Why Did Jesus Die?

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Just to me are your thoughts, God. How vast is the sum of them. Were I to count them, they would be outnumbered. The sands of this, the grain, they would outnumber this grains of sand.

And when I awake, I am still with you. In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying, oh, that was the next one.

So this sums up. This is a picture of God. Knowing everything about us. He knows about us before we are born. He knows our thoughts, what our thoughts are before we have them.

He knows all the events in our lives before they happen. He sees all events of everything at all time. You know, if you remember what a reel-to-reel movie was, does anybody have that?

It's like God could take that film, put it out on a table, and look at the whole thing all at once. Every slide. Every slide of every minute of our lives.

Of every person. Of all their thought. He sees it all from end of the reel, you know, start to finish. That is who God is. He knows us.

1 Timothy 16, 13-17. In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate, made a good confession, I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus, which God, while bringing about in his own time, God, the blessed and only ruler, the King of kings, the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable life, whom no one has seen or can see, to him be honor and might and glory forever.

Amen. So this verse declares that God is the ruler and alone is immortal. He created all other living beings.

This is the declaration of our God that he is the creator and he is the only one that has lived from beginning to end. The beginning and the end.

Jesus, and when we're going through revelations, it refers to Jesus as the beginning and the end. Psalm 102, 25-28.

[2:36] In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain. They will all wear out like a garment, like clothing.

You will change them and they will be discarded, but you remain the same and your years will never end. So the earth will end, but God has a plan for a new heaven and a new earth

And this includes believers in Christ. So as we have hope that the things that are on the world now are not just the way they will be.

We have an eternal home. And it's going to be different than right now. That Deuteronomy? Okay. You were shown these things so that you might know that the Lord is God and beside him there is no other.

This verse declares there is no God but God. You know, we look at the Buddhists and they have their idea or Muslims, they have their ideas and they have this.

[3 : 46] The Romans, they had their pantheon of gods, but you alone are God. There is none beside you.

So this is just a declaration that there is none other than the Lord God. 1 Kings 8, 27.

But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heavens, cannot contain you, how much less this temple I have built.

So will God really dwell on earth? Like is he confined? Is our God confined to this earth?

Is he confined to the temple? Was he confined to the tent out in the wilderness with Moses? He's not contained to the farthest regions. He's, you know, the edge of the universe is over 20 billion light years from where your seat is right now.

[4:47] So God is in that, his presence is there. You know, and some claim Gaia, that the earth is God.

But the Bible declares that he is not part of anything created. God is not part of the earth, but his presence is everywhere, even hell.

So there is, so God's presence is everywhere, but he's not confined to anywhere. Matthew 28, 19 and 20.

Again, this is God telling the people to go out and baptize. Therefore, go and make disciples in all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything, and I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always to the very ages of the earth, or to the very end of the age. So this is just declaring the Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

[6:05] So God is, Jesus is telling them, you must, when you baptize, you must declare the Trinity. And again, you know, this is more for younger people, but you know, if you look at a hard-boiled egg, there are three parts in it.

The shell, the egg white, and the yolk. They're each as a separate piece, but they're all one egg. The same with God.

There's, he is, there's three parts to our God. Revelation chapter 4, 8 to 11.

Each of the four living creatures had six wings and were covered with eyes all around, and were covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night, they never stopped saying, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.

Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the 24 elders fall down before him, who sits on the throne and worship him, who lives forever and ever.

[7:19] They lay their crowns before the throne and say, You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

So this focuses that God is holy. We read some of the song this morning, holy, holy, holy. And that's what the angels, that's one of their roles in heaven.

They are declaring praises to God, and he alone is to be worshipped. And as imperfect people, we cannot just walk into the presence of a perfect God.

There are very strict rules that we must follow to enter heaven. Hebrews, next we want to look at, the next entity, are angels.

Angels have a very big role in our picture of God, why we need salvation. It says, Hebrews 1, 13 and 14.

[8:26] To which of the angels did God say, Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet. And are not all angels ministering spirit sent to serve those who will inherit salvation.

