# Theology | Christ in Atonement: The Lamb of God | Romans 3:21-26

## Live as ONE

What if you made a purchase or a contract, thinking you knew exactly what you were getting into, and were pleasantly surprised when the deal was MUCH BETTER than you expected? If you've had such an experience, recall and share it with your group. If not, try to imagine what that would be like. How would you feel? Who would you tell?

## Live by the WORD

First, some background. God has always desired to be in relationship with humans. But from very early on, we have had a sin problem that interfered with that relationship. God is holy and just; and our sin corrupts us so that we are unfit for intimacy with this holy God. Sin also deforms our hearts so that we no longer even want that relationship for which we were created. In the Old Testament, God established "The Law" as a way of addressing sin. The Law communicated God's standard for how to be a true human. It reinforced the fact that we are fallen creatures in rebellion against our creator; drawing on our own resources and knowledge to make our way in the world. For further study, you can check out the following passages (among many others):

**Leviticus 4:32-35.** This is a description of an individual sin offering.

**Leviticus 16.** These are specifications for the national Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur.

#### Read Romans 3:19-26.

There are a number of big, theologically weighty words in this passage (righteousness, justified, redemption, propitiation). Take a moment and see if you can come up with agreed-upon definitions for each of these words so that everyone is on the same page as we continue the discussion.

How would you describe the relationship between Jesus and The Law?

The word "forgiveness," while hinted at, is not actually mentioned in these verses. Look at the words that are used (righteousness, justified, grace, redemption, propitiation) and consider their meanings. What kind of story do they tell about the forgiveness that is available in the person and work of Jesus? According to this passage, how is our relationship with God restored? In other words, how do we receive and enter into the righteousness/ justification/redemption of Jesus?

### Live as SENT

**Read Hebrews 10:1-10.** In this passage, the author is contrasting the system of animal sacrifice that is established in The Law with the new way of living that has been made available through Jesus.

What do you see about the scope of salvation from these verses? Is it greater than you thought?

Has your everyday life been affected by the knowledge of how Jesus has addressed your sin problem?

Has being rescued by Jesus caused you to look around and see others who also need to be rescued by Jesus?

### **IDEAS FOR CONTINUED GROWTH...**

Ask someone you trust, who knows you well, to help you assess how you are growing in Christlikeness.

"Are you finding your appetite for sin less than it once was?" Do you find your appetites for the Way of Jesus increasing?

Connect DAIL	
Sunday	Romans 3:21-26
Monday	John 1:29-34; Psalm 93; Proverbs 18:23-24
Tuesday	Romans 6:1-14; Psalm 94:1-9; Proverbs 19:1-4
Wednesday	Romans 6:15-7:6; Psalm 94:10-23; Proverbs 19:5-7
Thursday	Romans 7:7-8:11; Psalm 95:1-4; Proverbs 19:8-11
Friday	Romans 8:12-30; Psalm 95:5-11; Proverbs 19:12-15
Saturday	Romans 8:31-39; Psalm 96:1-5; Proverbs 19:16-18

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