

December 10, 2023

As we continue our Advent study of the Son, today we are talking about Jesus' death on the cross. The cross allows us to be made right with God. Nothing more and nothing less than the death of Christ could bring us back into relationship with God. Today we will look at substitution, propitiation, and reconciliation; three theological concepts which will help us understand the cross.



Order Of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting and Reading

Isaiah 2:2–5 Nathan and Lauren VanDerSluys

Call to Worship

From Luke 1:78-79

Reader: By the tender mercy of our God,

All: the dawn from on high will break upon us,

Reader: to give light to those who sit in darkness and

in the shadow of death,

All: and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Songs of Praise

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Angels from the Realms of Glory

Offering

Confession of Sin

Merciful God, you have caused your light to dawn in our dark world through the birth of your son. Though we have seen his light and welcomed it with joy, we confess that we often turn back towards the darkness. We sometimes prefer the shadows of sin and shame to the radiant light of your grace. Have mercy on us Lord, come near to us again in your mercy and revive us by your Spirit, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 25:6-9

Song of Declaration

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism #66

Q. What are sacraments?

A. Sacraments are visible, holy signs and seals. They were instituted by God so that by our use of them he might make us understand more clearly the promise of the gospel, and seal that promise. And this is God's gospel promise: to grant us forgiveness of sins and eternal life by grace because of Christ's one sacrifice accomplished on the cross.

Heidelberg Catechism #66

Q. Are both the word and the sacraments then intended to focus our faith on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross as the only ground of our salvation?

A. Yes! In the gospel the Holy Spirit teaches us and by the holy sacraments confirms that our entire salvation rests on Christ's one sacrifice for us on the cross.

Heidelberg Catechism #66

Q. How many sacraments did Christ institute in the New Testament?

A. Two: holy baptism and the holy supper.

Pastoral Prayer

Children's Message

Sermon

The Death of the Son

Matthew 27:32-54
Pastor James Brignac

Communion

Song of Response

O Come All Ye Faithful

Benediction

Sermon Notes

Substitution

What is substitution?

Romans 6:23

The essence of human sin is we human beings substituting ourselves for God while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for us. We put ourselves where only God deserves to be; God puts himself where we deserve to be. – **John Stott**

Was the cross always part of God's plan?

Why would the idea of substitution make sense to the original audience?

Hebrews 9:22 Leviticus 17:11

Propitiation

What is propitiation?

Hebrews 9:25-26

Did Jesus really have to die to achieve our salvation?

What did Jesus experience on the cross?

Reconciliation

What is reconciliation?

What is imputation? What is imputed to Christ? To us?

2 Corinthians 5:21

What did the death of Jesus accomplish?

All things had been done which the law required; all things established which prophecy predicted; all things brought to pass which foreshadowed; all things accomplished which the Father had given Him to do; all things performed which were needed for our redemption. Nothing was left wanting. The costly ransom was given, the great conflict endured, sin's wages had been paid, divine justice had been satisfied.

- A.W. Pink

Announcements





Sunday, December 10 at 4–5 PM



All Church Bonfire and Carol Sing Sunday, December 10 at 5 PM



HABAKKUK

LEARNING TO LIVE BY FAITH

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

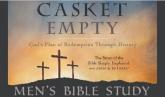
Every other Wed. at 6 PM Led by Kasey Bushman



Every Wednesday at 10 AM Led by Steve Jacques



Sundays at 6:30 PM At Waypoint Church



Every other Tuesday at 7:00 PM Led by Matt Kodatt

Discussion Questions

- 1. Which, if any, of the three theological terms discussed today were new for you? Do you understand them now?
- 2. Why do we normally focus more on the physical pain of the cross rather than the spiritual?
- 3. Read Acts 2:22-28. Have you ever questioned whether the cross was always the plan?
- 4. The sacrificial system in the Old Testament foreshadowed the work of Christ. What other Old Testament elements foreshadow the work of Christ?
- 5. Do you believe most people today understand the need for us to be reconciled to God? How can we help people see this truth?
- 6. What is your favorite Christmas carol?