

John # 23 “A Worthy Substitute” Part 4

John 1:29; Hebrews 9:12-14; Revelation 5:12-13

Two cherubs were mounted on opposite sides of the Mercy Seat, representing the righteousness and justice of God; so the righteousness of God looks down and is satisfied because that blood represented the future saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

And the justice of God also looks down and is satisfied and this is propitiation.

But the animal sacrifices were not completely effective in and of themselves; they were only shadows pointing to the cross, to our Lord’s completely effective salvation work.

The humanity of Jesus Christ was offered without defect and He remained perfect even when He came in contact with all our sins!

But it is still and always will be a matter only of grace; our works are dead works and the only work that is effective is the work of our Lord Jesus, our Worthy Substitute, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world being judged for our sins on the cross, suffering a substitutionary spiritual death followed by His physical death.

Hebrews 9:12 ‘He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

This is the strategic victory of the God-man when He entered the Holy of Holies, the third Heaven.

His victory is His saving work on the cross and His entrance into the Holy of Holies is His physical death, burial, resurrection, ascension, session and the reception of His third royal title.

The ruling power of eternity belongs to the members of the Trinity forever and ever which means that eternity will once and for all eliminate all creature arrogance.

The thing that destroys mankind every time is creature arrogance.

There’ll be no doubt among elect angels or saved mankind regarding the Source of victory in the angelic dispute, nor the Source of blessing or the One who gets the credit forever and ever.

Without arrogance and evil competition, Heaven in the presence of God will be a great blessing for all concerned.

There is no human genius that can penetrate into eternity and begin to understand the love, appreciation, worship and glory that born-again creatures will be capable of, once they’re in Heaven.

The first courtroom judicial decision made by God the Father regarding the sins of the world was that they would be credited to His perfect Son, Jesus Christ on the cross.

The second judicial decision was that the perfect righteousness of God would be credited to all Church Age believers at salvation.

In a judicial imputation, something is credited to someone which is undeserved because it’s not their own and the sins of the human race were not Jesus Christ’s own and the perfect

righteousness

of God is not our own!

And when Jesus says: “Why?” He’s literally saying: “For what reason?” and it’s a rhetorical question because our Lord understood completely why He was being abandoned or forsaken; it was so that we would not be and He uttered this phrase on the cross, simply to tell us what was occurring.

On the cross, the perfect humanity of Jesus Christ was crushed with the judgment of our sins and that’s why He calls Himself *TOLAH* because the weight of our sins crushed Him as He was being judged for them.

The crediting and judgment of our sins in Jesus Christ on the cross by God the Father is illustrative of the crimson worm being crushed in a vat, so that its blood can be used for the manufacture of royal robes.

And because our Lord was judged for our sins on the cross, we now wear the royal robes of His righteousness because we were credited with the righteousness of God the Father and we also share the righteousness of Jesus Christ through the baptism of the Spirit.

Only one person abandoned our Lord at the cross and that was His own Father.

And the Father gave His only Son, knowing full-well that in just 33 years, He’d have to abandon Him completely and my friends, this is the ultimate expression of the Father’s unconditional impersonal love for the entire human race.

This is God’s provision of eternal salvation for the entire human race due to our Worthy Substitute’s Unlimited Atonement.

This is the guarantee of our eternal security because the power of God is greater than human power; we do not have the power to lose our salvation.

This is the strategic victory of Jesus Christ in the angelic dispute.

This led to our Lord’s resurrection, ascension and session, when He received His third royal title, although He was without a royal family related to it.

Jesus’ question is rhetorical for our benefit to explain His substitutionary spiritual death resulting in our redemption, reconciliation, propitiation, Unlimited Atonement, imputation and justification.

Salvation is completely the work of God; God the Father credited our sins and judged them; God the Son bore their judgment and became our Savior and God the Holy Spirit sustained the humanity of Christ on the cross and He also reveals this Gospel message to man.

In His unique spiritual death, Jesus Christ received judgment for billions of sins in 3 hours and that’s why He screamed that oh so familiar question in Aramaic.

Throughout all His beatings and the excruciating pain that resulted, *as a lamb before His*

shearers is silent, He opened not His mouth but in bearing sin as the only sinless human being, He screamed Heavenward so all could hear!