

11/3/21
The Doctrine of Christ
The Past Atoning Work of Christ

BEFORE TIME BEGAN

"...and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain."
Rev 13:8 ESV

"And they shall worship him, all who dwell upon the earth, [everyone] whose name does not stand written in the scroll of the life [the scroll] belonging to the Lamb who has been slain [in the mind and purpose of God] since the time when the foundations of the universe were laid, and who is looked upon [by God] as the slain Lamb at present."
Rev 13:8 Wuest

Even though John the Baptist said in John 1:29, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!", Jesus' mission became clear only after He had been glorified (John 12:16). Yet we see the scriptures reveal that "the Lamb was slain from the creation of the world."

Peter states this truth in more detail as he writes about Christ's sacrifice.

"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake."
1 Peter 1:18-20 NIV

Paul speaks to the same point:

"No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" -- 10 but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God."
1 Corinthians 2:7-10

The concept of God working on our behalf in a dimension not governed by time is beyond our comprehension. Yet trying to understand / accepting it by faith opens the door to our greater confidence in God.

ILLUSTRATIONS FORESHADOWING THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

GARDEN OF EDEN

"The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them." Gen 3:21

ABRAHAM'S SACRIFICE OF ISAAC

"Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. 13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide." Gen 22:8 & 13-14

THE PASSOVER

"Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. 13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt." Ex 12:3 & 13

Jesus confirmed this OT foreshadowing of the Atonement as He instituted the Last Supper (see Mark 14:12-25).

DAY OF ATONEMENT

"Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering for himself and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. 7 Then he shall take the two goats and set them before the Lord at the entrance of the tent of meeting. 8 And Aaron shall cast lots over the two goats, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for Azazel. 9 And Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for the Lord and use it as a sin offering, 10 but the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the Lord to make atonement over it, that it may be sent away into the wilderness to Azazel.

Lev 16:6-10 ESV

BOAZ'S ROLE AS KINSMAN-REDEEMER

Ruth 4:8-14 NIV

14 The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer."

Where else might we find that word?

Job 19:25-27 NIV

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. 26 And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; 27 I myself will see him with my own eyes — I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Boaz pictures the Word becoming flesh and "purchasing" the Church

HOSEA'S PURCHASE OF GOMER

"The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes." 2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley."

Hos 3:1-2 NIV

PSALM 22 - THE "CRUCIFIXION" PSALM

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Ps 22:1 NIV

Note

- v. 1 — Matt 27:46; Mark 15:34 — Christ spoke these words
- v. 2 — Alternate light and darkness; Matt 27:45
- vv. 6-8 — The reproach of the people; Matt 27:39-44
- vv. 11-12 — No help was offered Him; Matt 26:56
- v. 16 — His hands and feet pierced; Matt 27:35
- v. 17 — People staring at Him; Luke 23:35
- v. 18 — Gambling for His garments; John 19:23-24

ISAIAH 53 - SUFFERING SERVANT

"Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

Isa 53:4-6 NIV

Notice God's will & purpose in the suffering of the servant.. Brevard Childs says:

"What occurred was not some unfortunate tragedy of human history but actually formed the center of the divine plan for the redemption of his people and indeed the world."

Homework:

Choose one of the above illustrations to dig deeper into the meaning of Christ's Atonement for you.

<https://www.oneforisrael.org/bible-based-teaching-from-israel/is-blood-necessary-for-atonement-of-sins/>

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/series/atonement-of-jesus>

Prepare for next week:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/intercessory-work-christ/>