

Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

Easter 2014

Romans 5:6-11 NIV You see, at just the right time, when we were still **powerless**, Christ died for the **ungodly**. (7) Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. (8) But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still **sinners**, Christ died for us. (9) Since we have now been **justified** by his blood, how much more shall we be **saved** from God's wrath through him! (10) For if, while we were God's **enemies**, we were **reconciled** to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! (11) Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

1) We Were Powerless - no one can save himself by his own righteousness

Powerless = (same word as Acts 4:9 - impotent man carried to the gate beautiful)

- The day of our death is in God's hands
- Apart from trusting in Christ and His promise to give eternal life to those who will believe on Him - We have not power to determine our eternal destiny

If we could save ourselves - then Christ died for nothing

- Galatians 2:21 NIV I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"
- 2Co 5:21 NIV God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2) We Were Ungodly - and the ungodly deserve judgement

- 2Pe 2:5-6 ESV if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the **ungodly**; 6 if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, **making them an example** of what is going to happen to the **ungodly**;
- Isaiah 53:5 ESV But he was **wounded** for our **transgressions**; he was **crushed** for our **iniquities**; upon him was the **chastisement [punishment]** that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

3) We Were Sinners - and sin can only be removed by blood

- Heb 9:22 ESV Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

- Lev 17:11 ESV For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.

4) We Were Enemies - and we have been reconciled through His death

Enemies = to hate - (both hated by God - we hate God)

- Psalms 5:5 NIV The arrogant cannot stand in your presence. You hate all who do wrong;
- Proverbs 6:16-19 NIV There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: (17) haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, (18) a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, (19) a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.
- Colossians 1:21-22 KJV And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he **reconciled** (22) In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

We Are Justified - it is a free gift

Justification = the declaring of a person to be just or righteous. **It is a legal term signifying acquittal.**

- Romans 5:18 KJV Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

We Are Saved - from wrath

- Romans 5:9 KJV Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved **from wrath** through him.

We Are Reconciled - He Died that we might no longer live for ourselves

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 ESV (14) For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.(15) and **he died for all**, that those who live **might no longer live for themselves** but for him who for their sake died and was raised. (16) From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. (17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.** (18) All this is from God, who through Christ **reconciled** us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

Reconciliation:

To Make Different - To Change Mutually - *to change the relation of hostile parties into a relation of peace*

- We have repented and have been made a new creation
- God has He has removed his wrath received us as sons and daughters

He justified us, saved us and reconciled us...we are a NEW CREATION