



The Atonement: Its Meaning and Significance

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Why is the cross the crux of Christianity? What are the meaning and significance of the atonement? The Bible uses a host of terms to illuminate the answers to these questions: covenant, sacrifice, the Day of Atonement, Passover, redemption, reconciliation, propitiation, justification. In plain English Leon Morris explains each of these words, thus opening up for students, pastors and teachers the fuller biblical dimension of God's great salvation.

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From Reader Review The Atonement: Its Meaning and Significance for online ebook

Stefan Wyper says

Great book on the historicity of concepts like Justification, Propitiation, Reconciliation, Redemption, etc

The style is similar to Leon Morris' other works. He is a commentator so the study of each concept is comprehensive, yet sometimes dry!

Learned a lot from it and if your willing to put the time into it, you will very much enjoy it!

Ryan says

Wonderful book. Morris is biblically grounded as he explains the many nuances of the cross of Christ. He examines Covenant, Sacrifice, The Day of Atonement, The Passover, Redemption, Reconciliation, Propitiation, and Justification, explaining how each of them contribute to the way we view the cross. Theological at points, it still leaves the reader with a good understanding of what Jesus did for us, thus practically affecting the way we live.

Adam Calvert says

I enjoyed Leon Morris' style in this book. He has a good way of relating on a popular level the different terms and phrases we find in our Bible that may otherwise not make much sense to us. He spends a chapter on each one of them:

Covenant
Sacrifice
The Day of Atonement
The Passover
Redemption
Reconciliation
Propitiation
Justification

If I could critique the book at all it would be that he mainly explained what the terms meant in the Old Testament and spent little time on how they relate to what Christ accomplished on the cross. Incidentally, when I got the book it was that very thing in which I was most interested. To get to that level I may have to acquire his more technical treatise, 'The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross,' which seems almost everywhere highly recommended.

Nonetheless, this book did have some very useful information and insight regarding those above key terms in understanding the Bible. And for that, I certainly intend to keep it as a handy reference.

Jeff Boettcher says

Really good breakdown of the various aspects of Christ' atonement for Christians. I especially appreciated learning more about the extra biblical context of the words that are used to describe the atonement. My only knock against it is that for a book that is written about so deep a topic, I wish it was written with more doxology.

Mark says

This book contains great scholarship in very readable form. Morris gives just enough information to carefully explain the different aspects of the atonement while not becoming overly technical. It is an encouraging read and would also be helpful as a reference book.

Robert Scholl says

Enlightening

I have been reading books suggested by my pastor and that's what lead me to this book. There is a ton here and way more than I could possibly remember but it's really aided my understanding of "sacrifice"

Talitha says

This got a little too thorough at times. The discussion of OT sacrifice and use of terminology was especially helpful.

Justin says

When used for teaching, I preferred this slightly over Cross of Christ (Stott), just because it's shorter and to the point.

Stinger says

This is certainly a worthwhile look into the various themes of the atonement. It doesn't propose an atonement theory; rather, it explores Biblical loci of the atonement.

Bill Brown says

The Theology is solid but the writing style is only fair.

Jeremiah Parker says

This book is good reading for those with an interest in atonement. It's basically a Bible study (which is not to say that Morris' theological commitments don't show themselves). This book could serve as inoculation against reductionistic/revisionist Atonement theories that sound good but don't correspond to Scripture.

I especially enjoyed the description of the Day of Atonement based largely on the Mishnah.

JoonHui says

This work of Morris is superior in content. It provides sufficient knowledge for scholar and non-scholars. I could not have recommend any book if anyone wants to know more about the theology of atonement.

Neil Hoffman says

Really good insights on important words related to what Jesus did on the cross. Helps us to get the full biblical picture rather than simply zeroing in on just one aspect.

Mike says

If you wonder what lies behind the meaning of words like “redemption”, “reconciliation” and “propitiation”? If you are curious about how the Passover, Day of Atonement, and the Mosaic sacrificial system all relate to Jesus’ work on the cross then I recommend The Atonement.

This book was used as a text for a seminary class. However, it is very readable given the depth of the topic and is best read slowly (chapter at a time).

William Dicks says

Morris shows us that the atonement is not just single faceted, but multifaceted. When we speak of justification, we are touching on one of the facets of the atonement. When we speak of propitiation, we touch on another facet.

Morris takes the following doctrines and shows how they make up a totality of the atonement:

- Covenant
- Sacrifice
- The Day of atonement
- Passover
- Redemption
- Reconciliation
- Propitiation
- Justification

By highlighting all these doctrines, Morris shows how the atonement has brought us to God in total salvation.

It is an easy book to read, and is suitable for many different audiences.
