

Foundations:  
*A Primer on the Fundamentals of  
Systematic Theology*

Week 8  
The Theories and Extent of the Atonement  
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What is Atonement?

- The process or act of bringing estranged parties to unity.

***The cross of Jesus Christ  
is the atonement for sin.***

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The Ransom Theory

- The model that sees the atonement as victory over Satan and the forces of evil.

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## The Moral Influence Theory

- The model that views the atonement as a demonstration of God's love.

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## The Governmental Theory

- The model that views the atonement as a demonstration of God's justice.

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## The Satisfaction Theory

- The model that views the atonement as satisfying a principle in the nature of God the Father.

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## The Penal Substitution View

- Christ died to serve as our substitute. This substitution turns away the wrath of God directed towards our sin and imputes Christ's righteousness to us.

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## Is the atonement universal or limited?

- How do we make sense of the spectrum of Scriptures on the scope of the atonement?

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## The Atonement is Limited

- Hebrews 10:14  
For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.
- Matthew 1:21  
"She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

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## The Atonement is Universal

- Romans 5:18  
So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.
- Hebrews 2:9  
But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

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## The Key of Historical Context

- Without Exception or Without Distinction?  
Romans 3:21-22  
But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no ***distinction***

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