

Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

What is propitiation?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

Is God angry towards sinners?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

Why do we need a priest?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

Song #252 ~ See, What a Morning

Prayer

Scripture Reading: John 19:1-42

Song #257 ~ Look, Ye Saints! The Sight is Glorious!

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-31

Prayer

Sermon ~ Hebrews 2:1-17

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #225 ~ The Blood of Jesus Speaks for Me

Psalm 9:11 Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion; declare His deeds among the peoples.

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Text: Hebrews 2:17

Theme: Christ, our faithful High Priest, made propitiation for our sins.

Introduction: Propitiation comes up 4 times in our NT (Rom. 3:25; Heb. 2:17; 1 John 2:2; 1 John 4:10). Yet, many believers are unaware of what it means. Propitiation is the act of satisfying the anger of an offended party. This morning we will take a look at 2 OT examples describing propitiation.

- I. Christ, our faithful High Priest, made propitiation for our sins.
 - A. God is angry *because* of our sins (Num. 16:41; 25:6).
 1. The sons of Korah (and the Israelites) wrongfully condemned Moses and Aaron for exalting themselves above everyone else (Num. 16:1-3). And even after God miraculously demonstrated that Moses and Aaron were appointed by Him, the people still grumbled (41).
 2. The Israelites were committing immorality with the daughters of Moab (Num. 25:1) which caused them to become worshippers of Baal (3). While God had begun executing judgment, one of the men brought a Midianite woman into his tent in broad daylight (6).

Explanation: God's anger is justified. These people were blatantly sinning against the Lord. They did not even attempt to hide their sin.

Application: On the last day, no one can stand before God. Each person has blatantly sinned against the Lord. There is none righteous—no not one (Rom. 3:10).

- B. God is righteous when He judges many on account of some.
 1. God ordered Moses and Aaron to separate from the people, so that He could wipe out the whole nation (Num. 16:21-22; 45).

2. Again, God intended to execute all the leaders of Israel for the sin of some (Num. 25:4).

Explanation: Although it seems unfair to us that God would judge all on account of the sins of some, this is the only way that God could justify anyone. Sin entered into the world through one man's disobedience (Rom. 5:12), so that through One Man's righteousness many would be justified (Rom. 5:18).

- C. God uses a priest to atone for the sins of the people.
 1. Aaron, the High Priest, made atonement for the people by taking his censer and putting fire from the altar and placing incense on it (Num. 16:46). As the plague was visibly sweeping through the nation, Aaron stood between the living and the dead with his sacrifice (48).
 2. Phinehas, a priest, took a spear and killed the Israelite and the Midianite woman (Num. 25:8). This act by Phinehas made atonement for the people (13).

Explanation: Both Phinehas and Aaron serve as types of the greater High Priest—Jesus Christ—who made atonement for the sins of the people. Christ, though, was a greater High Priest because He destroyed the one who has the power of death, that is the devil (Heb. 2:14).

- D. God's anger is fully satisfied when atonement has been made.
 1. When Aaron made atonement for the people, the plague was stopped—God's anger was satisfied (Num. 16:47-48)
 2. Again, when Phinehas killed the Israelite man and Midianite woman, God's anger was satisfied (Num. 25:11) and the plague was stopped (Num. 25:8).

Explanation: Christ's death on the cross satisfied the righteous anger of God the Father on our behalf.

Conclusion: A careful look at God's righteous anger helps us to marvel at Christ's atoning sacrifice that satisfied that righteous anger.