

## Why did Jesus have to die?

I want you to imagine this: Revelation 21:3-4, “**3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”** Can you imagine dwelling with God like this? Can you imagine there being no more death, crying, or pain? Can you imagine God finishing His work of making all things new? Here’s the big question: **Why did Jesus have to die to make all things new?**

You may already know the answer to this question, but when we look at the world around us, the world often has different thoughts on God, humanity, and life. If you pay real close attention to the beliefs and philosophies of this world, then you would notice that it is very works-based and human centered. What I mean when I say that, is that our world seems to operate with the mindset that you have to do good things for God to accept you or that our identity and worth is found in what we do. But if that is true, why did Jesus HAVE to die to make all things new if we could have just cleaned ourselves up by being better people?

You see, when we look at the life of Jesus and the fact He went to the cross, it starts challenging the beliefs and speculations of the world. The implications it brings forth about God, humanity, and life will change us and our views. So let me ask again, have you ever wondered why Jesus had to die to make all things new? Before we jump in, let’s pray.

Welcome to week 6 of our All Things New series. We are wrapping up our “Through The Bible” series with this message and we have just wrapped up our 21 days of prayer and fasting. Can you believe it has been a year since we have taken the endeavor of reading through the Bible as a church and it’s been 21 days of prayer and fasting? Time really flies by. But the reason we read through scripture, fast, prayer, etc is because of God and what He has done for us. Specifically through His Son, Jesus.

Today, I want to walk you through why Jesus had to come to live and die. If you don’t know why, then I hope you have a better understanding after the service is over. And if you do know why, then I hope you are reminded of the kindness and love of God, and as a result grow in your love and faith in God. As well as grow in your desire to tell others about Jesus and the gospel.

Before we go into why Jesus had to come to earth and die on the cross, I think it’ll be important to point out that when God originally made everything, it was all good. You can read about it in Genesis 1 and 2. In Genesis 1:31 it says, “**God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.**” When you look at the Hebrew words for “very good” it means that all that God made was abundantly excellent in what it was made for. It was pleasant and agreeable to the purpose in which God made it to do. God’s creation was very good.

Now a good question to ask is this: how did the world and humans that God created go from very good to what we see today with all the evil, brokenness, and sin? That's where we get into Genesis 3, which I encourage you to read and study on your own time.

Genesis 3 summarizes this well; humanity chose to go against God and eat of the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. By choosing to rebel against God and trying to take His authority as God, humanity has brought upon itself death, sin, and division. The relationship between humans and God was severed, and so the relationships between us humans were severed too. We can still see this today.

So to answer the question, why did Jesus have to die to make all things new? The answer is because there was a problem and there was a solution needed. And for the rest of this message we will be addressing both. The first reason for why Jesus had to die to make all things new is:

### 1. The Problem of Our Sin

I don't want to sugar coat this, but we are the problem. Our sin is the problem. Sin is that which is evil, offensive, wicked, perverse, rebellious, guilty actions, going astray, lawlessness, etc. Sin is missing the mark of how God meant for us to live and going against Him (whether through an action or a lack of action). Sin is a big deal. Especially when we sin against God and His authority. My sin is an attack on His authority.

Look at what the Apostle Paul says in Romans 3:9-18 about humanity, **“9 What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. 10 As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; 11 there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. 12 All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.” 13 “Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.” “The poison of vipers is on their lips.” 14 “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.” 15 “Their feet are swift to shed blood; 16 ruin and misery mark their ways, 17 and the way of peace they do not know.” 18 “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”** Sounds pretty rough, right? But think about it, it's how humanity is without God. So wouldn't the solution be just to do better and live better, so God will accept us and forgive us? It's a good thought, except we forget about how we need to be held accountable to God if God is just and holy. Romans 3:19-20, **“19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. 20 Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.”** The Law's purpose is to hold us accountable for our actions and if we break one law we are lawbreakers. Look at what James 2:10 says, **“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.”** Now you might think, what about those who don't know God's law in scripture? Well check out Romans 2:15, **“They (those without the law) show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even**

defending them.” God created us with a heart and consciousness to know right from wrong, so even without the law we are without excuse.

Now some of us might be tempted to say I’m not that bad of a sinner. Let’s do what I’ll call the 10 Commandments quiz:

- How many of you (show of hands) have at one point in time valued someone or something or yourself more than God? **That’s called idolatry**
- How many of you have used the Lord’s name in vain? **That’s called blasphemy.**
- How many of you have ever skipped a week of devoting one day to God and resting? **That’s neglecting God or that’s thinking we know better, which is pride**
- How many of you have disrespected or disobeyed your parents? **That’s being dishonorable.**
- Jesus in Matthew 5 says if you hate someone, then you have committed murder in your heart, so how many of you have hated someone? **That’s murder in God’s eyes.**
- Jesus in Matthew 5 is quoted saying if you lusted after someone, then you have committed adultery in your heart. So how many of you have lusted after someone? **That’s called adultery.**
- How many of you have stolen before (even a small thing)? **That’s called being a thief.**
- How many of you have given false evidence or lied about something? **That’s being a liar.**
- How many of you have been envious of someone else and wanted what they had? **That’s envy**

So based on our confession, we are idolatrous, blaspheming, neglecting, prideful, dishonoring, murderous, adulterous, thieving, lying, envious people. That sucks, but it’s true. Our issue is that we are so sinful, we don’t even realize how sinful we are. And again James 2:10 says, **“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.”** So even if we only broke one law, we are guilty of breaking it all. If God is a good judge and ruler, then He is not going to let it slide. The first part of Romans 6:23 says, **“For the wages of sin is death,” - Romans 6:23a**

So how could there be forgiveness for our sins? Well... What does the law require of us? Hebrews 9:22 says, **“In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”** There needs to be atonement. There needs to be a punishment. God gave us life, we misused it, we owe God that life back, which means our death. This is the problem of our sin. It makes us enemies of God. It puts us in place to be punished under the law of God. It causes issues between us and God, and us and each other. And the only way out, according to the law, is the shedding of blood. Our blood. Our death.

