

Jesus Appeased the Wrath of God By His Blood

Romans 3:23-26 ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

❖ Introduction

- **Today... We will be digging deep into the Word of God...**
 - I am so excited because we are going to learn great things today...
 - For some... God will work through His word and cause you to rejoice in His Work
 - To others... if you will only listen and Believe
 - God will change your heart... God will work a miracle in you
- **And you will discover the Pinnacle of the whole Bible...**
 - The Main Truth that God has wanted to show the World
 - Two people I studied called it the Acropolis of the Bible
 - The highest city... the pinnacle... the point of greatest achievement...
 - We have come to the highest point in the Bible... Where it was all heading
- **Do you know what these verses are going to do?**
 - They are going to take us to the cross...
 - **They will take us there to the beating and torture and death of Jesus on the cross....**
 - And they will allow us to open up the curtain...
 - Peel back the cover...
 - And see what is happening behind the scenes...
- **Also... Going to learn a very important word...**
 - Propitiation
 - So... this will be fun!

❖ Recap

- **Do you remember some of last week?**
 - Let me give you four of our main truths we learned last week.

❖ 1) All Have Sinned and Need God

- ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

❖ 2) God Has Declared Believers Righteous

- ²⁴and are justified

❖ 3) God Has Given Us a Free Gift

- justified by his grace as a gift

❖ 4) We Have Been Liberated From Death

- through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

❖ Today's Outline

- **Before I share the outline...** let me explain it... Explain why I am going in this order
 - **There is a natural progression in the text...**
 - **Here in this text He says God did something...**
 - Then He explains why He had to do this...
 - And the reason God does what He does... is because there is a huge problem...
 - And Jesus solves the Problem...
 - **So, Paul gives the solution to the problem first...**

- Then tells us the problem...
 - **Today: I want to start with the Problem**
 - Not that Paul didn't get the order right... He did, because God was speaking through Him...
 - But... we are not writing the book... We are digging into this small portion of God's Word...
 - **So, What we Will do today...**
 - 1) We will start with the problem...
 - 2) Then we will go into the solution...
 - 3) Finally we will look at how we receive the Solution...
 - So... here is the Outline...
 - **Problem First... in two Parts...**
 - **1) God had Patiently Passed over Sin**
 - **2) God Must Maintain His Righteous Nature**
 - **Solution: 3) Jesus Appeased the Wrath of God By His Blood**
 - **How do we receive the Solution: 4) Faith is the Key**
- ❖ **1) God Had Patiently Passed over Sin**
- **This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time,**
 - **God Had Patiently Passed over Sin**
 - But... this needed to change... this could not continue...
 - It hypothetically put God at risk of being unrighteous...
 - Not just seen that way... but actually unrighteous...
 - **He had passed over former sins**
 - **Passed over here means:**
 - A deliberate act of leaving out...
 - ◆ So... you could use the word like this...
 - ◆ A man gave really nice gifts to almost all of his friends...
 - But He passed over Mr. Wilson ... He did not give him a gift.
 - **God in His kindness...**
 - ◆ Had passed over sins... There were sinners who had committed sins...
 - And God had not punished them for their sins...
 - He passed over many sins...
 - ◆ **He had not done this for all men... certain ones He did...**
 - We will see at the end as to why He overlooked their sins
 - **Here are some texts that support this**
 - **Acts 17:30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,**
 - ◆ God had overlooked the times of ignorance...
 - One can notice He means times of man's rebellion against God
 - He is speaking of man's sin... why else would there be a command to repent
 - **One More**
 - **Acts 14:6¹⁶ In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways.**
 - **Why is it a problem that God had passed over former sins?**
 - **Because God is Righteous in Nature**
 - But... Look throughout the Old Testament...
 - God had consistently overlooked the sins of His people didn't He?
 - **Let me give you some examples of the type of things He had overlooked**
 - How about... Rape, Incest, Murder, Adultery, Unfaithfulness, Lies, Covetous hearts

