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LESSON 34: JESUS, THE PRIEST

Main Idea: *The doctrine of Christ the Priest is the answer to the question: Why did God in Christ have to incarnate or put on flesh? Why did He have to die on the cross? God has ordained the office of Biblical Priesthood to accomplish the work of atonement or reconciliation of man with God.*

Lloyd Jones helps us better understand this by comparing the role of the Priest with that of the Prophet. Where the Priest can be said to be one who represents God to us, the Priest is one who represents us with God.

I. Nature of Biblical Priesthood

- A. Origin: God established the requirements of the Priest in Old Testament

- B. Profile and Requirements of the Priest
 - 1. He must be taken from among men (Hebrews 5:1)
 - 2. He is chosen and appointed by God (Hebrews 5:4)
 - 3. He is active in the interests of men in things pertaining to God (Hebrews 5:1)
 - 4. He is to be holy (Leviticus 21:6-8)

- C. The Priesthood is a copy or model of the real thing, a foreshadowing of Christ.

II. The Function of Biblical Priesthood

- A. Propitiation
 - 1. Definition: Propitiation means *satisfaction*. It means *to appease*.
 - 2. Why is it necessary? Propitiation is necessary because of God's wrath against sin. (Romans 3:23-25; 1 John 2:2)
 - 3. Purposes of Propitiation
 - a. Satisfaction of the demands of violated holiness- Lloyd Jones
 - b. Expiation (Extinguish guilt/penalty payment)
 - c. Atonement (At-one-ment/ reconciliation)

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4. The Means of Propitiation is Sacrifice and Offerings (Consider the entire Old Testament)
 - a. Distinct from the Pagan sacrifices and offerings
 - b. Scriptural Sacrifice is unique in that it is Ordained by God (Leviticus 1:4; Leviticus 4:20)
 - c. Significance of the Sacrifice and Offerings (Life, Covering—Leviticus 4:26; Leviticus 16:14)

D. Intercession

1. Definition:
2. It is on behalf of the people

III. Priesthood of Jesus Christ

A. Qualification of Christ the Priest

1. Incarnation (Hebrews 5:1)
2. Chosen and Appointed By God
3. Holiness

B. The Pre-eminence of Christ the Priest

1. He is Our Great High Priest (the Order of Melchizedek—Hebrews 3:1; 4:14; 5:5; 6:20; 7:26; 8:1)
2. He is the Sacrifice that brings Peace with God (John 1:29; John 3:14-15; 1 Corinthians 5:7; 1 Peter 3:18)
3. His Sacrifice is Once and Forever

C. Present Function of Christ the Priest

1. No longer a need for propitiation; God's wrath against sin is satisfied once and for all.
2. He is our Advocate and He ever lives to intercede for us (Hebrews 7:25).

Conclusion

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LESSON 35: JESUS, THE ATONEMENT

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LESSON 36: JESUS, THE SUBSTITUTION

I. Defining Substitution Biblically (KEYWORDS)

- A. Vicarious
- B. Penal
- C. Substitute

II. Old Testament Examples

- A. Substitution Provided and Promised in the Beginning
 - 1. Genesis 2:16 – Penalty Declared
 - 2. Genesis 3:21 – Immediate Substitute Provided
 - 3. Genesis 3:15 – Forward-looking promise of a better solution
- B. Substitution pictured and promised in the patriarchs
 - 1. Genesis 22:1-2 – Sacrifice of a man required
 - 2. Genesis 22:11-13 – Immediate Substitute Provided
 - 3. Genesis 22:8, 14 – Forward-looking promise of a sacrificial lamb
- C. The quintessential picture: Passover
 - 1. Exodus 12:12 – The penalty declared
 - 2. Exodus 12:13 – Immediate Substitute Provided
 - 3. Exodus 12:24-25 – Forever statute pictures greater substitute to come

III. Substitution and the Day of Atonement

- A. Leviticus 16:1-10 – Substitution commanded and described
- B. What do we learn?
 - 1. Propitiation
 - 2. Expiation
 - 3. Imputation

IV. Summary of Old Testament Teaching

- A. Psalm 49:7-9 – Who can substitute?
- B. Hebrews 9:22 – Law requires blood for sin
- C. Exodus 34:6-7 – The Old Testament riddle

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V. New Testament – Enter Jesus Christ, our Substitute

