

Study Aids

Discussion Questions For “What’s the Message?” Lessons

Lesson 31

Questions

Probably the first new thing people learn about the Book of Leviticus is that it is much more than a law book of old and obsolete sacrifices. In fact, the word “atonement” is the thing that is repeated and talked about throughout the entire book. And atonement here means that God has done something to take my place under His justice, and allows me to enter into His presence. In brief, this is the general doctrine of Justification. Different churches define “sin” in various ways, emphasizing different aspects, but what we all agree on is that *sin separates people from God*. Sin is the condition that has afflicted mankind from the moment that Adam and Eve sinned, and therefore without some means of atonement we can never please God or come into His presence.

What was the purpose of atonement in the Old Testament? What did it free them to do? What is the connection with the Covenant with Abraham?

In the Old Testament God gave Israel a way to achieve atonement, but it was a method that had to be repeated in order to be beneficial. In the New Testament that old system was replaced by the perfect sacrifice of Jesus (as we read in Hebrews 9:14). What does this free us from? Free us to do?