

Propitiation

Reconciliation

**FOUR WORDS TO SAVE
OUR SOULS**

Justification

Sanctification

No “words” can save our souls

- **These words stand for ideas revealed in God’s word that describe our salvation**
- **They are also “steps” in a process by which God brings us to Himself and makes us fit company for Him**
- **Tonight: Propitiation**

Passages that help us understand Propitiation

- “And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” 1 John 2:2
- “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.” 1 John 4:10

- **“being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,” Romans 3:24, 25**
- **“and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.” Hebrews 9:5**

Propitiation defined:

- **In Latin Christ's work on Calvary is described:**

“That which renders one propitious or favorably disposed toward another”

- **From our human point of view—a gift given to make friends**

Old Testament Examples

- **1 Samuel 23 – David's wrath averted by Abigail**
- **Genesis 33 – Jacob appeased Esau**
- **2 Kings 18 – Hezekiah stripped the temple of gold to give to Sennacherib**
- **In human affairs the offender offers the gift**

We have a problem—we have nothing precious enough to offer God!

- **“Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, the fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul?” Micah 6:7**
- **So, then, propitiation is desperately needed – God is a God of love, but His holiness is opposite to the sin we commit**
- **“There must be an eternal recoil against the unholy on the part of an all-holy God”**

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,” Romans 1:18

- **“For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23**
- **We must stand amazed when we learn the source of propitiation for our sins!**
- **The gift that will satisfy is provided to us by God Himself—His Son Jesus!**

As Isaac walked with his father to the top of Mount Moriah, he turned to his father and said: "... 'My father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' Then he said, 'Look, the fire and the wood, but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?' And Abraham said, 'My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.' So the two of them went together." Genesis 22:7, 8

- Every Old Testament sacrifice was a promissory note on the altar
"For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it *is* the blood *that* makes atonement for the soul." Leviticus 17:11**

This amazing truth is spelled out for us:

- **“being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,” Romans 3:24, 25**
- **“In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.” 1 John 4:9, 10**

The death of Christ, the offering of His blood for us, satisfied the demands of Divine justice

- “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.” Hebrews 2:9
- Isaiah predicted this sacrifice: “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.” Isaiah 53:10

The gift has been made

- God has accepted the gift
- We take this gift as our own by:
 - Faith in our Savior which moves us to:
 - “Repentance unto life”
 - “Confession unto salvation”
 - “Baptism into Christ”