

Series: Fourth Friday
Title: Limited Atonement
Text: Isaiah 53: 10-12
Date: November 30 2018
Place: SGBC, NJ

This is our third session for our young people as we study the doctrine of grace commonly known by the acronym T.U.L.I.P.

This time our subject is “Limited Atonement.”

Limited atonement (particular redemption) teaches that by Christ’s obedience unto the death of the cross, he accomplished redemption, made atonement, only for God’s elect.

By laying down his life—the Just for the unjust—Christ accomplished the eternal redemption of his people. Christ honored and established God’s holy law for his people by giving the law perfect righteousness and satisfying the justice of God for us. Christ justified his people from our sins and made us the righteousness of God in him. He redeemed his particular people so that we are his purchased possession. The result is, all for whom Christ died must and shall be regenerated to faith in Christ. God’s satisfied-justice demands it. Therefore, all who Christ redeemed shall be brought irresistibly by God’s grace to believe on Christ and none shall be lost.

In the term “limited atonement” the word “limited” means Christ died only for the elect. “Atonement” means Christ made God and his people “at-one.” The other name for this doctrine is “particular redemption.” “Particular” means the same as “limited” and “redemption” means by Christ’s blood he purchased his people for the curse and condemnation of the law.

Satan attacks this doctrine more than any. It is the heart of the gospel because it is how the righteousness of God is manifest, which is the very purpose for which God send his Son. Satan’s preachers deny limited atonement. Most people under the umbrella of Christianity believe universal atonement. They are commonly called Arminians after Jacobus Arminius (1560–1609). Sometimes they are referred to as Wesleyans after John Wesley. (1703-1791)

Though they may differ slightly in the following points, most who believe universal atonement teach that Christ died for all sinners. They say by God’s grace a sinner is regenerated but they say he then has a freewill to accept or reject Christ. Those who accept Christ, make his blood effectual for them; those who reject Christ perish. They make Christ’s blood to have been shed in vain for them.

The doctrine of universal atonement takes the offense out of the cross because it exalts the sinner making man the cause of his salvation. Also, it makes Christ’s death vanity by saying some for whom Christ died shall perish in hell. It is not simply error; it is blasphemy against God and heresy which denies Christ.

Scripture declares Christ shall not fail! (Is 42: 4) By Christ’s obedience unto the death of the cross, he accomplished redemption, made atonement, only for God’s elect so that none shall be lost. This is the message of Limited Atonement/Particular Redemption. This is the gospel!

Isaiah 53:10: Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. 11: He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12: Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath

poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

YET IT PLEASSED THE LORD TO BRUISE HIM

The wicked hands of men nailed our Savior to the cross. But they only did what God purposed from eternity. (Acts 2:23; 4:27-28)

Acts 2: 23: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Acts 4: 27: For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, 28: For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

Since God chose his Son to be the Savior of his people from eternity, it means God loves his people with an everlasting love. (Jer 31: 3) Before his people fell into sin, God had provided his Son to be our Savior. Christ had entered covenant, before we fell, to be the Surety of his people, saying, "*Whatever they owe you, put that on my account.*"

Proverbs 8: 23: I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

Remember, there are no accidents with God. God is in full control of all things: the things that come to pass in time were ordained by God from eternity.

WHEN THOU SHALT MAKE HIS SOUL AN OFFERING FOR SIN

John Gill correctly said this applies "not his soul only but his body also, even his whole human nature, in union with his divine Person: for it was he himself that was offered up in the room and stead of his people, to make atonement and satisfaction for their sins." Notice, it was "himself" in entirety that was the sacrifice for sin.

Hebrews 9:26...now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Hebrews 10: 1: For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect...5: Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me. 6: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7: Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 10: By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once.

God is righteous so his law must be honored. Justice must be executed upon on all who sin against God. When Moses saw his glory, the LORD said that he is merciful but that he will not spare the guilty.

Exodus 34:6: The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in

goodness and truth, 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, AND that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

Oh the love and mercy of God! He made his Son to be the sin-offering for his people to declare his righteousness.

Romans 3:21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ...25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Christ voluntarily gave himself to be bruised in place of his people. He said, "no man takes my life, I lay it down of myself."

Psalm 40: 6: Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened...

Isaiah 50:5: The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. 6: I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

The bruising of divine justice which Christ bore on the cross was by the hand of God his Father upon Christ in the place of God's elect because he made his soul an offering for sin. He cried from the cross, "*My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me...but thou art holy!*"

As the righteous and holy servant of God, the spotless Lamb of God, laid down his life "*the Just for the unjust that he might bring us to God.*" He who knew no sin, the LORD made to be sin for us. The LORD laid on him the iniquity of his people and then poured out divine justice on him the place of God's people

Isaiah 53: 4: Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5: But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all...8:...for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Psalms 85:10: Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

With the two goats on the Day of Atonement, the Lord's Goat – Truth—was slain to make atonement for the sin of Israel. The Scapegoat – Mercy—carried the sins away so that none remains on his people. Christ is represented by both.

HE SHALL SEE HIS SEED

Who are his seed? He said in verse 8 they are God's people, "*for the transgression of my people was he stricken.*" God saw Christ is seed. Since Christ made atonement, accomplished redemption, he shall see his people: justified, regenerated, sanctified and glorified!

HE SHALL PROLONG DAYS

God raised his Son from the grave to his right hand and raised his people in him.

Ephesians 2: 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

AND THE PLEASURE OF THE LORD SHALL PROSPER IN HIS HAND

Here are verses of scripture where we see what pleased the LORD. As you read each of these, understand, that all this pleasure of the LORD shall be accomplished by the hand of Christ Jesus, the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.

1 Samuel 12: 22: For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.

Colossians 1: 18...in all things he might have the preeminence. 19: For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell.

1 Corinthians 1: 21:...it pleased God... by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

Galatians 1: 15: But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me.

Hebrews 11: 6: But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Ephesians 1: 9: Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.

Luke 12: 32: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

HE SHALL SEE OF THE TRAVAIL OF HIS SOUL, AND SHALL BE SATISFIED: BY HIS KNOWLEDGE SHALL MY RIGHTEOUS SERVANT JUSTIFY MANY: FOR HE SHALL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES

Christ's people are the travail of his soul. My wife travailed in pain until our children were born. But when they were laid in her arms she was satisfied. The Son of God shall be satisfied with his ransomed people who he travailed to save.

- Satisfied when he brings us all to exalt his knowledge in saving us—"by his knowledge."

- Satisfied when he brings them all to give him the glorify as their righteousness—"my righteous servant"
- Satisfied when he brings them all to praise him for justifying them—"he justified many"
- Satisfied when he brings them all to exalt him for establishing the law in perfect righteousness for us—"for he shall bear their iniquities"
- Satisfied when he presents them all to himself—"a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Eph 5: 27)

Isaiah 62:5: For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.

THEREFORE WILL I DIVIDE HIM A PORTION WITH THE GREAT AND HE SHALL DIVIDE THE SPOIL WITH THE STRONG

God will give Christ all his people and all honor and glory as promised in the covenant. And Christ shall share his inheritance with all his people. Here is why?

- Because he hath poured out his soul unto death
- And he was numbered with the transgressors
- And he bare the sins of many
- And he made intercession for the transgressors

Men who preach limited atonement say that it takes the sinner to make Christ's blood effectual. God says that his Son alone accomplished the atonement of his people. Thanks be to God, "He shall not fail!" (Is 42: 4)

Amen!