- ◆ Idol worship, making and setting up idols... Self righteousness
- ◆ And there are specific people/saints throughout the Old Testament that did these things...
 - Yet... they are looked upon as men of God
- **He overlooked the sin of Adam and Eve**
 - ◆ And their sin was so great that it cast the whole world into darkness
 - Their sin is responsible for every murder and evil thing ever done...
 - Yet, God overlooked their transgression
- **There is a huge Problem here...**
- **You may ask... well... what about the sacrificial system that was in place...**
 - It was not enough... Even though it was in place... God was still regularly overlooking Sin
 - **Hebrews 10:4⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.**
 - The sacrificial system would do nothing to take away sins
 - **The purpose of the Sacrificial system... the slaying of animals and spilling their blood...**
 - Was to help maintain fellowship b/w God and His people...
 - ◆ It cleansed their conscious for a time..
 - ◆ But it did not remove their sins...
 - Rather... it was pointing toward how God would take away sins...
- **So... we have a problem don't we**
 - **We have the same problem as this:**
 - A man walks into a house in the middle of the night
 - ◆ And steals away two young and beautiful children
 - ◆ He sells them to some people who will send them into another country
 - ◆ And these children will be drugged and abused for years
 - ◆ And eventually they will die at a very young age...
 - ◆ And their families will never see them again...
 - **But... the man is caught... He is found out for what he has done...**
 - ◆ And he is brought to trial.... He is seen as guilty
 - **But, the Judge does not sentence him to time in prison...**
 - ◆ Nor does he sentence him to the death he deserves...
 - ◆ Rather... He tells the guy he is free to go... and free to live out his life in freedom
 - ◆ He goes a step further... He gives the guy a reward... He gives him a nice house to live in
 - ◆ And a really nice retirement account and awesome vehicle to ride around in
 - **Isn't that terrible?**
 - Horrible.... What a horrible judge
 - He was kind to that man... but... He was not a very Just Judge was He?
- **We Know God Had Done Something Like this Because He did it with David**
 - **After David's multiple sins of Laziness, Taking what wasn't His, Adultery, Murder, Cover-up**
 - God tells David through Nathan the prophet:
 - ◆ **2 Samuel 12:13b And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die.**
 - **David would write in a Psalm**
 - **Psalm 32:1-2¹ Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,**
- **God's Overlooking of Sin Makes God Seem Unrighteous...**
 - That is a problem...
 - It seems like God is overlooking His own words... His own Character...
 - It makes God seem unjust if He overlooks sins doesn't it?

- But we know He is not...
 - And We know He can not be...
- God is Holy and Righteous Altogether...
 - He is a Just and Righteous Judge...
- **Scripture says:**
 - Psalm 145:17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.
 - Psalm 96:13 before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.
 - Psalm 119:137 Righteous are You, O Lord, And upright are Your judgments.
 - Psalm 97:2 Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
 - The Scriptures are filled with such verses... it over flows with them
 - How can that be true?
- **But... Let's be honest... if God is overlooking sin...**
 - We have a problem don't we?
 - Although... man is so twisted...
 - ◆ that they expect God to just forgive everyone for everything anyway...
 - ◆ At least all of their many sins...
 - So... for many of us... this does not even **resonate**...
 - ◆ We think... what is the big deal... why not just overlook sin...
 - **But... If God has done this... then God is not the righteous God He says He is...**
 - Therefore: Consider Point 2

❖ 2) God Must Maintain His Righteous Nature

- **This was to show God's righteousness**, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ **It was to show his righteousness at the present time**, so that he might be **just and the justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus.
- **God is going to show He is Righteous**
 - God is going to show He is Just...
- **Although God has overlooked sins...**
 - He will show Himself... not as an Unrighteous and Unfair Judge...
 - He will show Himself as Righteous...
- **Look at the verse...**
 - 25... This was to show God's righteousness
 - 26... It was to show his righteousness at the present time
 - 26b... so that he might be just...
- **Before Going Further...** We must consider another aspect of the Character of God...
 - God is going to show He is righteous...
 - And Part of being righteous is that He is filled with **wrath** over sin...
- **God is Filled with wrath toward sinners....**
 - God has not only overlooked Sin...
 - But... He is also wrath filled over sin...
 - **In the case of the man convicted of stealing the children...**
 - The man would not be let loose... Rather... the judge would have punished him severely
 - The man would be punished as much as possible for what he had done
- **The Scriptures teach this:**
 - "The LORD is a jealous and avenging God; the LORD is avenging and wrathful; the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries and keeps wrath for his enemies." (Nahum 1:2)

- Psalm 2:12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- Psalm 7:11-12 God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. ¹² If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow;
- **Jesus... as He is being led away to be crucified gave a stern warning to the crowd...**
 - Many were weeping for Him... But here is what He said...
 - Luke 23:28-30 ²⁸ But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.'
 - ◆ **Weep here today if you do not know the mercy and kindness of God in Jesus Christ...**
 - God will pour out His wrath upon your head
 - And you will have nothing to say and only misery throughout eternity...
 - ◆ **Weep**
 - James 4:8-10 ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.
- **God's Wrath is shown in 2 main ways...**
 - I will share the first now... second later...
 - 1) It is demonstrated in His sending sinners into the depths of hell
 - Where they will be punished throughout all of eternity
- **Now.... Does God have two minds? Does God contradict Himself?**
 - How is it that God is filled with wrath over sin... while still being able to overlook sin...
- **How Did God Maintain His Righteous Nature?**
 - Look to our next point...

