphant

When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him (Colossians 2:15).

Qualities of the Atonement

- The Atoning work of Christ was Historically Objective

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3).

Qualities of the Atonement

- The Atoning work of Christ was Historically Objective
- The Atoning work of Christ was Final

When Jesus therefore had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit. (John 19:30).

Qualities of the Atonement

- The Atoning work of Christ was Historically Objective
- The Atoning work of Christ was Final
- The Atoning work of Christ was Unique

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me” (John 14:6).

Qualities of the Atonement

- The Atoning work of Christ was Historically Objective
- The Atoning work of Christ was Final
- The Atoning work of Christ was Unique

...there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12).

How is man saved?

Natural View

Man saves himself by self effort

Supernatural View

God accomplishes the work of salvation through the death of His Son, Jesus, upon the cross

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How does God save Man?

Sacerdotal View

Man saved through partaking in sacraments

Evangelical View

Man saved through preaching of the gospel

How does God save Man?

Sacerdotal View

Man saved through partaking in sacraments

The church dispenses salvation

Evangelical View

Man saved through preaching of the gospel

Holy Spirit brings salvation to those who believe

For Whom Did Christ Die?

For all men equally

If this is true, then it follows that...

- All men are saved
- Or that the atonement only made it possible for some men to save themselves

For the elect

If this is true, then it follows that...

- Only some are saved
- The atonement accomplished that for which it was designed

For Whom Did Christ Die?

For all men equally

For the elect

Cross + Man's Decision = Salvation

Cross + God's inward call (which results in repentance and faith) = Salvation

Specific Emphasis of Atonement

- The emphasis of Scripture
 - He died for His people (Matthew 1:21).
 - He died for His friends (John 15:13).
 - He died for His sheep (John 10:11).
 - He died for His body—the Church (Ephesians 5:23-26).
 - He died for the elect (Romans 8:32-34).
 - He died for us (Titus 2:14).

Specific Emphasis of Atonement

- The emphasis of Scripture

I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep (John 10:11).

Specific Emphasis of Atonement

■ The emphasis of Scripture

Arminian	Reformed
“You are not my sheep because you have not believed.”	“You do not believe, because you are not of my sheep” (John 10:26)

Specific Emphasis of Atonement

- The emphasis of Scripture
- Only a limited number hear gospel

Jesus answered and said, “I praise Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and intelligent and didst reveal them to babes” (Matthew 11:26).

Specific Emphasis of Atonement

- The emphasis of Scripture
- Only a limited number hear gospel

“Yes, Father, for thus it was well-pleasing in Thy sight” (Matthew 11:27).

Specific Emphasis of Atonement

- The emphasis of Scripture
- Only a limited number hear gospel
- The Intercessory work of Christ was restricted to the elect

“I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours” (John 17:9).

For consider **your calling**, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; ²⁷ but **God has chosen** the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and **God has chosen** the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, ²⁸ and the base things of the world and the despised, **God has chosen**, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are, ²⁹ that no man should boast before God. ³⁰ But **by His doing** you are in Christ Jesus... (1 Corinthians 1:26-30).

**All of the sins of
all men**

**Some of the sins
of all men**

**The Atonement
Removed...**

**None of the sins
of all men**

**All of the sins of
some men**

For it is for this we labor and strive,
because we have fixed our hope on
the living God, who is the Savior of
all men, especially of believers
(1 Timothy 4:10).

Christ is the
Savior of all
men



He especially
saves believers

Universal Aspect of Atonement

- It is sufficient for all
- It is offered to all

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Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent (Acts 17:30).

Universal Aspect of Atonement

- It is sufficient for all
- It is offered to all

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
And let the one who hears say, "Come." And
let the one who is thirsty come; let the one
who wishes take the water of life without
cost (Revelation 22:17).

Efficiency of the Atonement

- Though Christ's death was sufficient to save everyone everywhere, it was only efficient enough to save the elect.

“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him” (John 6:44)... “And all those who were appointed for salvation believed” (Acts 13:48).

