Christ: Our Propitiation

Intro: The Scriptures teach that Christ is our propitiation. What does this mean and what is the basis for such statements? Let us consider these matters in this lesson.

I. All Have Sinned.
   A. Psa. 14:1-3 “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. 3 The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. 4 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”
   B. Rom. 3:23, 9-10 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;... 9 What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; 10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one;”
   C. Gal. 3:22 “But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”
   D. 1 John 1:8-10 “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”

II. God Is Just.
   A. Among the many characteristics of God is that of His being just or righteous.
   B. Psa. 145:17 “The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.”
   C. Gen. 18:23-33
      1. God had determined to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of their wickedness.
      2. God revealed this to Abraham who interceded for Sodom and Gomorrah.
      3. “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”; Gen. 18:25 “That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”
         a. God must punish the wicked.
         b. God must save the righteous.
      4. God would be willing to save the cities if 50, 45, 40, 30, 20, 10 righteous could be found.
   D. Psa. 9:8 “And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.”

III. We Are All Worthy Of Death.
   A. God’s justice demands that He punish the wicked.
      1. Rom. 3:5-6 “But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man) "God forbid: for then how shall God judge the world?”
2. 2 Thess. 1:6-9 “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”

B. The punishment of sin is death.
1. Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
2. Jam. 1:15 “Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

C. Since all have sinned, all deserve death.

IV. CHRIST BECOMES OUR PROPITIATION.
A. Means appeasement; delivered from justly deserved wrath and comes under the covenant of grace.
B. Christ is able to be our propitiation
1. Christ lived a sinless life.
2. John 8:46 “Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?”
3. 2 Cor. 5:21 “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”
4. Heb. 4:15 “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”
5. 1 Pet. 2:22 “Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:”
6. Living sinless, He did not deserve death.
C. Christ took the punishment which was due us:
1. Rom. 3:25-26 “Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”
2. 1 John 4:10 “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”
3. 1 John 2:2 “And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

V. HOW WE APPROPRIATE THAT BLOOD OF CHRIST WHICH IS OUR PROPITIATION.
A. Rev. 1:5 “And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”
B. Heb. 10:22 “Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.”
C. 1 Pet. 3:21 “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:”

Conclusion: Have you appropriated the blood which Christ shed on Calvary to be a propitiation for your sins by being baptized into Christ? If not why not obey His commands and be saved today?