

Northbridge Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #9: God the Son (His Substitutionary Death)

Note: Most information based on pages 60-64 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

Opening Comments about God the Son, His Substitutionary Death:

1. In Scripture, the death of Christ is revealed to be a “sacrifice” for the sins of the “whole world”.

John 1:29 “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God, WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD!’”

2. Jesus, in His death, was actually the “substitute” dying in the place of all men.
 - a. Although “substitute” is not specifically a biblical word, the idea that Christ is the sinner’s substitute is constantly affirmed in Scripture.
 - b. By His “substitutionary” death, the righteous judgments of God against a sinner were borne by Jesus Christ.
3. The result of this “substitution” is itself as simple and definite as the transaction.
 - a. The Savior has already borne the divine judgments against the sinner to the full satisfaction of God.
 - b. In receiving the salvation which God offers, men are asked to BELIEVE this good news (i.e. “the gospel”), recognizing that Christ died for their sins and thereby claiming Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

What The Son of God’s Death Accomplishes

In attempting to consider the full value of the death of Christ, a number of important facts are revealed in Scripture:

1. The death of Christ assures us of the love of God toward the sinner:

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Romans 5:8 “But God DEMONSTRATES HIS OWN LOVE FOR US in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

1John 3:16 *"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us..."*

1John 4:9 *"This is how GOD SHOWED HIS LOVE AMONG US: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him."*

2. The death of Christ is said to be a "redemption" or "ransom" paid to meet the holy demands of God on behalf of the sinner and to free the sinner from just condemnation.

a. It is significant that the discriminating word "for", meaning "instead of" or "on behalf of", is used in every passage in the New Testament where mention of Christ's death as a ransom appears!

Matthew 20:28 *"...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom FOR many."*

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

1 Timothy 2:5-6 *"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom FOR all men—the testimony given in its proper time."*

b. The death of Christ was a "necessary" penalty which He "bore" FOR the sinner!

Romans 4:25 *"He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification."*

2Corinthians 5:21 *"God made Him who had no sin TO BE SIN FOR US, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."*

Galatians 1:3-4 *"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself FOR OUR SINS to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father..."*

Hebrews 9:28 *"...so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people..."*

c. In paying the price of our ransom, Christ "REDEEMED" us. In the New Testament, three important Greek words are used to express this idea :

(1) "agorazo" – meaning to buy in the market ("agora" means "market").

NOTE(1): Man in his sin is considered under the sentence of death.

John 3:18 *"Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe STANDS CONDEMNED ALREADY because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."*

Romans 6:23 *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

NOTE(2): Man is also considered as a "slave" sold under sin.

Romans 7:14 *"We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, SOLD AS A SLAVE TO SIN."*

NOTE(3): In the act of redemption, man is considered to be "purchased" by Christ through the shedding of His blood!

1 Corinthians 6:20 *"...you were BOUGHT AT A PRICE. Therefore honor God with your body."*

1 Corinthians 7:23 *"You were BOUGHT AT A PRICE; do not become slaves of men."*

2 Peter 2:1 *"But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord WHO BOUGHT THEM..."*

Revelation 5:9 *"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because You were slain, and WITH YOUR BLOOD you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation."*

Revelation 14:3-4 *"And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb."*

(2) "exagorazo" – meaning to "buy OUT of the market" which adds the thought not only of purchase but removal from sale, indicating that redemption by Christ is once for all:

Galatians 3:13 *"Christ redeemed us FROM the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: 'Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.'"*

Galatians 4:4-5 *"But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons."*

(3) "lutroo" – to "let loose" or "set free":

Luke 24:21 *"...but we had hoped that He was the one who was going to REDEEM Israel."*

Titus 2:13-14 *"...while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us TO REDEEM US from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good."*

1 Peter 1:18 *"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were REDEEMED from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers..."*

Luke 2:38 *"Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all*

who were looking forward to the REDEMPTION (i.e. “setting free”) of Jerusalem.”

