

## The Cross of Jesus (John 1:29-34; 14:1-6; 19:25-30)

### I. Introduction

#### A. *This Week in Clear Living*

1. The death of Jesus was described (Leviticus 9:7-15).
2. The death of Jesus was foretold (Isaiah 53:1-12).
3. Jesus was/is the Lamb of God that takes away sin (John 1:29-34)
4. Jesus' death was not an accident (John 19:25-30)
5. Jesus' announcement from the cross that it was finished (John 19:25-30)
6. Jesus said that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:1-6)

**Question:** Why did Jesus have to die in order for us to have a Savior?

#### B. The death of Jesus was described.

1. Leviticus 9:7-15 described the sacrificial ceremony that was conducted by Aaron, according to the Lord's instructions to Moses.
  - a. Leviticus 9:2-3 said that the lamb had to be without blemish.
  - b. Blemish (*tamiym*) - sound, wholesome, *unimpaired*, *innocent*, having integrity.
  - c. The sin offering was performed once per year (Exodus 30:10).
2. Jesus would die a horrible death because He was the sin Offering for humanity.

#### C. The death of Jesus was foretold. Some of those places are:

1. **Genesis 3:15 says**, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."
2. **Psalm 8:5 says**, "For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour."
3. **Isaiah 53:5 says**, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."
4. **Zechariah 11:13 says**, "And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prized at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD."
5. **John 3:14 says**, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:"

#### D. Jesus died on the cross to pay humanity's sin debt.

## The Cross of Jesus (John 1:29-34; 14:1-6; 19:25-30)

**Question:** What did Isaiah mean, in Isaiah 53:10, when he wrote that God was pleased to bruise Jesus?

### II. The meaning of Isaiah 53:10.

- A. **Isaiah 53:10 says**, "Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand."
1. Bruise (*daka'*) - to be crushed or broken.
  2. Grief (*chalah*) - to be or become weak, be or become sick, be or become diseased, be or become grieved, be or become sorry (*a result of His humanity*)
  3. Offering for sin (*'asham*) - compensation for offenses.
- B. Dr. J. Vernon McGee wrote, "We have a living and rejoicing Savior, for His suffering led to *satisfaction*."
- C. Dr. Geoffrey W. Grogan wrote that verse ten shows God's graciousness towards sinners rather than harshness towards His Son. The latter part of the verse shows vindication, a completion to Jesus' death and suffering, and the new life that comes about after that death.

**Question:** Why did John the Baptist call Jesus the Lamb of God? Jesus died so sinners can be saved, but how does a person get saved? How would you minister to someone that wants to get saved?

### III. John the Baptist called Jesus the Lamb of God.

- A. **John 1:29 says**, "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."
1. The Old Testament priests made annual sin sacrifices for the people.
  2. Jesus was our Sacrifice.
- B. What was missing in the Old Testament sacrifices is not missing from Jesus' death on the cross.
1. **Hebrews 10:1 says**, "For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can *never* with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually *make the comers thereunto perfect*."
  2. **I Corinthians 12:13 says**, "For by one Spirit *are we all baptized* into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."
  3. **I Corinthians 6:19 says**, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

### The Cross of Jesus (John 1:29-34; 14:1-6; 19:25-30)

4. New Testament saints are indwelt by the Holy Spirit so they have the continual presence of the Comforter.
  5. New Testament saints mature in the faith and become more complete (perfect).
  6. Old Testament saints did not have the same Influence in their lives. They had the Mosaic Law.
- C. How were Old Testament saints saved?
1. Old Testament saints were not saved by obeying the Mosaic Law.
  2. The Law was supposed to show them that they needed a Savior.
  3. **Galatians 3:24 says**, "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."
  4. Old Testament saints were saved by putting their trust in the Lord and in the annual sacrifices that He had instituted. ***Essentially, they were saved by putting their trust in Him.***
- D. How are New Testament saints saved?
1. New Testament saints are not saved by obeying the law, whether it be the Mosaic Law or other manmade laws.
  2. ***They are saved by putting their trust in the Lord*** and His finished work on the cross.
- E. Can a person be saved if he or she has never heard the name of Jesus?

**Question:** What was the significance of Jesus saying "it is finished"? How would you explain to someone that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life?

#### IV. Jesus completed the work that He was given.

- A. **John 19:30 says**, "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."
1. Finished (***teleo***) - to bring to a close, to finish, or to end ("It is finished or paid")
  2. Teleo was a Greek business term that meant a given debt had been satisfied.
  3. Jesus paid our debt so that we can be set free from the sins that enslave us.
- B. **John 14:6 says**, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: ***no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.***"
1. Way (***hodos***) - a traveled way, a road, or a highway
  2. Truth (***aletheia***) - the true notions of God which are open to human reason without his supernatural intervention
  3. Life (***zoe***) - of the absolute fullness of life, both essential and ethical, which belongs to God.
  4. Man (***oudeis***) – no one
  5. "The way, the truth, and the life" are poetic, but it carries a powerful, critical message.

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**Question:** Do you think that Jesus will literally return to set up His millennial kingdom or only return figuratively?

- V. The Millennial Reign of Jesus
- A. Believing in His literal reign is dependent upon whether one interprets Revelation 20:6.
  - B. **Revelation 20:6 says**, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."
    1. Some people interpret this verse as allegory (not real).
    2. Some people interpret the verse literally.
  - C. A general rule for interpreting the Book of Revelation: *When common sense makes good sense, seek no other sense.*
  - D. Why conservative theologians accept the literal millennial reign of Jesus.
    1. The promise of a seed and land to Abraham was literal. The millennial reign signifies the final chapter in the Bible of that seed and that land.
    2. **Genesis 13:15 says**, "For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever."
    3. David was promised an eternal throne.
    4. **II Samuel 7:16 says**, "And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever."
    5. Jesus was David's literal descendant, and He will sit on the throne.

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Next week's lesson: "The Ascension of Jesus Christ and the Church Age" (Acts 1:1-11)

### Five Day Recommended Reading:

Monday:	Acts 1:1-11
Tuesday:	Revelation 1:1-20 and Revelation 2:1-29
Wednesday:	Revelation 3:1-22 and Romans 10:1-13
Thursday:	I Thessalonians 4:13-18
Friday:	Acts 2:41-47

### Study questions:

1. Why were the disciples told to stay in Jerusalem?
2. How many times did Jesus give them the Great Commission?
3. How far would they be allowed to carry the gospel message?
4. When did the Church Age begin?
5. What instructions did Jesus give the Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos?
6. To whom were chapters two and three of the Book of Revelation written?
7. Based on Romans 10:1-13, how is a person saved?
8. How will the Church Age end?