

9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ

In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection, God provided the only means of atonement for human sin, so that those who by faith accept this atonement may have eternal life, and the whole creation may better understand the infinite and holy love of the Creator. This perfect atonement vindicates the righteousness of God's law and the graciousness of His character; for it both condemns our sin and provides for our forgiveness. By dying, Christ took our place, cancelled our guilt, reconciled us to God, and transforms us. The resurrection of Christ proclaims God's triumph over the forces of evil, and for those who accept the atonement assures their final victory over sin and death. It declares the Lordship of Jesus Christ, before whom every knee in heaven and on earth will bow.

Christ's life, death, and resurrection reveal God's righteous character and make eternal life available to all who accept it.

- Only Christ could accomplish redemption. Acts 4:12; Hebrews 7:26-27
- Those who accept Christ as Lord and Saviour receive eternal life. John 3:16
- Christ's life and death show that God deals justly with us. Romans 3:23-26

Texts for further study: Isaiah 53; Romans 1:4; Hebrews 2:9

Through His death, Jesus provided atonement for us and demonstrated God's great love for us. In His resurrection, He triumphed over Satan and death.

- He died in my place. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21
- He bore the penalty for my sin in my place. Romans 3:25-26, 4:25, 8:3; 1 John 2:2
- He triumphed over Satan at His resurrection. Colossians 2:15; 1 Peter 3:21-22

Christ's life of perfect obedience and His atoning death show that obedience is possible as the Holy Spirit empowers us. Christ's resurrection provides assurance of eternal life for His children.

- Jesus obeyed God's law. John 15:10; 1 Peter 2:21-22
- Jesus' obedience and the Spirit's empowering make our obedience possible. Romans 8:3-4
- Recognizing God's great sacrifice on our behalf causes us to want to serve Him. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15
- Jesus' resurrection assures ours. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Personal Application

-  Why does God want to give me eternal life?
-  Why couldn't anyone but God's Son perform the ministry that Jesus did?
-  I thank God daily for His marvellous gift. The thought that Jesus was willing to leave the glory of heaven to come and live on this earth to save a sinner like me fills me with love for Him. And His victory in life and death encourages me to "fight the good fight of faith."

Commitment

- Because I see Your love revealed in Your great sacrifice for me, I give my life to You. I accept Your death in my place, and trust You to lead me to eternal life.