

*And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. –Luke 24:27*

Themes

Messianic Seed

Sin and the Law

The Covenants, part 1

The Covenants, part 2

God’s Presence

The Human Heart

**Atonement**

**Atonement**

Leviticus 16:1-22

* *Optional: Watch The Bible Project video on Sacrifice and Atonement* – 6:50
* What role did the two goats play?
* What was God’s overall desire through the atonement?

Numbers 1:1

* In what ways did the atonement work?

How does Jesus play the role of the first goat?

How does Jesus play the role of the second goat?

* Do Ephesians 4:8-10, 1 Peter 3:18-20, and 1 Peter 4:6 impact how we think about Jesus as the scapegoat?

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

* What does it mean for Christ to be made our sin?
* How does our understanding of the Levitical teaching of atonement impact our understanding of Christ becoming our sin?

In Walter Wangerin’s fable, “The Ragman,” a healer takes on the ailments of the people he is healing. The Ragman trades a clean handkerchief for a weeping woman’s tear-stained handkerchief and himself begins to weep. He trades a clean bonnet to a little girl for her blood-stained bandage, placed it on his own head, and began to bleed. When he gave his jacket to a man with only one arm, one of his own arms remained in the jacket and the man suddenly had two arms leaving the Ragman with only one.

* Could this be a picture of a union with Christ that we have in His bearing of our sins and in our bearing of His righteousness?
* Could it be that Jesus’ earthly ministry began the process of sin-bearing?

Psalm 38

* In John 15:25, John connects this whole psalm with Jesus, but how can this psalm be about Jesus when it contains a confession of sin?

Psalm 40

* In John 5:39, John connects this whole psalm with Jesus. Hebrews 10 is also specifically about how this psalm is about Jesus, but how can this psalm be about Jesus when it contains a confession of sin?

Psalm 41

* In John 13:18, John connects this psalm to Jesus, but how can this psalm be about Jesus when it contains a confession of sin?
* Is it heretical to suggest that Jesus confessed sin while affirming that he never sinned?
  + Consider the Lord’s Prayer when answering this question
  + Consider the Levitical teaching on the act of the High Priest when answering this question

Isaiah 52:13-53:6

* The whole book of Isaiah builds a necessary correspondence between infirmities (sicknesses) and iniquities (sin). What does this passage say the coming Messiah will do? (*If using the ESV, the word “Sorrows” is more appropriately translates sickness*)
* In Matthew 8:14-17, Matthew says that the act foretold of in Isaiah 53 was fulfilled, but this was long before the Cross, during Jesus’ earthly ministry. How can the atonement apply before a sacrifice is offered?

Luke 5:17-26

* What two actions did Jesus do for the man?

Mark 5:30

* What two actions did Jesus do for the woman?

When did Jesus’ atoning work begin?

* Consider the things that happened to Jesus leading up to the cross. When did He begin bearing sin?
* Consider Psalm 51:1-13. Could it be said that Jesus’ sin-bearing began at conception?

In the Lord of the Rings, there was a weight to the ring; at the beginning it was light, but the closer Frodo got to Mount Doom, the heavier and more burdensome the ring got. When he finally ascends Mount Doom, he cannot even walk. He is crawling to the finish line to finally redeem all of Middle Earth.

* Was Christ’s atonement a moment of agony on the cross?
* If when I commit sin, Jesus has to bear that sin, and in exchange gives me His righteousness, what am I doing to Jesus when I sin?
* Consider what the true scapegoat went through to bear your sin on your behalf. How should believers respond to this sobering thought?

Hebrews 9:23-28