

Where and When Did Atonement Happen?

When you read and study scripture, it should provoke questions, many questions. You will see this as we answer the questions...

Where did atonement happen?

When did atonement happen?

I have several axioms I have developed over the years.

Axioms - a statement or proposition which is regarded as being established, accepted, or self-evidently true.

- Know what you believe
- Know why you believe it
- Be able to defend what you believe, if Biblical then by Scripture and live according to those beliefs.
- With Scripture, assembly is required. If you want to go beyond the P'shat. (the plain and simple understanding – what it says is what it means) - We have seen the likes of this in Kefa's sermons in Acts or Sha'ul's letters. Various scriptures being brought together to form a narrative and thus drawing a specific conclusion.

My intention today is to draw the conclusion by answers these questions...

Where did atonement happen?

When did atonement happen?

One of the greatest challenges that confronts believers today is more internal than external and it has to do with a simple word...

“Contradiction”

- An inconsistency or discrepancy
- A statement or situation where two or more propositions are in conflict, meaning they cannot all be true at the same time. It often highlights inconsistencies or opposing ideas.

Scripture itself is not contradictory but theology, that being “man's interpretation of it is where the contradictions reside.

What is “IT”?

"It" is a pronoun, specifically a singular, neuter, third-person pronoun used to refer to a lifeless thing or an idea. It can function as a subject, direct object, or indirect object in a sentence.

It is interesting how when reading Scripture all rules of grammar are thrown out the window. You will see what I mean.

Why do I bring up “it”?

Because it is where our journey begins when asking the question...

“Where and When Did Atonement Happen?”

Joh 19:28 After this, knowing that all things had accomplished their purpose, Yeshua, in order to fulfill the words of the Tanakh, said, "I'm thirsty."

Joh 19:29 A jar full of cheap sour wine was there; so they soaked a sponge in the wine, coated it with oregano leaves and held it up to his mouth.

Joh 19:30 After Yeshua had taken the wine, he said, "It is accomplished!" And, letting his head droop, he delivered up his spirit.

I asked what “It” is and here we have to ask the same question because Yeshua is alluding to “it” being accomplished or finished.

What is the “it”?

Many have speculated with the most common response being our salvation was finished “at the cross” One commentary conveys the following:

*He fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament and **completed the work of salvation for humankind**. This was not merely an acknowledgement of his impending death, but a proclamation that the demands of the law and the need for a sacrifice to atone for sin had been met. In essence, Jesus was saying that everything required for our reconciliation with God had been accomplished.*

<https://scripturesavvy.com/john-19-30/>

What is the Prophecy?

Psa 22:15 my mouth is as dry as a fragment of a pot, my tongue sticks to my palate; you lay me down in the dust of death.

Psa 69:21 They put poison in my food; in my thirst, they gave me vinegar to drink.

This is the answer to what “it” is. Every prophecy that had to be fulfilled up until this very moment was done. It, the prophecies before His death had all been fulfilled, finished, accomplished.

Was the work of salvation completed at the cross? “completed the work of salvation for humankind”

Is that true?

What does Scripture say about being hung from a tree?

Deu 21:22 "If someone has committed a capital crime and is put to death, then hung on a tree,

Deu 21:23 his body is not to remain all night on the tree, but you must bury him the same day, because a person who has been hanged has been cursed by God—so that you will not defile your land, which Adonai your God is giving you to inherit.

Hung, put to death for a capital crime. It is a corporal punishment.

Mat 27:3 When Y'hudah, who had betrayed him, saw that Yeshua had been condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the head cohanim and elders,

Mat 27:4 saying, "I sinned in betraying an innocent man to death." "What is that to us?" they answered. "That's your problem."

Mat 27:5 Hurling the pieces of silver into the sanctuary, he left; then he went off and hanged himself.

Y'hudah hung himself. He brought the curse upon himself.

What happened when Yeshua was on the stake?

