

## PROPITIATION

**Request:** Would you please do a study on propitiation?

Propitiation is NT concept that is rooted in OT shadow Christology. The Hebrew word is kapporeth and refers to the atoning cover known as the mercy seat on top of the Ark of the Covenant (Ex.25: 10-22; 37:1-9; Num.7: 89; 1 Chron.28: 2, 11-13). There was a special day set-aside for atonement during the Jewish Age on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month (Lev.16: 2, 29-31).

This is seen in the Greek transliteration of this Hebrew word and idea of the atoning cover of the mercy seat (hilasterion/ read Heb.9:1-10).

**This lesson will study SEVEN aspects of the doctrine of PROPITIATION. Propitiation is 1 of 50 things every believer receives at the moment of salvation that he can never lose in time or eternity.**

**1. We will define propitiation as the act of appeasing God's wrath by God sending His son to become the atonement for the sins of the whole world.**

"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:10)

NIV translated propitiation as "atoning sacrifice for our sins."

We are not saved because we initiated and God responded. We are saved because God initiated (love sent His Son for our sins) and we responded (Eph.2: 8-9; Titus 3:5-7) mercy not merit.

"But God demonstrated His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, shall we be saved from wrath of God through Him. (Rom.5:8-9)

"Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come."(1 Thess.1: 10b) Great White Throne Judgement & Lake of Fire (Rev.20)

**2. The wrath of God is directed against the penalty of Adam's original sin (AOS) such as the 13 judicial charges of AOS (John 3:16-18).**

Alienation (Eph.2: 12-15)	Blindness (2 Cor.4: 4)	Condemned (Rom.8: 1)	Cursed (Gal.3: 10-14)
Darkness (Col.1: 13-14)	Death (Rom.5: 12)	Enmity (Rom.5: 10)	Perishing (John 3:16)
Natural (1 Cor.2: 12-14)	Sinner (Gal.4: 7)	Ungodly (Rom.5: 6-8)	Unrighteous (Rom.3: 10)

Wrath (John 3:36).

The propitious blood of Jesus Christ appeases the wrath of God as well as all of AOS - "Whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith." (Rom.3:25)

These thirteen judicial charges against AOS are removed at the moment of believing the gospel of grace salvation (Rom.1: 16; 1 Cor.15: 3-4, 22). "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides (meno / p.a.ind / constantly) on him." (John 3:36)

**3. The atoning blood was poured over the mercy seat in the presence of the Cherubim representing the holiness of God (Ps.80: 1).**

Cherubim were assigned to the judgment of AOS (Gen.3: 24). There were placed on the mercy seat (Ex.25:18). They were woven into the ten curtains of the Temple (Ex.26: 1). Cherubim were woven into the veil of the Holy of Holies (Ex.26:31-34). Two wooden Cherubim were made for the Holy of Holies (1 Kings 6:23-28).

“In the OT the Cherubim were symbolic attendants that marked the place of the Lord’s ‘enthronement’ in his earthly kingdom (1 Sam.4: 4; 2 Sam.6: 2; 2 Kings 19:15; Ps.99: 1). From the cover of the ark (God’s symbolic throne) the Lord gave directions to Moses (v.22; Num.7:89).” (NIV, Ex.25:18)

**4. In the NT, the place of the Lord’s ‘enthronement’ is the church age believer’s body because of propitiation, the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our sins (Heb.9: 8-15, 24-28; 1Cor.6: 19-20).**

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is 1 of His 8 works in salvation. His indwelling is forever on the basis of God’s grace (John 14:16) counselor is the same Greek word used in (1 John2: 1) advocate.

**5. The mercy seat on top of the Ark of Covenant (Law) was God’s visual aid to teach that ‘no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law’ (Rom.3: 20; 3:20-28; Phil.3: 9; Gal.3: 19-25).**

“And the Ark of the Covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron’s rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant. And above it were the cherubim of glories overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot speak in detail.” (Heb.9:4-5)

Propitiation declares that the justice of God judged all the sins of the entire world placed upon Jesus Christ on the cross in order to appease His wrath (Rom.3: 20-26).

“Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.” (Heb.2: 17)

**6. The propitious sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross is 1 of 9 factors of communion represented in the Eucharist cup of Jesus Christ’s blood of the NT (1 Cor.11: 25; Heb.8: 13).**

Redemption (1 Pet.1: 18-19)  
Reconciliation (Col.1: 20-22)  
Propitiation (Rom.3: 25)  
Justification (Rom.5: 9)  
Sanctification (Heb.13: 12)

Cleansing (1 John 1:7-9)  
Forgiveness (Eph.1: 7)  
Victory of Angelic Conflict (Rev.12: 11)  
New Covenant (Luke 22:20)

**7. Propitious work of Jesus Christ on the cross offers unlimited atonement to all mankind (Titus 2:11; 2 Pet.3: 9).**

“My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.” (1 John 2:1-2)