

W @ K L J P r a J @ r J O u r n a l

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“A Visible Picture of Atonement”

Romans 5:8-11

JUNE 24 – JUNE 30, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY –This week as we prepare to come to the Lord’s Table we return to our mini-series concerning The Lord’s Supper. We are going to focus on the doctrine of “The Atonement” what Charles Spurgeon referred to as “*the brain and spinal cord of Christianity*”. The great doctrine of Atonement is something we should know, understand, hear, cherish and proclaim often. It is something so precious we could never exhaust it of its glories. Read our text for the week: **Romans 5:8-11**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to teach you from His Word this week.

MONDAY –There is no possible way we could exhaust the immense truths of The Atonement in one week or one sermon but we do want to see some general basics of this great doctrine. The word “atonement” in the Greek language is the word **katallage** which means “exchange, or adjustment of a difference, reconciliation, restoration to favor”. It is used a total of four times in Scripture but the principle it teaches is found throughout many passages and texts. To summarize it would be to say that “atonement” is a reconciliation of alienated parties or the restoration of a broken relationship. When “atonement” is made there is a blotting out of offenses and satisfaction for wrongs done is achieved. This is the central truth of what Jesus accomplished on the cross for those who would believe in Him by faith. We will study it in more detail as the week progresses. Read how Paul the Apostle used this word in **2 Corinthians 5:18-19**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Meditate on this awesome truth that reconciliation with God Almighty is possible through Jesus Christ. Thank Him today.

TUESDAY –In order to fully understand, marvel, and enjoy this blessed doctrine we need to realize that every man sins and therefore needs to make atonement with a Holy God. The problem lies in the fact that we as

Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)	Lord's Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

M a t t h @ W 6: 9-13

fallen, sinful men have no power in and of ourselves to make reconciliation. The truth is that we have offended our creator who by His very nature hates sin (**Jeremiah 44:4, Habakkuk 1:13**). That same Holy God must also punish sin (**Psalms 5:4-6, Romans 1:18, 2:5-9**). Mankind, apart from God's intervention would be left to die eternally and suffer just punishment for the violation of His Holy Law. Man cannot be accepted, and does not have fellowship with God unless "atonement" is made. We need help from an external source; we need what Martin Luther called "an alien righteousness" which we ourselves do not possess. Luther meant we need righteousness that is "outside" of us. Meditate today on your condition apart from God's grace.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you to see how hopeless and sinful you are apart from Him and an "alien righteousness" that only He can give.

WEDNESDAY –To complicate matters for us as sinful humans, we understand by Scripture that there is sinfulness in the "best" of our intentions and actions. We cannot get away from the fact we are inherently sinful in heart (**Jeremiah 17:9**). Furthermore, anything we do in the hope of making amends with God can only increase our guilt and worsen the situation. As R.C. Sproul has stated in his study notes, "There is no way to establish one's own righteousness before God; it simply cannot be done". Read **Proverbs 15:8, Job 15:14-16, Isaiah 64:6, Romans 10:2-3**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Dear God, help me to truly understand that as You say in Scripture, "In my flesh, dwelleth no good thing" (Romans 7:18). Thanks, that You offer forgiveness through Jesus Christ and His work on the cross.

THURSDAY –We begin to see the greatest news possible now to those who are so helplessly and hopelessly lost in their sin. Scripture teaches us that God Himself in grace and mercy provides the atonement necessary for sin. This is the profound story of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. In Old Testament times God set up the sacrificial system which required the shedding of blood of animals (**Leviticus 17:11**). These blood sacrifices were provided as "types" of the greater and better sacrifice that was to come in the person of Jesus Christ. When by faith the people offered the sacrifices in obedience to God they found forgiveness. It was not the blood of animal's that forgives but rather the blood of the "antitype" Jesus Christ the "lamb of God" whose death on the cross atoned for the sins committed of all who by faith come to God for cleansing. Those, who by the eternal covenant were set apart by God to be

His people find forgiveness of their sin by faith alone in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus who dies as the substitute on their behalf. All sins; past, present and future have been atoned for on behalf of those who by obedient faith have repented and trusted Jesus. Read **Romans 3:25-26, 4:3-8, Hebrews 9:11-15**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Thank You God for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ which makes atonement possible and sure for us who would believe.

FRIDAY –The New Testament makes it clear that the blood of Jesus Christ was shed as a sacrifice (**Romans 5:9, Ephesians 1:7**). Christ redeemed (bought back) His people by a ransom. That is to say His death was the ransom price that freed us from sin with its guilt and enslavement (**Galatians 4:4-5, Colossians 1:14**). God reconciled us who believe to Himself by satisfying His hostility and wrath for our sin in Christ's death (**Romans 5:10, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19**). The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross propitiated (satisfied) God's wrath toward us who believe in that God expiated (atoned for, made amends) our sins and removed them from His sight forever (**Hebrews 2:17, 1 John 2:2, 4:10**).

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you to understand, cherish, and by faith trust in this blessed work of atonement made possible through Jesus.

SATURDAY –Finally, we find the cross of Jesus provides this atonement because in His suffering Jesus assumed our position as our substitute as He endured the judgment of God for our sin. He became a "curse for us" (**Galatians 3:13**). The damning record of our sins was nailed by God to His cross (**Colossians 2:14**). This is the wonderful work of God in making atonement and restoring us to favor in Christ and through His death for us. We have covered a lot this week and Lord willing will go over these marvelous truths more tomorrow. The question for you is this: Have you turned in obedient, repentant faith to Jesus for the forgiveness of your sin?

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: God, help me to more deeply understand and to more passionately embrace and proclaim this incredible truth. May I forever cling to the cross of Jesus as my only means of salvation.