He was among criminals, accused of Blaspheme by the Sanhedrin, He was sentenced as a criminal...

Mat 27:37 Above his head they placed the written notice stating the charge against him, THIS IS YESHUA THE KING OF THE JEWS

Mat 27:38 Then two robbers were placed on execution-stakes with him, one on the right and one on the left.

Mat 27:39 People passing by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads

Mat 27:40 and saying, "So you can destroy the Temple, can you, and rebuild it in three days? Save yourself, if you are the Son of God, and come down from the stake!"

Mat 27:41 Likewise, the head cohanim jeered at him, along with the Torah-teachers and elders,

Mat 27:42 "He saved others, but he can't save himself!" "So he's King of Isra'el, is he? Let him come down now from the stake! Then we'll believe him!"

Mat 27:43 "He trusted God? So, let him rescue him if he wants him! After all, he did say, 'I'm the Son of God!'"

Mat 27:44 Even the robbers nailed up with him insulted him in the same way.

Like the "Scape Goat" on Yom Kippur, He bore our transgressions:

Lev 16:21 Aharon is to lay both his hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the transgressions, crimes and sins of the people of Isra'el; he is to put them on the head of the goat and then send it away into the desert with a man appointed for the purpose.

Lev 16:22 The goat will bear all their transgressions away to some isolated place, and he is to let the goat go in the desert.

- He was outside the city, outside the camp so to speak.
- He bore our transgressions as did the Scape Goat.
- He bore the curses of the law for one's disobedience, for the nations disobedience...

Deu 28:15 "But if you refuse to pay attention to what Adonai your God says, and do not observe and obey all his mitzvot and regulations which I am giving you today, then all the following curses will be yours in abundance:

He took upon Himself what was meant for us.

What does Scripture say about atonement?

The slaughter of the sacrifice can happen only in one place...

Lev 14:13 He is to slaughter the male lamb at the place **in the sanctuary for slaughtering sin offerings and burnt offerings**, because the guilt offering belongs to the cohen, just like the sin offering; it is especially holy.

Atonement can only happen in one place...

Lev 17:11 For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for yourselves; for it is the blood that makes atonement because of the life.'

This verse is part of a section by which Adonai prohibits the consumption of blood and presents the reason why it is a prohibition.

So, the premise that Yeshua's death on an execution stake, a tree, finishing His work, atonement, is a false premise. Some have tried to convey that the "cross" is an altar, yet His Work is not finished. There is still more to be done.

What needed to happen that hasn't happen yet?

This is where the altar comes in.

Heb 9:11 But when the Messiah appeared as cohen gadol of the good things that are happening already, then, through the greater and more perfect Tent which is not man-made (that is, it is not of this created world),

Heb 9:12 he entered the Holiest Place once and for all. And he entered not by means of the blood of goats and calves, but by means of his own blood, thus setting people free forever.

Heb 9:13 For if sprinkling ceremonially unclean persons with the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer restores their outward purity;

Heb 9:14 then how much more the blood of the Messiah, who, through the eternal Spirit, offered himself to God as a sacrifice without blemish, will purify our conscience from works that lead to death, so that we can serve the living God!

Question – **When did these verses actual take place?**

Hebrews 9:11 - 14 speaks of a moment that would fulfill the "it is finished" statement of Yeshua in relation to Leviticus 17:11. Yet, there is no moment in Scripture, the Gospels and Acts where this is recorded as having happened.

One Possibility is Acts 1:9, where we read of his ascension...

Act 1:9 After saying this, he was taken up before their eyes; and a cloud hid him from their sight.

However, there is something wrong with this option...

Act 1:3 After his death he showed himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. During a period of forty days they saw him, and he spoke with them about the Kingdom of God.

It is 40 days later. Is there any instruction in Torah whereby you could delay your offering for 40 days? This ascension is 40 days after the Resurrection.

There must be another time? He had to have done so at some other time where Hebrews 9:11 – 14 were acted upon.