So, angels are not equal to God. It says, which of the, which, which of the angels have I made your enemies a footstool?

Like, he didn't, Christ alone does, he has, will be in that place. But angels will not. Angels are ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation.

Luke 15, 10. In the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing in the presence of angels, of God, over one sinner who repents.

So, angels have emotions. They are excited. They, you know, they see, they are able to see like God that things that are happening on the earth.

[9:32] And, there is more rejoicing in heaven, you know, over the repentance of one sinner. So, that's great. Revelation 4, 6 to 8.

Also, in front of the throne, there was, looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures. And they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.

The first living creature was like a lion, the second like an ox, the third had a face like a man, and the fourth was like a flying eagle. Angels don't look like valentine cherubs.

You know, those little babies that have wings on, they're so cute. They are terrifying. Literally, angels are powerful entities and, you know, they have wings and, you know, they have different roles, they have different looks, but, they don't look like little babies.

Also, they're not humans that have gone to heaven and now become angels. Angels are angels, humans are humans, and they never, one doesn't become the other.

[10:49] Okay, Revelation 5, 11, and 12. Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand.

They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying, Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise.

this is a number. This is a number declared in the Bible. Other verses don't quite have, like the NIV declares ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands.

That's over a hundred million angels. A hundred million angels. You know, in perspective, there's eight billion people on earth, so a hundred million isn't a lot in comparison, but it is a lot of angels.

Luke 20, 34 to 36. Jesus replied, The people of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage.

[12:11] and they can no longer die, for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection.

Angels cannot marry and they cannot die. So, we will be, our form will be like the angels when we are in our new resurrection body.

But we have to realize that angels have a life that doesn't end. So, they were created and it goes onwards from there.

And they never marry. Revelation 19, 9 and 10. Then the angel said to me, Write this, Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.

Then he added, These are the true words words of God. And at this, I fell at the feet to worship him. But he said to me, Don't do that.

[13:16] I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, for it is the spirit of prophecy who bears testimony of Jesus.

So, as we look at true angels, they will reject worship. Worship. They will only focus the worship onto the spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.

So, these are important things. For us to put a context on why Jesus died, we have to understand who the angels are, who God is.

and the next is the most notorious angel, Satan. Ezekiel 28, 12 to 18.

Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him, actually this is written about Satan and you'll see why.

[14:22] This is what the sovereign Lord says, you were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in heart and beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God.

Every precious stone adorned you, carmelin, crystallite, emerald, topaz, onyx, jasper, lapis, lazuli, turquoise, and beryl.

Your settings and mountings were made of gold. On the day you were created, they were prepared. You were anointed as a guardian cherub. So he was a very, very powerful angel.

So I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God. You walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways before the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.

So Satan was the perfect angel. He was the highest angel there was. He was, you know, as far as rank, he was the top angel.

[15:35] through your widespread trade you were filled with violence and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God and I expelled you guardian cherub from among the fiery stones.

Your heart became proud on account of your beauty and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you out, threw you to the earth.

I made a spectacle of you before kings. By your many sins and dishonest trades you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you and it consumed you and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching.

That was the problem. Satan was proud. He was the most beautiful created angel. He was the most beautiful angel.

And a model of perfection until wickedness was found in him. He became proud and arrogant because of his beauty corrupting his sanctuaries. So this is Satan.

[16:51] It doesn't ever say I guess that's kind of prophetic that he will be thrown ash. But he's still in the presence of God as we'll see later on. Genesis 3, 1-7 very well-known scripture very well-known about the temptation.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the other wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman did God really say you must not eat from any tree in the garden?

The woman said to the serpent we may eat fruit from the tree in the garden but God did say you must not eat from the tree that is in the middle of the garden and you must not touch it or you will die.

This is the serpent Satan. You will not certainly die the serpent said to the woman for God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God knowing good and evil.

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye and also desirable for gaining wisdom she took some ate it and she gave some to her husband who was with her and he ate it.