Hebrews 9:12 “He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, having obtained eternal REDEMPTION.”

Luke 1:68 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come and has REDEEMED His people.”

Romans 3:23-24 “...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the REDEMPTION that came by Christ Jesus.”

Romans 8:23 “Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the REDEMPTION of our bodies.”

Ephesians 1:7 “In Him we have REDEMPTION through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace...”

Ephesians 1:14 “...who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the REDEMPTION of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of His glory.”

NOTE: The concept of “redemption” accordingly includes the purchase, removal from sale, and the complete freedom of the ransomed individual through the death of Christ and the application of redemption by the Holy Spirit!

3. The death of Christ was an offering for sin, not like the animal offerings of the Old Testament, which could only in the sense of delaying the time of righteous judgment. In His sacrifice, Christ bore our sins FOREVER:

Isaiah 53:5-6 “But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has LAI D ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL.”

Hebrews 9:22-26 “In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and WITHOUT THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD THERE WILL BE NO FORGIVENESS... For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; He entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God’s presence. Nor did He enter heaven to offer Himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not His own. Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages TO DO AWAY WITH SIN BY THE SACRIFICE OF HIMSELF.”

Heb 10:14 “because by one sacrifice he has made perfect FOREVER those who are being made holy.”

4. The death of Christ is represented on His part as an act of obedience to the law which sinners have broken. Therefore, Christ’s actions constitute a “propitiation” (i.e. “satisfaction”) of all of God’s

righteous demands upon the sinner.

- a. The Greek word “hilasterion” is used for the “mercy seat”, which was the lid of the ark that was placed inside the Holy of Holies. This “mercy seat” acted as a “covering” of the law (i.e. 2 stones carved with the 10 commandments on them) that was placed inside the ark.

Hebrews 9:3-5 “*Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ARK of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron’s staff that had budded, and THE STONE TABLETS OF THE COVENANT. Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the MERCY SEAT.*”

- (1) On the Day of Atonement, the mercy seat was sprinkled with blood from the altar and this changed the “judgment” seat into a “mercy” seat.

Leviticus 16:11-14 “*And Aaron shall bring the bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and shall MAKE AN ATONEMENT for himself, and for his house, and shall kill the bullock of the sin offering which is for himself: And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the Lord, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it within the veil: And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the Lord, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony, that he die not: And he shall take of THE BLOOD OF THE BULLOCK, and sprinkle it with his finger UPON THE MERCY SEAT eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.*”

Hebrews 9:11-15 “*But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but BY HIS OWN BLOOD he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause He is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, FOR THE REDEMPTION of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.*”

- (2) In like manner, the throne of God becomes a throne of “grace” through the “propitiation” of Christ’s death.

Hebrews 4:14-16 “*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach THE THRONE OF GRACE with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*”

- b. A similar Greek word “hilasmos” refers to the act of “propitiation”:

1John 2:1b-2 *“And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And He is the PROPITIATION for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”*

1John 4:10 *“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the PROPITIATION for our sins.”*

- (1) “Propitiation” in the above verses carries the meaning that Christ, in dying on the cross, “completely satisfied” all of God’s just demands for judgment on human sin.
- (2) Through this “propitiation” earned by Christ’s death on behalf of mankind, God is accordingly declared “righteous” in His forgiving sins (of even the saints in the O.T.) before Jesus went to the cross, on the basis that Christ would eventually die and satisfy completely the law of righteousness (i.e. “that all sin must be punished!”).

Romans 3:25-26 (KJV) *“Whom God hath set forth TO BE A PROPITIATION through faith in His blood, TO DECLARE HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”*

Romans 3:25-26 (NIV) *“God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His blood. He did this TO DEMONSTRATE HIS JUSTICE, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— he did it TO DEMONSTRATE HIS JUSTICE at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.”*

- (3) In all of this “propitiation” action, God is not pictured as a God delighting in vengeance upon the sinner, but rather a God who because of HIS LOVE delights in mercy to the sinner.

c. In “redemption” and “propitiation”, THE BELIEVER in Christ is assured that:

- (1) The price for sin has been paid in full,
- (2) That he has been set free as a sinner from slavery to sin,
- (3) And that all of God’s righteous demands for judgment upon him (because of his sin) have been forgiven.