Let's Consider John 20.

Joh 20:1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Miryam from Magdala went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

Joh 20:2 So she came running to Shim'on Kefa and the other talmid, the one Yeshua loved, and said to them, "They've taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him!"

Miryam encounters an empty tomb on the first day of the week.

Joh 20:11 but Miryam stood outside crying. As she cried, she bent down, peered into the tomb,

Joh 20:12 and saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Yeshua had been, one at the head and one at the feet.

Joh 20:13 "Why are you crying?" they asked her. "They took my Lord," she said to them, "and I don't know where they have put him."

Joh 20:14 As she said this, she turned around and saw Yeshua standing there, but she didn't know it was he.

Joh 20:15 Yeshua said to her, "Lady, why are you crying? Whom are you looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you're the one who carried him away, just tell me where you put him; and I'll go and get him myself."

Joh 20:16 Yeshua said to her, "Miryam!" Turning, she cried out to him in Hebrew, "Rabbani!" (that is, "Teacher!")

Joh 20:17 "Stop holding onto me," Yeshua said to her, "because I haven't yet gone back to the Father. But go to my brothers, and tell them that I am going back to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

What happened when Yeshua said He hasn't gone back to the Father?

Miryam was likely holding onto him in a bear hug type of way.

Could it be, upon His resurrection, He had some “unfinished” business to take care of?

Yeshua had a moad...an appointment to keep. That He needed to do something before the day was done?

Yet there is one more thing to convey in relation to this moment.

His return...

Joh 20:19 In the evening that same day, the first day of the week, when the talmidim were gathered together behind locked doors out of fear of the Judeans, Yeshua came, stood in the middle and said, "Shalom aleikhem!"

He was resurrected on the first day of the week.

He ascended on the first day of the week.

He applied His blood to the altar not made by human hands on the first day of the week.

He returned before the end of the first day of the week.

The Resurrection – Ha Bikkurim

Summary / Conclusion

The Resurrection is not just the Resurrection, but much more.

On the day of the resurrection, we can answer these questions...

- When did Atonement happen – On the day of Resurrection (the first day of the week) when Yeshua ascended the first time. (John 20)
- Where did Atonement happen – On the altar not made by human hands (Hebrews 9)
- Where did Atonement NOT happen – at the execution stake

The stake represents obedience and submission to death not freedom and restoration.

Php 2:7 On the contrary, he emptied himself, in that he took the form of a slave by becoming like human beings are. And when he appeared as a human being,

Php 2:8 he humbled himself still more by becoming obedient even to death—death on a stake as a criminal!

It is the resurrection that represents freedom and restoration.

Act 2:24 "But God has raised him up and freed him from the suffering of death; it was impossible that death could keep its hold on him.

So, when you read Yochanan 19:29 or hear someone talk about "it is finished" you now have the evidence that what they are saying about your salvation is not true. Hence there is no contradiction, no confusion.

There is one more thing that happened on HaBikkurim, First Fruits of the Passover...

Did God divorce the nation fully? We read of where the northern tribes, but not Judah...

Jer 3:8 I saw that even though backsliding Isra'el had committed adultery, so that I had sent her away and given her a divorce document, unfaithful Y'hudah her sister was not moved to fear—instead she too went and prostituted herself.

For three days and three nights Israel (Judah) was separated from God in the sense of marriage, whereby death ends the covenant of marriage.

Yet, Israel (Judah) was still connected to God through Avraham, yet she was not married.

Exo 3:6 I am the God of your father," he continued, "the God of Avraham, the God of Yitz'chak and the God of Ya'akov." Moshe covered his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

Exo 3:7 Adonai said, "I have seen how my people are being oppressed in Egypt and heard their cry for release from their slavemasters, because I know their pain.

Death of Yeshua would end the covenant of marriage between Adonai and Israel (Judah).

It would be on the day of resurrection that the New Covenant would be ratified on the altar not made by human hands, thus the marriage through the New Covenant is ratified as well.

