

HERITAGE BASICS: Lesson 5

The Work of Christ

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 *“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”*

Read: Many versions of Jesus exist today. Some think of Him as simply a martyr for an outdated cause. They view Him as a wonderful example of how we should live and die for a cause. Jesus is much more than a martyr for a cause. Jesus is a substitute! A martyr can be a great example of suffering but he can't take away the sins of the world. Jesus Christ, as substitute, took away our sins by the sacrifice of Himself. Scripture tells us that *“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness”* (1 Peter 2:24).

I. Man Needs Christ and His Work:

A. According to Romans 3:10-12, every man is guilty of what?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

B. John 8:34 shows us that man is a slave to _____.

C. James 1:15 gives us the result of sin, what is it? _____.

D. Because we were dead in trespasses and sins, whom did we follow and what kind of children were we (Ephesians 2:1-3)? _____

E. What will the “sons of disobedience” experience (Ephesians 5:6)? _____

F. Galatians 3:10 says, *“Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them.”*

Taking this verse into consideration, does God Tolerate Sin? _____

Note: Because man is a fallen creature and God is holy, demanding conformity to His holiness, man is faced with:

- Sin (Romans 3:23)
- God as his enemy (James 4:4b)
- Subjection to the power of Satan (1 John 5:19)
- Being helpless to save himself (Romans 5:6)
- Death (Romans 6:23)
- Condemnation and eternal separation from God (2 Thessalonians 1:9)

II. The Cost of Christ's Work

A. Read Philippians 2:7-8 and answer the following:

1. What are three things Christ did when He came to earth (verse 7)?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. In what way did Jesus humble Himself (verse 8)? _____

B. What happened to Jesus on earth, according to Isaiah 53:3? _____

C. Forgiveness of sins requires what (Hebrews 9:22)?

D. What price did Christ pay to redeem us (1 Peter 1:18-19)?

E. What did Jesus cry out on the cross (Matthew 27:46)?

F. What did God do to Jesus while He was on the cross (Isaiah 53:6)?

III. **The Provisions of Christ's Work-** Jesus came to the earth to pay the price for sin. That price was His own life, which He gave voluntarily (John 10:11, 17-18). His sacrifice was the only way to take away sin for all time (Hebrews 9:12).

Describe what was accomplished by Jesus' death:

A. **1 Peter 3:18** _____

B. **Romans 5:10** _____

C. **2 Corinthians 5:21** _____

D. **Galatians 1:4** _____

E. **Ephesians 1:7** _____

F. **Romans 6:6-7** _____

The beautiful ordinance of the Lord's table we take the bread and the cup in remembrance and communion with Christ. At the heart of this is a teaching, which is the very core of the Christian Gospel. It is summed up when Christ said, "This is My body which is given for you."

The essence of the Christian Gospel is that Jesus Christ has done something for us. Most specifically, He died for us. That's the point. His death was for us. And that is precisely what Peter says in 1 Peter 2:21, "Christ also suffered for you."

It was for us that Christ suffered!

Jesus Christ is The Answer to All Man's Problems Concerning Salvation

Christ's work on the cross and His resurrection are the only solution to man's problems.

That is why Peter could say of Jesus Christ:

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved." –Acts 4:12

Man's Problem	The Solution in Christ	Scripture				
A. Guilt before God:	"Through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous"	Romans 5:19				
1. Not righteous		"The Son of God has come, and has given us understanding."	1 John 5:20			
2. Not understanding			"The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."	Luke 19:10		
3. Not seeking God				"You were... straying... but now you have returned to the Shepherd."	1 Peter 2:25	
4. Turned away from God					"These qualities... render you neither useless nor unfruitful in... Christ."	2 Peter 1:8
5. All have become useless						"For We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."
6. No good works	Romans 8:2					
B. Slavery to sin		John 5:24				
C. Facing death			Romans 5:9			
D. Facing the wrath of God						

IV. The Motive for Christ's Work

A. Why did God save men (John 3:16; Romans 4:8)?

B. What attribute of god is demonstrated in His salvation of men (1 Peter 1:3)?

C. Why does the author call God's mercy great? (Hint: Romans 5:6, 8)

V. **The Resolution and Continuation of Christ's Work-** Christ's death on Calvary finished His redemptive work for man (John 19:30). But salvation's story does not end there. The grave could not hold Christ; He lives and continues the work He began for us.

A. **How was Christ declared to be the Son of God (Romans 1:4)?**

B. **After Christ made purification of sins, how was He exalted (Hebrews 1:3)?**

C. **We experience spiritual death through Adam's sin. What benefit do we gain through Christ's resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:21-22)?**

Christ's resurrection is referred to in the Bible as "the first fruits," and Old Testament term that speaks of the first fruits of the harvest. These were the offerings that were set apart for the Lord. In the New Testament this implies a pledge of more harvest to follow. Therefore, Christ's resurrection holds the promise of resurrection for others also (1 Corinthians 15:20-22; 1 Peter 1:3).

D. **Now that we have been drawn to God through Christ, what is Jesus able to do (Hebrews 7:25)?**

E. **What role does Christ hold exclusively (1 Timothy 2:5)?**

F. **When Jesus was going to leave, what did He promise He would do (John 14:3)?**

VI. **Application-** When confronted with the reality of who Christ is, some people realize they have made a terrible mistake in what they have believed or how they have lived. When this happens they are deeply convicted in their hearts. Consider the example of the men in Jerusalem, whose eyes were opened to the truth.

"Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brethren, what shall we do?'"—Acts 2:37

What can you do?

- Acknowledge that you have sinned and are not acceptable to God.
- Repent and call upon the name of Jesus to save you.
- Seek forgiveness through His blood shed for you.
- Acknowledge that HE is the rightful ruler in your life.
- Thank God for His love and grace.