

Unit 3: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Unit Introduction



In this Unit, we will continue our study of Christology, but focus on a singular aspect of that doctrine: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is a most important study, for without the death of Christ, the payment and penalty of our sin would still be upon us. Without the resurrection, we would not have assurance that God had accepted the payment that Jesus had made.

In Lesson 6 we will examine some of the aspects of the death of Christ, including some unscriptural theories regarding the reason for His death, and the benefits and extent of the death of Christ. In Lesson 7 we will see why the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so important to our faith.

Unit Outline

Lesson 6: The Importance of the Death of Jesus Christ

Lesson 7: The Importance of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Lesson 6: The Importance of the Death of Jesus Christ

Lesson Introduction



As we continue on in our study of Bible Doctrines, we come to a doctrine that is the heartbeat of Christianity: the death of Jesus Christ. It is an event that is fundamental to our faith, for without it we would be lost, doomed to eternity without God. The death of Jesus Christ was foretold and prophesied of in the Old Testament, and much of the New Testament is devoted to it as well.

As we look at this most important event, we will look at some of the prophecy and types in the Old Testament, and see what testimony the New Testament declares. We will examine some unscriptural theories surrounding the death of Christ, and see what names the Bible ascribes to it. Finally, in Topics 5 & 6, we will see the objectives, extent, and results of the death of Christ.

Lesson Outline

Topic 1: Types of the Death of Christ

Old Testament Prophecy of the Death of Christ

Topic 2: New Testament Testimony of the Death of Christ

Topic 3: Unscriptural Theories of the Death of Christ

Topic 4: Scriptural Names for the Death of Christ

Topic 5: The Objectives and Extent of the Death of Christ

Topic 6: The Results of the Death of Christ

Topic 1: Types of the Death of Christ

The first thing we're going to look at in regards to the death of Christ is how it was anticipated in the Old Testament. We see it in a couple of ways: in type, and in prophecy. In types, we see a lot of types, and we're not looking at all the types of Christ but we're going to look at some. A type is something that symbolizes or represents something else. So in these types, we see a projection of the death of Christ. The first type we see is in Genesis 3:21, where Adam and Eve, after they had sinned, were trying to hide from God. Where before they had sinned there was no need to hide from God, there was no embarrassment. There was communion and fellowship with God, but because of sin that communion and fellowship had been broken. Now God had to address them and gave them the curses. But none of us in this room have known the greatest curse of sin, which is death. And there are actually 2 deaths in scripture: one is the dying of the physical body, but there is a soul and spirit that does not die. We all will live for eternity, in one place or the other, according to the Scriptures. God created us as eternal beings, there is no such thing as soul sleep. There's no such thing as reincarnation. It was appointed unto man once to die, then the judgment. If you don't know Christ, you'll have 2 deaths. The physical, and then the second death, a separation from God for all eternity. We have here a type, a projection, because of sin, because of the

broken fellowship, they had sewn leaves to cover their nakedness. Before they had sinned they were naked and didn't even realize it. But because of sin, now they knew it, and you know what God did? It says in verse 21, (GENESIS 3:21). Now when I was a kid, I thought that he just gave them a fur coat. The big deal is fur skins come from an animal. And the animal is not wearing it any more. You don't skin a live animal. So what is happening here is we have a type, a projection of what was going to have to happen. This would have been the very first death that Adam and Eve had ever seen, and death is hard to see. All of the sudden, God had taken an animal, and there was blood shed, and there was death, and it was a picture of what was to come. There had to be the shedding of blood. It wasn't just an animal that would have to die for us to be saved, for us to not have to face the second death. It had to be the perfect Lamb of God. This is a projection, the first death as God gave them the coats of skin. Then we see in Genesis 4:4, Abel brought the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof. The lord had demanded an animal sacrifice; you know the story of Cain. He didn't bring what God had asked, he brought the fruit of the ground. Abel obeyed God, and brought the animal sacrifice. There was the shedding of blood, another picture that there would be one coming in the future that would be shedding his blood.

QUESTION 1

The death of Christ is anticipated in the Old Testament in ___types___ and ___prophecy___.

QUESTION 2

A "type" _____ or represents something.

QUESTION 3

The picture, or type, in Genesis 3:21 was the _____ of sin.

QUESTION 4

The blood of _____ could never pay for or take away our sin.

QUESTION 5

Cain's sacrifice was rejected because there had to be a shedding of _____.

Old Testament Prophecy of the Death of Christ

We see the offering of Isaac, as we move through history. Genesis 22 (Genesis 22:6-14). God will provide Himself a lamb. Now we know that God did not allow Abraham to go through with it, although he was right there. God had never asked for human sacrifice, God never wanted that. Many cultures have done that. But he asked this of Abraham and Abraham said Lord I'm going to do whatever you want me to do. And just as he was coming down God stopped him, an angel of the Lord stopped him, and he looked up and there was a ram stuck in the thicket, and that place was named Jehovah -Jireh, God will provide. Another type, another picture of the one who would come to shed his blood; the Passover lamb. The story of the Exodus, where the very last thing that happened was the death of all the firstborn of Egypt. A great awful day, a great day for Israel, an awful day for Egypt. The Passover lamb was shed for everyone that believed, the blood was applied to the doorpost, and the angel of death passed over. Again, another projection of this death that Christ would die. The whole Levitical system, animal after animal was sacrificed in Judaism in the Temple and tabernacle. Blood was spilled, blood was everywhere. The sacrificial system of the Israelites. Then we have the brazen serpent. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in

the wilderness, so must the son of man be lifted up. Time and time again we have these pictures and types in the OT projecting what was going to happen, what was going to come. The slain lamb of Isaiah 53, then Jesus was said to be the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world by John the Baptist. We see the death and resurrection in the baptism by water. This was the baptism that John was doing in the Jordan River, the baptism of Jesus Christ, and he proclaimed this Jesus the Lamb of God. Over and over we see it anticipated in type in the OT. We also see the death of Christ predicted in Genesis 3:15. It says, (GENESIS 3:15). This is talking to the serpent. We have enmity between the seed of the woman and the devil. A head wound is a fatal wound, a heel wound is not. Satan thought he had dealt a death blow to Jesus Christ by the death on the Cross, but what really happened was Jesus had dealt that old serpent the death blow on the head, because Jesus rose again. He is victorious, he lives forevermore, and those that put their faith in him. This was predicted. We also see it in the sin offering of Psalm 22. Psalm 22 is a fantastic scripture, talking about many of the things that were going to happen at the very time of the death of Jesus Christ. We also see in Isaiah 53, the vicarious suffering of Jesus. We see how he would suffer and how he would take the place of us, the lamb that opens not his mouth. We also see in Daniel 9, we see the great prophecy of Daniel and the 70 weeks. We see in Daniel 9:26 (DANIEL 9:26). Why did he die? Not because he deserved it, but he died for us. We also see predicted the smitten shepherd. Jesus was called the good shepherd. In Psalm 23, the Lord is our shepherd. The smitten shepherd of Zechariah 13:7 (ZECHARIAH 13:7). The shepherd was smitten, Jesus Christ was going to die.

Assignment:

- Memorize Genesis 3:15

QUESTION 6

The type in Genesis 22:6-14 was that God would _____ Himself a Lamb.

QUESTION 7

The type seen in the Passover Lamb was that the blood was shed for _____ who would believe.

QUESTION 8

The first prediction of the _____ of Christ is found in Genesis 3:15.

QUESTION 9

Daniel 9:26 predicts that _____ will be cut off.

QUESTION 10

Even though it was _____, most Jews did not understand that Messiah would be cut off.

Topic 2: New Testament Testimony of the Death of Christ

The new testament, we see a third of the book of Matthew, a third of the book of mark, a quarter of the book of Luke, and half of John deal with the last week of Christ's life before the crucifixion. That's a lot

of the Gospels deal with the death of Christ. We see that this is the heartbeat of Jesus, his death on the cross by shedding his blood. Many verses. (ROMANS 5:10) How are we reconciled? How are we bought back after sin separated us from a righteous and holy God? It is by the death of his son, none other than Jesus Christ. Colossians 1:20 says (Colossians 1:20) How can we have peace, real lasting peace? We need to have peace with God, how do we have that? Only through the shed blood, the death of Jesus Christ. How awful it was. The worst point of history but the best point of history. All history can be pointed to the death and resurrection of Christ. Matthew 26:28 he says, (Matthew 26:28). This is the whole reason he came. He didn't come to teach us how to live; he didn't come to be a moral and ethical example. He came to die. This was predicted by type and prophecy in the OT, it is shown over and over again in the NT, 2 Cor 5:21, he was made sin for us, 1 Peter 3:8 he died the just for the unjust, Galatians 3:13, he was made a curse for us. He came to die. what form of death did he suffer? Well, Christ died a natural death. This is the kind of death that mankind experiences. Proof of that is that blood and water flowed from his side when he was pierce. He was a man that died a natural death but he was a man dying for other men. He died a natural death but he also died an abnormal death. How is it that God who cannot die, died? He died as man's substitute. He died, not because he was murdered but because he gave his life a ransom for many. He died a substitutionary death for us. Man dies because of sin. He had no sin. Apart from our sin, he wouldn't have died. Why did he die? for your sins and mine. (1 PETER 1:18) This was God's plan through all eternity. He knew that he would create us, he knew that there would be sin, and he had this plan of sending his Son to become sin for us, the Lamb of God without blemish and without spot. He died an abnormal death because of sin, because he took upon himself the sin of the world. He also died a supernatural death. God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself. He gave his life for us. He could have called legions of angels. He could have called ten thousand angels but he did not. He was the one that even gave pilate the power that pilate had. He bowed his head, and he gave up the ghost. Christ suffered 2 deaths; he suffered physical death, and he suffered sin for us, the second death.

Assignment:

- Memorize Romans 5:10

QUESTION 11

The four Gospels devote a major portion of their texts to the _____ of Jesus Christ.

QUESTION 12

Christ was not _____ but willingly gave Himself as a payment for our sins.

QUESTION 13

God's _____ from the beginning was that Jesus would die for our sins.

QUESTION 14

Through the death of Christ, we are _____ back to God.

Topic 3: Unscriptural Theories of the Death of Christ

There's been several unscriptural theories about the death of Christ, and I'll point out a couple to you. I think it's better to know the truth than to study the counterfeit, but often I think if we are made aware of the counterfeit we will understand the truth a little better. Some have said that the death of Christ was that of a martyr. In his death he died to show that truth is worth dying for. Now truth is worth dying for; there have been hundreds of thousands of martyrs in this world that have died for truth, but Jesus wasn't one of them. He did not die as a martyr, he never claimed to die a martyr's death. He died for sin. A particular and important thing that he came to die for was sin. The father did not comfort Christ in death as he did others throughout the centuries. Does it not say that Jesus said "My God my God, why has thou forsaken me?" it was the only time in eternity, that God the Father, who had perfect fellowship with God the Son, turned his back. I don't understand that, but that's what it says happened. He did not die a martyr's death, he died the death of sin for us. Some have said the death of Christ was merely accidental. He just got carried away in a big mob, in a big riot. He did not intend to die, but he was a victim. Well, then why would the Gospel of John speak of Christ predicting his own death 7 times as being in the future? That would kind of shoot that one down as false. Christ's will was that which held him to the cross. It was his will; it wasn't the nails, it was his will. "Even as the son of man came, not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (Matthew 20:28) so we would throw that theory out. Some have said the death of Christ was a moral example. If you think of Christ and his life and death, it will improve your life. Now I believe our life can be improved by thinking about the life and death of Christ, but that's not why he died. That's not why he died. He died for sin. Some have said the death of Christ showed God's displeasure with sin. Well, God's displeasure with sin is not the death of Christ, but hell. Hell is God's displeasure with sin, so that, again, is not accurate. If God's displeasure with sin is showed by the cross, then any sinner could have died. Not any sinner can die, not just any person can die, only the perfect one, the perfect man, could die for mankind in our place. Some have said that the death of Christ was to show man that God loves him. This is true, it is a wonderful example of God's love, but it's not the reason Jesus died. The reason Jesus died was for sin. Some have said the death of Christ was the death of a criminal; he was a revolutionary, he was subversive to Rome. But biblical evidence is contrary to that belief, because Pilate said, I have found no fault in him. He died, not under the accusation of Rome; the one that was putting him to death found no fault in him.

Assignment:

- Memorize Matthew 20:28

QUESTION 15

Jesus never claimed to have died a _____ death.

QUESTION 16

Christ's _____ was what held Him to the cross.

QUESTION 17

Christ consistently _____ his own death and resurrection.

QUESTION 18

The reason Jesus died was to _____ man's sin debt.

Topic 4: Scriptural Names for the Death of Christ

The Bible has many names for the death of Christ. One is the atonement. Romans 5:11 says (ROMANS 5:11). A great passage in 2 Corinthians 5:19, (2 COR 5:19-21). This is a picture of atonement; atonement means those that were estranged from God, have been brought into a relationship again. We're brought back to God. We also see the death of Christ is called "the sacrifice." In 1 Cor 5:7 it warns us about leaven; leaven was said to be representation of sin, and how we need to purge sin out of our lives and make sure there is no sin, but it says (1 COR 5:7). You see Jesus' death was called a sacrifice. It also says that he saves us, as a priest by a sacrifice. His blood is the object of our faith, it says in Hebrews 10:12, (HEBREWS 10:12) his death was called an offering. Jesus offered his body, it says once for all. (Hebrews 10:10) Jesus died one time. His death doesn't happen over and over and over again. His death happened one time; he said it is finished. There's one death, and this death was an offering. We also find it called a ransom. (MATTHEW 20:28). It's the same idea as an atonement; he paid the ransom. Jesus came and he paid the price for you, the ransom for your sins. Propitiation – another big word but it's not too difficult to understand what it is. He is the propitiation (1 JOHN 2:2). The blood sprinkled body of Christ on the cross became our mercy seat for sinners, once for all. The propitiation, the sacrifice of Christ made it possible for the judgment seat to be a mercy seat. Propitiation is simply this; God's satisfaction through Christ meeting the law's demand. The law demands something, that which was demanded, the propitiation. What happened here is God came in and paid the penalty for us – the propitiation. He came in and paid what we owed. The law demanded the sacrifice of the perfect one. We also find the death of Christ called the reconciliation. The Greek word means to change thoroughly from. The Bible never says that God is reconciled to us, this is a word that we are reconciled to God. We are brought back to God. God is propitiated, man is reconciled. We also find the death of Christ called the substitution. We find that in Isaiah 53, a substitute. We all know what a substitute is, someone that takes the place of another. And we also find the death of Christ called the testator. The testament, or will, goes into effect with the death of the testator. We realize that in Hebrews chapter 9.

Assignment:

- Memorize Hebrews 10:12

QUESTION 19

The word _____ means that those who were estranged from God are brought back into a relationship again.

QUESTION 20

Christ's death was a propitiation in that it made it possible for the _____ seat to become a _____ seat.

QUESTION 21

In _____, we are brought back to God.

QUESTION 22

Through the death of Christ, God is _____ and man is _____.

