

THE BIBLE WORD SERIES

A Brief Study of those Important Words found in the Bible that we need to understand, not just skip over.

ATONEMENT

The first place where “atonement” is mentioned in the Bible is in:

Exodus 30:10 - “And Aaron shall make atonement upon the horns of the altar once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement; once a year he shall make atonement upon it throughout your generations. It is most holy to the Lord.”

1. ___Yes ___No The reason to make an atonement (a blood offering) is because of the sin of the people.
2. ___Yes ___No This offering is done every week.
3. ___Yes ___No Only a “blood” sacrifice will satisfy God.
4. ___Yes ___No This ceremony is a picture of Jesus’ sacrifice.

The word “atonement” in Hebrew (Kippur) means “to pay for an offense”. Obviously, more generally it refers to payment for the sins of mankind.

Listen to this!! “Atonement” means “An offended person pardons and removes the offense”.

Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.”

5. What is the only thing that can atone for (cover as payment) the sins of those Jews and for all mankind? _____

Psalms 79:9 - Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; and deliver us, and provide atonement for our sins.

4. Who is the only one who can provide atonement for our sins? _____

It appears that there cannot be salvation for mankind unless there is atonement provided for mankind.

Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; all of us have turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity (sins) of us all.

5. Who is the “Him” in this verse referring to? _____

Keep in mind that God told the Jews how to live in the Ten Commandments. He told them that if they obeyed, their lives would

be blessed; if they disobeyed (sinned), they would be judged (punished) with death.

1 John 1:5 - ...God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with God, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

Habakkuk 1:13 - Lord, Your eyes are too pure than to look upon evil, nor to fellowship with wickedness

- 6. Yes No A holy God and a sinful man cannot fellowship.
- 7. Yes No God cannot have an intimate relationship with sin because God's nature is holiness.
- 8. Yes No God has no other option but to judge those who sin with death.

The judgment for sin is death. That means that the relationship between a Holy God & a sinful man died. This is an offense to God. This offense (sin) can be covered and removed by a blood sacrifice (this is an atonement). The fellowship between a Holy God and sinful man has been restored (is alive again).

Why? Because God's requirement for paying for sin has been satisfied.

Hebrews 9:22- Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just (Him) or the unjust (us), that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.

1 John 2:2 - And Jesus Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also For the whole world.

What a cool word - "propitiation". It means that Jesus' death by the shedding of His blood, which we call the "atonement", satisfied God's holy judgment on our sin.

A hymn says, "Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe. Sin has left a crimson stain; He washed it as snow."

- 9. Write your definition of "atonement" based on what you have learned here. _____

