

Session 8: The Atonement and the Trinity

- How is the atoning work of Christ connected to the Trinity?
- How does the Trinity help us understand the purpose of the atonement?

For our final session, we will look at two major points. The connection between the Trinity and the atoning work of Christ and the connection and the overall purpose of the atonement. The conclusion the Bible presents is that only a God who is Trinity could have accomplished the fullness of our salvation. Loss of any one of the Persons leads to a diminished understanding of the atonement.

Most people can see, at least on a basic level, the roles of the Father and Son in the atonement. Several of the atonement theories directly address their roles.

- Ransom
- Satisfaction
- Penal substitution
- Governmental

Even Jesus's name, which in Hebrew is Joshua (יְהוֹשֻׁעַ), means "Yahweh saves." It is more difficult to see the role of the Spirit in the work of Christ. Here are some of the New Testament passages that point toward this.

- Child came from the Holy Spirit – Matthew 1:18, Luke 1:35
- Jesus will baptize with the HS – Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, John 1:31, Acts 1:5, 11:16
- Baptize in the name of – Matthew 28:18-20
- Jesus is anointed by HS – Luke 4:18, Acts 10:37
- The Spirit is a life giver – John 6:63, Galatians 6:10. Compare John 20:24.
- Spirit given to those who believe in Jesus – John 7:39, Acts 1:8. 2:4, 2:38, 5:29-30
- Spirit given by the Father to complete the work of salvation – John 14:16-17, 26
- Believers are washed, sanctified, and justified by the Spirit – 1 Corinthians 6:11
- The Spirit pours out love – Romans 5:5

The Trinity working together

Titus 3:4-7

Hebrews 9:14

1 Peter 1:2

John 3:34

Acts 2:32-33

The Trinity and the Kingdom

The ultimate purpose of the atonement is for the full establishment of God's kingdom. The kingdom is the connection between the Trinity and the atonement.

John 17:20-26

Ephesians 2:9-10

Colossians 1:20

1 Corinthians 15:24-28

Revelation 21:1-3

Revelation 22:1-5