[18:10] Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realized they were naked so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

So this is what Satan does. Satan became evil. He hated humans because he knew that he was no longer perfect, that he was doomed.

He did not want humans to have that fellowship with God. He hates humans. He does everything he can to keep humans from having a relationship with God.

God. So after Satan became evil he used lies to deceive Adam and Eve. He was not totally wrong.

He took what God had told them and just twisted it a little bit and kind of omitted things. He was not totally wrong he said but they would not die.

[19:20] It took over 900 years for Adam to physically die. But Satan did not explain what knowing what good and evil would do to them.

He did not explain that that would break fellowship. Perfect fellowship. Because God would come down and walk with Adam and Eve in the cool of the day.

Just like friends. Like the perfect fellowship that God desired. That was broke. We don't have that kind of fellowship. We can't because sin has blocked it.

Most amazing is that Satan deceived about a third of all the angels in heaven. They knew and worshipped God but were deceived. So you know like Adam and Eve you know you think well you know no one had ever lied in their presence.

and Satan told them a partial truth and kind of made it sound oh you'll be like God. You'll be so much more powerful. You'll be so much you'll be like God.

[20:26] Wow that's something to be desired. Didn't you know and they were deceived because he hates us. First Peter 5 8 and 9.

Be alert and sober minded. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist them. Stand firm in the faith because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

So this is a picture of Satan. He is a roaring lion. You know in Canada we don't we don't really appreciate that but anywhere in the wild where there are lions and they hunt at night and they still do come into villages.

and they still kill people. So he's powerful. He's hungry and he will do everything to take us down.

People are no match for his power. Even angels do not go looking for a fight. And our defense is resistance to the Holy Spirit. Stand firm and resist the devil and he will flee from you.

[21:39] But we have to do that through the Holy Spirit. it's not us our own power. It's God's power. Revelation 12 7-10 and 11-12.

Then war broke out in heaven. This is in Revelation. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, Satan, and the dragon and his angels fought back but he was not strong enough and they lost their place in heaven.

The great dragon was hurled down, the ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth and his angels with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, Now I have come, the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah for the accuser of our brothers and sisters who accuses them before our God day and night has been hurled down.

Satan is not in hell yet. Satan is in heaven, still is.

[22:48] He accuses brothers and sisters day and night before God. He's pointing out our faults. He's pointing out what we've done wrong.

He wants God to remember that this person gossiped, that person did something wrong, this person stole, this person did that. You know, we as believers, yeah, we have forgiveness.

But Satan wants to accuse us, wants God to reject us because Satan knows his, that he's doomed, but he doesn't and he wants man to be doomed too.

Job 6, 1, 6-12. On the day the angel came to present themselves before the Lord and Satan came also with him. The Lord said to Satan, where have you come from?

And Satan answered to the Lord, from roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it. Then the Lord said to Satan, have you considered my servant Job?

[23:50] There is no one on earth like him. He is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. Does God, does Job fear God for nothing? Satan presents himself to God seeking permission.

Satan can't do anything unless God gives him the okay to cause pain and suffering. He cannot do this on his own. Now, Isaiah 14, 13, and 14, this is the big I problem.

This is Satan. You have said in your heart, I will ascend to the heavens. I will raise my throne above the stars of God. I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the mount Zatham.

I will ascend above the tops of the clouds. I will make myself like the most high. But you were brought down to the realms of the dead, to the depths of the pit. So here is Satan saying, I will ascend.

I will raise my throne. I will sit enthroned on above the most high. So this is the problem with Satan. He figures he's more to be praised more than God.

[25:08] And this is the problem with Satan. So he decides many with false gods to take the holy glory of God away.

But his fate is already assured. God's Lord. We can think of demons. I haven't talked about demons, but they do possess. And Jesus cast out the demons.

Picture of man. And I'm running a little long here. Genesis chapter 2, 16 and 17.

And God commanded the man, you are free to eat from any tree in the garden. But you must not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. For when you eat from it, you will certainly die.

Right from the start. This is one of the defining things that God has given both angels and men. Right from the start of humanity, God has let us have free will.

