

**Xenos Christian Fellowship  
Christian Principles Unit 1  
Foundations of Spiritual Growth**

**Week 4: Substitutionary Atonement**

**Introduction: "Don't all religions teach the same basic truths?"**

- **WHAT GOD IS LIKE?**
- **THE ROOT HUMAN PROBLEM**

**True Moral Guilt:** our objective guilt before God because of our violations against his character

- **GODS' SOLUTION**

**Substitutionary Atonement:** God in his love provides a blameless substitute to bear his righteous judgment of our sins.

**Progressive Revelation of Substitutionary Atonement**

**PRE-CROSS:**

Gen. 3:21 And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

"Immediately after their rebellion, (Adam and Eve) were now afraid and tried to cover themselves. But in verse 21, God took this covering away and gave them a coat of skins . . . Probably, these were the first animals to die. This indicates, I believe, that man could not stand before God in his own covering. Rather, he needed a covering from God . . . that required sacrifice and death--a covering provided not by man but by God. One would want to be careful not to press this into dogma . . . but (I believe) that this was the beginning of the Old Testament sacrificial system . . ."<sup>1</sup>

**Summary:**

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<sup>1</sup> Francis Schaeffer, *Genesis In Space and Time* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1972), p. 105,106.

Gen. 4:3-5 So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground. (4) And Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering; (5) but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.

**Summary:**

**Gen. 8:20,21** Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. (21) And the LORD smelled the soothing aroma; and the LORD said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.

**Summary:**

**Contrast between Pagan and Judeo-Christian sacrifice**

<b>Pagan</b>	<b>Judeo-Christian</b>
The gods' wrath is arbitrary and capricious.	God's wrath is clear, rational and dependable.
The worshipper innovates ways to appease the gods.	God ordains and prescribes the way to appease him.
Sacrifice is usually an animal, vegetable, or mineral.	Sacrifice is ultimately God himself in human form.
Sacrifice is often viewed as meeting a physical need (hunger, sensuality).	Sacrifice satisfies God's righteous anger for our sins.

**Gen. 22:1-14 - Abraham's offering of Isaac**

**Summary:**

**Ex. 12:1-14 - The Passover meal**

**Summary:**

**Lev. 4 - Sin-offerings**

**Summary:**

**Lev. 16\*\* - Day of Atonement rituals**

**Summary:**

## Isa. 52:13-53:12\*\* - The Anonymous Servant

**NOTE: 52:14,15 says that his death will also be the basis of forgiveness for Gentiles** (" . . . thus he will sprinkle many nations . . . ").

53:5 "pierced through for our transgressions . . . crushed for our iniquities . . . by his scourging we are healed . . . "

53:6 " . . . the Lord caused the iniquity of us all to fall on him . . . "

53:8 " . . . he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due . . . "

53:10 " . . . if he would render himself as a guilt offering, He will see his offspring, he will prolong his days . . . "

53:11 " . . . as he will bear their iniquities . . . "

53:12 " . . . he himself bore the sin of many . . . "

### Summary:

**John 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

### Summary:

**Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

**Luke 22:37** "For I tell you, that this which is written must be fulfilled in Me, `AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS'; for that which refers to Me has its fulfillment."

### Summary:

**Matthew 26:26-30** And while they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." 27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. 29 "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." 30 And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

**Luke 22:19,20** And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the **new covenant** in My blood.

(Jer. 31:31-34) "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, (32) not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. (33) "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "**I will put My law within them**, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (34) "And they shall not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for **they shall all know Me**, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and **their sin I will remember no more.**"

### Summary:

**AT THE CROSS:** Jesus died as predicted with regard to

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**Also, the temple veil was torn (Mt 27:51), symbolizing the end of the old covenant.**

**POST-CROSS:**

**1 Cor. 5:7** Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

**2 Cor. 5:21** (God) made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**1 Pet. 1:19,20** . . . but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you

**1 Pet. 3:18** For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God . . .

**Heb. 9** - The Old Covenant sacrificial system was a *temporary* and *incomplete* picture of Jesus' sacrifice.

LEVITICAL SYSTEM (Old Covenant)	JESUS' DEATH (New Covenant)
WHERE	vs 11,24
WHAT	vs 12,26
WHEN	vs 12,25,26,28
WHY	vs 12-14

**(Rom. 3:21-28) (Rom. 3:23,24\*)** But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, (22) even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; (23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (24) being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; (25) whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; (26) for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (27) Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. (28) For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

## Concluding Observations

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## Memory Verses

**Lev. 16\*\*** - The Day of Atonement is a clear example of substitutionary atonement for the nation of Israel.

**Isa. 53\*\*** - The Old Testament sacrificial system must be fulfilled by a Person--the Servant of the Lord.

**Rom. 3:23,24\*** - All humans fall justly under God's condemnation because of their sins, but all humans are acceptable to God if they receive Jesus' atoning death for their sins.

## Assignment

Read the two sets of passages below. How do these two sets appear to differ on the security of salvation? Since the Bible does not contradict itself, how would you reconcile these two sets of passages?

**Set 1:** 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Rom. 8:1,31-39; Jn. 10:27-30; Eph. 4:30; Phil. 1:6

**Set 2:** Heb. 6:4-6; Heb. 10:26,27; Gal. 5:4; Col. 1:21-23a; 2 Tim. 2:12