5. The death of Christ not only “redeemed” sinful mankind and “propitiated” a holy God, but provided the basis by which the world was “reconciled” to God.

- a. The Greek word “katallasso”, meaning to “reconcile”, has the thought of bringing God and man together by thoroughly changing man. Various forms of this word “reconcile” (“katallasso”) are found in the New Testament:

Romans 5:10-11 *"For if, when we were God's enemies, we were RECONCILED to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been RECONCILED, shall we be saved through His life! Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received RECONCILIATION."*

Romans 11:15 *"For if their rejection is the RECONCILIATION of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?"*

1Corinthians 7:11 *"But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be RECONCILED to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife."*

2Corinthians 5:18-20 *"All this is from God, WHO RECONCILED US TO HIMSELF THROUGH CHRIST and gave us the ministry of RECONCILIATION: that God was RECONCILING the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of RECONCILIATION. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be RECONCILED to God."*

Ephesians 2:15b-16 *"His purpose was to create in Himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to RECONCILE both of them to God THROUGH THE CROSS, by which He put to death their hostility."*

Colossians 1:19-22 *"For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to RECONCILE TO HIMSELF ALL THINGS, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now HE HAS RECONCILED YOU by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation..."*

b. The concept in "reconciliation" is NOT that God changes, but that His relationship to man changes because of the redeeming work of Christ.

(1) When a man places his faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ's redeeming work on the cross, he is forgiven, justified, and raised spiritually by Christ to the level where he can be "reconciled" to God.

(2) The thought is NOT that God is reconciled to the sinner, that is, God has adjusted Himself to the sinner's estate, but rather that the sinner is adjusted to God's holy character!

(3) Reconciliation provisionally is for the entire world, just as God has redeemed the whole world and is the "propitiation" (i.e. satisfactory "atonement") for the sins of the whole world:

2Corinthians 5:19 *"...that God was RECONCILING THE WORLD to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them..."*

1John 2:2 *"He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also FOR THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD."*

- (4) When we say “reconciliation” is for the “entire” world, it does not mean just the world of “saved” people (i.e. believers who have faith in Christ). Scripture indicates that the opportunity for “reconciliation” has also been achieved by Christ for “lost” people (i.e. “unbelievers”) who need only to respond by faith to the gospel for it to apply:

2Peter 2:1 *“But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be FALSE TEACHERS among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord WHO BOUGHT THEM—bringing swift destruction on themselves...”*

- (5) So complete and far-reaching is this marvelous provision of God in redemption, propitiation, and reconciliation that the Scriptures state that God is NOT NOW imputing (i.e. “charging” or “crediting”) sin unto the world!

Colossians 1:19-20 *“For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to RECONCILE TO HIMSELF ALL THINGS, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.”*

2Corinthians 5:18-19 *“All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, NOT COUNTING MEN’S SINS AGAINST THEM...”*

6. The death of Christ removed all moral hindrances in the mind of God to saving of sinners in that sin has been “redeemed” by the death of Christ, God has been “propitiated”, and man has been “reconciled” to God.

- a. There is no further hindrance to God freely accepting and justifying ANYONE who believes in Jesus Christ as his Savior.

Romans 3:25-26 *“God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, THROUGH FAITH IN HIS BLOOD. He did this to demonstrate His justice, because in his forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— He did it to demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one WHO JUSTIFIES THOSE WHO HAVE FAITH IN JESUS.”*

- b. Since, in the death of Christ, God’s infinite love and power are released from restraint by the accomplishment of every judgment which His righteousness could demand against a sinner, God’s holiness benefits more by the death of Christ than the judgment and destruction of the whole world (which all of mankind deserves!).

