

## UNLIMITED ATONEMENT

Titus 2 begins with a command (laleo / p.a.impv) given to Titus by Paul to communicate suitable sound doctrine to five groups listed in chapter 2 (2:1). These five groups are listed as older men, older women, younger women, and younger women, and slaves (employees) (2:2-10).

Chapter 2 concludes with emphasis on specific sound doctrines that are suitable for all five groups (2:11-15). Titus 2:11-15 consists of two Greek sentences (2:11-14 and 2:15).

Titus 2:15 concludes with four commands (p.a.impv) – “These things (sound doctrines) **speak** and **exhort** and **reprove** with all authority. Let no one **disregard** you.”

Titus 2:11-14 is divided into sound doctrine associated with the First Coming of Jesus Christ (2:11-12) appeared (epiphaino) and sound doctrine associated with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (2:13-14) (epiphaneia).

<b>We will study FOUR aspects of the sound doctrine referred to in theology as – UNLIMITED ATONEMENT.</b>
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### **1. We will begin with a definition of unlimited atonement – “Jesus Christ died for the sins of the entire human race in order to reconcile to God all those who will believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”**

The Hebrew verb for atonement is (kapher) to make atonement, to cover over or to appease so as to reconcile (Lev.16: 29-34) Yom Kippur / Day of Atonement. It was part of shadow Christology of the Old Covenant (Heb.8-10).

There is no Greek word for atonement. However, two Greek words are associated with the NT doctrine of atonement: katallage (reconciliation/ 2 Cor.5:18-19) and hilasmos (propitiation/ 1 John 2:2; 4:10).

Atonement is the propitious offering for sin under divine judgment. The believer does not receive atonement but rather its benefits just as reconciliation and propitiation. As part of historical Christology of the New Covenant, it results in the 50 things received in the package of salvation that can never be loss in time or eternity.

“Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.” (1 Pet.1:18-19)

### **2. Unlimited atonement is based on the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ for ALL mankind.**

The Greek preposition (huper) is used to explain substitutionary death of unlimited atonement. Huper is used in the following Scriptures to teach this doctrinal concept.

2 Cor.5: 14 – “that one died **for all**.”

2 Cor.5: 15 – “and He died **for all**.”

2 Cor.5: 20 – “We are ambassadors **for Christ**.”

2 Cor.5: 21 – “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin **on our behalf (huper)**, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

“That Christ died **for our sins** according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.” (1 Cor.15:3-4)

“Who gave Himself as a ransom **for all.**” (1 Tim.2:6)  
“For Christ also died **for sins once for all.**” (1 Pet.3:18)

**3. The application or effect of unlimited atonement upon the church age believer is reconciliation to God (2 Cor. 5:14-21).**

“Now all things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God was were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” (2 Cor.5:18-20)

Jesus Christ is the reconciling mediator between a holy God and a sinful mankind –”Who desires ALL men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom FOR ALL, the testimony borne at the proper time.” (1Tim.2:4-6)

“And through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.” (Col.1:20)

**4. Although the death of Jesus Christ atones for ALL sin, atonement and its application in salvation is limited to the volition of man (believe/ Rom.1: 16; John 3:16).**

While it is unlimited atonement for all sin, it is not unlimited for all salvation. Salvation involves personal faith (Eph.2:8-9).

It is unlimited in scope but limited in application because of human volition. Therefore while all are savable not all will be saved (John 3:18, 36; 16:9; 2 Pet.3:9).

“The condemnation of the unsaved is not now the sins which Christ bore on His body on the tree. But the condemnation rests on the fact of the rejection of Jesus Christ as sin-bearer.” (True Evangelism by Chafer, pg.34)

“Dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.” (2 Thess.1:8)