
Why Christ Had to Die

Introduction

1. The fact that Jesus did die for us is clearly seen.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

1 Corinthians 2:2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

A. Accounts of His death are recorded in the gospels.

Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

1. To satisfy the demands of justice.

A. Man can't bear another person's sins. This was pointed out through the prophet Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 18:20 **The soul who sins shall die.** The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

1) Man has a responsibility to walk in the counsel of God.

Jeremiah 10:23 O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

B. There are some things God can't do – Lie!

Hebrews 6:18 that by two immutable things, in which **it is impossible for God to lie**, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

Titus 1:2 in hope of eternal life which God, **who cannot lie**, promised before time began,

- 1) **Nor can He do anything else that is contrary to His very nature!**

C. Therefore, He can't and won't overlook sin.

Acts 17:30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

- 1) **We can see His goodness and severity.**

Romans 11:22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, **if you continue in His goodness**. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

- 2) **We can clearly see His justice.**

Romans 3:23-26

- a. **God demands payment!**

D. Jesus died on the cross to satisfy this demand.

- 1) **None other would do.**

2. He died to change the disposition of the Sinner.**A. Punishment does not rehabilitate.**

- 1) This is seen in the penal systems of today; stone walls, iron bars.
- 2) This is seen in our own children.
Hebrews 12:5-7

B. It is "Love" that brings rehabilitation.**2 Corinthians 2:6-9**

- 1) If there was real love we would have less prisons, better children, and the Lord's church would be the way it was designed to be.
- 2) Love gives.

1 John 4:19 We love Him because He first loved us.

3. Christ died to set an example for man - teaching us how to live.**A. The example of obedience.**

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and **became obedient to the point of death**, even the death of the cross.

B. He was tried and tested.

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but **was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.**

4. He died to destroy the works of Satan.

Hebrews 2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that **through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,**

1 John 3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, **that He might destroy the works of the devil.**

A. Death opened up a way to overcome Satan.

Hebrews 9:11-12 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

B. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became sin for us!

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, **that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

5. Christ died to fulfill God's eternal purpose.

A. This is revealed by the church.

Ephesians 3:10-11

Acts 20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

What His Death Reveals to Us

1. **The death of Jesus, perfect – without sin, the Son of God – should clearly show us the awfulness of sin!**
 - A. **The law could not release us from sin.**
Romans 8:1-4
 - B. **Was One drop of Jesus' blood sufficient? NO! It took all - It took His DEATH. We have life in the blood of Christ.**
 - C. **All sacrifices from Adam to Christ could not take away sin.**
Hebrews 10:1-4
2. **His death reveals the great magnitude of God's love for His creation.**
John 3:16
Romans 5:8

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

- A. **We can see Jesus' mental anguish on display in Luke 22:44.**

Luke 22:44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

- B. **He endured mock trials, scourging, a crown of thorns, bearing the cross, thirst, agony, pain, death. All this emphasizes God's love for us.**

3. His death reveals the value of the soul.

Matthew 16:26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or **what will a man give in exchange for his soul?**

A. Some don't take this seriously - THEY SHOULD!

4. It reveals our certainty and horror of the penalty for sin.

A. We'll pay the price.

Matthew 25:41 Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

B. At the judgment day, we'll have to give an account for all of our actions.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, **whether good or bad.**

What Did His Death Make Available to Us?

1. The remission (forgiveness) of sins.

Matthew 26:28 For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many **for the remission of sins**.

2. Reconciliation - to be brought near to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, **be reconciled to God**.

3. Redemption – bought with a price.

Colossians 1:13-14

4. Justification – proper aligned with Christ.

Romans 5:9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

5. Heirs with Christ.

Romans 8:16-17

Conclusion

1. It is extremely important for eternity that we share in the benefits of His death. How is that accomplished?

A. Only by being in Christ!

Galatians 3:26-27

2. We are not accidently saved.

A. If we are saved it is because we have purposed to obey Him!

