

THE PERFECT SACRIFICE OF CHRIST

By Keith Greer

Let us briefly discuss the benefits of the "**perfect sacrifice**" of Jesus Christ on the cross:

It was for propitiation. "Whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus." (Romans 3:25,26) This means it was an atonement or a covering for our sins. Also read 1 John 2:2. The blood of Christ atoned for our sins.

It was for purchase. "For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." {1 Corinthians 6:20} The perfect sacrifice of Christ bought us and redeemed us from the bondage of sin, Ephesians 1:7. Christ's blood also was the purchase price of His church, Acts 20:28. Man could not pay the price for his own sinful conduct. The justice of God demanded a payment for sin. When Christ returned to heaven He offered His own blood as the ransom price for sin and His Father accepted it, Hebrews 9:24-28.

It was for peacemaking. "And by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross." {Colossians 1:20} The alien sinner was an enemy of God. "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." (James 4:4) Friendship and acceptance of the world's standards instead of the Lord's puts one at odds with God. How can man ever truly be at peace with God in his sins? Impossible, because our sins separate us from God, Isaiah 59:1,2.

Another point that we should consider. Why would the Son of God, leave heaven, His place with the Father, to come to this land of sin and sorrow knowing it would end at Calvary? Only one thing motivated Him to do it – His love for mankind. Providing the divine remedy to a problem we had no solution or answer. Thanks be to God that He was willing to send His Son and Christ was willing to give His life as the "**perfect sacrifice**." Do I hear an "amen?" ***