

Lesson #15
Bible Project
Sacrifice and Atonement

1. Sacrifice and Atonement
 - a. We all long for the world to be good. Act in peace, justice and love. BUT we tend to destroy things! WE CALL THIS EVIL!
 - b. Evil ruins things in two ways.
 - i. Direct affect e.g. steal from another person.
 - ii. Indirect affect i.e. ruined the environment of the relationship.
 - c. Many people understand wrongly that since God is good He should be the one to get rid of all the evil in the world.
 - i. But there is evil within us that contributes to the evil outside of us.
 - ii. So to get rid of evil God would need to get rid of us.
 - d. So God has a plan to rid the world of evil without destroying us. How?
 - i. Animal sacrifices
 - ii. Lamb symbolically dies for the sinner.
 1. Atonement = covers over our debt.
 2. High priest uses blood to atone for all of Israel.
 - iii. Blood = Life. God uses it to purify us! (Romans 9:22b)
 - iv. Blood of the Lamb cleanses people and places so that God and His people can live together in peace.
 - e. Israelites EXPERIENCE His love and grace through these symbols.
 - f. Jesus himself is the LAMB!
 - i. Blood of Jesus covered debt that we owed God!
 - g. Blood of Jesus also PURIFIES all the evil around us.
 - h. Jesus BROKE the power of Death and Evil.
 - i. Hebrews 2:14-15
2. No longer animal sacrifices but now there are two new rituals.
 - a. Baptism
 - b. Lord's supper

3. Now we're connected to a NEW life source and power to deal with evil.
 - a. Galatians 2:20

Justice

1. Justice
 - a. Why do humans care so much about Justice?
2. At creation, humans are set apart from all creation as being created in the image of God.
 - a. THIS IS BEDROCK OF THE BIBLE'S VIEW OF JUSTICE.
3. Humans redefine good and evil at the expense of others.
4. God chose Abraham's family line to KEEP RIGHTEOUSNESS and DO JUSTICE.
 - a. Biblical righteousness means to have a RIGHT relationship BETWEEN people.
 - i. i.e. treating others as in the image of God.
5. Biblical justice means to restore.
6. Followers of Jesus are justified and compelled to act on God's behalf.