

## Christian Doctrine Jesus Christ (Part 5) The Crucifixion

### *The Crucifixion of Christ*

The crucifixion of Christ is a display of both God's love and justice. Mankind, being guilty of sin by nature and by choice and in a hopeless state of condemnation, was unable to do anything to earn favor with God. Christ came to be the Redeemer mankind so desperately needed.

- This was the primary purpose for which Christ came (Matt. 1:21; Mark 10:45).
- It was the fulfillment of prophecy.
  - Old Testament prophecies state many details of the crucifixion (Is. 53:3-12; Psalm 22).
  - Christ Himself prophesied that He would be rejected and killed (Mark 8:31; 9:31; Matt. 20:17-19).

The agony of Christ's crucifixion is seen in several ways:

- He suffered horrific, physical pain (Matt 27:27-50).
- He experienced abandonment (Matt. 26:56; 27:46).
- He took on Himself the burden of sin (I Pet. 2:24).
- He endured the wrath of God toward sin (I John 2:2).

### *What the Crucifixion Accomplished for Us*

Jesus' death on the cross was more than just an act of kindness and love, it accomplished a specific purpose.

- It demonstrated God's genuine love for us (Rom 5:8).
- Christ became our substitute, satisfying God's wrath toward sin and providing us forgiveness.
  - The justice of God requires sin to be punished. Even being "sorry" for sin does not change this (Rom. 5:12).
  - Christ took our place, taking on Himself the punishment we were due, providing us a pardon (Gal. 3:13).
- The penalty for sin was completely, entirely, and forever paid for (Rom. 5:18-19; 8:1).
- The plan of God to redeem His creation was accomplished. Salvation was available to those who would place their trust in Christ (John 3:16; 19:30).

We see in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the glorious work of God providing salvation for mankind. This is the heart of the gospel, which is truly "good news!"

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