The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

"He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD."

(Proverbs 17:15)

"...believes in Him who justifies the ungodly..." (Romans 4:5)

²¹ But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ heing justified as a gift by His grace through the rade

²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

²⁶ for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

(Romans 3:21-26)

Romans 3:21-26

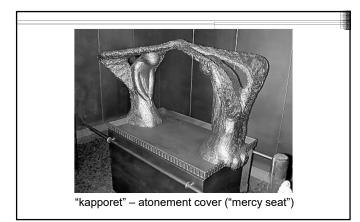
- ➢ God justifies the ungodly...
 - (1) through faith alone (instrument)
 - (2) by grace alone (manner)
 - (3) in Christ alone (ground/basis)

Romans 3:21-26

"whom God displayed publicly as a *propitiation* by His blood through faith..." (3:25)

"Propitiation By His Blood"

- 1. Definition of Propitiation
 - to appease or placate the wrath of one offended; to turn away someone's anger
 - in the OT propitiation is at the heart of the sacrifices for atonement (*hilasterion* – possible allusion to the "mercy seat")



"Propitiation By His Blood"

- 2. Necessity of Propitiation
 - God's wrath issuing in His retributive justice has been revealed against all mankind (1:18-3:20)
 - God's righteousness necessarily includes His vindication through our judgment

"Propitiation By His Blood"

- 3. Accomplishment of Propitiation
 - God Himself initiated and made propitiation through the giving of His Son for us (cf. 1 John 4:10)
 - Christ's representative death was the penalty of God's retributive justice for our sin

"He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Cor. 5:21)