

Atonement - 2/24 Discussion Questions

Exodus 32

Review

"Atonement is what it takes to put right something that is wrong... Being sorry won't do it... A great leader can't do it... Painstaking obedience won't do it... A worthy sacrifice will do it." Colin Smith, OpentheBible.org

How Atonement Can be Made

1. Sin must be Acknowledged (v. 1-8, 30)
2. A Price must be Paid (v. 9-10, 26-35)
3. A Mediator must Intercede who can provide:
 - Incarnation (v. 8)
 - Intercession on behalf of "your People" (v. 11), "your Publicity" (v. 12) and "your Promises" (v. 13)
 - Revelation (33:9-11; 32:19-20)
 - Purification (v. 26)
 - Substitution (v. 32)
 - Direction (v. 34)
 - Perfection (Heb. 2:25-28) + Resurrection, Ascension & Session

Connect

1. Is it easy or hard for you to say "I'm sorry"? Why or why not? (What if you have to add "I was wrong... will you forgive me"?)
2. Who showed you or taught you how to resolve conflict in relationships? What did you learn from them?

Read Exodus 32:1-14, 25-35

Discuss

3. Why did Aaron fashion a golden calf? What did the people want? Why did he go along with them?
4. How did God feel about this "party" at the foot of the mountain? What does that tell us about how God feels about sin and idolatry?
5. How did Moses serve as a mediator for Israel? How did he appeal to God on their behalf? How did he speak to the nation on God's behalf?
6. Why was the punishment for this "party" so extreme? What did the Levites' attack accomplish? What did the plague accomplish? What do these "payments" teach us?
7. How was Moses a good mediator for Israel? How is Jesus a better mediator for us?

Apply

8. Is it easy or hard for you to acknowledge your sin? Why? Do you often recognize the cost of atoning for your sin?
9. How does it encourage you to know that Jesus is the perfect high priest?

Pray

10. How can we pray for you this week?