

To Live Set Free, Part 2

Today's subject is Part 2 of my earlier presentation on *To Live Set Free*.

What we want to discover today is how the Day of Atonement sacrifices relate to the crucifixion, the resurrection, and our eternal salvation. Ultimately, we want to more fully comprehend how Christ secured our freedom, once for all!

The Slain and Living Sacrifices

In Part 1, we learned that on the Day of Atonement, God instituted a sacrifice in two parts, with one animal being slain and the other being set free to go into the wilderness.

- The **slain sacrifice** was the goat “**for the Lord**,” the one designated to pay for the offense with its life.
- The **living sacrifice** was the “escaped goat” or the “goat that departs,” the one whose *release* was secured by the sacrifice of the first goat.

The second sacrifice depended on the first. The second goat could not go free had the first goat not paid the price.

Please turn in your ESV to Leviticus 16. When the second goat was sent away bearing all the people's iniquities, it symbolized the carrying away of all that separated man from God — all our iniquities, our transgressions and our sins.

Leviticus 16:21 and 22:

And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the **live goat**, and confess over it **all** the iniquities of the people of Israel, and **all** their transgressions, **all** their sins. And he shall put them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is in readiness.

The goat shall bear **all** their iniquities on itself to a remote area, and he shall **let the goat go free** in the wilderness.

Of course, God knew all along that ultimately, our complete redemption could only be accomplished with the coming of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 10:1 and 4:

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

A Better Covenant

Clearly a new and better covenant would one day be required. When Jesus Christ came, his perfect sacrifice would take care of sin, once and for all.

Hebrews 7:22:

This makes Jesus the guarantor of a **better covenant**.

Hebrews 10:9b, 10:

... He does away with the first in order to establish the second.

And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**.

Like the Day of Atonement offerings, Christ's offering of himself would be composed of both a slain and a living sacrifice.

1 Peter 3:18:

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being **put to death in the flesh** [the crucifixion] but **made alive in the spirit** [the resurrection],

The Meaning of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection

Christ was to embody both the slain and the living sacrifices by means of his **crucifixion** and **resurrection**.

First, let's consider the significance of Christ's

CRUCIFIXION

This is Christ as the **slain** sacrifice — the one who made satisfaction for our sin.

By his *death* Christ secured the *atonement*.

Isaiah 53:6 and 7:

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and *the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all*.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like *a lamb that is led to the slaughter*, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

Acts 2:23:

this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, *you crucified and killed* by the hands of lawless men.

Romans 5:11 (KJV):

And not only so, but we also joy in God through *our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement*.

The word *atonement* means “making at one” — literally, “AT-ONE-ment.” Atonement re-establishes the *unity between man and God*.

Wherever there is *atonement*, there must be *forgiveness*. By his atoning sacrifice, Christ *turned away the wrath* that man deserved and *procured the forgiveness* that man didn’t deserve. What a great and glorious Savior we have!

Next, let’s consider the significance of Christ’s

RESURRECTION

This is Christ as the *living* sacrifice — the one who carried away all our sin.

By *rising from the dead* Christ secured man’s *eternal life*.

Acts 2:24, 31, 32:

God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it...

He [David] foresaw and spoke about *the resurrection of the Christ*, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption.

This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

John 3:16:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Eternal life isn't just for the future; it begins now! That is why it is sometimes called *everlasting life*: it starts today and continues on into eternity. Having been reconciled, we walk with our heavenly Father.

Romans 6:4:

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:11:

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Thanks to the resurrection and the new birth it made possible, we are now free to live in renewed intimacy with God. Christ Jesus has made us *alive to God!*

WHAT GOD WROUGHT FOR US IN CHRIST

Exactly what did Christ accomplish for us by first dying and then rising again?

The slain sacrifice (the **CRUCIFIXION**) secured our *atonement*.

- In the place of judgment and wrath, we have instead received *mercy* and *forgiveness*.
- Recognizing what God in Christ accomplished for us by the crucifixion, our declaration of freedom is “IT IS FINISHED!”

The living sacrifice (the **RESURRECTION**) secured our *eternal life*.

- In the place of bondage and death, we have instead received *release* and *rebirth*.
- Recognizing what God in Christ accomplished for us by the resurrection, our declaration of freedom is “HE IS RISEN.”

Propitiation and Expiation: Forgiven and Forgotten

Because our redemption was based on legal grounds, it is incontestable and unassailable. This is why Christ is called the source of *eternal* salvation. The actions he took on our behalf were once and for all, settled for all time.

Hebrews 5:9:

And being made perfect, he [Christ] became the [source of eternal salvation](#) to all who obey him,

Christ's two-part sacrifice secured man's eternal salvation by means of [propitiation](#) and [expiation](#).

Let's define these legal terms.

PROPTIATION

Settling all accounts

- Satisfaction made for the offense
- Price paid in full

Think of [propitiation](#) by remembering the word “[pro](#)” — [in favor of](#). A judgment has been rendered *in favor of* the guilty party. By an act of grace, deserved anger has been turned aside and in its place, peace prevails.

The Judge [FORGIVES](#).

EXPIATION

Wiping the record clean

- Offense and consequences extinguished
- Offender's guilt completely and forever removed

Think of [expiation](#) by remembering the letter **X** — like [crossing out a mistake](#). Sin and guilt have been so completely wiped out that they are eternally banished, never to return. In the new heaven and earth, there will be no remembrance of man's offense.

The Judge [FORGETS](#).

The truth of our propitiation and expiation is summed up in

Hebrews 8:12:

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities [*propitiation* — God forgives],
and I will remember their sins no more [*expiation* — God forgets].”

Surely, this is great cause for rejoicing on our parts. Not only has God *forgiven* us in Christ, He has also *forgotten* all that was against us.

Revelation 21:4:

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more,
neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the
former things have passed away.”

In the new heaven and earth where we are bound, not a trace will remain of
sin and death. Truly we have been set free for eternity!

Oh what a wonderful Father, and oh what a wonderful Savior!