

*1 John 4:10*

*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

Propitiation is that great doctrine by which the Christian comes to understand the total satisfaction of God in the substitutionary sacrifice of Christ, His punishment, His shed blood and His death on our behalf. God being so satisfied there is no sacrifice left for one to make to make oneself acceptable, worthy or loving to God, nor is there any action one can take to make oneself unacceptable, unworthy nor unlovely to God. In other words there is nothing the Christian can do to make God love him more, nor is there anything a Christian can do to make God love him less.

It is in understanding this great doctrine that we can understand that our salvation is truly by grace. In understanding the doctrine of propitiation we come to understand that the Christian life is lived out not in fear of God's punishment but rather in devotion to God out of love. Because of the propitiatory sacrifice of Christ on the cross whereby God's wrath and God's judgment is totally satisfied for all eternity we are free to obey God because of our love and not out of fear of punishment. The Christian then comes to two important conclusions:

1. Nothing I do will make God love me more.
2. Nothing I do will make God love me less.

As a result the disciple is free to obey God out of love rather than fear. The question the disciple asks himself when it comes to obedience, to good works changes from

1. "What works must I do to get God to love me (or love me more)?"
2. To "What works must I do to love God more?"

This doctrine, above all others, purifies motives. If the disciples response to propitiation - that "Nothing you do will make God love you more and nothing you do will make God love you less" is to then respond, "Then why am I doing all this junk, I can live like everyone else!" Then he knows something about himself – he does not love God.

Consider this illustration. A young husband is so happy because every morning his wife rises early to fix him his favorite breakfast. One day he overhears her talking with her sister and telling her that because of this her husband never beats her. The young husband, at the very next opportunity, explains to his wife that he loves her with all his heart, that he would never beat her and will never leave her. The young wife's response is, "Really, then why am I getting up early every morning and fixing you breakfast? From now on I am sleeping in!" How will the young husband feel? He suddenly realizes something about his wife, she doesn't love him like he thought. That is how the doctrine of propitiation purifies our obedience. It brings us to the crossroads of the great question "Why?". Jesus Christ gives us the correct motivation for obedience in His teachings on this subject to His disciples

*John 14:15, 21, 23 & 24*

*"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments...He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word...He who does not love Me does not keep My words..."*

Do you get the feeling Jesus is repeating Himself? Jesus wants His disciples to understand the great doctrine of propitiation. He is about to totally satisfy God's righteous judgment and wrath as it pertains to every sin ever committed and every sin that ever will be committed by mankind. That means something – His disciples are free to obey God out of love and not fear. In understanding this we understand *1 John 2:2 "and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."* As you do the following quiet times alone with God it is the authors prayer that in coming to an understanding of the work of Christ, His propitiatory sacrifice whereby God is totally satisfied, that you will be driven by this great sacrifice to a great love for God. That as you love God more you will be more obedient to God. That you will once and for all follow Christ with all your heart, not to get Him to do something for you, not to keep Him from doing something to you, but because you love Him desperately – with all your heart, soul, mind and body.

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Propitiation (God Is Totally Satisfied) Hebrews 2:17; Romans 3:25; I John 2:1,2  
What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Imputation (Our Sin Is Placed In Christ) 1Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:6; 2Corinthians 5:21  
What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Substitutionary Death(Christ Died For Us) Isaiah 53:4, 5; Romans 5:6 – 8; Hebrews 2:9  
What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Exclusive (Christ Is The Only Way) John 14:6; Acts 4:12; I Timothy 2:5; Isaiah 43:11

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Believe – (Knowledge Is Necessary) John 5:24; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9, 10

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Receive (Volitional Act Is Necessary) – John 1:12; Romans 10:8 - 13

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Grace (We Receive That Which Is Not Deserved) - Ephesians 2:8, 9**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mercy (We Do Not Receive That Which Is Deserved) -Titus 3:5**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Justified (We Stand Guiltless Before God At His Judgment) – Romans 5:1,9, 18; 8:1**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Redemption (Christ Paid The Penalty) – Ephesians 1:7; Mark 10:45; I Peter 1:18, 19  
What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Blood Romans 5:9; Hebrews 9:18 – 26; I Peter 1:18, 19; I John 1:7; Revelation 1:5  
What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Reconciliation(Wrath Of God Is Satisfied In Christ)Ephesians 2:13 – 16; Isaiah 53:11  
What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Election – Mark 13:20, 22, 27

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Chosen – John 15:16; II Thessalonians 2:13; Ephesians 1:4

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Book of Life – Philippians 4:3; Revelation 17:8; 20:15; 21:27

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Foreknowledge - Romans 8:29; I Peter 1:1 & 2

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Called – John 6:37, 39, 44, 65; 10:27 – 29; I Peter 2:9; II Timothy 1:9

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Predestination - Ephesians 1:5 & 11; Romans 8:30

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Forgiven – Hebrews 10:18; Colossians 2:13

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Deliverance From Satan Hebrews 2:14,15; 2Timothy 2:26;Colossians 1:13;Acts 26:18

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** Deliverance From Sin and Death Romans 6:5–11, 17, 18, 20–23;I Corinthians15:50-58

What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?