- A. God is the One who offers this substitute
 - 1. Romans 3:23-24 – Jesus blood pays our debt
 - 2. John 3:16 – Jesus is the way God has loved the world
 - 3. 1 John 4:10 – God offers Jesus to the world
- B. Jesus, our perfect substitute God required
 - 1. John 1:29 – Jesus is God
 - 2. Romans 5:19 – Jesus became man
 - 3. Romans 8:3-4 – Jesus’ death fulfills God’s righteous requirement of the law.
- C. Jesus’ substitutionary death is vicarious
 - 1. Romans 5:15 – Jesus death abounds for many
 - 2. John 11:50-52 – Jesus died to save a people
 - 3. Mark 10:45 – Jesus died to pay the ransom for many
- D. What does Jesus’ substitutionary death accomplish?
 - 1. Unifies us to Christ (Galatians 2:20) and Secures peace with God (Romans 5:1)
 - 2. Cancels our debt (Colossians 2:14) and Removes condemnation (Romans 8:1)
 - 3. Provides perfect righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21) and Effects our sanctification (Hebrews 10:15)

VI. The Old Testament Riddle Solved

- A. Romans 3:25-26
 - 1. God’s wrath satisfied
 - 2. Sin punished
 - 3. God’s righteousness vindicated
 - 4. God’s mercy displayed
- B. Christ’s death shows God as “just” and “justifier”

VII. Applications of Substitution

- A. Power over sin
- B. Minds set on things above
- C. Value found in Christ
- D. Promise of Sanctification
- E. Freedom from legalism
- F. Assurance of faith

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LESSON 37: JESUS, THE VICTOR

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:56b-57)

Main Point: *Through His death and resurrection, Jesus Christ not only satisfied the wrath and justice of God, He overcame sin, defeated Satan, and conquered death.*

I. Theories of the Atonement

A. Recapitulation Theory (including *Christus Victor*)

B. Ransom Payment to Satan Theory

C. Substitutionary Atonement Theory

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, **25** whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over former sins. **26** It was to show His righteousness at the present time, so that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:23-26)

II. The Victory of Jesus Christ

A. Sin

- Romans 6:5-11; 1 John 5:1-5

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B. Satan

- Genesis 3:15; Matthew 12:26-29; Acts 10:36-38; Colossians 2:13-15; Hebrews 2:14-15

C. Death

- Psalm 16:9-10; Isaiah 25:8; Hosea 13:14; Luke 20:35-36; John 11:33-34; 1 Corinthians 15:25-26, 50-57; 1 Timothy 1:8-10; Revelation 1:17-18; Revelation 20:14

III. Implications

A. Living outside the dominion of sin

- Romans 6:12-14; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Psalm 32; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 3:18 and Philippians 1:6

B. Living beyond the control of Satan

- Ephesians 6:10-13; James 4:6-7

C. Living without fear of death

- Matthew 10:26-33; Revelation 20:14; 1 Peter 1:3-9)

D. Nothing Can Separate Us From God

- Romans 8:31-39

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LESSON 38: THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)

Main Point: *The Holy Spirit of God is a real and distinct Person, named throughout Scripture, fully God, and the one who formed and now fills the church of Jesus Christ.*

I. His Names

- A. The Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11; Isaiah 7-14; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
- B. The Spirit of God (Matthew 3:16; Genesis 1:2; Exodus 31:3; Philippians 3:3; 1 John 4:2)
- C. The Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9; Philippians 1:19)
- D. The Spirit of holiness (Romans 1:4); the Spirit of life (Romans 8:2); and the Spirit of truth (John 14:17; 16:13; 1 John 4:6); the Spirit of wisdom and understanding (Isaiah 11:2; Ephesians 1:17); the Spirit of counsel and might (Isaiah 11:2); the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2); the Spirit of adoption (Romans 8:15); the Spirit of glory (1 Peter 4:14).
- E. The Helper or Comforter (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7)

II. His Deity

- A. His relationship with the Father and the Son
- B. His attributes
 - 1. He is eternal (Hebrews 9:14)
 - 2. He is the truth (1 John 5:6)
 - 3. He is holy by nature (Matthew 12:31-32)
 - 4. He is omniscient (1 Corinthians 2:9-11)
 - 5. He is omnipresent (Psalm 139:7)
- C. His work
 - 1. In creation (Psalm 104:27-30; Job 33:4)
 - 2. In sustaining the creation (Psalm 104:27-30)

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3. In common mercies toward all people (Matthew 5:44-45; Acts 14:15-17)
4. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and someday us (Romans 8:11)
5. In adoption and regeneration (Romans 8:14-17; Titus 3:5-6)
6. In interceding for the saints before the Father (Romans 8:16-18)
7. In making things new and holy (Titus 3:1-7)
8. In the inspiration of Scripture (2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 20-21)

D. His worship

III. His Coming Into the World

- John 7:37-39; Acts 2:1-4; 17-18

IV. Implications

- A. Receive His comfort (John 16:7)
- B. Receive His conviction (John 16:8)
- C. Know the truth (John 16:12-13; 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- D. Worship (John 16:14)
- E. Pray (Romans 8:26-27)
- F. Be assured of the security of your salvation (Ephesians 1:13-14)
- G. Live by His power (Ephesians 1:15-23; 1 John 4:4)
- H. Preserve unity