

Christian Doctrine

Sin (Part 4)

What Is the Solution to the Problem of Sin?

Mankind's Hopeless Situation

We have seen in our previous lesson the serious effects of mankind's sin. Each one of us is guilty of sin and deserving of God's judgment. Praying, helping people, or even going to church every week cannot change the fact that we are guilty of sin ([Is. 64:6](#)). Because of this, we are unable to save ourselves. We need God to do something we can't do.

God's Solution

Because of God's holiness and justice, His judgment must be carried out. However, in His infinite wisdom and love for mankind, God had a plan to offer a substitute in our place. It could not be any substitute, though. This substitute would have to be:

- Perfect (sinless): Just like in the Passover ([Ex. 12:1-30](#)), the lamb had to be without blemish (note [v. 5](#)).
- A sacrifice: Blood/death was required ([Heb. 9:22](#)).

Mankind was in need of a person who was sinless and able to die in the place of sinners. God answered that need in the person of His own Son, Jesus Christ ([Rom. 5:15-21](#)).

Our Substitute

We deserved punishment for our sin, but Jesus Christ became our substitute and took our place ([II Cor. 5:21](#)). When Christ was crucified on the cross, the punishment for sin was paid ([I Pet. 2:24; 3:18](#)). By that act, once and for all, God's wrath was satisfied and complete forgiveness was made available ([Rom. 3:21-26](#)).

Problem solved

God has given us a remedy for our sin problem. Forgiveness and freedom from sin are available through faith in the finished work of Christ ([Eph. 2:8-9](#)). As believers, we are united with Christ and made new creations in Him ([II Cor. 5:17](#)). Rather than facing the punishment for our sins, we are given new life in Jesus Christ ([Rom 6:23](#))!