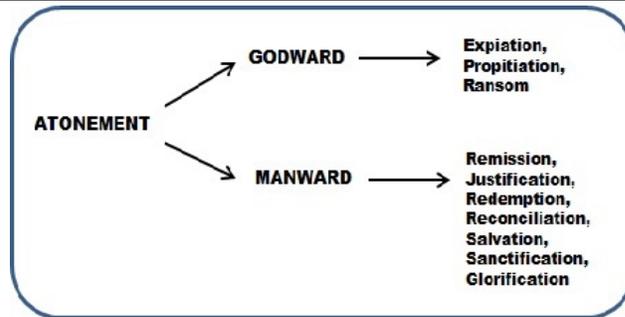


ATONEMENT --



ATONEMENT is God Himself, by and in Christ, taking up and settling the whole question of sin, in His own grace, for His own glory, that believers might be fully blessed.

The word **ATONEMENT** is found only in the Old Testament. The only occurrence in the New Testament is a mistranslation. We refer to Romans 5:11, where the margin of a reference Bible shows reconciliation as the alternative reading, and this latter is, without any question, the right translation.

God, offended at sin was justly indignant at that which was a direct violation of His will and holy nature, and Christ's work was God's **ONLY** solution to righteously offer man mercy and forgiveness and much more, through faith in Christ and His work.

Christ's glorious atoning work has its **GODWARD ASPECT (expiation, propitiation & ransom)** and its **MANWARD ASPECT (remission, justification, redemption, reconciliation, salvation, sanctification and glorification)**.

EXPIATION is to sin (Heb. 2:16, Kelly), as **PROPITIATION** is to God (1 John 2:2 JND; 4:10) and **RANSOM** is the **infinite price paid by Christ** in suffering, death and shedding of blood (Job 33:29; 36:18; Ps. 49:7; Mat. 20:28; 1Tim. 2:6 and John 1:29).

The atoning character of the death of Christ is of transcendent importance and could only be brought fully into the light in the New Testament after the death, resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit and thus fully revealing the Old Testament shadows and types.

The Holy Spirit's immediate object in the epistle to the Hebrews was/is to wean the Hebrew Christians (and ourselves) from yearning after earthly hopes. Yet the future is not forgotten: for the Christian our hope is unmistakably "eternal," (eternal salvation, eternal redemption, eternal Spirit and eternal inheritance (Heb. 5:9; 6:2; 9:12, 14, 15). This epistle has for its object to bring the believer now, with purged conscience, into God's presence and as Peter puts it, "*to bring us to God,*" (1 Pet. 3:18) as He is and will be known in the light forever. There is now a present and precious enjoyment, in the Spirit's power, of God's eternal purposes which is in full view in the epistle to the Ephesians (Eph. 1:3; 3:21 JND).

The understanding of this subject should cause us, with adoring love, to worship our God and Father, who sent his beloved Son, and the Lord Jesus, who offered Himself to God, in spirit and truth and wean us from this present evil age. The Holy Spirit will use this truth to make sin abhorrent and give us the desire to walk humbly in dependence and obedience with God our Father and the Lord Jesus during our brief sojourn down here.

Little Flock # 37 T. Kelly 1806

Th'atoning work is done;
The Victim's blood is shed;
And Jesus now is gone
His people's cause to plead:
He sits in heaven their great High
Priest,
And bears their names upon His
breast.

See "sprinkled with the blood
The mercy-seat" above;
For justice had withstood
The purposes of love;
But justice now withstands no
more,
And mercy yields her boundless
store.

And though awhile He be
Hid from the eyes of men,
His people look to see
Their great High Priest again.
In brightest glory He will come,
And take His waiting people home.