 In Christ

> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.
>
> *— 1 John 2:2*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: reconciliation, Forgiveness, Savior, sin, world

Interpretation:
In the context of this Bible passage, *“propitiation”* means that through *Jesus’* death on the cross, the price for our sins was paid. The word *“propitiation”* can also be translated as *“atonement,”* which is the act of removing or forgiving someone’s sins. In other words, the verse is saying that Jesus became the solution to sin not just for believers, but for all people.

Why do we need a propitiator?

According to the Bible, we have all sinned and turned away from God *(Romans 3:23)*. This means that we all need a propitiator, or someone who can pay for our sins. However, the animal sacrifices that people commonly used to atone for their sins in the Old Testament were not enough. Only through the death of a perfect and blameless being like Jesus could the price for our sins be fully paid.

What does “the whole world” mean

When we say “the whole world” in this verse, it means just that: *everyone, without exception*. Jesus’ death was not just for believers or Jews, but for all people in the world, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or religious affiliation. It is an invitation to all to believe in Jesus’ redemptive work and draw close to Him.

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> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
> *— 1 John 4:10*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: reconciliation, love, Savior, sin

Interpretation:
Love is a central theme in the Bible, and this particular verse, 1 John 4:10, gives us a deep understanding of what God's love means. This letter was written by John, one of Jesus' disciples, around 90-95 AD.

In this passage, John tells us about the nature of love and where it comes from. He points out that love is not something we can create ourselves, but rather, it comes directly from God. John introduces us to the idea that love is given to us by God, and also shows us that the ultimate expression of His love is found in the fact that God sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

The verse 1 John 4:10 gives us a clear definition of what love means. First, we are told that love does not originate in ourselves, but in God. He is the source of all love. The love expressed by God is genuine, pure, and true.

Secondly, we are shown that love is not just an emotion or feeling, but has a concrete expression in the work of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. God so loved the world that He sent His Son to die in our place.

This means that love goes beyond what we can do or feel. Love is an action. If we want to understand the love of God, we need to look to Jesus on the cross. Here we see the greatest expression of love the world has ever seen.

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> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.
> *— 2 Corinthians 5:18*

Book: New Testament / 2 Corinthians
Topics: reconciliation, Evangelism

Interpretation:
2 Corinthians 5:18 tells us about reconciliation with God through *Jesus Christ* and how this process allows us to become part of the ministry of reconciliation.

Reconciling with God

As Christians, we all long for a close and meaningful relationship with our *Creator*. However, because of our sins, we have become distant from God. But through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we can be reconciled to God. *2 Corinthians 5:18* reminds us that all of this is an expression of God's love and grace toward us.

The work of Christ

Jesus Christ is the means by which we are reconciled to God. He took our sins to the cross and paid for them, allowing us to approach *the Father* without fear. As the verse says, it is through Christ that God reconciled us to Himself.

The importance of reconciliation

Once we are reconciled to God, He makes us ministers of reconciliation. This means that we must share the message of salvation with those who have not yet accepted *Jesus as their Savior*. Our job is to bring reconciliation to others so that they too can enjoy a full relationship with God.

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> That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.
> *— 2 Corinthians 5:19*

Book: New Testament / 2 Corinthians
Topics: reconciliation, Jesus, Salvation, sin, world

Interpretation:

In this Bible verse, we find the idea that *God was in Christ*, seeking to reconcile us to Himself and the world. The Apostle *Paul* was speaking to the church in Corinth, reminding them that God does not count our sins, but works through *His Son Jesus* to provide an opportunity for salvation and reconciliation.

What does reconciliation mean?

Reconciliation is the act of bringing together two parties that have been at odds or alienated. In the context of the Bible, reconciliation is the restoration of the relationship between God and man that has been broken by sin. That is, God wants us to draw close to Him again, to live in fellowship with Him and have a personal and deep relationship with Him, so God wants to reconcile us to Himself.

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> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
> — *Colossians 3:13*

Book: New Testament / Colossians
Topics: reconciliation, Forgiveness, neighbor, peace

Interpretation:
In *Colossians 3:13, Paul* teaches us a great lesson. The apostle urges us to be patient and to forgive our brothers and sisters in the faith, even if we have grievances against them. Life in society is difficult, as we can all attest to from our own experience.

That is why it is important to remember what *Christ* taught us; He always forgives us, no matter how great our offense. If we follow His example, we will be able to maintain unity in the Christian community and help each other when misunderstandings and mistakes arise.

Patience with others

In this verse, the word “Bear” means “to bear or support.” The meaning is clear: we need to be able to maintain harmony in our relationships, even when things get difficult. We may have different opinions and points of view, but it is important that our faith and love *for Christ* help us overcome these problems. We must be able to support and help each other, and also be there for our brothers and

sisters in the faith.

In the Christian community, “being patient” with others can mean many things. It can be listening to them when they need to talk, helping them in their time of need, and praying for them. When we are patient with others, we show unconditional love and strengthen our relationships with them.

Forgive others

It is also important to remember that forgiving others is vital to our spiritual life. When we have a problem with someone, it can be very difficult for us to forgive them and move on. But in *Colossians 3:13*, Paul reminds us that we are to forgive others just as *Christ* forgives us.

For many of us, forgiveness can be difficult. It may take time and effort, but it is important to remember that forgiveness is a fundamental part of our faith. It helps us release anger and bitterness and begin to repair broken relationships. Forgiveness allows us to draw closer to God and others again. Sometimes it can be helpful to talk to someone in the Christian community about forgiveness to get advice and support in the process.

