

Theology 2
The **Work of Christ**
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*Christ's work is uniquely suited for the role that He maintains in the Trinity. Temporally, there are two main states of Christ's work: **humiliation and exaltation**. Traditionally, the work of Christ has been summarized into His functions as **prophet, priest, and king**.*

The Stages of Christ's Work

- **Humiliation** (Phil. 2:6-8)
 - Incarnation – Jesus took on human flesh and became fully man (John 1:14). Not only that, but He even took the position of a servant (John 13). This servant came born under the Law that He Himself created (Gal. 4:4).
 - Death – Though He was fully God, Jesus allowed Himself to suffer death (1 Cor. 15:3). His death wasn't just any death – it was death by crucifixion, the most humiliating death known to man at that time (created by the Babylonians, but perfected by the Romans and reserved for the worst and most-hated criminals).
- **Exaltation** (Phil. 2:9-11)
 - Resurrection – The grave could not hold the King of glory (Matt. 28:1-10). His resurrection was not only spiritual, it was bodily (John 20:25-27).
 - Ascension – Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God (Matt. 26:64). The right hand is a symbol of authority and active rule (Isa. 41:13). Though seated, Christ still has an active role in the work of the Triune God.
 - Second Coming – Jesus has promised to return – the final act in establishing the Kingdom of God. His coming will be with great glory (Matt. 25:31).

The Functions of Christ

- Prophet – the **revelatory** role; He is the Word and He reveals the Word (John 1:18)
- Priest – the **reconciling** work; He offered His body a sacrifice for sins and lives to make intercession for those who draw near to God through Him (Heb. 7:25, 9:24)
- King – the **ruling** work; Jesus is the One who will sit on the throne of His father David (Isa. 9:7). Of His rule there shall be no end (Heb. 1:8).

Theories of the Atonement

- The Socinian Theory – Atonement as Example (p. 251)
- The Moral-Influence Theory – Atonement as Demonstration of God's Love (p. 251)
- The Governmental Theory – Atonement as Demonstration of Divine Justice (p. 251)
- The Ransom Theory – Atonement as Payment to Satan (p. 252)
- The Satisfaction Theory – Atonement as Compensation to the Father (p. 253)
 - *"He paid a debt He did not owe, I owed a debt I could not pay. I needed someone to wash my sins away...Christ Jesus paid a debt that I could never pay."*