



**GRACE GOSPEL MINISTRY**

Liberating / Grace

## PROPITIATION

The Greek word *eel·ahs·tee·ree·on* translated “propitiation” denotes a means of appeasing, placating or expiating through an acceptable substitutionary offering. In general it means, "to appease the gods." The concept speaks of that which satisfies the justice of God. The righteousness nature of God is offended by the sinful nature of man, thus there must be an acceptable sacrifice offered, which is suitable to accommodate the violation of God’s holiness.

The propitiation or “acceptable sacrifice” allows God to approve the presence of the violator and yet remain righteous, as His justice is appeased or satisfied. God's justice must be vindicated and the penalty for breaking His laws must be satisfied (propitiated). The provisions in the Old Testament entailed the “mercy-seat” or “place of appeasement” or “place of propitiation” (Hebrews 9:5). This was indicative of a covering over the ark of the Mosaic Covenant in the holy of holies, which was sprinkled with the blood of the appeasing sacrifice as the atonement (Leviticus 16:2-15). The Old Testament examples of propitiation were merely temporary substitutes until the death of Jesus Christ was fulfilled on the cross therefore satisfying the demands of God’s justice once and for all, thus He (Christ) is the “substitutionary appeasement”, “acceptable sacrifice” or “propitiation” (Romans 3:25). The blood of Jesus

Christ is totally acceptable as complete satisfaction for the sinful violation of God's righteousness. This was revealed in the grace administration (economy) through the Apostle Paul. See: "Exegesis of Romans 3:25".