

1 Peter Series

Lesson #106

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

**CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF  
UNJUST SUFFERING:  
SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT;  
ERRONEOUS VIEWS OF THE**

**ATONEMENT**

**1 PETER 3:18**

**1<sup>ST</sup> PETER**

**LIVING IN LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY**

**1 Pet. 3:18, “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”**

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**ἅπαξ *hapax*  
once, once for  
all**

**περὶ ἁμαρτιῶν  
*peri hamartion*  
for, concerning, with  
reference to sins  
(plural)**

**1 Pet. 3:18, “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”**

**περὶ ἁμαρτιῶν**

***peri hamartion***

**for, concerning,  
with reference to  
sins (plural)**

**ὑπέρ *hyper***

**Preposition (+gen)  
(+gen) for; (+acc), in  
place of, for; a  
preposition of  
substitution**

**Used repeatedly for sin offerings in the OT.**

**Heb. 5:3, “Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins.”**

**Heb. 10:26, “For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,”**

**περὶ ἁμαρτιῶν**

***peri hamartion***

**for, concerning,  
with reference to  
sins (plural)**

Used repeatedly for  
sin offerings in the OT.

Lev. 5:6, “and he shall  
bring his trespass  
offering to the LORD  
for his sin which he has  
committed, a female  
from the flock, a lamb  
or a kid of the goats as  
a sin offering. So the  
priest shall make  
atonement for him  
concerning his sin.”

περὶ ἁμαρτιῶν

*peri hamartion*

for, concerning,  
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**Lev. 5:6, “and he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD for his sin which he has committed, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats as a sin offering. So the priest shall make atonement for him concerning his sin.”**

**כפר *kaphar* piel perf 3 masc sing consec  
*to cover, make atonement; cleanse,  
forgive, wipe clean***



**Ex. 30:10, “And Aaron shall make atonement upon its horns once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement; once a year he shall make atonement upon it throughout your generations. It is most holy to the LORD.”**

**כפר *kaphar* piel perf 3 masc sing consec  
*to cover, make atonement; cleanse,  
forgive, wipe clean***

**Lev. 4:20, “And he shall do with the bull as he did with the bull as a sin offering; thus he shall do with it. So the priest shall make atonement for [‘a/] them, and it shall be forgiven them.”**

**כפר *kaphar* piel perf 3 masc sing consec  
*to cover, make atonement; cleanse,  
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# **What the Bible Teaches About Substitutionary Atonement**



**Two words, we will take “substitutionary” first, then “atonement.”**

- 1. *Substitutionary* in theology refers to Christ dying *in our place, replacing* us so that He paid our penalty. (10 points to follow, *a–j.*)**

**e. The Old Testament illustrates this through a series of sacrifices which are substitutionary in nature.**

**Lev. 1:3, “If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD.**

**Lev. 1:4, “Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.”**

**The Septuagint (LXX) prefers to translate these various prepositions with the Greek *peri*.**

**περὶ ἁμαρτιῶν**

***peri hamartion***

**for, concerning, with reference to sins (plural)**

**“to denote the object or person to which (whom) an activity or especially inward process refers or relates, about, concerning.” BDAG**

**In a number of contexts with verbs such as prayer it takes the place of the Greek preposition *huper* with the genitive a preposition of substitution.**

**BDAG: “when used with ἁμαρτία the word ‘for’ has the sense to take away, to atone for περὶ ἁμαρτίας” (Num. 8:8) Rom. 8:3.**

f. Isa. 53:5–6 clearly indicates substitution.

Isa. 53:5, “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

מִן *min* prep *from, separation from*

Isa. 53:6, “All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

עַל-2 *al-2* prep *upon, over, above*

**2 Cor. 5:21, “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”**

**ὑπέρ *huper***

**Preposition (+gen)  
(+gen) for; (+acc), in  
place of, for; a  
preposition of  
substitution**



j. **1 John 2:2 relates this substitution to the idea of propitiation.**

**1 John 2:2, “And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”**

**περὶ**

***peri***

**for, concerning, with reference to  
sins (plural)**

**i. What is the *nature* of the atonement?**

# Key Ideas on Atonement in the Early Church

1. Penal: a penalty paid either to Satan as ransom, or in relation to divine justice.
2. Substitution: Jesus dies in the place of sinners, the Just for the unjust, the Righteous for the unrighteous. Especially, *Diognetus*.
3. The work is directed to the Father.
4. Tertullian introduces the concept of satisfaction.
5. Irenaeus: Recapitulation; penal and substitutionary.

