

The cross of Christ possesses inherent power. Its magnetic strength attracts, pulls upon the heart strings, and draws sinners to repentance. The death of Jesus on Calvary's tree provides irrefutable evidence of the unconditional love of God demonstrated on behalf of all humanity. The guiltless dying for the guilty, the sinless dying for the sinful, and the just dying for the unjust reveals the extent to which Jesus would go to save a sinful and lost world. The broken law demanded the life of the sinner. However, it was impossible for guilty man to pay the sin debt and perfectly meet the demand of the law. Therefore, in the fullness of time, Jesus entered the world, obeyed the law as a man, and shed His precious blood as the perfect atonement for the broken law. In this way, Jesus satisfied the claims of the law and purchased our eternal salvation. Indeed, the cross of Christ is God's solution to the sin problem. We owe our very existence to Jesus, the Lamb of God, who shed His blood and died for the sins of the world. Let's study this wonderful subject and discover What God Says About…"The Cross of Christ."

THE WHOLE WORLD IS GUILTY

1. **Sin entered the world by whom?**

   "Wherefore, as _____ _____ _____ sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." *Romans 5:12*

   Note: *Sin entered the world through the transgression of Adam who stood as the head of the human race. The Bible teaches that Eve was deceived, not Adam (1 Timothy 2:14). When Adam realized that Eve had eaten from the forbidden tree, he decided to eat the fruit instead of obeying the explicit Word of God. His decision to partake of the forbidden fruit resulted in the entrance of sin into planet earth.*

2. **According to the Bible, sin is defined as the transgression of what?**

"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the _____ _____ _____ _____." *1 John 3:4*

Note: *The Bible clearly defines sin as the breaking of the moral law, the Ten Commandments.*

3. Who is guilty of transgressing God's sacred law?

"Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and _____ _____ _____ may become guilty before God." *Romans 3:19*

Note: *When Adam, the head of the human race, partook of the forbidden fruit all the world became guilty before God. In other words, Adam's sin caused a death sentence to hang over fallen humanity. The only possible hope of salvation could only be found in Jesus, the Lamb of God, who would die for the sins of guilty man.*

THE FIRST GOSPEL PROMISE

4. According to Genesis 3:15, what shall the seed of the woman do to the serpent's head?

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall _____ _____ _____, and thou shalt bruise his heel." *Genesis 3:15*

Note: *Genesis 3:15 contains the first gospel promise. God put enmity or conflict in the heart of humanity against Satan. Mankind would now be able to resist Satan's power through Jesus Christ—the coming Redeemer. Jesus would die for the sins of humanity and crush the serpent's head.*

CHRIST CAME TO REDEEM THE WORLD

5. According to the apostle Paul, Christ came to earth to redeem whom?

4"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5To redeem _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, that we might receive the adoption of sons." *Galatians 4:4, 5*

Note: *In the fullness of time, Jesus entered planet earth in order to redeem*

guilty humanity. According to Romans 8:3 and 4, God sent Jesus "in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin," and He "condemned sin in the flesh, That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Thus, Christ's victory, shed blood, and death on Calvary was the means through which He redeemed the world. All who accept Jesus by faith are adopted into the family of God.

6. According to Galatians 3:13, from what has Christ redeemed us? Christ was made what for us?

"Christ hath redeemed us from _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, being made _____ _____ for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." *Galatians 3:13*

Note: *By virtue of Christ's death on the cross, He redeemed the world from the curse of the law. Indeed, He was made a curse for us. According to Deuteronomy 21:22 and 23, all who were sentenced to die on the cross and hanged thereon were cursed of God and considered to be lost without hope. The spotless Lamb of God hung on the cross and died the death that we deserved in order to redeem guilty humanity.*

7. What did Christ do for all sinners?

5"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6Who _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, to be testified in due time." *1 Timothy 2:5, 6*

Note: *When Jesus died on Calvary, He gave His precious life as a ransom or payment for every sinner on planet earth.*

THE CROSS DEALT SATAN A DEATH BLOW

8. According to the apostle John, who was cast out or restricted from any access to heaven when Christ died on the cross?

31"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ be cast out. 32And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. 33This he said, signifying what death he should die." *John 12:31-33*

Note: *Satan became the prince of the world when he usurped the dominion from Adam at the fall. However, Jesus—the last Adam recovered the first dominion (Micah 4:8) and forever banished Satan from access to heaven when He died on Calvary. Thus, Christ is the redeemer of the world. Indeed, He dealt a death blow to Satan on the cross.*

9. What did God provide as a result of Christ's death on Calvary? Who was cast down from heaven?

[10]"And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come _____, and _____, and _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, and _____ _____ _____ _____ _____: for _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night." [11]And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." *Revelation 12:10, 11*

Note: *Christ's victory on Calvary not only cast Satan down to the earth for good, causing him to lose all access to heaven, but it also provided strength for believers to obtain the victory over sin. According to Romans 5:6, "when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." As a result of Christ's victory on Calvary, believers are to tap into the power source of Christ which enables them to receive salvation and obtain victory over every sin. Thank God that Jesus cast down the accuser of our brethren.*

CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS

10. What did Christ do for all sinners?

[3]"Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, [4]Who _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father." *Galatians 1:3, 4*

11. What did Christ bare in His own body on the tree?

"Who his own self bare _____ _____ in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." *1 Peter 2:24*

12. According to the scriptures, what did Christ do for sinners?

[3]"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ _____ _____ _____ _____ according to the scriptures; [4]And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." *1 Corinthians 15:3, 4*

13. According to the apostle John, Christ made an atonement not only for the sins of believers, but also for whose sins?

"And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of _____ _____ _____." *1 John 2:2*