❖ 3) Jesus Appeased the Wrath of God by His Blood

- ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, **to be received by faith.**

➤ Jesus Appeased the Wrath of God by His Blood

➤ God is About to Display His Righteousness...

- God is about to put on a show...
- He has a huge stage for all mankind to see...
 - **And even today... the stage that was set and the display that was seen**
 - ◆ Is still playing... it is still resonating throughout the world...
- **Look into the verse:**
 - Whom God put forward

➤ Whom God Put Forward...

- The NASB translates this: **Whom God displayed publicly**
- **The meaning is this: to put before a public audience for consideration**
- **The only thing we have like this in our Country is the Super Bowl...**
 - Every year... millions of people throughout our country watch the Super Bowl
 - Millions pack into the city
 - Hundreds of millions watch from Home...
 - And two teams are publicly displayed to the whole country...
 - On a grander scale... The World Cup of Soccer reaches a worldwide audience...
- **Both of these Pale in comparison to what God has done...**
 - God has Displayed His Righteousness throughout the world throughout generations
 - ◆ What Jesus has done still speaks and resonates throughout the world...

◆ 2,000 years after His very public execution by crucifixion

➤ **So... What was God doing there?**

- **And here we come to a most important term for the Christian to understand**
- Here is a word that the Christian should not only learn... but love...
 - He should cling to it...
- **God was displaying Jesus as a propitiation...**
 - **Propitiation**
 - The NASB puts it like this: **whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation**
 - The ESV puts it like this: **whom God put forward as a propitiation**

➤ **What is a propitiation... ?**

- **A quick definition would be:**
 - **The appeasing of wrath**
 - ◆ Could be understood as a sacrifice of atonement...
 - ◆ Synonyms for the word propitiate include:
 - Appear or placate or pacify
 - **Pacify would be a word that many of you all are familiar with...**
 - ◆ I hesitate to use it here since it doesn't fully explain propitiate...
 - ◆ But... let's use it for a second since you are familiar with it...
 - **Consider a crying baby...**
 - ◆ This child is inconsolable... We have all seen it...
 - ◆ The child is in its bed... and it will not stop crying...
 - ◆ It seems as if the child never will... this goes on for what seems like hours...
 - ◆ The child is screaming at the top of its lungs....
 - ◆ Waaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa... Something is wrong... the child isn't like this for no reason
 - ◆ **What do you do?**
 - You try to pacify the child...
 - Maybe you actually use a pacifier for the child... to settle the child down...
 - To give the child what it wants or needs so it will not cry...
 - The child's needs must be met before it will settle down...
- **God is not like a little baby that is out of control...**
 - But, His wrath could be described like this...
 - ◆ It is a decent analogy...
 - **God's wrath is ready to break out upon sinners because of their rebellion**
 - ◆ It is bubbling up like a volcano that is ready to erupt
 - ◆ And God's wrath must be satisfied...

➤ **The Use of the Word Propitiation implies 4 things...**

- 1) An Offense has occurred
- 2) There is a Person offended
- 3) There is an offending person
- 4) Sacrifice or other means to make atone for the offense...
 - Or we might could say it was something done to "make things right" b/w two parties
 - Set things straight...

➤ **Let's Look at the Reality for Mankind in regards to Propitiation...**

- **1) Sin has been committed....** An offense has occurred
 - Sin is infinitely offensive to God...
- **2) God has been offended...** His right to govern and rule has been challenged
 - Challenged by His subjects...

