

Christ's Suffering And Ours

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 15

1. THE SCOPE OF CHRIST'S SUFFERING:

- a. The suffering of Christ at the cross was not only a matter of _____ suffering, but of _____ that our sin _____, body and soul.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. (Matthew 27:45)

- b. He suffered not _____ at the _____ but _____ "during his whole life on earth."

After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." (John 13:21)

³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here. (John 14:30-31)

2. THE MEANING OF CHRIST'S SUFFERING: Christ _____ as "our only atoning sacrifice."

- a. The meaning of Christ's suffering – as _____ – is not something _____ by the New Testament, but is clearly anticipated and _____ throughout the Scriptures: Genesis 3:15, the sacrifices of Leviticus, the Suffering Servant of Isaiah (e.g. 53).

- b. Together with all of those _____ themes, death by crucifixion in particular _____ us that Christ has taken the _____ upon himself.

¹³ 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"— ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. (Galatians 3:13-14)

3. THE STING OF SUFFERING: The suffering of Christ _____ the character of _____ suffering.

- a. Because Christ has taken the curse upon himself, the element of _____ within our _____ – what 1 Cor. 15 calls the "_____ " of death – has been removed.

- b. Suffering is a reminder – and experience – of our _____.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. (1 Peter 4:12-13)

- c. Suffering is a _____ that God sanctifies us along the path of _____.

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. (James 1:2-4)

- d. Suffering is limited and will be _____.

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. (Romans 8:18-19)

- e. _____ with _____ !