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What is the Atonement?

Lesson 7: Speaking of God

http://www.clearcreekchapel.org/Ministries/ABE/Education_ABE.htm#Current_Series_Lessons

What is the Atonement?

Jesus saved his people from their sins—both through the life he lived and through the death he died.

The work Jesus did in living and dying to earn our salvation is sometimes referred to as the atonement.

The Cause of the Atonement

Christ came to earn our salvation because of God's faithful love and justice (John 3:16; Romans 3:25).

A "propitiation" is a sacrifice that bears God's wrath so that God looks favorably toward us.

In Christ's life and death we find full expression of sin being punished and Christ's bearing of that punishment.

The Necessity of the Atonement

God's justice made it necessary for Christ to live the life he lived and die the death he died (Luke 24:26).

There was no other way for God to save us than for Christ to suffer and die in our place for our sins (Hebrews 9:12, 26).

The Nature of the Atonement

If Christ had only offered himself as a sacrifice for forgiveness of sins, we would only have access to a partial salvation.



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Christ had to live a life of perfect obedience to God so that the positive merits of that obedience could be counted for us (Romans 5:19, 1 Corinthians 1:30, Philippians 3:9).

Christ, through the sinless life he lived, became “our righteousness” (1 Cor. 1:30).

The physical pain of Christ’s death was nothing compared to the spiritual pain because Jesus never sinned.

Jesus voluntarily took upon himself all the sins of those who had been and would be saved (Hebrews 53:12, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 3:13, 1 Peter 2:24).

As Jesus bore the guilt of our sins, God unleashed all wrath and punishment for all sins upon his own Son (Hebrews 9:26).

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The Result of the Atonement

Christ paid the penalty we deserved to pay for our sin and bore the wrath we deserved to bear.

Because of Christ’s work on our behalf, God can “deliver us from the domain of darkness” and transfer “us to the kingdom of his beloved Son” (Col. 1:13).