7. Christ, in His death, became the “Substitute” bearing the penalty belonging to the sinner.

- a. The concept of a “substitute” bearing the wickedness and transgressions of “sinners” is dramatized in the “scapegoat” practice in the Old Testament for which Christ was sent to ultimately fulfill:

Leviticus 16:20-22 *“When Aaron has finished making atonement for the Most Holy Place, the Tent of Meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat. He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and PUT THEM ON THE GOAT’S HEAD. He shall send the goat away into the desert in the care of a man appointed for the task. The goat WILL CARRY ON ITSELF ALL THEIR SINS to a solitary place; and the man shall release it in the desert.”*

Isaiah 53:4-6 *“Surely He (i.e. “the Christ”) TOOK UP OUR INFIRMITIES AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; AND THE LORD HAS LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL.”*

- b. The concept of a “substitute” bearing the wickedness and transgressions of “sinners” is accomplished by the death of Jesus Christ for mankind and it is explained in the New Testament:

Matthew 20:28 *“...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY.”*

John 10:11 *“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS SHEEP.”*

Romans 5:6-8 *“You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, CHRIST DIED FOR THE UNGODLY. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, CHRIST DIED FOR US.”*

1Peter 3:18 *“FOR CHRIST DIED FOR SINS ONCE FOR ALL, the righteous for the unrighteous, TO BRING YOU TO GOD. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit...”*

- c. This fact, that Jesus Christ serves as our “substitute” when He went to the cross, is the ground of assurance for all who would come unto God for salvation.
- (1) It presents something for every individual to “believe” concerning his own relation to God on the question of his own sins.
 - (2) A general belief that Christ died for the whole world is not sufficient for a sinner to be saved; rather, a personal conviction that one’s own sin has been perfectly borne by Christ as YOUR SUBSTITUTE is required for an admitted sinner to be saved!
 - (3) When Christ as “the substitute” is truly believed on by a sinner, the results are a sense of “relief”, “joy”, “hope”, and “appreciation”!

Romans 15:13 *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Hebrews 9:14 *“How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, CLEANSE OUR CONSCIENCES FROM ACTS THAT LEAD TO DEATH, so that we may serve the living God!”*

Hebrews 10:1-2 *“The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, AND WOULD NO LONGER HAVE FELT GUILTY FOR THEIR SINS.”*

False Teachings and Thoughts Concerning The Son of God’s Death

The death of Christ is often misinterpreted. Every Christian will do well to understand thoroughly the “fallacy” of those misstatements which are so general today:

1. It is claimed that the doctrine of substitution is “IMMORAL” on the ground that God could not in righteousness lay the sins of the guilty on an innocent victim!
 - a. This statement might be considered true if it could be proved that Christ was an UNWILLING victim; but Scripture presents Him as being in fullest sympathy with His Father’s will and motivated by the same infinite love:

John 10:17-18 *“The reason my Father loves Me is that I LAY DOWN MY LIFE—only to take it up again. No one takes it from Me, but I LAY IT DOWN OF MY OWN ACCORD. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”*

John 13:1 *“It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, HE NOW SHOWED THEM THE FULL EXTENT OF HIS LOVE.”*

Hebrews 10:5-7 *“Therefore, WHEN CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD, He said: ‘Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for Me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about Me in the scroll— I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.’”*

- b. Likewise, in the inscrutable (i.e. “unphathomable”) mystery of the Godhead, it was God HIMSELF who was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. It was not some “unfair” God sending some other poor “victim” to take the fall for man’s sin.

2Corinthians 5:19 *“...that God was reconciling the world to Himself IN CHRIST, not counting men’s sins against them...”*

- c. Far from the death of Christ being an immoral imposition, it was God Himself, the righteous Judge in infinite love and sacrifice, bearing the full penalty that HIS OWN HOLINESS required of all sinners while He was on the cross.

