

**Vicarious Sacrifice: Six Barrier Problems Removed through Reconciliation (continued): Penalty of Sin by Expiation: Yom Kippur's Blood of Animals Is Representative Analogy of the Spiritual Death of Christ; Physical Birth by Regeneration; Relative Righteousness**

Atonement in the Jewish ritual refers to the execution of an innocent animal. Animals do not have souls. Their life is contained in their blood.

This is why the drinking of an animal's blood was prohibited in the Old Testament:

**Leviticus 17:10** - "Any Israelite or any alien living among them who eats any blood, I will judge that person who eats blood and cut him off from the people.

**v. 11** - 'For the life of the animal is in its blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make an atonement for yourselves; for it is the animal's blood that makes atonement [ propitiation ] for one's life.'" (EXT)

An animal's life is in its blood whereas the life of a human is in his soul. The prohibition against eating an animal's blood was issued in order to maintain the analogy of animal blood with the spiritual death of Christ on the cross.

The violent physical death of the animal depicted the violent spiritual death of Christ. It is a representative analogy; animal blood serves as a symbol of the spiritual death of Christ.

Expiation includes the entire process that occurred while the Lord was being judged for our sins including the doctrines of propitiation, reconciliation, redemption, and justification.

**Colossians 2:14** - Having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (NASB)

(1) **Physical Birth:** Beginning with Cain, all humans are born physically alive but spiritually dead in status quo dichotomy. Each individual enters this life under condemnation and thus at enmity with God. This problem is resolved by the doctrine of Regeneration.

**Romans 5:12** - Therefore, just as through one man sin [ the sin nature ] entered into the world, and death [ spiritual ] through sin, and so spiritual death spread to all men, because all sinned when Adam sinned. (NASB)

**Ephesians 2:1** - You were dead in your trespasses and sins.

10. **Regeneration** refers to salvation, the second birth, or being "born again." This latter term—*γεννηθῆ ἄνωθεν (gennēthē ánōthen)*—is used by our Lord in His conversation with Nicodemus in John 3:3.

The Greek word for regeneration is *παλιγγενεσία (palingenesía)*: *πάλιν (pálin)*: "again, once more," and *γένεσις (génesis)*: "birth."

Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer cites five facts concerning the nature of regeneration:

(1) a new life has been thereby begotten which is eternal; (2) that life is the divine nature; (3) the believer is begotten by the Spirit; (4) God the Father becomes his legitimate Father; (5) therefore, all believers are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.<sup>1</sup>

- (4) **Relative Righteousness:** In our study of the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15), we observed that all the good works allegedly produced by the assembly of unbelievers, individually and collectively, did not produce or measure up to the perfect righteousness of God. Isaiah's analysis is that "all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment" in God's sight (Isaiah 64:6a). Paul addresses this issue in:

**Romans 9:30** - To what conclusion are we forced? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness that is from the source of faith;

**v. 31** - but Israel, who ran after righteousness based on the Law, has not accomplished the purpose of the Law.

**v. 32** - Why? Because they did not pursue salvation by means of faith, but as though it were by works. (EXT)

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<sup>1</sup> Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Systematic Theology* (Dallas: Dallas Seminary Press, 1948), 7:265.