

**WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST**

**Lesson 6 - Part 2**

**THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST**

**The death of Jesus Christ is a substitution and a propitiation**

1. Who is holy?

Who is sinful?

How can sinful people come to God?

In the Old Testament, who talked about Jesus' death?

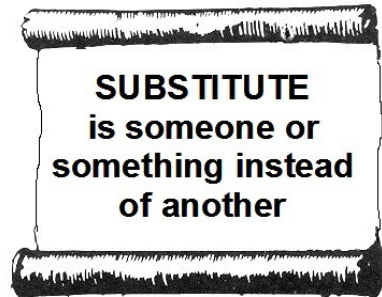
In the New Testament, who talked about Jesus' death?

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2. God is holy and people are sinful. People can come to God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The Prophets and Jesus talked about His death.

In this lesson we want to learn that the death of Jesus Christ -

- is a substitution - Jesus Christ died in our place.
- is a propitiation - Jesus Christ's atoning sacrifice appeased God's wrath.



Sometimes we go to the store to buy something, maybe food. However, we do not find what we want to buy. Maybe the store has no more "tomato soup on sale" left. The clerk may offer to give us another kind of tomato soup for the same price. This "other kind of tomato soup" is a substitute for the "tomato soup on sale".

What do you think the word "substitute" means?

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3. Substitute is someone or something instead of another. Christ is our substitute. He took our place. We had sinned and were to die for our sin.

Death is the payment for sin.

Romans 6:23

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

What is the payment for sin?

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4. The payment for sin is death. Adam sinned and all his children sinned. All people sinned.

Romans 5:12

*Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.*

To how many people did death come?

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5. Death came to all people. Jesus Christ was born as a man. He lived in this world as a man.

1 Peter 2:22

*He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.*

Did Jesus Christ sin?

Did He have to die for His own sin?

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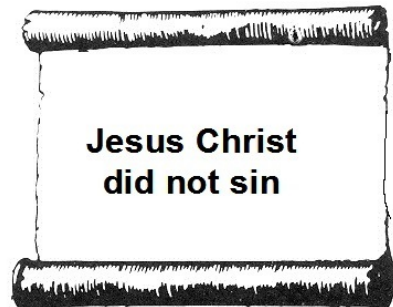
6. Jesus Christ did not sin. He did not have to die for His own sin. But He died on the cross.

1 Peter 2:24

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.*

1 Peter 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.*



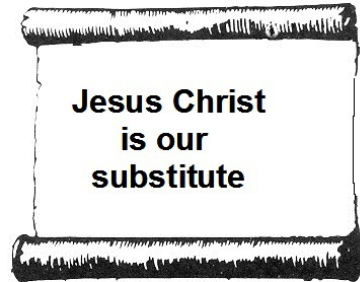
How is Jesus Christ a substitute for us?

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7. Christ did not die for His own sin. He died for our sin. **His death is a substitution for our death.** He took our place.

2 Corinthians 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.*



Romans 5:8

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

How is Jesus Christ a substitute for us?

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8. Jesus Christ died for us. He is our substitute.

We talked about the holiness of God in the last lesson. God is righteous, just, and holy. To be holy is to be pure and without sin. Because God is just, His rules and demands are just. As a righteous and just God, He has to punish those who disobey Him. Sin is the disobedience of the rules and demands of God.

Romans 6:23

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

What is the payment for sin?

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9. The payment for sin is death. Death means to be separated. When a person dies, he is separated from those who are alive. Death for sin is to be separated from God. God did not want people to be separated from him.

2 Peter 3:9

*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but*

*everyone to come to repentance.*

What does God want people to do?

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10. God wants people to repent, that is, turn away from their sin and turn to God. Many people do not turn from their sin.

John 3:36

*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.*

What remains on those who do not believe in God's Son?

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11. God's wrath remains on those who do not believe in His Son. "Wrath" is violent anger. God is very angry at the sin people do. He has to punish people because they have not obeyed His just and righteous demands. God is not a God who is vengeful, that is, a God who tries to get even with people. God is just, righteous, and holy in all His dealings.

Why does God have to punish people who disobey Him?

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12. God has to punish people because they disobey His just and righteous demands.

If a person is very angry, we want to appease him or satisfy him so he will not be angry. We may do it because we are afraid or because we have hurt the person.

What does wrath mean?

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13. Wrath means to be very, very angry. God is very angry at sin.

Colossians 3:5,6

*Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.*

At what is God angry?

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14. God is angry at sin.

Someone had to propitiate or appease God's wrath. To appease means to calm or satisfy someone who is angry. Because all people have sinned, no man can appease God's wrath. We only add to His wrath by sinning more.



1 Thessalonians 1:10

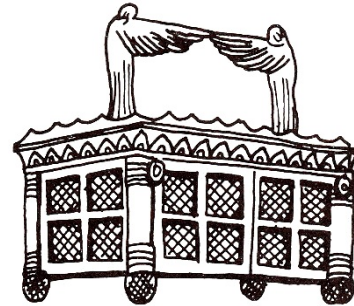
*And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead - Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.*

Who rescues us from God's wrath?

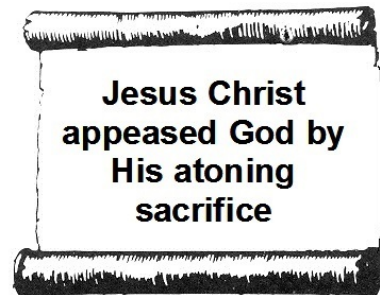
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15. Jesus Christ rescues us from God's wrath. Let us look at the ark of the covenant to understand propitiation.

The ark had a cover. This cover was called the mercy seat. The mercy seat is the place where God and people met. Sin separated people from God. Something had to take away that sin before people could come before God. God had to be satisfied that the sins committed were covered or removed. Only death and the shedding of blood can cover or remove sin. Once God saw the blood which was shed for sin, He was satisfied. He was able to show mercy to the people for whom the blood was shed. The blood is the propitiation. **Propitiation is that which**



**satisfies God's price for sin.** Jesus Christ satisfied the righteous demands of God completely with His death. Once the price for sin was paid, He could forgive sin. Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sin. He took on Himself our sin and paid the price by His death. Jesus did no sin, so He could propitiate (appease) God's wrath.



1 John 2:2

*He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*

1 John 4:10

*This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

How did Jesus Christ propitiate (appease) God's wrath?

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16. Jesus appeased God by His atoning sacrifice. He paid for our sins with His own blood. Jesus' atoning sacrifice satisfied God's demands. God sent His Son to this world to make this sacrifice. God is just but also is loving. In His love He sent His own Son to appease His wrath.

Romans 3:25,26

*God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate (show) his justice, because in his forbearance (patience) he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished - he did it to demonstrate (show) his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies the man who has faith in Jesus.*

Who is the atoning sacrifice?

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17. Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for sin. Now God has the right to forgive sin. He can make people, who believe in Christ, right with Himself.

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18. How is Jesus Christ a substitute for us?

How did Jesus Christ propitiate (appease) God's wrath?

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