# Key Ideas on Atonement in the Early Church

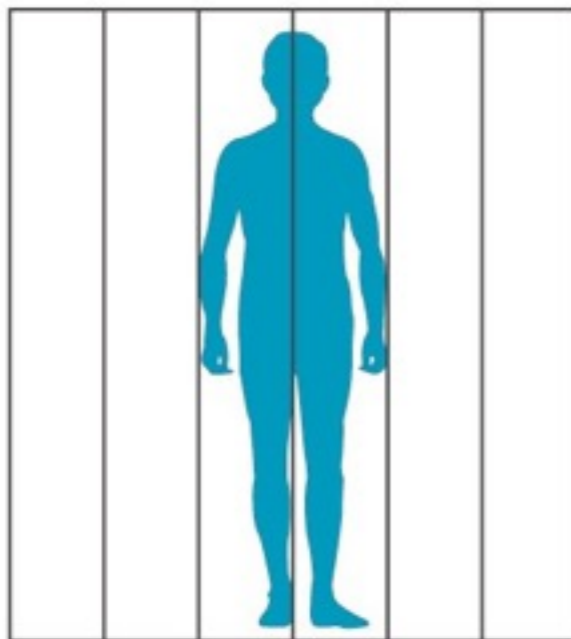
6. This understanding of the atonement is, like much in the early church, held simply, but is not analyzed or thought through.
7. With the advent of allegorical interpretation in the early 3<sup>rd</sup> century, the ideas of substitution become muddied and lost.

# Origen and the Ransom-to-Satan View of the Atonement

PAYMENT



BONDAGE



RELEASE



CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

# Irenaeus and the Recapitulation Theory of the Atonement

Adam



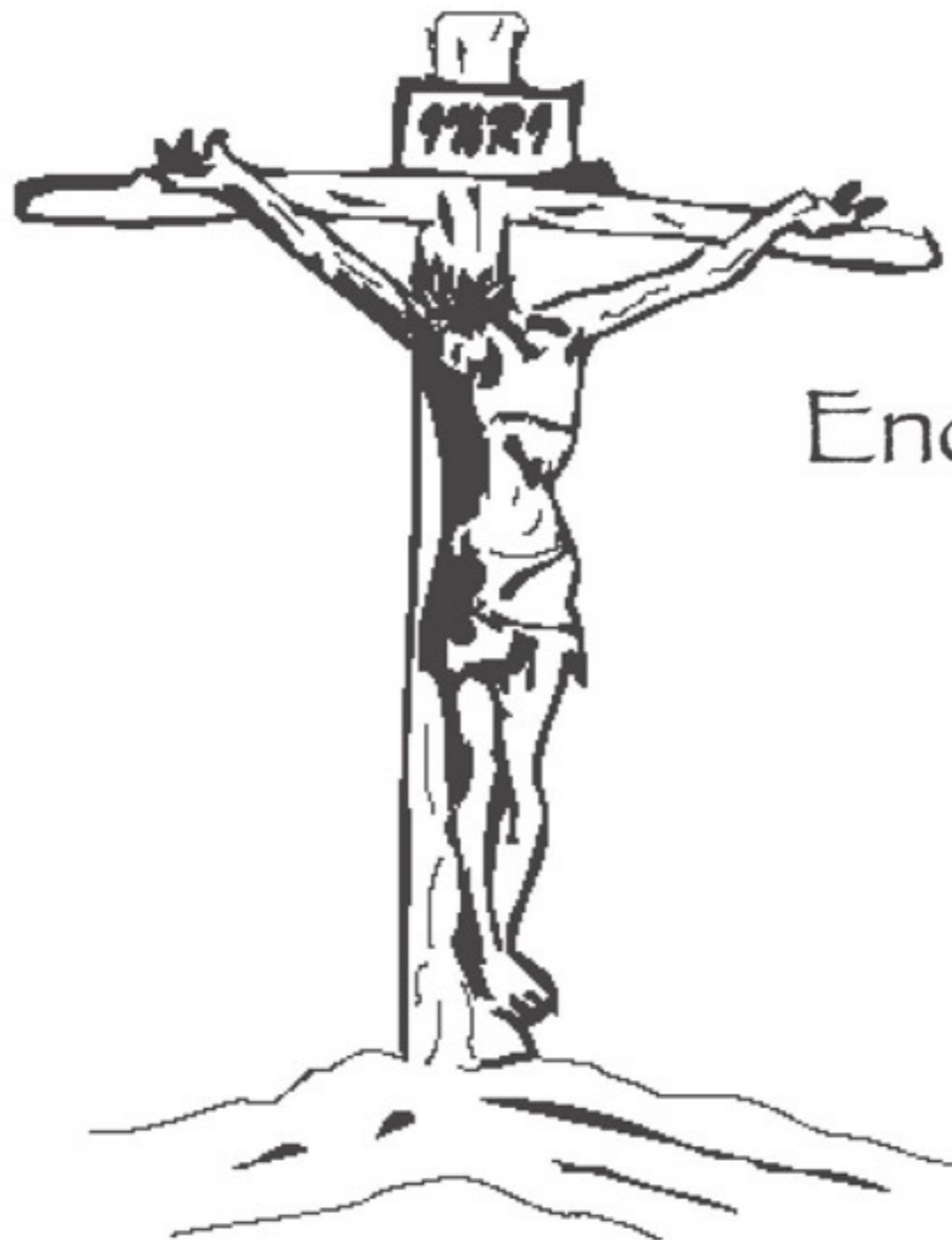
First Man  
Law Broken  
Lost Eternal  
Life for Man

