

March 17, 2019

## God's Purpose in the Crucifixion

### *Matthew 27:26*

- In the crucifixion of His Beloved Son, God dealt with the four fold consequences of sin which are described in the following terms: Propitiation, Expiation, Reconciliation, and Redemption.

### Propitiation

- Propitiation: the averting of God's wrath through the sacrificial death of Christ. Humanity's greatest problem is that all are under the wrath of God because of sin.

*Rom 1:18* For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men...

*Luke 12:5* But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell

- The wrath of God is the flaming sword that prevents us from entering the Kingdom of God and that fire must be put out if we are to enter. And this is what happens at the cross: The averting of God's wrath.

*Rom 5:9* ...[being] justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by [Christ] from the wrath of God...

- The propitiatory sacrifice of Christ as God's atoning Lamb [John 1:29] is pictured in Lev. 16:15-19.

v. 15 ...[the high priest] shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil...

- As a result of Jesus' vicarious propitiating death, the next three consequences of sin are dealt resolved.

## Expiation

- Expiation has to do with the removal of the guilt of our sin. Because God's wrath is propitiated at the cross, our sin is expiated, removed from His presence as He declares us not guilty of sin.

*Heb 10:17...I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more...*

*Eph 1:7 In [the death of Christ] we have...the forgiveness of our trespasses...*

- Expiation of sin as the result of the propitiatory sacrifice is pictured in **Lev. 16: 22**.

## Reconciliation

- Reconciliation is the restoration of fellowship with God.
- Now that the wrath has been averted and the guilt of our sin removed, we are reconciled to God.

**Eph 2:13** ...now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ...

- Contrary to popular belief, all people are *...by nature children of wrath...* and therefore, enemies of God.

**Rom 5:10**...while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son...

- In reconciling us to Himself, God has lifted us up from our bondage into His freedom.

## Redemption

- Redemption has to do with the price paid for our freedom.

*1 Peter 1:18-19 ...you were ransomed... not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ...*

- We were ransomed from our bondage to sin and Satan.

*Rom 8:20-21...For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.*

- And because God 'locked up' the creation, only He could free it. This means that only the blood of Christ was the ransom price that God required to unlock us from our bondage.

*Col 1:13 ...[God] has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son...*

- In embracing the cross, Christ will make us the freed sons of God who will walk with Him in the fellowship of His Spirit, as proven **[John 15:8]** in our obedience and by loving the brethren.