Colossians 1:19-20 *“For God was pleased TO HAVE ALL HIS FULLNESS DWELL IN HIM (i.e. Jesus Christ), and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, SHED ON THE CROSS.”*

2. It is claimed that Christ died as a “martyr” and that value of His death is seen in the example He presented of “courage” and “loyalty” to His convictions even unto death.

NOTE: The sufficient answer to this ERROR is that, since He was God’s provided Lamb, no man TOOK His life from Him. The Scriptures make it clear that Jesus Christ did not come to be a “martyr”, but rather a “ransom” and a “substitute” for mankind!

Matthew 20:28 *“...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY.”*

John 1:29 *“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look, THE LAMB OF GOD, who takes away the sin of the world!’”*

Acts 2:22-23 *“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through Him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you BY GOD’S SET PURPOSE AND FOREKNOWLEDGE; and you, with the help of wicked men, put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross.”*

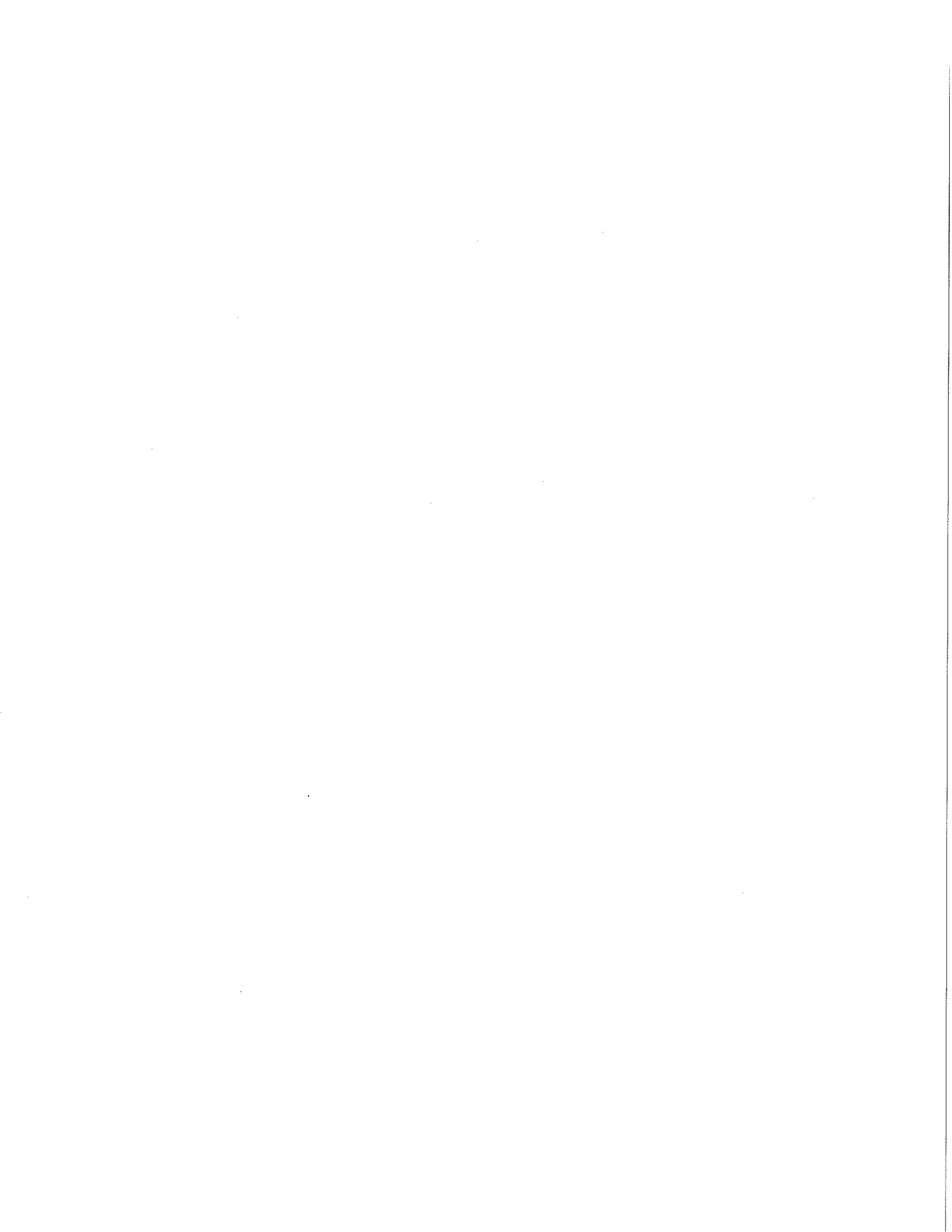
2Corinthians 5:21 *“God made Him who had no sin TO BE SIN FOR US, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

