



Suffered AND Died

Currently the country is focused on the suffering (passion) of Christ. Indeed His suffering is included in the cost of our atonement. Yet, no amount of suffering in itself can take away sin. He had to pay with his life. Consider the following.

... without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness ... so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. Hebrews 9:22, 28

The shedding of blood refers to the giving of life. “For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one’s life” Leviticus 17:11. The NT makes at least 13 direct references to the blood of Christ in relation to His death. Jesus had to die.

Nothing is more firmly anchored in scripture. Nothing is stated in more unambiguous terms. Besides the many metaphors, figures and indirect references to His death, there are numerous direct statements to that effect. A partial count shows Him as “*kill/ed*” 8 times, “*die/d*” 15 times, “*put to death*” 2 times, His “*death*” is referred to numerous times, “*crucified*” 19 times, “*gave his life*” 4 times, His shed “*blood*” 13 times, “*lay down his life*” 4 times, “*sacrifice/d*” 7 times, “*gave himself*”, 5 times. And this is only the NT.

The following list will leave little doubt regarding Jesus’ unequivocal death. Matthew 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:17-19; 20:28; 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; 24:46-47; John 10:11; 10:15; 10:17; 12:31-33; 15:13; Romans 3:23-26; 4:25; 5:6-10; 6:10; 8:34; 1 Cor. 1:22-24; 5:7; 8:11; 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:14-15; Ephes. 1:7; 2:13; 5:1-2; Philip. 2:8; 3:10; Col. 1:20-22; 1 Thes. 1:10; 4:14; 5:9-10; 1 Tim. 2:5-6; 2; 2 Tim. 2:8; Titus 2:14; Hebrews 2:9,19; 5:7-8; 7:27; 9:12; 9:14-15; 9:26; 9:28; 10:19; 12:2; 13:11-12; John 10:11; 11:49-52; 12:32-33; 15:13; Acts 2:23; 3:14-15; 10:39; 1 Peter 1:2; 3:18; 1 John 1:7; 2:2; 3:16; 4:10; Rev. 1:5; 5:9; 7:14; 13:8;

Now how can some people say that Jesus did not really die? That He was off somewhere preaching for three days? That His resurrection was simply the raising of His body to life since the person, Jesus Himself, was not dead? Do any of the above scriptures give the slightest hint that Jesus the person did not die? If some part of Jesus survived death, should not some, if not all, scriptures teaching His death, be so qualified? Is it not bizarre to say that He died and mean that He didn’t really?

So while we are witnessing via film a depiction of the suffering of our Lord, we are witnessing another vital truth, His utter and complete death without which there is no atonement.

Not only did Jesus die, friend, we must believe it. We are “*saved if*”, