

“Christ Crucified”

Matthew 27 and 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Pastor Art Hunt

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For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 (English Standard Version)

Atonement = the work that Christ did in his life and death on the cross to earn our salvation.

“ . . . This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” Matthew 26:28 (ESV)

Christ’s Work in Atonement

- **Christ’s obedience.**
 - He obeyed the requirement of the law in our place and was perfectly obedient to the will of God as our representative.
 - See Romans 5:12; 15-16 (ESV)
- **Christ’s suffering:** In this suffering, he took the penalty due for our sins, dying for our sins as our representative.

First Model of Atonement: the language of the battlefield.

He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. Colossians 2:15 (ESV)

. . . The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8b (ESV)

Application: At the Lord’s table, understand that the powers of evil have no hold on you because as your substitute, Christ defeated them.

Second Model of Atonement: the language of the marketplace.

. . . You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 1 Peter 1:18-19 (ESV)

Application: At the Lord’s Table, thank Jesus that you have been ransomed from the power and penalty of sin because your debt has been fully paid! Rejoice in that redemption.

Third Model of Atonement: the language of relationship.

See Colossians 1:19-22 (ESV)

Application: As we take communion in a few moments, would you perhaps take stock of your relationship with Eternal God? If you have been neglecting what Christ’s blood purchased, will you renew that relationship?

Fourth Model of Atonement: the language of the temple.

See Hebrews 10:11-14

Fifth model of Atonement: the language of the law court.

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God . . . ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Romans 5:9; 8:33 (ESV)

Justification = right legal standing before God.

Application: As to come to the Lord’s table, will you take your regrets to God? Will you release your feelings of failure before Him? Will you receive His declaration that you are “not guilty”; that you are “in the right” before Him.