Hebrews 9:15 *“For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—NOW THAT HE HAS DIED AS A RANSOM to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.”*

3. It is claimed that Christ died to create a “moral” effect.

- a. This false interpretation of what Christ was trying to accomplish on the cross is based on the unbiblical concept that since the cross displays the divine estimate of sin, men who consider the cross will be “constrained to turn” from lives of sin.
- b. This theory, which has no foundation in Scripture, assumes that God is now seeking the “reformation” of mankind; while in reality, the cross is the ground of “regeneration”!

Titus 3:5 *“...NOT by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of REGENERATION and RENEWING of the Holy Spirit.”*



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Doctrine #9: God the Son (His Substitutionary Death)

1. Read Pages 1-11 from the Doctrine#9 Study Guide by next Wednesday.
2. Answer the following Questions about “God the Son” as you read:

a. God the Son, His Substitutionary Death:

- 1) According to Scriptures like John 1:29, the death of Christ is revealed to be a “sacrifice” for the sins of whom? (page 1, top)

- 2) What does the term “the substitutionary death of Christ” mean? (page 1, top)

- 3) In order to receive the “salvation” that God is offering all mankind, what does each individual person have to “believe”, “recognize”, and “claim”? (page 1, middle)

b. What The Son of God’s Death Accomplishes:

- 1) According to John 3:16, why did God give His one and only Son to be a sacrifice for our sins? (page 1, bottom)

- 2) How has God “proven” that He loves all sinners (including you and me!)? (Romans 5:8)

- 3) The death of Christ is revealed in Scripture to be a “redemption” or “ransom” paid to meet the holy demands of God on behalf of the sinner to free the sinner from what? (page 2, top)

- 4) According to 1 Timothy 2:5-6, Christ Jesus gave Himself as a “ransom” for whom?

- 5) According to Galatians 1:3-4, Christ Jesus gave Himself for what?

- 6) According to Romans 7:14, we are all sold as a “slave” to what?

- 7) In the act of “redemption”, man is considered to be “purchased” by Christ through what?
(page 3, top)

- 8) Read Revelation 5:9. What “what” did Christ purchase men from every tribe and language and people and nation?

- 9) What does the Greek word “exagorazo” mean in reference to Christ “redeeming” mankind?
(page 3, middle)

- 10) According to Galatians 3:13, what to Christ “redeem” us FROM?

- 11) The Greek word “lutroo”, in reference to redemption, means to “let loose” or “set free”.
According to Titus 2:13-14, Jesus Christ gave Himself to “redeem us” (i.e. “set us free”) from
“what” and “why” did He do that?

- 12) According to Hebrews 9:12, Jesus Christ “obtained” what for us?

- 13) According to Romans 3:23-24, "*ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are JUSTIFIED FREELY by His grace through...*" what?
- 14) The Scriptural concept of "redemption" includes what three things through the death of Christ and the application of redemption by the Holy Spirit? (page 4, middle)
- 15) According to Hebrews 9:22-26, what is absolutely required in order for there to be "forgiveness" of sins by God?
- 16) According to Hebrews 10:14, by "one sacrifice" Jesus Christ made believers "what" forever?
- 17) What does the word "propitiation" mean in reference to what Christ's actions constitute on behalf of all of God's righteous demands upon a sinner? (page 5, top)
- 18) What is the Greek word "hilasterion" used for in Scripture? (page 5, top)
- 19) What did the "mercy seat" (hilasterion) cover that was inside the ark? (page 5, top)
- 20) What changed the "judgment" seat into a "mercy" seat on the Day of Atonement?
(page 5, middle)
- 21) According to Hebrews 4:14-16, the throne of God becomes the throne of "what" through the "propitiation" of Christ's death? (page 5, bottom)

