

## The Bright and Morning Star

The transgression of God's law and commandments had not occurred until the rebellion of Satan. Therefore, a ransom to cover, or "*atone for sin*" was not necessary. However, following Satan's sin an offering had to be made in order to fulfill this legal requirement,

*And according to the law almost all things are purged (cleansed) with blood, and **without shedding of blood there is no remission** (forgiveness of sin) (Hebrews 9:22; cf. Lev. 4:1-35; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement (covering of sin) for your souls; for **it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul** (Leviticus 17:11; Ed. note in parenthesis).*

*.... the Son of Man (Christ) did not come to be served, but to serve, and to **give his life a ransom for many** (repentant sinners; cf. Ac. 2:38) (Matthew 20:28b; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Christ was not forced against his will, or better judgment. Instead, he willingly agreed to become this ransom in order to restore every repentant sinner's relationship with God the Father,

*Therefore my Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it again.<sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from my Father (John 10:17-18).*



The root and the offspring of David, the bright and Morning Star

However, if Adam sinned, there was only Christ who could be relied upon not to sin (cf. Heb. 4:15),

*For since by man (Adam) came death (through sin), by Man (Christ) also came the resurrection of the dead.<sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive (in either the first or second resurrection; cf. Rev. 20:4-6) (1Corinthians 15:21-22; cf. Rom. 5:12-21; Ed. notes in parentheses).*

It is important to note that Adam was created after Satan's rebellion, and therefore the potential remained that Adam could become the ransom that would atone, or cover, the sins of Satan and the angels that followed his rebellious behavior. The Apostle Paul alluded to this as follows,

*.... Adam, who is a type (Gr. typos; pattern, image, example to be imitated; a model) of him (Christ) who was to come (Romans 5:14b; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

To be a model of Christ, Adam would have been created as a "morning star," which is an angelic being with greater responsibilities, and authority, than other angels. Hence, Adam had authority to give names to other living beings (cf. Gen. 2:19-20),

**I, Jesus,** have sent my angel (possibly Gabriel or Michael) to testify to you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright and Morning Star** (Revelation 22:16; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Even though Christ willingly agreed to lay down his life in order to restore all those who had rebelled under Satan's leadership, there was still the possibility for another ransom in the form of Adam.

So, a great responsibility rested on Adam's shoulders, but he too had freedom to obey God's word, which included serving one's neighbor, or rejecting that way of living (cf. Lev. 19:18; Mt. 22:39). In "The Brief #105", we will review Adam's choice and the consequences that followed.

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