Course Outline

I. Introduction

II. Biblical Basis for the Doctrine of the Atonement

- a. Old Testament sacrificial system
  - i. Ark of the covenant and the tablets of the Law: obedience and the presence of God
  - ii. Ark of the covenant and the mercy seat: God is Lord in and through His presence
- b. Christ fulfills the Old Testament system of sacrifice
  - i. His obedience makes possible the union between unholy humanity and holy God.
  - ii. His blood accomplishes what the blood of bulls and goats cannot.
  - iii. He is the "hilasterion," the mercy seat.

IV. Theories of the Atonement

- c. Objective
  - i. Satisfaction Theory: Anselm of Canterbury
  - ii. Penal Substitution: Reformation Theology
- d. Subjective
  - i. Modern focus on the social, political, and economic significance of the cross
  - ii. Moral Influence: Peter Abelard
- e. Christus Victor
- f. Bringing Penal Substitution into dialogue with Christus Victor to express the lordship of God over every force of darkness and nonbeing.

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