



Jesus' Death

A Substitutionary Atoning Sacrifice

Matthew 26:28

- **“We Preached Christ crucified” (1 Cor 1:23)**
- **“I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor 2:2)**
- **“I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures” (1 Cor 15:3)**
- **“But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Gal 6:14)**
- **Paul considers the gospel to be “the word of the cross” (1 Cor 1:18)**
- **The enemies of Christianity are “enemies of the cross of Christ” (Phil 3:18)**
- **Baptism is baptism “into his [Christ’s] death” (Rom 6:3)**
- **It is only Christ’s death on the cross that Jesus himself commands his followers to commemorate; not his birth, not his life, but his death (Matt 26:26–29; Mark 14:22–25; Luke 22:14–20; 1 Cor 11:23–26).**

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“Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom’” (Matt 26:26–29).

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Jesus' Death Alludes to the Sin Offering of Leviticus 4:1–5:13

- (1) Blood**
- (2) Being Poured Out**
- (3) For People**
- (4) For the Forgiveness of Sins**

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“If anyone of the common people sins unintentionally in doing any one of the things that by the LORD’S commandments ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring for his offering a goat, a female without blemish, for his sin which he has committed. And he shall lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and kill the sin offering in the place of burnt offering. And the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out all the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. And all its fat he shall remove, as the fat is removed from the peace offerings, and the priest shall burn it on the altar for a pleasing aroma to the LORD. And the priest shall make atonement for him, and he shall be forgiven” (Lev 4:27–31).

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“Blood Poured Out”

(Matt 26:28; Lev 4:30)

Matthew 26:28	Leviticus 4:1–5:13 LXX
τὸ αἷμά . . . ἐκχυννόμενον (ἐκχέω) “blood . . . which is poured out” (ESV)	πᾶν τὸ αἷμα αὐτῆς ἐκχεεῖ (ἐκχέω) (Lev 4:30; cf. 4:7, 18, 25, 34) “he will pour out all its blood” (Adam’s translation of LXX)

“For Many”

(Matt 26:28; Lev 4:31, 35)

- Mark 14:24: “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for [ὑπέρ] many.”
- Luke 22:20: “This cup that is poured out for [ὑπέρ] you is the new covenant in my blood.”
- Matthew 26:28: “for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for [περί] many.”

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“For Many” (Matt 26:28; Lev 4:31)

Matthew 26:28	Leviticus 4:1–5:13 LXX
τὸ αἷμά . . . ἐκχυννόμενον (ἐκχέω) “blood . . . which is poured out” (ESV)	πᾶν τὸ αἷμα αὐτῆς ἐκχεεῖ (ἐκχέω) (Lev 4:30; cf. 4:7, 18, 25, 34) “he will pour out all its blood” (Adam’s translation of LXX)
τὸ περὶ πολλῶν “for many” (ESV)	περὶ αὐτοῦ (Lev 4:31, cf. 4:20, 26, 35; 5:6, 13) “for him” (ESV)

“For the Forgiveness of Sins” (Matt 26:28; Lev 4:35)

Matthew 26:28	Leviticus 4:1–5:13 LXX
τὸ αἷμά . . . ἐκχυννόμενον (ἐκχέω) “blood . . . which is poured out” (ESV)	πᾶν τὸ αἷμα αὐτῆς ἐκχεεῖ (ἐκχέω) (Lev 4:30; cf. 4:7, 18, 25, 34) “he will pour out all its blood” (Adam’s translation of LXX)
τὸ περὶ πολλῶν “for many” (ESV)	περὶ αὐτοῦ (Lev 4:31, cf. 4:20, 26, 35; 5:6, 13) “for him” (ESV)
εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν “for the forgiveness of sins” (ESV)	περὶ τῆς ἁμαρτίας, ἧς ἥμαρτεν, καὶ ἄφεθήσεται αὐτῷ (Lev 4:35; cf. Lev 4:20, 26, 31; 5:6, 10, 13) “for the sin which he sinned, and it [the sin] will be forgiven him” (Adam’s translation of LXX).

Jesus' Death Alludes to the Sin Offering of Leviticus 4:1–5:13

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There is only one passage in the Old Testament where we find the fourfold combination of (1) “blood,” (2) being “poured out,” (3) “for” someone, and (4) “for the forgiveness of sins.” That one place is the sin offering of Leviticus 4:1–5:13.



The Purpose of the Sin Offering

A. The Sin Offering Is for Those Who Sin and Are Unclean

- “If anyone of the common people sins unintentionally in doing any one of the things that by the LORD’S commandments ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring for his offering a goat, a female without blemish, for his sin which he has committed” (Lev 4:27–28; cf. Lev 4:13–14, 22–23; 5:1)
- “or if anyone touches an unclean thing, whether a carcass of an unclean wild animal or a carcass of unclean livestock or a carcass of unclean swarming things, and it is hidden from him and he has become unclean, and he realizes his guilt; or if he touches human uncleanness, of whatever sort the uncleanness may be with which one becomes unclean, and it is hidden from him, when he comes to know it, and realizes his guilt” (Lev 5:2–3)

Adam Robinson, Downs Easter Convention, www.ddcc.net.au

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The Purpose of the Sin Offering

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A. The Sin Offering Is for Those Who Sin and
Are Unclean

B. The Purpose of the Sin Offering Is to Make
Atonement

- “And the priest shall make atonement for him, and he shall be forgiven.” (Lev 4:31)



The Purpose of the Sin Offering

The (1) **blood** of the sin offering sacrificial animal is (2) **poured out** (3) **in place of** (i.e., “for”) the sinner so that the sinner can have (4) **forgiveness of sin**, resulting in (5) a restored relationship between God and the sinner—**making atonement**

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- By alluding to the sin offering, Jesus is telling the disciples at the Last Supper and us who read Matthew's Gospel that his death on the cross is a substitutionary atoning sacrifice!
- By alluding to the sin offering, Jesus is telling us that his death makes atonement between God and sinners.

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Jesus' Death: A Better Atoning Sacrifice

- Jesus' death atones for all sins.
- Jesus' death is a once-for-all offering to make atonement for all sins past, present, and future and removes all guilt once-for-all.
- Jesus' death enables God to dwell inside his people through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

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