- 22) According to 1John 2:1-2 and 1John 4:10, Jesus Christ's substitutionary death is the "propitiation" (i.e. "satisfaction") for what?
- 23) Through "propitiation" earned by Christ's death on mankind's behalf, what is God "declared"? (page 6, top; see also Romans 3:25-26)
- 24) Through the plan and action of "propitiation", God is "pictured" as what by Scripture? (page 6, middle)
- 25) Through "redemption" and "propitiation", the believer in Christ is "assured" of what three things according to the Bible? (page 6, bottom)
- 26) The death of Christ not only "redeemed" sinful mankind and "propitiated" a holy God, but also provided a basis for what? (page 6, bottom)
- 27) The Greek word "katallasso", used in Scripture and translated by the word "reconcile", has the thought of Christ bringing God and man together by doing "what"? (page 6, bottom)
- 28) According to Romans 5:10-11, when we were God's "enemies" (i.e. "sinning against Him") we were "reconciled" to God through what?
- 29) According to 2Corinthians 5:18-20, what is the "ministry" that God "gave" all believers?

- 30) True or False. Through the concept of “reconciliation” earned by Christ’s death on the cross, God’s attitude toward man’s sin is changed. (page 7, bottom)
- 31) According to 2Corinthians 5:19 and 1John 2:2, Christ’s death on the cross was for the “entire world”. What do people need to do in order for what Christ did for them to apply to them personally? (page 8, top)
- 32) According to 2Corinthians 5:18-19, “*God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting...*” what against men?
- 33) What did the death of Christ remove in the mind of God so that He could save all sinners?
(page 8, middle)
- 34) What does God’s “holiness” benefit more from than the judgment and destruction of the whole world because of man’s sin against Him? (page 8, bottom)
- 35) The concept of a “substitute” bearing the wickedness and transgression of sinners is dramatized by what practice in the Old Testament? (page 8, bottom)
- 36) According to Leviticus 16:20-22, what does the scapegoat “carry” to a solitary place on behalf of the nation of Israel?
- 37) According to Isaiah 53:4-6, the Lord has laid on “Him” (i.e. “Jesus Christ”, our “scapegoat”) what?

- 38) The O.T. concept of a “substitute” bearing the wickedness and transgressions of “sinners” is revealed as being accomplished in the N.T. by what? (page 9, middle)
- 39) According to John 10:11, what does the “good shepherd” DO for His sheep?
- 40) True or False. All a person has to do to be saved is believe that Christ died for the sins of the whole world. (page 9, bottom)
- 41) On what basis do some people claim that “The doctrine of Substitution” is “immoral”? (page 10, middle)
- 42) On what basis does Scripture prove that “The doctrine of Substitution” is NOT “immoral”? (page 10, middle)
- 43) True or False. According to John 10:17-18, Jesus Christ was “willing” to lay down His life for all the sinners of the world.
- 44) According to Hebrews 10:5-7, before the world began, Christ told His father that He would take upon a human body and go to the earth to do what?
- 45) Instead of some “unwilling victim” taking the fall for man’s sin, WHO was “in” Christ reconciling the world to God? (page 10, bottom; see also 2Corinthians 5:19)

46) True or False. It is Scripturally accurate to say that Jesus Christ died as a “martyr”.
(page 11, top)

47) According to Matthew 20:28, the Son of Man did not come “*to be served, but to serve, AND...*” to do what?

48) True or False. One of the things that God was trying to accomplish by having His Son on the cross was to “convict” man of their sins and inspire them to “turn” their lives from sin. (page 11, bottom)

