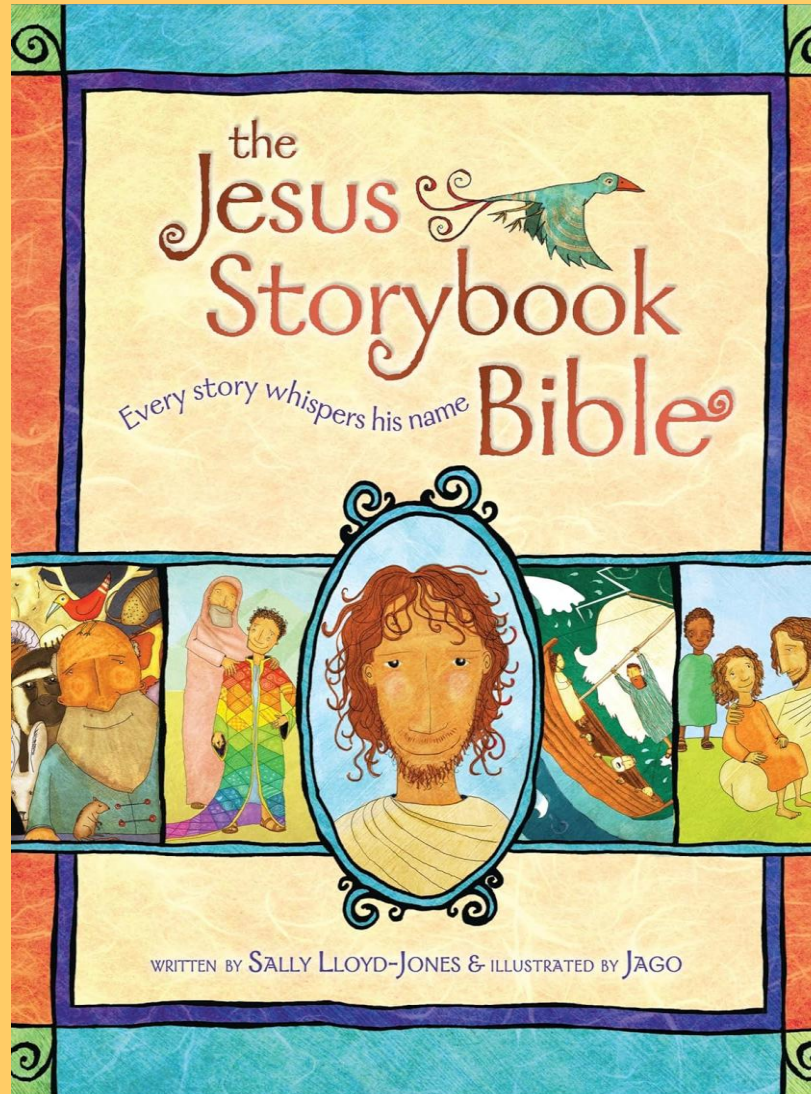


Five Sermons on Romans 5:
Propitiation
(Romans 5:9-10)

Five Sermons on Romans 5

- Sermon #1: **Justification** (Romans 5:1-2)
- Sermon #2: **Sanctification** (Romans 5:3-5)
- Sermon #3: **Substitution** (Romans 5:6-8)
- Sermon #4: **Propitiation** (Romans 5:9-10)
- Sermon #5: **Reconciliation** (Romans 5:11)

Introduction



Romans 5:9-10

- ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from **the wrath of God**.
- ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

I. Definition of “Propitiation”

- “An offering that turns away **the wrath of God** directed against sin.” (*The Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms*)
- “The idea of the **wrath of God** is stubbornly rooted in the Old Testament, where it is referred to 585 times” (*Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*)

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **God's Blessings and Curses**
- “See, I am setting before you today **a blessing and a curse**— ²⁷ the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; ²⁸ the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods” (Deuteronomy 11:26-28).

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **God destroys the human race—except for Noah and his family**
- “The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that **every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time.**
- ⁶ The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled.
- ⁷ So the LORD said, “**I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created**—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them.”
- ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD” (Genesis 6:5-8).

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **God destroys Sodom and Gomorrah**
- “Then the LORD said [to Abraham], ‘Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹ I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know’” (Genesis 18:20-21).
- “By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. ²⁵ **Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land**” (Genesis 19:23-25).

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **The Old Testament warns of the coming “Day of the Lord”:**
- “Blow a trumpet in Zion;
 sound an alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,
 ² a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness! . . .
- For **the day of the LORD is great and very awesome;
 who can endure it?”** (Joel 2:1-2a, 11b).

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **Jesus warns of the coming “Day of the Lord”:**
- “For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man” (Matthew 24:37-39).

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **The End-Times' harvest of wrath:**
- “Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, “Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.” ¹⁶ So he who sat on the cloud swung his sickle across the earth, and the earth was reaped. . .

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **The End-Times' harvest of wrath:**
- ¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. ¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, "Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe." ¹⁹ **So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God**" (Revelation 14:14-19).

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **“Battle Hymn of the Republic”** (by Julia Ward Howe, 1862)
- “Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where **the grapes of wrath** are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.”

II. God's Wrath Against Sin

- **Jonathan Edwards' "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" (1741):**
- "That world of misery, that lake of burning brimstone is extended abroad under you. *There* is the dreadful pit of the glowing flames of **the wrath of God**; there is hell's wide gaping mouth open; and you have nothing to stand upon, nor anything to take hold of: there is nothing between you and hell but the air; 'tis only the power and mere pleasure of God that holds you up."

III. The Turning Away of God's Wrath

- **The Old Testament system of sacrifices abated God's wrath:**
- “The removal of the wrath is in the last resort due to God himself. Of the process of atonement by sacrifice, he says: ‘I have given it to you’(Leviticus 17:11)” (*Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*).
- Yet **he**, being compassionate,
 atoned for their iniquity
 and did not destroy them;
 he restrained his anger often
 and did not stir up all his wrath. (Psalm 78:38)

III. The Turning Away of God's Wrath

- **The New Testament sacrifice that abates God's wrath: Jesus**
- “According to the New Testament, God has provided the offering that removes the divine wrath, for in love the Father sent the Son to be the propitiation (or atoning sacrifice) for human sin” (*The Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms*).
- “The paradox of the Old Testament is repeated in the New Testament that God himself provides the means of removing his own wrath” (*Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*).
- “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent **his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins**” (1 John 4:10).

III. The Turning Away of God's Wrath

- **Jesus is the only way to avert God's wrath:**
- “The consistent Bible view is that the sin of man has incurred the wrath of God. That wrath is averted only by Christ's atoning offering. From this standpoint, his saving work is properly called ‘propitiation’” (*Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*).
- “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me’” (John 14:6).
- “For there is no distinction: ²³ 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” (Romans 3:23-25).

III. The Turning Away of God's Wrath

- **Jesus as both sacrifice and high priest:**
- “For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to be **made like his brothers** in every respect, so that he might become **a merciful and faithful high priest** in the service of God, to make **propitiation** for the sins of the people” (Hebrews 2:16-17).
- “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² **He is the propitiation for our sins**, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world” (1 John 2:1-2).

IV. Applications

- **Repent and return to God with all your heart**
- “‘Yet even now,’ declares the LORD,
 ‘return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments.’
Return to the LORD your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love” (Joel 2:12-13).

IV. Applications

- **Believe in Jesus as your Savior and Lord:**
- “Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. **Do not disbelieve but believe.**’
- ²⁸ **Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’”** (John 20:26-28).

Romans 5:9-10

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Let Us Pray

