

deeper

word faith life

Module 2

The Doctrine of Christ

Prophecy and the Birth of Christ

The Law and the Cross of Christ

The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

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Session 3 – The Doctrine of Christ or Christology

THE WORK OF CHRIST

We've dealt with the Person of Christ in the first two sessions, we now turn our attention to the Work of Christ. What Jesus achieved on the cross and by His death, resurrection and glorification is an eternal work which has implications for us every day of our lives.

The Atonement

Atonement simply means _____ or the act of reconciling two parties. Specifically for us, it refers to the sacrifice that Jesus made in order to reconcile sinful man to a Holy God. Wayne Grudem puts it like this; "The atonement is the work Christ did in His life and death to earn our salvation." Mark 10:45 says, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." Ransom here is the price of our atonement, in order to earn our atonement, Jesus had to pay for our sin with His very life.

The reason for the atonement is wrapped up in the character and nature of God. God is loving and God is simultaneously just.

John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Exodus 34:7 - "Maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

If God does not forgive, then He is unloving, and if He does not require the penalty for sin to be paid, then He is not just. God is love and God is just. There was no other way for humanity to be saved. Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane in Matthew 26:40, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me..." In order to save humanity, Jesus had to go to the cross, but we should always remember that God did not have to save humanity.

The Nature of the Atonement

Jesus' _____ on Our Behalf - For the atonement to be complete, Jesus had to live a sinless life. A life in perfect obedience to the Law in order to earn righteousness for us. He had to obey the Law His whole life on our behalf.

Romans 5:19 - "For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous."

Philippians 3:9 - "(that I may gain Christ) and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ; the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith."

Jesus' _____ on Our Behalf - Jesus also had to take upon Himself the suffering necessary to redeem us, to pay the penalty for our sin. Suffering always involves pain. The pain of the cross was so much more for Jesus than anyone else at the time. Mark 15:24 tells us, "And they crucified Him..." We read over it without fully grasping the magnitude of the pain and suffering such a death inflicted on the condemned.

The _____

The physical pain would have been the same for any man who had to endure it. Crucifixion was probably the cruelest, most horrific methods of execution ever known to man. The Romans had perfected the art of ruling by fear and intimidation.



The _____

Something we could never understand nor endure. Jesus being perfectly Holy, hating sin with every fibre of His being, bore the guilt and shame of our sin which was poured out upon Him as if they were His own.

Isaiah 53:12 - "The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

The _____

Jesus hung on that cross in excruciating physical pain, and tormenting spiritual pain, but He also did it alone. His disciples fled when He was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane.

(Matthew 26:56) But infinitely worse than that was being cut off from the Father by our sin.

(Matthew 27:46)

The _____

Something we could never understand nor endure. The most excruciating pain for Jesus to bear would have been the fury of God's wrath being poured out upon Him. Jesus became the object of God's intense hatred of sin.

Aspects of the Atonement

_____ - The penalty for our sin is death, Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death..." We deserve to die for our sin. Jesus died in our place as a sacrifice for us.

Hebrews 9:26 "But He has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself."

_____ - Because of our sin, God's wrath is against us. We deserve God's wrath because He is righteous and just. Christ died as a propitiation for our sins. Propitiation involves appeasing or satisfying the wrath of a Righteous, Just and Holy God and the means of being reconciled to Him. Propitiation means the following; a sacrifice that bears God's wrath to the end and in so doing changes God's wrath toward us into favour.

Romans 3:25 "God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, [or propitiation] through the shedding of His blood to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate His righteousness..."

_____ - Our sin separates us from God. We could never restore our broken relationship with God on our own. Our sin kept us separated from God. We needed Jesus to provide reconciliation, bringing us back into fellowship with God the Father.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 - "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation."

_____ - Our sin keeps us in bondage to the devil and the powers of darkness. We needed Jesus to redeem us from the "slave market" of sin. Jesus bought us back by being our ransom for we could never have freed ourselves. Jesus has freed us from our bondage to the guilt of sin, and to the bondage of its ruling power in our lives.

Colossians 1:14 - "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Jesus atoned for our sins by His penal substitution on the cross where He became our propitiation, redeeming us from the guilt and bondage of sin, and reconciling us to God, all of which can only be accessed by placing our faith and trust in Him.



Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension

The Importance of Jesus' Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 - "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ the firstfruits; then when he comes, those who belong to him."

Jesus was the first or the prototype of a new kind of human life. Where our bodies are made perfect, no longer subject to the decay of sin. No sickness, disease, aging or death; bodies that are able to live eternally. Jesus' resurrection is significant because it paves the way for us who are in Christ.

1 John 3:2 - "Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

It _____ - Paul associates Jesus resurrection with our regeneration or new birth. Jesus' resurrection opened up the way for us to have new life, resurrection life. Our regenerated, born again spirits are perfectly suited to fellowship and obedience to God forever. One day our bodies will be resurrected too, and will conform to His. But for now He has given us resurrection power by the Holy Spirit to live for Him and to proclaim the Good News. (Acts 1:8)

1 Peter 1:3 - "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"

It _____ - The declaration that we are not guilty. Jesus resurrection was final proof that He had earned our justification.

Romans 4:25 - "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification."

It _____ - Paul the apostle connects Jesus resurrection with our final resurrection. He uses agricultural imagery when he calls Jesus resurrection the "firstfruits".

1 Corinthians 6:14 - "By His power God raised the Lord from the dead, and He will raise us also."

2 Corinthians 4:14 - "because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to Himself."

1 Corinthians 15:20 - "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

The Importance of Jesus Ascension

Hebrews 1:3 - "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven."

Ephesians 1:19-23 - "That power is the same as the mighty strength He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 2:6-7 - "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the



incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.”

A _____ - For those who've put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 - “For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.”

A _____ - There is so much to look forward to as a result of Jesus' ascension.

John 14:1-3 - “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God ; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

A _____ - We will rule with Him, although through Christ we are positionally seated with Him in heavenly realms, for now we are still here on earth and have authority only in part.

Revelation 2:26-29 - “To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations, that one will rule them with an iron sceptre and will dash them to pieces like pottery just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give that one the morning star. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Memory Verse:

1 John 4:10

“This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”

