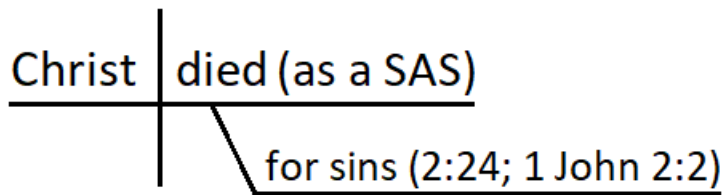


1 Peter 3:18

Christ Died FOR Sins, ONCE and For All Time

The Big Idea v18a



Subject: Christ

Verb: Died

Object of the Preposition: For Sins

Important Characteristics v18b

Once and For All Time (tetelestai "It is Finished" John 19:30)

Every [Old Testament] priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He [Jesus Christ] having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time onward until His enemies be made a footstool for His feet [Psalm 110]. For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified....Now where there is forgiveness of these things [through the work of Christ for us], there is no longer *any* [need for Tabernacle/Temple] offering for sin. Hebrews 10:10-14 and 10:17

The Just (Jesus) For the Unjust (Us)

Our sins imputed to Christ and judged...the +R of Christ imputed to the believing sinner 2 Corinthians 5:21

So that HE Might Bring Us to God

Salvation is not something WE do for God/Christ, it is something God/Christ does for us!

Having been put to death in the flesh (Father into Thy hands...) but made alive in the spirit (Today you will be with Me in Paradise)

Christ Died FOR Sins in the Sense That His Death (the Cross/His Blood) was/is a Substitutionary Atoning Sacrifice (SAS) for OUR sins and according to 1 John 2:2 “Not Ours Only, But Those of the Whole World.”

This is the heart of the work of Christ, however other aspects secondary to this are also part of what He accomplished through His saving grace.

ILLUSTRATION: There are many blessed aspects associated with a Christian wedding ceremony: the gathering of family members, a plethora of special photographs, the enjoyment of food/drink and (if obtained from Special Days Cake Boutique) the consumption of delicious pieces of wedding cake but the *CENTRAL PURPOSE* of a wedding is none of these things. The central purpose of a wedding is for the couple to enter into a covenant-based on binding and unique vows/promises to one another. In the same way, the death of our Lord Jesus Christ has many purposes, but its core was/is as a SAS. That said, allow me to mention a few other aspects of the work of Christ.

Christ’s death on the cross was/is

- 1: the ultimate example of a martyr wholly submitted to the will of God (Socinius)
- 2: a huge “moral influence” on humanity generally (Abelard)
- 3: a mirror image of the sin of the 1st Adam (Irenaeus)

Christ Willingly Submitted to His Mission/SAS Death in/as the Will of God

- 1: God the Father-the Architect of the Plan of Salvation: The Blueprint
- 2: God the Son-the Active Agent of the Plan of Salvation: The Basis
- 3: God the Holy Spirit-the Activating Agent of the Plan of Salvation: The Terms

I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father. John 10:18-19

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for *those of the whole world*. 1 John 2:2

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. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4:10-11

The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ [is] for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed as a propitiation in His blood through faith...for we maintain that a person is justified through faith apart from works of the Law. Romans 3:22-24 and 3:28

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our sins according to the riches of His grace. Ephesians 1:7

While we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly...God shows His love toward us, in that while we were sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6 and 5:8

Now I make known to you, brethren, the Gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved...that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the Apostles and last of all...He appeared to me also. 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Take This To Heart

The CORE of Christianity/the CORE of Human Reality is the SAS Death of Jesus Christ Validated by His LBS-Resurrection from the Dead. Everything else starts with and revolves about this "Gospel." Through faith (active receptive trust) in the God-Man-Savior who died for our sins once for all and then rose from the dead, the Triune God can be both Just and the Justifier of the one who believes in Jesus!

As those who have trusted in Christ (recognized and responded from the heart to the One who could save us) we are called to abide (recognize and respond from the heart to the One who has saved us) living for the One who died for us/giving our lives to Him as living sacrifices out of gratitude for Him as our once for all eternal Sacrifice/Savior. However any/all good-good works accomplished by believers are fruit/effects of our salvation in our Savior and not the root/cause of our salvation. Salvation is of the LORD!

But Wait! There's More!

No Extra Charge Appendix to This Message (adapted from bible.org)

The biblical doctrine of penal substitution holds that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross takes the place of the punishment we ought to suffer for our sins. As a result, God's justice is satisfied, and those who accept Christ are forgiven/reconciled to God. The word *penal* means "related to punishment for offenses," and *substitution* means "the act of a person taking the place of another." So, *penal substitution* is the act of a person taking the punishment for another's offenses. Jesus Christ is the Substitute, and the punishment He took (at the cross) was ours, based on our sin (1 Peter 2:24).

The doctrine of penal substitution emphasizes that God's perfect justice demands some form of atonement for sin. Humanity is spiritually dead and incapable of atoning for sin in any way (Ephesians 2:1), but Jesus' death on the cross propitiated or judicially satisfied, God's requirement for righteous justice. God's mercy allows Jesus to take the punishment we deserve for our sins.

Penal substitution is clearly taught by the Bible. And not just in the New Testament. In fact, much of what God did prior to Jesus' ministry was to foreshadow this concept and present it as the purpose of the Messiah. In Genesis 3:21, God uses animal skins to cover the naked Adam and Eve. This is the first reference to a death (in this case, an animal's) being used to cover (atone for) sin. In Exodus 12:13, God's Spirit "passes over" the homes that are covered (atoned) by the blood of the Passover lambs' sacrifice. The description of Messiah in Isaiah 53 affirms His suffering is designed to heal our wounds.

During and after Jesus' ministry, penal substitution is further clarified. Jesus identifies Himself as the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep in John 10:10. Paul in Romans 3:25-26 explains we have been given the righteousness of Christ as our legal position before God because of the sacrifice of Christ. In 2 Corinthians 5:21 he says that the sinless Christ took on our sins. Hebrews 9:26 says our sins were covered by the sacrifice of Christ. 1 Peter 3:18 plainly teaches that the Righteous One was substituted for the unrighteous many of humanity.