Do you see the problem? So let me ask again, why did Jesus come to earth and die on the cross? Because of the problem of our sin. We can not atone for ourselves or fix our own sin problem. We deserve death and hell. Let that sink in. You and I deserve death and hell. We deserve to be punished by God. But this leads to the second reason for why Jesus had to die to make all things new:

## 2. The Solution To Save Us

So the problem and solution can be seen in Romans 3:23-24, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” The solution of God to save us is in Jesus. Romans 5:8 says, “**8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins and from what we deserve for our sin.

You may realize that you and I played no part in bringing on our own salvation. And you would be right. The only thing you and I brought to the table was our sin and messed up lives to be restored. Jesus is the one who brings the solution and salvation. Colossians 2:13-14 says, “**13** When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, **14** having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.”

Maybe I need to quote Hebrews 9:28, “so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.” Maybe you want me to quote Jesus Himself on why He came to earth in John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” If that’s not enough, how about this other quote from Jesus in Mark 10:45, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” I can go all day with this. But it is not enough to know about what Jesus did, we have to receive the gift of salvation. The way we receive the gift of salvation is by faith.

Look at how the Apostle Paul talks about it in Ephesians 2:8-9, “**8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast.” It is only by God’s grace we have been saved, through faith. Faith in Jesus. When we say faith, we don’t mean blind or thoughtless belief. We mean that you have placed your confidence in Jesus for your salvation. You believe that Jesus is Lord, that Jesus died for your sin, and that He rose from the dead. And you have called out to Him to be saved. Romans 10:9 says, “If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” And Romans 10:13 says, “for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” If you have placed your faith in Jesus, then you will be saved.

You want to see what God’s solution to be saved includes when we trust in Jesus? Romans 5:1-5 says this, “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. **3** Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4** perseverance, character; and character, hope. **5** And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” If you have placed your faith in Jesus, then you are justified before God. You have peace with God. You have gained access into God’s grace and you stand in it. You have hope. Whatever you go through will not be in vain, but can be used by God. God will produce in you perseverance,

character, and hope. You will not be put to shame. You will have the love of God poured out on you. Praise God for all that! Amen?

Look at what **Ephesians 1:13-14** says, “And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.” You are in Christ when you heard the gospel and believed. Believing in Jesus and what He did is how you receive the salvation of God. And when you believed, God marked you with the Holy Spirit as a seal. Meaning that your salvation is set in stone, and your salvation in Jesus can’t be lost or taken away from you. You belong to God now. And He deserves all the praise and glory for it. So praise Him in all that you do.

So, why did Jesus HAVE to die to make all things new? Because there was a big problem: we have a sin issue that we can’t fix or atone for on our own. The punishment for our sin is death and separation from God forever. But there is a solution: God sending Jesus to take on our sin on the cross and to rise from the dead to bring us life. And if we believe in Jesus and what He did for us, then we will be saved, forgiven, and reconciled to God forever. Let’s look at what we have in store for us again: **Revelation 21:3-4**, “**3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

**INVITATION:** As the worship team comes up, we will celebrate the end of the 21 days of fasting with communion.

**Luke 22:14-16**, “**14** When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. **15** And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **16** For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”

What we are about to do here is not only a reminder to us of the significance of Jesus and His death on the cross, but it is also a reminder of the event coming soon when Jesus will return for His church and we will all be delivered and gathered together for a great feast to celebrate the end of time and the ushering in of God’s eternal kingdom.

As we prepare ourselves to partake of the bread and juice in remembrance of what Jesus did and as a reminder of what awaits us in the kingdom of God, I want each of us to take a moment and prepare our hearts. If there is any sin that we need to confess or any attitude of our heart that is not as it should be, let’s confess that and do business with God so that we can partake of this communion together with a clear heart and a clear mind. Repent means to express genuine regret and as a result to turn from your sin and turn to the LORD.

Now some of you in here may not have trusted in Jesus yet. You have heard the problem of your sin and you have heard the solution God has provided to save you, but you have yet to

receive it. You haven't placed your faith in Jesus. You haven't set your confidence in Jesus for the salvation of your life. If you would like to receive Him, then all you need to do is call out to Him now. You can do that out loud or silently in your head.

We need to be reminded often of how sin wants to hinder our communion with God on a daily basis and what we are doing here today is a reminder of how we must deal with sin in our life on a daily basis so that we can keep close fellowship with God.

So as this song plays ([Song #2 starts](#)), once you have taken a moment to prepare your heart feel free to come forward and grab the bread and juice. Once you have collected your bread and juice please return to your seat and then we will partake of the elements together. ([Give everyone a chance to get bread and juice and return to their seats](#))

**Luke 22:14-18, “14** When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. **15** And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **16** For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”

**17** After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. **18** For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

**19** And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ([Offer a prayer of thanksgiving to Jesus for Him willing to offer up Himself in our place receiving our punishment for sin.](#)) Now let's partake in the bread. ([And then have everyone eat the bread together.](#))

**20** In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. ([Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the blood of Jesus that cleanses us and makes us righteous, setting us in good standing with God the Father.](#)) Now let's partake in the juice. ([And then have everyone drink the juice together](#))

(Worship Team Transition)