Topic 5: The Objectives and Extent of the Death of Christ

The objectives of the death of Christ – why did he die? well, it shows God divine character. It shows God's consistency with his own law and holiness. Our God is a consuming fire. The consuming fire represents his holiness, his justness, his righteousness, his perfectness. His intolerance of any sin. Our God represents his love, his mercy and grace for us. How is it that our God is a consuming fire? Well, this is the whole beauty of the Gospel. The God of love and mercy and grace, is the god of holiness, justice and righteousness. It all met at the object of the cross. That's when God's great attributes came together. Why? Because he loved us so much that he sacrificed his son who knew no sin to be made sin for us. That's incredible. But it does show his divine character. It also vindicates the divine law. His law was met, it was paid in full. Christ on our behalf establishes the law by enduring it's penalty; he endured death for us, the penalty of the law. In Matthew 5:17 it says (Matthew 5:17-18) This vindicates the divine law. This is the foundation of divine pardon. The one who forgives has to bear the loss or wrong committed. He forgives, but he had to bear the consequences. He forgives, if we receive the gift of grace. Not only do we see the object of grace, but we see the extent of the death of Christ. What is the extent of the death of Christ? This has been hotly debated, there are so many Scriptures that say, Jesus died for all people. God so loved the world. He died a ransom, over and over we find here this is in Hebrews 2:9, (HEBREW 2:9). the extent of the death of Christ is universal. Every man, every woman, every human being, he died their sins. Every one of them. Some particular statements about the extent of his death: it says in Ephesians 5:2 that he died for the believer. Ephesians 5:25 says he died for the church. Romans 5:10 it says he died for sinners, and in John 3:16 it says he died for the world. What is the extent of the atonement of Christ, what is the extent of his death? The entire world, every person

QUESTION 23

The death of Christ shows God's _____ with His own law and holiness.

QUESTION 24

The great _____ of God all came together at the cross.

QUESTION 25

The death of Christ _____ God's Divine Law.

QUESTION 26

The extent of the death of Christ is _____.

Topic 6: The Results of the Death of Christ

What are the results of the death of Christ? In relation to the sinner, he provides a substitute, a ransom, a propitiation, a non-imputation of sins, sin is not going to be put to our account if we have faith in him. It provides an attraction, it provides salvation to the sinner. It provides a gracious invitation to all people. What are the results of the death of Christ to the believer? Reconciliation, redemption, justification,

exoneration, possession, sanctification, perfection, admission, identification, liberation, donation. The benefits to the Christian are immense. What a horrible thing that he died, but what a wonderful thing that he died, because we have been given so much. What has Satan been given because of the death of Christ? Dethronement, nullification, defeat. Then how has the death of Christ affected the material universe, those things that are around us, that we see? In Colossians 1:20 it says (COLOSSIANS 1:20). This death of Christ was important to all creation. Romans 8:21 talks about how creation is groaning and travailing. Sin has caused awful things upon this earth. We know that the flood of Noah's day caused global flood, but all sorts of catastrophes with geological things such as volcanoes and different things happening, shifting formations of the earth, continents moving. In Romans 8:21, this is the effect of the death of Christ to the material universe (ROMANS 8:21-23). The death of Christ affects all things.

The results of the death of Christ:

1. In relation to the sinner.
 - A. Provides a substitute (Hebrews 2:9).
 - B. Provides a ransom (I Timothy 2:6).
 - C. Provides a propitiation (I John 2:2).
 - D. Provides for non-imputation of sin (Phile. 18).
 - E. Provides an attraction (John 12:32).
 - F. Provides salvation to the sinner (Titus 2:11).
 - G. Provides a gracious invitation to all (John 3:16).
2. In relation to the believer.
 - A. Reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:18).
 - B. Redemption (Ephesians 1:7).
 - C. Justification (Romans 5:1).
 - D. Exoneration (Romans 8:1).
 - E. Possession (I Corinthians 6:19-20).
 - F. Sanctification (Hebrews 10:10).
 - G. Perfection (Hebrews 10:14).
 - H. Admission (Hebrews 10:19-22).
 - I. Identification (Romans 6:5-8).
 - J. Liberation (Hebrews 2:14-15).
 - K. Donation (Romans 8:32).
3. In relation to Satan.
 - A. Dethronement (John 12:31).
 - B. Nullification (Hebrews 2:14).
 - C. Defeat (Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 6:12; Romans 8:38-39).

QUESTION 27

In relation to the sinner the death of Christ results in _____.

QUESTION 28

In relation to the believer the death of Christ results in _____.

QUESTION 29

In relation to Satan the death of Christ results in _____.

QUESTION 30

According to Romans 8:21-23, the corruption of the created universe will one day be _____.