Luk 22:19 Also, taking a piece of matzah, he made the b'rakhah, broke it, gave it to them and said, "This is my body, which is being given for you; do this in memory of me."

Luk 22:20 He did the same with the cup after the meal, saying, "This cup is the New Covenant, ratified by my blood, which is being poured out for you.

Jeremiah 31:

Jer 31:30 "Here, the days are coming," says Adonai, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah.

Jer 31:31 It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt; because they, for their part, violated my covenant, even though I, **for my part, was a husband to them**," says Adonai.

Jer 31:32 "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai:

"I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Jer 31:33 No longer will any of them teach his fellow community member or his brother, 'Know Adonai'; for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

The New Covenant will not be like this first covenant, made through Moshe. There are differences.

One of those differences is this...

Jer 31:31 **It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers** on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt; because they, for their part, violated my covenant, even though I, for my part, was a husband to them," says Adonai.

The marriage would not occur on Shavuot but on another First Fruits – Ha Bikkurim, during the Passover seasons.

The New Covenant and the Mosaic Covenant have two very specific things in common...

The Torah, the Ketubah of Adonai and His Bride.

Exo 24:7 Then he took the book of the covenant and read it aloud, so that the people could hear; and they responded, "Everything that Adonai has spoken, we will do and obey."

and

Jer 31:32 **"For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.**

The second is blood ratifying the covenant...

Exo 24:8 Moshe took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which Adonai has made with you in accordance with all these words."

Heb 9:12 **he entered the Holiest Place once and for all. And he entered not by means of the blood of goats and calves, but by means of his own blood, thus setting people free forever.**

There are other parallels between the first covenant through Moshe and the New Covenant through Yeshua...

Adonai conveyed that it was in our hearts...

Deu 30:14 **On the contrary, the word is very close to you—in your mouth, even in your heart; therefore, you can do it!**

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil—

Deu 30:16 in that I am ordering you today to love Adonai your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings ; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and Adonai

your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

Jer 31:32 "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Just as he said he would write it on our hearts again through the New Covenant.

So, what also happened on the first day of the week, the resurrection?

- Yeshua ratified the New Covenant, hence the marriage between Adonai and His Bride Israel.

Three days of separation from God is remedied by the altar not made by human hands.

Where and When Did Atonement Happen?

Summary / Conclusion

On the day of the resurrection, we can answer these questions...

- **When did Atonement happen?** – On the day of Resurrection (the first day of the week) when Yeshua ascended the first time. (John 20)
- **Where did Atonement happen?** – On the altar not made by human hands (Hebrews 9:11 - 14)
- **Where did Atonement NOT happen?** – At the execution stake.
- **What else happened on the day of the Resurrection?** Ratification of the New Covenant and the marriage between Yeshua (Adonai) and Israel.
- The stake represents obedience and submission to death, not redemption and atonement.

Scripture References

- John 19:28 – 30 (It is finished)
- Deuteronomy 21:22 – 23 (hanging from a tree)
- Matthew 27:3 – 5 (Y'hudah (Judas) hanging himself)
- Matthew 27:37 – 44 (Yeshua's punished as a criminal)
- Leviticus 16:21 – 22 (The Scapegoat on Yom Kippur)
- Deuteronomy 28:15 (The curse of disobedience)
- Leviticus 17:11 (Atonement and the altar)
- Hebrews 9:11 – 14 (The altar not made by human hands)
- John 20:1 – 19 (The Resurrection)
- Philippians 2:7 – 8 (Obedient to death)
- Acts 2:24 (Resurrection - freedom from sin and death)
- Luke 22:19 - 20 – The promise of the New Covenant ratification)
- Jeremiah 31:31 – 34 - (The promise of the New Covenant)
- Exodus 19:5 – 6 (Requirement of the Mosaic Covenant)
- Deuteronomy 30:14 – 16 (Torah written on our hearts)