

The Infinite Atonement of Jesus Christ– REL 390R

Course Syllabus & Schedule

Fall Semester 2025

How important is the Atonement of Jesus Christ?

“The fundamental principles of our religion are the testimony of the apostles and prophets, concerning Jesus Christ. That he died, was buried, and rose again at the third day, and ascended into heaven; and all other things which pertain to our religion are only appendages to it.” (Joseph Smith Jr., History of the Church, 3:30)

“[The] atonement [of Jesus Christ] is the most transcendent event that ever has or ever will occur from Creation’s dawn through all the ages of a never-ending eternity. It is the supreme act of goodness and grace that only a god could perform.” (*The Purifying Power of Gethsemane*”, Elder Bruce R. Mckonkie, General Conference, April, 1985)

The Atonement is the greatest evidence we have of the Father’s love for His children. (*Is Faith in the Atonement of Jesus Christ Written in Our Hearts?*”, Linda K. Burton, General Conference October, 2012) The Savior’s atoning sacrifice—the central act of all human history—is best understood and appreciated when we expressly and clearly connect it to Him. (Russell M. Nelson, “Drawing the Power of Jesus Christ into Our Lives,” Ensign or Liahona, May 2017, 40).

True change—permanent change—can come only through the healing, cleansing, and enabling power of the Atonement of Jesus Christ. He loves you—each of you! He allows you to access His power as you keep His commandments, eagerly, earnestly, and exactly. It is that simple and certain. The gospel of Jesus Christ is a gospel of change!” (Russell M. Nelson, “Decisions for Eternity,” Ensign, November 2013, 108)

“If the Atonement is the foundation of our faith (and it is), then no one should be content with a casual acquaintance of this doctrine. Instead, the Atonement should be paramount in our intellectual and spiritual pursuits.” (Tad R. Callister, *The Infinite Atonement*)

Course Description:

In this course, we will study the Atonement of Jesus Christ using “*The Infinite Atonement*”, by Tad Callister as our organizing framework. We will use the scriptures and words of the prophets as our foundation and our guide. We will seek to know Him by study and also by faith. As we study His great atoning sacrifice, we will actively seek to know how we can better pattern our lives after His. We will counsel together about how to live as He lived. We will strive to live by the following counsel from Elder Richard G. Scott”

“I energetically encourage you to establish a personal study plan to better understand and appreciate the incomparable, eternal, infinite consequences of Jesus Christ’s perfect fulfillment of His divinely appointed calling as our Savior and Redeemer. Profound personal pondering of the scriptures accompanied by searching, heartfelt prayer will fortify your understanding of and appreciation for His priceless Atonement” (“He Lives! All Glory to His Name!” Ensign or Liahona, May 2010, 77).

Date	Lesson	Assigned Readings	Want More? <i>If you want to dive deeper look at these chapters from The Infinite Atonement by Tad. R. Callister</i>
9/18	Introduction & Course Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Elder Jeffrey R. Holland — 'A Saint Through the Atonement of Christ the Lord'. 	
9/25	Significance of the Atonement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Alma 7:7 ☐ 2 Nephi 25:26 ☐ 2 Nephi 9 	Chapters 1-3
10/2	Purposes of the Atonement & Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ D&C 6:20 ☐ Alma 34:16 ☐ Isaiah 40:11 ☐ Alma 5:33 ☐ 2 Nephi 26:25-33 ☐ 3 Nephi 9:14 ☐ 2 Nephi 28:32 ☐ 3 Nephi 10:6 ☐ Moses 7:63 ☐ Mormon 6:17 ☐ Alma 26:15 ☐ 2 Nephi 9:41 	Chapter 4
10/9	The Fall of Adam & Need for the Atonement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ 2 Nephi 2 ☐ Alma 11:37-46 ☐ 2 Nephi 9 ☐ Gospel Topics: The Fall of Adam and Eve ☐ Gospel Topics: Atonement of Jesus Christ 	Chapters 5-7
10/16	The Infinite Nature of the Atonement and The Divine Attributes of Jesus Christ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ D. Todd Christofferson, "Redemption," Ensign or Liahona, May 2013, 109–12. ☐ President Ezra Taft Benson, Five Marks of the Divinity of Jesus Christ, Ensign, December 2001 	Chapters 8-9
10/23	Infinite in Power, Time & Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Topical Guide; Jesus Christ, Power of ☐ Topical Guide: God, Eternal Nature of ☐ The Atonement, Russell M. Nelson, General Conference, October 1996 	Chapters 10-12
10/30	Infinite in Depth & Suffering (Gethsemane)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ The Atonement Covers All Pain, Elder Kent F. Richards, General Conference, April 2011 ☐ Elder Bruce R. McConkie, The Purifying Power of Gethsemane, General Conference April 1985 	Chapters 13-14

11/6	Infinite in Love & Blessing of Resurrection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ President Dieter F. Uchtdorf The Love of God, General Conference October 2009 □ Gospel Topics: Resurrection □ Elder D. Todd Christofferson, The Resurrection of Jesus Christ, General Conference, April 2014 	Chapters 15-16
11/13	The Blessings of Grace, Repentance & Peace of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Elder David A. Bednar, The Atonement and the Journey of Mortality, General Conference, April 2012 □ President Russell M. Nelson, We Can Do Better and Be Better, General Conference, April 2019 □ Gospel Topics: Repentance □ Elder Richard G. Scott, Peace of Conscience and Peace of Mind, General Conference, October 2004 	Chapters 22-23 & 17-18
11/20	The Blessings of Succor, Motivation & Exaltation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, None were with Him, General Conference, April 2009 □ For the Strength of Youth: A Guide for Making Choices: Jesus Christ Will Help You □ President Russell M. Nelson, Let God Prevail, General Conference, October 2020 □ Gospel Principles: Exaltation □ Russell M. Nelson, Salvation and Exaltation, General Conference, April 2008 	Chapters 19-21
11/27	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASSES		
12/4	Ordinances, Covenants, Justice & Mercy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Why Ordinances and Covenants Matter □ Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, The Justice and Mercy of God 	Chapters 24-26
12/11	Appreciation and Review: The Wisdom of Simeon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Grateful in Any Circumstances, General Conference, May 2014 □ Christmas Comfort – Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, BYU, December 1, 1998 	Chapter 27