

April 24, 2022  
*The Bridge Bible Fellowship*  
Pastor Paul S. Brown  
1 John 2:1-2

**“Moral Test #1 – Part 5: Propitiation”**

- I. Prologue [Introduction] – 1:1-4
- II. Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #1 – 1:5-2:27
  - A. The Moral Test – 1:5-2:6
    - 1. The Standard (Criterion): Light – 1:5
    - 2. The Statements (Contrasts) – 1:6-10
    - 3. **The Savior (Christ) – 2:1-2**
      - a. **Advocate (High Priest)**
        - 1) **His Prayers**
        - 2) **His Pleas**
      - b. **Propitiation**

## Discussion & Application:

1. What does “**Cancel Culture**” mean? Give some recent examples with well-known people. Have you ever been afraid that people would find out something about you and not want to be around you? If your answer is yes, how specifically does that impact (or limit) your relationships?
2. John wants his readers to have “**assurance of salvation.**” What does that mean? Why is that important? How does (should) absolute assurance of salvation impact your relationship with God and with other believers? What difference should it make in the areas of honesty and transparency? How does it impact confession of sins to God and to others?
3. What does the word “**propitiation**” mean? What does it have to do with the anger / wrath of God? Why don’t some people (theologians) like the idea of God’s wrath needing to be satisfied? How is the anger of God different from the anger of pagan gods? What verses of Scripture support the idea that God is angry about sin and His wrath needs to be satisfied?
4. What is the “**cup**” of God? (See Job 21:19-20; Ps. 11:5-6; 75:7-10; Is. 51:17; Jer. 25:12-18; Rev. 14:9; 16:19; 19:15)
5. Read **Romans 3:19-26**. What specific attributes of God (besides wrath) made propitiation absolutely necessary for us to have a relationship with Him?
6. How was propitiation pictured in the **Old Testament** (Gen. 8:20-21; Leviticus)? Why does the author of Hebrews say that the Old Testament sacrifices could not make us perfect or even take away our sins? (See chapter 10) Why are the Old Testament sacrifices called “a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things”? How was the sacrifice of Jesus different? Why is He able to take away our sins through His once for all sacrifice?
7. **God’s love** motivated Him to provide propitiation for our sins (Jn. 3:16, 36; Rom. 5:8; 1 John 4:10). How much does God love those whom He saves (John 17:22-23)? How does that impact your assurance of salvation?
8. In 1 John 2:2, it says that Jesus is Himself the propitiation for the **sins of the whole world**. Does that mean that everyone will ultimately go to heaven (universalism)? See Mt. 7:21-27; 25:31-46; Rev. 20:11-15. If not, what point is John making in 1 John 2:2?
9. Read **Heb. 10:26-31**. What will happen to those who reject Jesus as their one and only propitiation?
10. Reflect on your answers to questions #8 and #9. What implications does that have for every person who is a true follower of Jesus (Jn. 14:6; Acts 1:8; 4:12)? What should be the priority of our lives (Mt. 28:16-20)? What is keeping you from making this the priority of your life?
11. List the names of 5 people you know who currently do not have a relationship with God through Jesus and His propitiation. Practice Prayer-Care-Share with them. Pray for them daily. Demonstrate your genuine care for them in practical ways. Look for opportunities to share with them the Gospel of Jesus Christ and do it.
12. **Memorize 1 John 2:1-2**. Meditate daily on what Jesus has accomplished for you and the assurance you have that He will never “cancel” you. With the assurance that God is fully satisfied with the payment of Jesus for all your sins, quickly repent of any known sins and freely confess them to your Heavenly Father who wants to forgive you and have intimate fellowship with you.