Christ



Second Man  
Law Obeyed  
Regained for Man  
What Adam Lost

# Abelard and the Meaning of the Atonement



Moral

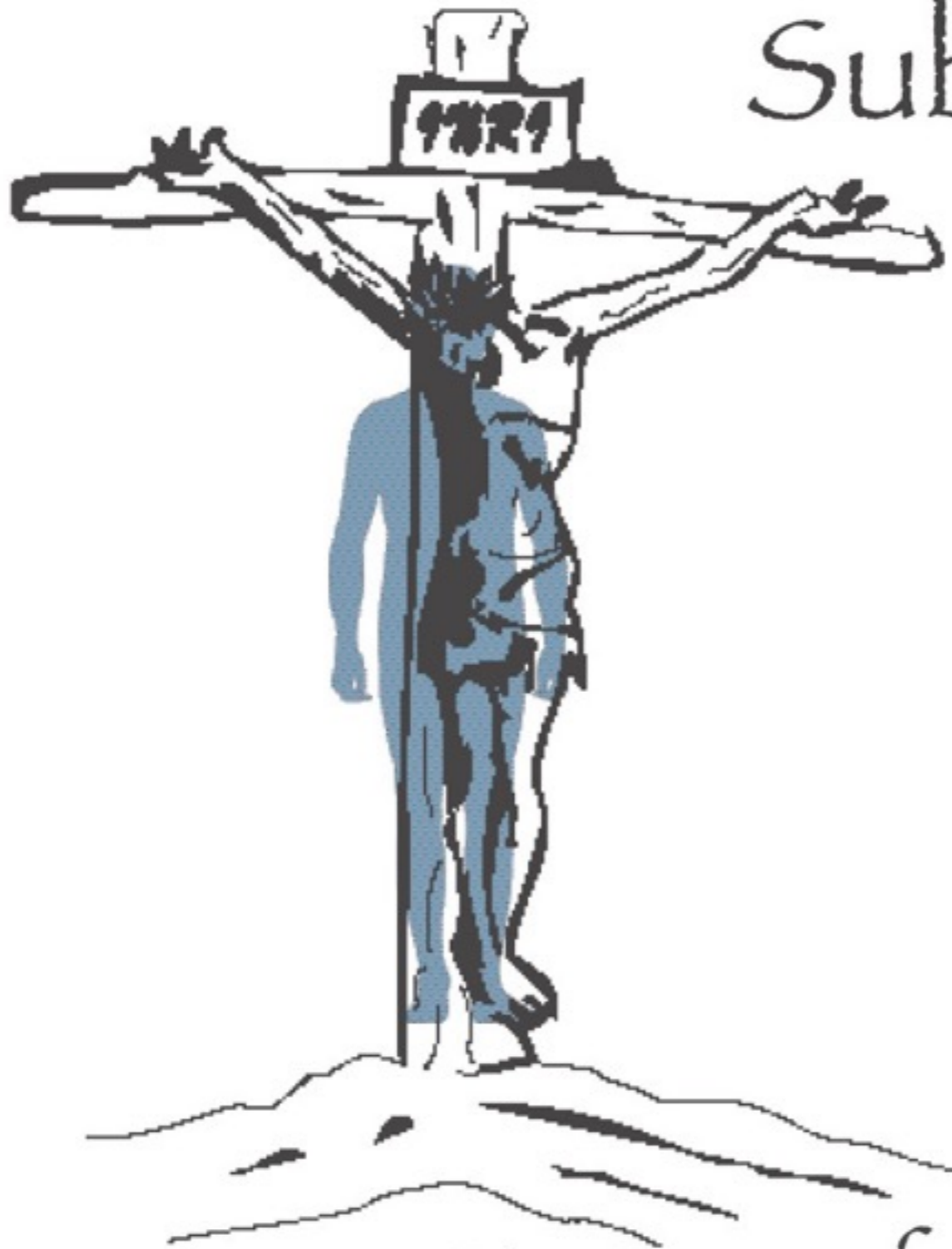
Encouragement



Example

# Anselm and the Meaning of the Atonement

## Substitution



“A Curse for us”

Galatians 3:13



# **The Anselmic and Abelardian Theories in Protestantism**

**ANSELMIC VIEW ↔ ABELARDIAN VIEW**

**Lutherans**

**Calvinists**

**Arminians**

**Wesleyans**

**Amyraldians**

**Socinians**

**Unitarians**

**Religious Liberals**

|                 | <u>Socinians</u> | <u>Grotians</u>                                       | <u>Arminians</u>                       | <u>Anselm &amp; Reformers</u>                         |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Purpose:</b> | Unnecessary      | Demonstrate the government of God & save the creature | Demonstrate the government of God      | Demonstrate the government of God & save the creature |
| <b>Fact:</b>    | Optional         | Optional                                              | Necessary                              | Necessary                                             |
| <b>Focus:</b>   | Exemplary        | Exemplary                                             | Retributive (substitute for a penalty) | Retributive (substitute penalty)                      |
| <b>Result:</b>  | Encouragement    | To prevent future sin                                 | To deal with past sin                  | To deal with past, present, and future sin            |

## **2. What exactly is *atonement*?**

**כפר *kaphar***

***to cover, make atonement,***

***to cleanse, wipe clean, with***

***the idea of forgiveness***

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כפר *kaphar*

***to cover, make atonement,  
to cleanse, wipe clean, with  
the idea of forgiveness***

**atone (for), make expiation (for), make  
amends (for), free (of sin), purify, effect  
ransom (for); with God as subject,  
sometimes perh. forgive sin; *CHL***

**καθαρισμός, *katharismos purification,  
purge, clean***

***BDB*, “perhaps cover, but primarily related  
to the Arabic cognate for wiping clean”**



## Atonement and the Cross

1. Atonement comes from the English phrase: at-one-ment, emphasizing *reconciliation*.
2. The blood sacrifice relates to the payment of a price—*redemption*
3. The mercy seat relates to the satisfaction of God's righteousness and justice—*propitiation*.
4. Because God is propitiated and the penalty paid, the debt of sin is cancelled—*expiation, forgiveness* (Col. 1:12–14)

# The Many Facets of Atonement