14. According to the apostle Peter, Christ died for our sins that He might do what?

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might _____ _____ _____ _____, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit." *1 Peter 3:18*

CHRIST DIED THE EQUIVALENT OF THE SECOND DEATH

15. According to the apostle Paul, what are the wages of sin?

"For the wages of sin is _____; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." *Romans 6:23*

Note: *According to Romans 6:23, "the wages of sin is death." The wages, payment or penalty for sin spoken of in this passage is the second death, an eternal death. The scriptures speak of death in two different ways: the first death and the second death. The first death is a sleep of which both the righteous and the wicked are subject to dying (Psalm 13:3; John 11:11-14; 1 Corinthians 15:51). However, the second death, an eternal death, will only be experienced by the wicked (Revelation 20:14, 15; and 21:8). According to scripture, Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God, became sin for us and died the death that we deserve (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18). Hence, when Jesus died on the cross, he died the equivalent of the second death. His substitutionary death paid the penalty for the sins of the world. Christ died in order that He might offer the gift of eternal life to all.*

16. God has made Christ to become what for sinners?

"For he hath made him to be _____ for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." *2 Corinthians 5:21*

Note: *God made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin for us. He did this so that "we might be made the righteousness of God in him." When Christ died on the cross, He paid the penalty for sinners who are guilty of breaking God's law. Jesus, who knew no sin, actually became sin for us and endured the wrath of God against sin. Jesus experienced the separation from the Father that the lost sinner will feel in the end. This prompted the cry from the lips of Jesus, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46).*

17. What did Christ do for every human being when He died on Calvary?

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should _____ _____ for every man." *Hebrews 2:9*

Note: *When Jesus died on the cross, He tasted the second death for every sinner. If He had only died the first death, which is a sleep, He would not have died the equivalent of the second death and fulfilled the demands of the broken law.*

THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB

18. According to Moses, where does the life of the flesh reside? What makes an atonement for the soul?

"For the life of the flesh is _____ _____ _____: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is _____ _____ that maketh an atonement for the soul." *Leviticus 17:11*

19. The blood of bulls and goats cannot do what?

"For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should _____ _____ _____." *Hebrews 10:4*

20. According to John the Baptist, who came to take away the sins of the world?

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold _____ _____ _____ _____, which taketh away the sin of the world." *John 1:29*

21. According to the apostle Peter, we were redeemed with what?

[18]"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; [19]But with _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." *1 Peter 1:18, 19*

22. Forgiveness of sin is impossible without the occurrence of what?

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without _____ ___ _____ is no remission." *Hebrews 9:22*

Note: *According to Hebrews 9:22, sinners can only receive forgiveness of sin through the "shedding of blood." The scriptures clearly teach that the blood of animals cannot take away sin. Therefore, it was necessary for Christ to shed His blood on the cross in order that sinners could receive forgiveness and salvation. Indeed, Christ's blood is sufficient.*

23. For what specific purpose did Christ, the mediator of the new covenant, die?

"And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." *Hebrews 9:15*

Note: *Christ's death on the cross provided forgiveness for the sins that were committed under the first covenant sacrificial system. Prior to Christ's death on Calvary, those who sinned brought a sacrifice that pointed forward to Jesus the true Lamb of God. Hence, it was necessary for Christ to die because His blood alone provides forgiveness for sin. Therefore, His sacrificial death provided forgiveness and redeemed those from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.*

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

24. God was in Christ reconciling whom unto Himself?

[18]"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled _____ to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; [19]To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling _____ _____ unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." *2 Corinthians 5:18, 19*

Note: *According to 2 Corinthians 5:18 and 19, God reconciled the world, of which we are an integral part, to Himself by Jesus Christ. Jesus not only died for believers, He died for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2). When Adam sinned at the fall, sin entered the world and death passed upon everyone (Romans 5:12). Hence, the world needed to be redeemed or reconciled to God. According to scripture, God reconciled the world to Himself when Christ died on the cross of Calvary.*

25. When we were enemies, the death of Jesus reconciled us to whom?

[10]"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to _____ by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. [11]And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement." *Romans 5:10, 11*

26. Through Jesus, God reconciled all things in earth and heaven to Himself and made peace through what means?

[19]"For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; [20]And, having made peace through _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. [21]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." *Colossians 1:19-22*

Note: *God has made peace and reconciled the earth and entire universe to Himself through the blood of the cross of Christ. The Great Controversy between Christ and Satan began in heaven when Lucifer questioned the character, fairness, and justice of God. Satan claimed that the law was too restrictive and impossible to obey and was successful in deceiving one-third of the angels. After being cast out of heaven with his angels, Satan deceived Eve who influenced Adam to eat the forbidden fruit, resulting in the entrance of sin into the world. Christ's shed blood and death on Calvary revealed the loving character of God and exposed the heinous character of Satan before the entire universe. Thus, the cross of Christ settled any lingering questions regarding God's character.*

SUMMARY

Christ's death on Calvary's tree, the equivalent of the second death, provides irrefutable evidence of the unconditional love of God. In the fullness of time, Jesus entered the world, obeyed the law as a man, and shed His precious blood as the perfect atonement for the broken law. In this way, Jesus satisfied the claims of the law, purchased our eternal salvation, and recovered the first dominion that Satan usurped from Adam. Christ's death dealt a death blow to Satan. His death forever banished Satan from having access to heaven and reconciled the world and all things in earth and in heaven to God. Indeed, Christ's shed blood on Calvary is the means of forgiveness, salvation, and peace.

27. Dear friend, are you willing to allow the power of the cross to draw you to Christ in repentance of your sins? _____

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