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> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.
>
> *— Ephesians 4:32*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: reconciliation, compassion, Forgiveness, goodness

Interpretation:
Ephesians 4:32 is a Bible verse that tells us about the importance of being kind, merciful, and forgiving. It tells us that we are to treat others the same way God treated us *in Christ*, forgiving us and giving us His love and grace.

What does it mean to be kind?

Being kind means being kind, compassionate, and altruistic toward others. It is an effort to serve and seek the welfare of others without expecting anything in return. To be kind, we must set aside our

selfishness and selfish needs and put the interests of others above our own. Kindness involves acting lovingly and generously at all times, even in difficult or painful situations.

What does it mean to be merciful?

Being merciful means showing compassion and empathy toward others, even when they have made mistakes or sinned. Mercy involves forgiving and showing unconditional love to our neighbors, even when they have done wrong.

By showing mercy, we follow the example of God, who forgave and loved us despite our mistakes and sins. Mercy is an act of divine love that should be shown to everyone, no matter who they are or what they have done.

What does it mean to forgive?

Forgiveness is releasing the grudges and resentments we hold toward others, releasing all the bitterness and resentment in our hearts. By forgiving, we free our souls and allow ourselves to move on with our lives without the burden of resentment.

It is an act of love that helps us cultivate reconciliation and peace in our personal relationships. By forgiving others, we also free them and allow them to move on with their own lives.

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> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.
> — *Hebrews 12:14*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews
Topics: reconciliation, Holiness, life, peace

Interpretation:
Peace is something fundamental to our lives, both in our relationships with others and in our relationship with God. The absence of peace can cause a variety of problems, both physical and emotional. In this verse, we are called to pursue peace with everyone, which means that we should do everything we can to maintain harmony and love in our relationships. This includes not only our friends

and family, but also those who may have offended us or simply disagree with us.

It is important to remember that our main goal as Christians is to seek peace not only for the mental and emotional health it can provide us, but also because God calls us to be peacemakers in this world. Matthew 5:9 says, *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God”* Moreover, peace allows us to better communicate with God and be more willing to follow His leading.

Holiness is apparently the presence of the Spirit of God in us and His fruit, without Him we cannot see the Lord.

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> If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.
> — *Matthew 18:15*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: reconciliation, listening, sin, speaking

Interpretation:
The Gospel of Matthew is one of the four canonical Gospels and the first in the New Testament. It tells of the ministry *of Jesus* and His teachings to His disciples and the people at large. This verse from *Matthew 18:15* is part of the Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus teaches His followers a number of valuable lessons about how they should live the Christian life.

Interpretation

In *Matthew 18:15*, *Jesus* teaches us the importance of brotherly correction in the Christian community. In this verse, He tells us that if a brother sins against us, we should go and talk to him privately. This means that we should address the issue directly and personally, rather than spreading rumors and gossip. If our brother listens to us and repents, we have gained our brother.

This verse reminds us that as Christians, we are not called to judge others, but to love them and help them grow in faith. Brotherly correction is an act of love because it aims to help our brothers and sisters improve their behavior and relationship with God. Jesus gives us a practical tool to help restore broken relationships and harmony in society.

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> Help us, God our Savior, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for your name’s sake.
>
> *— Psalm 79:9*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: reconciliation, freedom, Redeemer, Salvation, sin, worship

Interpretation:
The Book of Psalms is a treasure of biblical literature. Psalms are verses and songs dedicated to worship and praise to God. Beyond their use in worship, the Psalms are also a rich source of biblical teaching and wisdom.

The verse begins with a call to action: *"Help us!"* The author acknowledges that he needs help in his current situation. It's unclear what exactly the author is facing, but it's clear that the situation is difficult and requires God's intervention. We often find ourselves in similar situations in life, needing divine help.

The verse continues with a plea for forgiveness of sins. Sin is a common theme throughout the book of Psalms. The authors often lament their sins and ask God to forgive them. In this verse, the author asks God to forgive the sins of His people.

But why should God help and forgive His people? The verse continues, *"for the glory of Your name's sake."* The author acknowledges that God must intervene for His own sake. God's glory plays a vital role throughout the Bible. It is the visible manifestation of God's holy, just, and loving character. When God's people cry out to Him for help, it must be for God's glory, not for their own gain.

It's important to note that this verse is not simply a plea for help and forgiveness. It is also a confession of faith. The author believes that God can help and forgive His people. The prayer is not motivated by doubt or skepticism, but by faith.

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> For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!
>
> — *Romans 5:10*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: reconciliation, Salvation, Savior

Interpretation:
Romans is one of the most profound letters in Scripture, and in *chapter 5, verse 10, the apostle Paul* tells us about reconciliation with God. This verse shows us the reality of our situation before salvation and how *Jesus’* death on the cross allowed us to be reconciled to our Creator.

The sinful nature of man

Before salvation, our nature is sinful and we are separated from God. As *Romans 3:23* says, *“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”* This means that because of sin, we are separated from the perfection of God and our relationship with Him cannot be restored in our own strength.

Reconciliation through Christ’s death

In *Romans 5:10*, Paul tells us that even though we are enemies of God because of our sins, we can be reconciled to Him through the death of His Son on the cross.

Christ's death was the perfect sacrifice that made it possible for us to be right with God despite our sins. As *Romans 5:9* says, *"Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!"*

The life of Christ as our hope of salvation

But the verse doesn't end there. *Romans 5:10* says, *"how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life."* Here Paul is talking about the life of the resurrected Christ, which is our hope of salvation. Not only did Jesus die for our sins, but he also rose again, conquering death and offering us eternal life.

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