

# SERIOUS QUESTIONS FOR SERIOUS CHRISTIANS



Adult Workshop

6:00-8:00pm

Leader: Randy Glau

October - December, 2022

Week #5: **Why did Christ die?**



# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

Choose one:

- a.) Christ died to make justification a possibility; He died to make all people 'savable'. His death provides to me a choice whether to put my faith in Him and live in heaven forever with Him or not.
  
- b.) Christ died to justify those He elected; His death deliberately and surely saved certain people.

# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

- Why did Christ have to die?
- God hates sin and His justice demands that the penalty for sin is paid.
  - Leviticus 17:11 For the life of a creature is in the blood and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.
  - Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.
- The shedding of blood was necessary to forgive sins in both the OT and the NT.
- The only One who could serve to die in my place was Someone who didn't deserve to die...Someone who was sinless.
- God Himself: Jesus. He is my atoning substitute. God's penalty for my sin was paid. Just not by me!
- The suffering of Jesus...the shedding of Jesus' blood...and Jesus' resurrection... saved me!

# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

## **Arminian View: Universal Redemption □ General Atonement**

- Christ's redeeming work made it possible for everyone to be saved but did not actually secure the salvation of anyone.
- Although Christ died for all men and for every man, only those who believe on Him are saved.
- His death enabled God to pardon sinners on the condition that they believe, but it did not actually put away anyone's sins.
- Christ's redemption becomes effective only if man freely chooses to accept it.

# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

## **Calvinist View: Particular Redemption □ Limited Atonement**

- Christ's redeeming work was intended to save the elect . It actually secured salvation for them. His death was a substitutionary endurance of the penalty of sin in the place of actual specified sinners.
- In addition to putting away the sins of His people, Christ's redemption secured everything necessary for their salvation, including the faith necessary to unite them to Him.
- The gift of faith is infallibly applied by the Spirit to all for whom Christ died, therefore guaranteeing their salvation.

# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

- Election is but a part of the much broader biblical doctrine of God's absolute sovereignty.
- Election and predestination alone saves no one; but they both precede salvation.
- Those chosen by the Father and given to the Son had to be redeemed if they were to be saved.
  - What does 'redeem' mean?
  - Who redeemed you?
  - How were you redeemed?
- You are saved, not because of what you yourself have done or will do, but solely on the ground of Christ's redeeming work.

# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

- Design accomplishment: Christ's death was intended to render complete satisfaction for certain specified sinners, and for no one else.
- Christ did not die simply to make it possible for God to pardon sinners.
- Neither does God leave it up to sinners to decide whether or not Christ's work will be effective. ("I choose to believe in Jesus and His work done for me...")
- On the contrary, all for whom Christ sacrificed Himself will be saved infallibly.
- Redemption, therefore, was designed to bring to pass God's purpose of election.

# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

- Isaiah 57:15 “For this is what the high and lofty One says – He who lives forever, Whose name is holy: ‘I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite...’ ”
- God dwells in the highest heaven, but is magnetically drawn to the smallest heart.
- John 11:35 “Jesus wept.”
- Jesus is God. He is infinite. He is unchangeable. He is faithful. He is just. He is compassionate. He is moved, yet His decreed Purposes never change. Jesus saves people.



# Serious Question #3: *Why did Christ die?*

- Christ's obedience and suffering were of infinite value, and that if God had so willed, His sacrifice could have saved every member of the human race.
- It would have required no more obedience, no greater suffering than what He went through to save the elect.
- Jesus actually saves!
  - Matthew 1:21: "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will **SAVE HIS PEOPLE** from their sins."

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- **2 Thess 2:13 "We ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose for you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the Truth.**
- **He came to earth for one reason: to die for you. To pay your ransom.**
- **Respond to this truth in thankfulness, humility; boasting only on my Gracious God who would save a wretch like me.**

Class Answers::

- a. 16
- b. 6

Questions?

# Next week

- General discussion...and sharing of your experience of God's sovereignty in your life!