
In the past several weeks we have studied the Biblical history of the sufferings and death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary.

When Adam fell into sin, death was passed upon all of mankind; the image of God had been defaced from man's soul; sin and death was Satan's scheme to ruin all of humanity. Romans 5:12 We looked at the OT prophecy of Genesis 3:15, and the promise that God would send a Man into the world to save fallen humanity from their sins and restore fallen sinners to a right standing with God; to restore and recreate the image of God to fallen man's soul.

Immediately after the fall, God identified this Promised Man in His judgment of Satan, calling Him her seed. He would bruise or as it means crush the serpent's head and destroy His dominion over fallen humanity. He would restore/reconcile fallen humanity to God!

From that time, (after the fall) Satan's primary objective was to kill the promised seed and to prevent Him from coming into the world to free sinners from his captivity and kingdom.

Throughout OT history, Satan tirelessly attacked the seed of the woman (or the righteous seed); that lineage of men that would eventually lead to the birth of Christ.

When Christ was born, Satan did his worst to kill Him, using Herod, and then Jesus' own countrymen, but he failed. The Jew, who had for so long waited for their Messiah, now rejected Him, refusing to accept Him to be their Anointed Saviour.

John 1:10-11: He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not

But the Jews rejection of Christ would not prevent Him from accomplishing that for which He came into the world; to give His life a ransom for sinners!

It was in the death of Christ, and in His perfect atonement that Satan took the first blow from the heel of Christ to his head. Hebrews 2:14

The death of Christ effectively disarmed the wicked one's power!

But the gospel message does not end with the death of Christ; if it does, we are still lost and dead in our trespasses and sins!

The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is a historical/biblical fact, and a necessary component of the gospel message which must not be left out of it! Of the truth of the resurrection of Christ, there are many witnesses!

1 Corinthians 15:1-8, Luke 24:1-21

We must never forget the resurrection of Jesus Christ in our own personal faith in Christ, or in our gospel witness; for if Christ did not RISE from the dead, we have no hope of eternal life!

YES, Christian, we are saved from our sins because of the death of Christ; but we are not saved unless He rose from the dead on the 3rd day as recorded in the Holy Scriptures. If Christ is not risen, He did not destroy/conquer death, nor Satan who HAD the power of death!

A gospel that doesn't include the resurrection of Christ is a gospel that CANNOT SAVE! That is because it wants or lacks an essential truth about the message of Christ, which is necessary for EVERY believer to lay hold of and believe by faith!

In the sufferings and death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross, we, (BY FAITH) see the guilt, penalty, and punishment of our sins being laid upon Christ. We see Him suffering the wrath of Almighty God in our stead; we see the Lamb of God dying for OUR SINS, we are the guilty ones!

In the death of Christ, we see God's JUSTICE against His Only Son for our sins!

In the resurrection of Christ, we SEE God's absolute approval/acceptance of His sacrifice/shed blood for our sins! In the resurrection of Christ, we are JUSTIFIED/FORGIVEN for all our sins in the sight of God. In Christ, we are redeemed, released, and completely acquitted; saved to the uttermost.

Romans 4:23-25, 5:6-11

Understand, therefore child of God, in the death of Christ, we see the JUSTICE of God against the Lord Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of Christ, we see the JUSTIFICATION and forgiveness of every believing sinner! If Christ did not rise from the dead, we have no good news!

Acts 13:38-39, 1 Corinthians 15:12-26

Once again, understand that YES, Jesus suffered and died on the cross to make atonement for the sins of the world, and He was buried; don't forget that He rose again the 3rd day according to the scriptures! Acts 1:1-11

And so, child of God, let us never forget that God raised up Jesus from the dead. He was delivered for our offences, and He was raised again, for our justification.

Acts 2:22-24, 3:13-15, Romans 10:9, 1 Peter 1:18-21.

Now, He has ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, where He EVER LIVES to make intercession for us!

Romans 8:32-34, Hebrews 7:25, 1 Peter 3:18-22, 1 John 2:1-2

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is NOT a dead martyr, whose body is still lying in the grave, but a risen and victorious King who has defeated death and him that HAD the power of death, the devil.

He has risen from the dead, He has ascended to the right hand of the Father in the heavens, and now, He ever lives to intercede for His children who are yet in the world.

