

IF JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS, SO WHAT?

Introduction: The Britishers invaded India in 1757. It took nearly 100 years for the British to conquer India. Then from 1858 until 1947 the British ruled India for nearly 100 years. Many freedom fighters fought for the independence of India from the British Raj, out of which Mahatma Gandhi is the renowned figure.

When India got freedom on August 15, 1947, America, Europe, Australia, China...didn't celebrate the freedom. Because it was just the independence of India and only the Indians celebrated. Gandhi is not known as the Father of America, China, Middle East, but only as the Father of India, because he, along with other freedom fighters, fought only for the freedom of India.

In the same way, many think that Jesus died for Christians and He is just the God of Christians. This is not true. Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus die on the cross? If Jesus died on the cross, so what? How is Jesus' death on the cross relevant to you and me? Three factors to consider.

I. JESUS CHRIST IS THE CREATOR OF THE WHOLE UNIVERSE.

Note: For God to be God He must be the God of the whole universe and the Creator of all things.

- It is not that one god created Indians, another god created Africans, another god created Chinese, another god created the Western whites.

Colossians 1:16, "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him."

- For by him **(Jesus Christ)**
- all things **(lit. all without exception)**
- were created **(everything has been created. Nothing is existence by itself)**
- in heaven **(expanse of the sky. sun, moon, stars, planet...)**
- and on earth, **(human beings, animals, waters, trees, mountains...)**
- visible and invisible, **whatever things in heaven and on earth, the things that can be seen (earth) and the things unseen (heaven).**
- whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— **which are references to the invisible world of angels**
- all things **(all the above things mentioned) were created through him (Jesus Christ) and for him (Jesus Christ)**
- **John 1:3**, "All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made."

- **Abraham Kuyper (once Prime Minister of the Netherlands and theologian):**
“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: ‘Mine!’”

2. JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD.

1 John 2:2, “He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.”

Jesus Christ did not just die for Christians. He died for:

- all kinds of nations (India, Africa, America, China, Pakistan)
- all kinds of religious people (Christians, Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Atheists, Sikhs)
- all kinds of races (White and black)
- all kinds of classes (rich and poor)
- all kinds of castes (High castes and low castes)

But why must Jesus die for the sins of people?

a. ALL HAVE SINNED

- ❖ **Romans 3:23**, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”
- ❖ **Romans 3:10-11**, “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God.”
- ❖ **1 John 1:8**, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”
 - How we sin and to what extent we sin may vary from person to person. Some commit murder and others get angry. Some practice homosexuality and others watch pornography. Some engage in extramarital sex and others sexually lust in their hearts. Some worship idols and others idolize themselves. Some steal and others are stingy. Some harm others and others live in hatred.

Some speak abusive words and others lie. Some curse others and others boast about themselves. Some are violent and others are arrogant. Some are unrighteous and others are self-righteous. Some do not believe in the existence of God and others believe in God’s existence but have no fear of Him.

Just as a drop of cyanide can kill a person, so also a small sin corrupts the whole person. Whether we do great evils or small sins, the fact that we are sinful to the core cannot be underestimated.

b. THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH

- ❖ **Romans 6:23**, “For the wages of sin is death...” Physical (separation of soul from body), Spiritual (separation from God), Eternal (everlasting punishment)

c. JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR THE SINS

- ❖ **Romans 6:23**, “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- ❖ **Romans 5:8**, “but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
- ❖ **Isaiah 53:5-6 (NLT)**, “But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.”

3. THE NAME OF JESUS IS THE ONLY NAME IN THE WHOLE WORLD BY WHICH PEOPLE ARE SAVED FROM THEIR SINS.

Acts 4:12, “And there is salvation in no one else, for **there is no other name under heaven** given among men by which we must be saved.”

It is not written, “There is no other name in America” or “There is no other name in Africa” or “There is no other name in Asia.” It is written, “There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” The words “under heaven” speak about the entire planet earth. For any person anywhere in the world to be saved from perishing in sin, the Lord Jesus Christ is the only way. He is “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” He “is indeed the Savior of the world.”

Application:

Acts 17:29-30 “We ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.”

John 3:16, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”