

# Thinking Deeply

## The Atonement

**INTRO:** *Since we recently completed our study of Jesus' crucifixion in Mark's Gospel, some might be surprised to know that there have been various interpretations postulated about HOW Jesus' death accomplished atonement. Today's study invites us to THINK DEEPLY about this issue.*

- I. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ sacrificially on Calvary's cross for our \_\_\_\_\_.** *History records this dramatic event central to Christianity, but how exactly is atonement made?*
- II. There are *inadequate* theories of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice on Calvary's cross.** *The opposite side of this outline provides space for recording personal notes on these views.*
- III. Believe what the Bible teaches about the \_\_\_\_\_; Jesus sacrificially died *in our place* to \_\_\_\_\_ God's demand for \_\_\_\_\_ against \_\_\_\_\_ (*the Penal Theory*).** *This is considered the orthodox view (cf. Romans 5:8-9; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 3:18). This theory also accords with three important theological terms.*
- A. \_\_\_\_\_** (1 John 4:10).
- B. \_\_\_\_\_** (2 Cor. 5:18-19).
- C. \_\_\_\_\_** (Hebrews 2:14-15).

## Various (and Inadequate) Views of the Atonement

1. \_\_\_\_\_.  
*This view was held by Origen and based on Matt. 20:28; Mark 10:45; 1 Cor. 6:20. The “payment” was made either to Satan or death. The object of atonement is Satan.*
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_.  
*This view was held by Pelagius and Socinius and based on 1 Peter 2:21 and 1 John 2:6. The object of atonement is Man.*
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_.  
*This view was held by Abelard and based on Rom. 5:8; 2 Cor. 5:17-19; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 3:24. The object of atonement is Man.*
  
4. \_\_\_\_\_.  
*This view was held by Anselm and based on John 10:18. The object of atonement is God/Man.*
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_.  
*This view was held by Grotius and based on Psalms 2 & 5; Isa. 42:21. The object of atonement is God/Man.*

Other views include A. **The Recapitulation Theory**: Jesus recapitulated all the stages of Adam’s life, thus reversing the course initiated by Adam, B. **The Dramatic Theory**: Jesus is victor in a divine conflict of good and evil and wins man’s release from bondage, C. **The Mystical Theory**: Jesus took on a sinful human nature but through the power of the Holy Spirit triumphed over it. A knowledge of this will mystically influence man.