

# *The Victorious Suffering of Jesus Christ*

## **1 Peter 3:18**

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit”

### **Introduction**

We “are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation” (1 Peter 2:9).

### **We are not to remain silent.**

“proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

### **The only thing that can stop the evil advancement of the Lie is when Truth prevails.**

- ✓ *ad hominem* (attacking the character or motive)
- ✓ *ad misericordiam* (an appeal to pity or guilt)
- ✓ *ad ignorantiam* (it’s true because it hasn’t been proven false)

“These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace; do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these things I hate, declares the Lord” (Zechariah 8:16-17).

“Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity” (Titus 2:7).

“For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil” 1 Peter 3:17

“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps” 1 Peter 2:21

## **1. Jesus Christ: *Our Sole – Soul Sacrifice***

***“For Christ also suffered once for sins”*** (v18a)

**The sin of all mankind brings the judgment, wrath, and eternal punishment of God.**

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

“for the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23).

“We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away” (Isaiah 64:6).

“there is none who does good, not even one” (Psalm 14:3).

“for there is no one who does not sin” (1 Kings 8:46; 2 Chronicles 6:36).

“Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins” (Ecclesiastes 7:20).

“And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment” (Hebrews 9:27).

**There is no escaping the horror of divine judgment without the help of divine intervention.**

“Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? There is not one” (Job 14:4).

“Who can say, ‘I have made my heart pure; I am clean from my sin?’” (Proverbs 20:9).

“If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?” (Psalm 130:3).

“Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you” (Psalm 143:2).

**Jesus suffered and sacrificed Himself for the sins of all who believe, once for all.**

“He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself” (Hebrews 7:27).

“so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many” (Hebrews 9:28).

“For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified” (Hebrews 10:14).

“he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him” (Hebrews 9:26-28).

“Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin” (Hebrews 10:18).

## **2. Jesus Christ: *Our Sanctified Substitute***

***“the righteous for the unrighteous”*** (v18b)

“Which one of you convicts me of sin?” (John 8:46).

“You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin” (1 John 3:5).

**Before, during and after His crucifixion, the complete innocence of Jesus Christ was declared:**

--repeatedly by **Pilate** just before the cross: “I find no guilt in this Man” (Luke 23:4; cf. 14,22).

--by the **thief** hung on the cross next to Him: “This Man has done nothing wrong” (Luke 23:41).

--immediately after His death on the cross, by the **Roman Centurion** in charge of the execution: “Certainly this Man was innocent” (Luke 23:47).

“For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens” (Hebrews 7:26).

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).

**Jesus Christ, who is perfectly righteous Himself, willingly took on the sins of unrighteous people.**

Caiaphas: “it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish” (John 11:50-51).

**Jesus bore the punishment for our sins as though He personally had committed them all:**

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all” (Isaiah 53:6).

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

**Jesus became sin by *imputation*; not by being made a sinner, but by being the lone *Sin-Bearer*.**

“Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous” (Romans 5:18-19).

“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree’”— (Galatians 3:13).

### 3. Jesus Christ: *Our Savior and Son of God*

**“that he might bring us to God”** (v18c)

“For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder/the captain (NKJ) of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers” (Hebrews 2:10-12).

“founder/captain/author” Gk *archegos*; “from *arche*, ‘the beginning, first cause,’ and *ago*, to lead.”

“*Archegos* describes an inaugurator, a trail-blazer, a pioneer — someone whose achievements make it possible for others to experience the benefits of what he has done” (S. Ferguson).

“let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder [*archegos*] and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

“The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:23-25).

“For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever” (Hebrews 7:28).

“Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:25).

“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16).

“And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.... When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, ‘Truly this was the Son of God!’” (Matthew 27:50-51, 54).