

Why Did Jesus Have to Die (Couldn't God Just Forgive)?

Mini-Lecture #10

River Valley Community Church

By Rodney Combs, Ph.D.

OUR CONDITION

1. All people are _____.

SIN= any _____ or _____ or _____ that is in
_____ to God, which naturally results in the devaluation of _____
_____.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

Each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. (James 1:14-15)

2. All people are eternally _____, resulting in _____.

For the wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23)

What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God." (Romans 3:9-11)

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him. (John 3:36)

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. (David, in Psalm 51:3-5)

Three aspects to death:

a. _____ Death

Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment. (Hebrews 9:27)

"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:55)

b. _____ Death

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins. (Eph 2:1).

c. _____ Death

"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." (Matthew 25:45)

3. All people are _____ to rescue themselves from the consequences of sin.

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death. (Proverbs 14:12)

(Jesus said), I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. (John 3:3)

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. (James 2:10)

4. All people are _____, _____, and _____ to respond to the opportunity of salvation.

What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. (Romans 3:9-11).

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:44)

"You did not choose me, but I chose you." (John 15:16)

OUR CURE

1. _____

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:23-24)

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:4-5)

In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. (Hebrews 9:22)

2. _____ / _____

When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me... (John 16:8-9)

No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. (John 6:44)

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:30-31)

3. _____ / _____

“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.” (Acts 16:31)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

The Big Question: Why did Jesus have to die? Couldn't God just forgive?

1. God is _____ and can demand anything he _____ and any penalty and solution he wants.
2. The _____, a _____ of God, required atonement through sacrifice, and Jesus was the only _____ sacrifice.
3. God is the administrator of the justice system, and for him to ignore the guilt of sin without payment would be to destroy the _____ of the universe.
4. If God were to let sinners off the hook, he would be _____, and he would _____ his own _____.
5. If God required sinners to pay their own way, he would be _____, and he would devalue his own glory.
6. If God devalued his own glory, he would destroy the true _____ of all people.
7. If God allows his glory to be devalued, then he is being untrue to himself, being _____, which he cannot be.

"Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!" (John 12:27-28)

"Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you." (John 17: 1)

8. In order for God to be who he is, _____ and _____, there was not other way.
9. If there was _____, _____ God would have done it.

Have you placed your trust in Jesus Christ as the substitute for your sin? You can express your desire to activate his death for you right now in a prayer like this:

Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I trust in You as my Savior now. Forgive me of my sins, and make me into the kind of person You would have me to be. Thank You for your gift of eternal life. Amen.