[26:12] We have the ability to make choices and are not forced by God to do anything. we can believe that Jesus is God and took our punishment or we can reject God, reject Christ, and spend eternity in hell.

This is right from the start. I think I'll pass on that one. Let's go to 1 John 1 to 7. To which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at with our hands, have touched.

This we proclaim concerning the word of life, the life appeared and have seen it and testify it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life which is with the Father and has appeared to us.

We proclaim to you that what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us, and our fellowship is with the Father and with the Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you, God is light in him, there is no darkest at all. This is what God started in the Garden of Eden, was a fellowship.

[27:25] This is the goal of people that believe in God, is to have fellowship with God. So if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.

This is the key. This fellowship can only be obtained by believing that Jesus took our sins and purified us from all unrighteousness. This is the strict rule from God.

Romans 3.23, For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Very, there is no ifs, ands, or buts.

All have sinned, fall short of the glory of God. There is no debating. This is what the Bible declares. Other people declare different things.

So there is no one that gets to heaven because you're a nice person. All have sinned. John 3.16-18. You know, a lot of people do John 3.16, but you have to read the three verses together.

[28:35] For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believed in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

So again, this defines who, you know, that God came to the world to save everyone, but only those who believe in him are not.

Whoever does not believe stands condemned. So we're all condemned, and the only way to go from condemned to not condemned is to believe in Jesus.

God didn't, it's our choice, it's our free will to choose to believe in Jesus. It's the default is rejecting Christ, we have to take this step of accepting him and believing in him.

[29:49] Okay, 2 Thessalonians verse 1, 8, and 9. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

They will be punished for everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might. This is a picture of what happens to those who reject.

They will be punished with everlasting destruction. destruction. This is a picture of why God didn't just wipe out Adam and Eve.

You know, take Fred and Julie. Fred and Julie will be the next couple. No, because we have eternal spirits. Everlasting.

So those who reject God, their spirit doesn't die. They will have, they will be punished with everlasting destruction. And I think I'll pass on the next one.

[30:53] The promise of God is that we will have eternal fellowship with God in Revelations 21, 1-7. So, again, we have an eternal spirit.

God didn't just make it for a short time. We have an eternal spirit that lives from now on. So anyone who is even conceived has the everlasting spirit.

Now, a picture of Jesus. Genesis 7, 17, 18, and 23. This is a picture of, now we're going to go and look at the last entity, Jesus.

He did the great reset. For 40 days, the flood kept coming on the earth as the waters increased. They lifted the ark high above the earth. The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.

Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out. People and animals and creatures that moved along the ground and the birds were wiped out from the earth. Only Noah was left and those with him on the ark.

[32:08] So God did a reset. He wiped out evil. Noah was a righteous man and his family. He saved them. And it took less than almost no time at all.

And then there was sin again. So he didn't wipe sin out just by wiping out most of humanity but keeping humanity. So he did that and it didn't work.

We look at Exodus 12 and this is a picture of Israel coming out of Egypt. The Passover lamb.

Exodus 12, 3, 7 and 23. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his household, one for each household.

Then they are to take some of the blood, put it on the sides and tops of the door frame of the homes where they will eat the lambs. Then when the Lord goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the tops and sides of the door frame and will pass over the doorway and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike them down.

[33:25] So this is the differentiation between everyone else and those who believed in the lamb, the blood of the lamb, saved them.

This is the picture of Christ. Only those covered by his blood are saved from judgment. John 1.29 The next day, John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, look, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

John saw who Christ was. This is a direct reference back to the Old Testament. prophet. And the one we passed on was through Exodus.

And it was an explanation of the sacrifices that people did. They would sacrifice a bull as a sin offering. They would do all kinds of things. They would bring pigeons. There was all kinds of sacrifices at the temple.

This was done as a prepayment for the sin. And when Christ came, he did away with that. John 3, 3-7.

[34:39] Jesus replied, very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless you are born again. How can someone who has been born when they are old? Nicodemus asked.

Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born. And Jesus answered, very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and of the spirit.

flesh gives birth to flesh but the spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised by my sayings. You must be born again.