- They have rebelled WILDLY against God...
- **3) Men are the offenders**
 - We have gone our own way... We have decided to govern ourselves...
 - Make up our own rules...
 - We have spit upon the rules of God
- **4) Finally... Jesus is offered up as a Sacrifice to atone or appease God's wrath toward sinners**
 - Sacrifice has been made... Jesus life blood is poured out...
- **Propitiation is Accomplished in Jesus taking on the Wrath of God...**
 - Jesus appeased the Wrath of Almighty God by His life's Blood
 - **Notice what Isaiah said**
 - **Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; ...⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.**
- **Jesus did not just come and die...**
 - Come on now... notice this... He didn't just die
 - Many people have died... Many have died as martyrs...
 - Many have died for others throughout time and history...
 - Many have done so in joy...
- **Jesus came and bore the wrath of God...**
 - There is a great picture of this that we can see as Jesus is praying before He is arrested
 - **Matthew 26:37-39 And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me." And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."**
 - Does it seem like Jesus is just worried about dying?
 - No... it was much worse than that...
 - **He was about to be forsaken by God**
 - ◆ He was about to have the sins of mankind placed upon Him...
 - He is distressed... he is deeply grieved to the point of death...
 - He prays... let this cup pass from me...
 - Then later He would pray... **"My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done."**
 - Jesus was about to drink the cup of the wrath of God...
- **We have no idea... We have no idea what it was that Jesus went through...**
 - We are only told he bore the wrath of God...
 - But... I think we can see a glimpse of the horrific nature of it all by Jesus dread over it
- **Earlier I said there are two main ways in which God has demonstrated His Wrath...**
 - Number 1 was by destroying sinners in Hell for eternity...
 - That is so terrible...
 - Number 2 is in the crucifixion of His Son Jesus...
- **The Propitiation was accomplished BY HIS BLOOD...**
 - The blood of Jesus was poured out just like an animal sacrifice
 - They would cut the animal, and its blood would spill out until it's life was gone
 - This is what happened with Jesus...
 - ◆ He Life's blood was poured out unto death
 - Unto death
 - **As John the Baptist Said:**

- John 1:29 “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

➤ **Notice this very important Truth...**

- The death of Jesus was no accident...
- It was planned... And it was carried out
- **It was carried out by God the Father Himself...**
 - Isaiah 53:10 Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him;
- **Nasb puts it like this:**
 - Isaiah 53:10 But the Lord was pleased To crush Him, ^bputting *Him* to grief; If He would render Himself *as* a guilt offering

➤ **Look back into verse 25**

- because in his divine forbearance
- **As God He delayed His right to punish**
 - And God was able to do this because He had a plan...
- **He had a plan in place before He ever created man**
 - The Father and Son made a plan for their creation
 - Revelation 13:8 teaches that Jesus was the lamb slain before the foundation of the world
- **Jesus was more than willing to do this... because of His great love for us...**
 - Ephesians 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,
 - Hebrews 12:2 who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,

➤ **The Divine Plan of God**

- Although God is filled with wrath over sin...
- The Son would willingly bear the wrath of the Father for His children...
- Jesus would take the punishment from God, so that many might be saved...
- 1 Peter 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,

➤ **God did not create us to destroy us... He created us to save...**

- God loves to save... He finds no delight in the death of the wicked
- He delights in saving...

➤ **Jesus is Publicly Displayed as a Propitiation...**

- God says... look world... look sinners... look to the cross...
- Look at my Son... I will crush Him... I will pour out my hatred and wrath on Him
- **I will do this for you... I will offer up my Son for You...**
 - I am not sending Him to judge you... I am sending Him to save you
 - Oh... look to the Son...
 - My Son will appease my wrath... He will placate it... He will pacify it... He will propitiate it

➤ **God says... I will not deal with you in my wrath...**

- Psalm 103:8-13 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. ¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. ¹³As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.
- John 3:17 “For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

➤ Now... How has this become true of us... or how does it become true?

❖ **4) Faith is the Key**

- 25b to be received by faith.... 26b the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

➤ **Not everyone will have the wrath of God removed from their head...**

- Many will enter into judgment with the wrath of God bearing down on their account
- Hell will be filled up with people who rejected this offer of free grace
- People who rejected and rebelled against God
- **By Faith:** We must Receive what Jesus has done By Faith
 - This means we must believe...
 - Remember back in verse 22 **“through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.”**
 - We must have faith... it is a noun... it is substantive
 - And We must believe... Believe is the verb... the action ... We must actively believe
 - **Old Testament Saints were saved just like this...**
 - They followed sacrifices to maintain fellowship with God
 - And to be obedient...
 - Because they trusted Him... They did not see what Jesus would do clearly
 - But they had faith in God... Their faith is why God overlooked their sins...
 - ◆ But...it was based on what God would do in Jesus
- **When We Receive this pacification of the wrath of God... this appeasement**
 - Because we have had Faith in the Death and Resurrection of Jesus...
 - Look at verse 26b... God is just... because He punished Jesus...
 - **Then look at what is so good for you and me...**
 - It says that God is... **the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**
 - He declares you and me righteous... He makes that legal declaration...
 - Of the one who has faith in Jesus
- **Look to the Son... Look to God’s Display of Propitiation**
 - **John 6:40⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”**

❖ Invitation

- **How Can you beat that offer?**