

JESUS AS A PROPITIATION

Romans 3:25,26

Introduction:

- Reading levels of some common translations of the Bible
 1. Revised Standard and King James - _____ grade
 2. New American Standard - _____ grade
 3. New International - _____ grade
 4. New Living Translation - _____ grade
 5. New Century - _____ grade
- Compare translations of Rom 3:25a of how Jesus was displayed by God on the cross
 1. *as a propitiation* (KJV, NKJV, NAS)
 - a. English dictionaries defines “propitiation” as an act that appeases, that satisfies a demand.
 - b. God demanded something because of our s_____
 2. *as a sacrifice of atonement* (NIV)
 - a. What two words do you see in atonement? _____
 - b. The idea is that people would be “at one” with God through Jesus’ sacrifice.
 3. *as a sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God* (NLT)
- The apostle Paul used ONE word in the Greek text, translated by the above words in bold type.
 1. This word is used elsewhere in the New Testament (once) and the Greek translation of the Old Testament (27 times)
 - a. Every time it refers to the m_____ seat in the temple, which is the altar where the annual sacrifice was made (e.g. Heb 9:5; Ex 25:17)
 - b. Therefore, the idea of s_____ is in the word.
 2. This word is common in secular Greek literature and is illustrated by the common pagan belief that when a god was angry, something had to be done to satisfy that anger to avoid disaster.
 - a. Jonah 1:4-15 – the sailors act of throwing Jonah _____ stopped the storm
 - b. Jonah 1:16 – the sailors s_____ to the LORD to avoid God’s possible displeasure.
 3. Applying the above study to Rom 3:25
 - a. It refers to a s_____ made that would satisfy God’s anger upon sin.
 - b. J_____ was that sacrifice.
 - c. Therefore, “propitiation” is the best single word that matches the Greek text
 - d. In simple terms, I would translate this as *a sacrifice that satisfied God’s anger*
- Jesus being displayed as a propitiation demonstrates two character traits of God that we must appreciate.

Demonstrates that God is G_____ (v. 25a)

- God’s problem – How can He punish the sinner’s sin, without punishing the sinner?
 1. Through Jesus as a propitiation (in other words, Jesus was punished for the sins of humanity). This was done p_____.

- a. Matt 27:46 - Jesus experienced the F_____ abandoning Him
 - 1) Unlike David in Ps 22:1, this was not a deceptive feeling but an actual experience of Jesus becoming s_____ for us (2 Cor 5:21; contrast that with Jn 8:28; 10:30; 17:11)
 - 2) When Adam and Eve sinned they experienced the first penalty of sin – s_____ from their God
 - 3) Likewise Jesus had to suffer this penalty of spiritual death.
 - b. Matt 27:50 – Jesus experience the second penalty of sin, physical d_____
 - c. Remember, Jesus is G_____ in the flesh (Jn 1:1; 8:58) and so is not a separate being from the Father, although He is not the Father. – God did not take out His anger on another being, but upon Himself (that is grace!)
 - d. So if Jesus is the sin payment for sinners, then all sinners should be saved from their sins, right? – wrong!
2. Through f_____ in Jesus' b_____ sacrifice.
 - a. As long as a person is in the condition of not trusting Jesus, they are c_____ (Jn 3:18b)
 - b. The sin payment is not applied until the moment of f_____ (Jn 3:18a) – that is grace!

Demonstrates that God is R_____ (v. 25b, 26)

●How did God deal with sins before the cross? – He

- p_____ over them.
1. The Old Testament sacrifices did not satisfy God's anger, but only d_____ it (Heb 10:4)
 - a. An animal sacrifice was made once per y_____ for all of Israel on the Day of Atonement (Lev 23:27)
 - b. A sacrifice was made twice per d_____ by the priests in the temple (Ex 29:38-42)
 - c. A sacrifice was to be made by a person whenever they s_____ (Lev 4 & 5)
 2. Passing over sin shows that God is gracious and even p_____, but it does not show that He is righteous.

●Righteousness requires that justice be served.

1. Illustration of a speeding ticket
 - a. I am ticketed for going 100 mph over the speed limit
 - b. The penalty is a million dollars
 - c. I cannot pay the ticket
 - d. If they overlook it, that is gracious but not justice
 - e. But if someone pays the ticket, then the righteous demands have been met.
2. The penalty of sin
 - a. Cannot be p_____ for by us
 - b. Has been paid by Jesus for b_____
 - 1) He took the p_____ for us (justice is served and so declaring God as righteous)
 - 2) God j_____ (i.e. declares righteous) all who have faith in Jesus – all sins are completely paid for (past, present, and future)