So this is where we get the phrase born again Christian. It is spirit. It was the spirit that died immediately with Adam and Eve. Their body lived on but the spirit that fellowship spirit with God died so now it has to be reborn.

John 6 40 For my father's will is that everyone who looks to the son and believes in him shall have eternal life and I will raise him up at the last days.

[35:44] This is eternal security. Everyone who looks to the son and believes in him shall have eternal life. So this is the hope that we have.

When we have hope in Christ knowing that he took our sins to the cross and we don't have to spend eternity in hell. John 10 7 to 10 and 11 Therefore Jesus said again very very truly I will tell you I am the gate for the sheep.

All who have come before me are thieves and robbers but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and to destroy. I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. Jesus is the only gate. Others have came and have been false gods and false deities but only God only Jesus is the gate.

John 11 25 Jesus said to her I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die.

So this is even though we physically die we can have the assurance that we don't have to spiritually die. John 14 6 and 7 I am the way the truth and the life.

No one comes to the father except through me. If you really know me you will know my father as well. From now on you do know him and have seen him. Again it's a declaration I am the only way.

There is no other way. As Christians this is what we have hope in. John 19 16 to 18 finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified so the soldiers took charge of Jesus carrying his own cross he went out to the place of the skull which is in Aramaic called Golgotha where they crucified him and with him two others one on each side and Jesus in the middle this was a public death Christ it wasn't something that they took him down into dungeon and killed him he was on a hill on a cross with people many many people around saw it and it was verified he died when a soldier stabbed Jesus with a spear so it wasn't you know it just didn't poke him he stabbed him through the heart broke the sack of water around his heart drained so Christ there is no question did

Jesus die and he died in a way that he lost all his blood they didn't just strangle him but he bled and that's where we get the blood from his death was the will of God foretold in Genesis 3 John 14 or John 19 41 42 at at a place where Jesus was crucified there was a garden and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid because it was the Jewish day of Passover and since the tomb was nearby they laid Jesus there Jesus was laid in a new tomb sealed and guarded remember there was legions of Roman soldiers not just one but a legion of Roman soldiers that were there guarding the tomb John 20 14 at this she turned around and saw Jesus standing there but she did not realize it was Jesus so this is Mary Magdalene seeing the resurrected Christ here is

Christ the God she didn't recognize him but she was the first to see him as God resurrected from the tomb Revelation 20 11 to 15 then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it and heaven and earth were filled with his presence for there was no place for them or fled from his presence and I saw the dead great and small standing before the throne and books were opened and another book was opened which is the book of life the dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded was judged according to what they had done then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire the lake of fire is the second death anyone whose name was not found in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire so this is the two books if you're not written in the

Lamb's book of life you're written in the other books and anyone whose name is written in the book of life that they will be judged and thrown into the lake of Hades and into the lake of fire so this is the same Jesus this is the powerful God this isn't the humble carpenter this is the magnificent mighty judge that hundreds of millions of angels swarm around worshipping and that the cherubims fall down and worship this sums up the five different entities found in the Bible God angels Satan man and Jesus we see that God did not destroy man but made a way for us to enjoy fellowship with him for eternity we also realize that

God did not cover over our sins and call it okay much like this carpet the brand new carpet if you were to peel it back there's still the old tiles there's still the scuzzy horrible things God didn't just cover it up and say well that's good no he dealt with it destroyed their sin nature in heaven we won't we have chosen those that have chosen to have fellowship with him we'll be able to have perfect fellowship we will not sin again when we get to heaven on earth we're still human we're still we still have the ability to sin and but when we get to heaven we will have he God has dealt eternally with sin so now as we go to the final verse of the morning this is a communion service this whole time was trying to piece together why do we have communion and again

I was kind of aiming this at some of the younger people but it's still good solid teaching why do we have communion and it's because of Jesus 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 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 so Josh will pass the emblems around and he'll pass out the bread and the cup and we'll pray after it's been passed out and they'll have a time of thought care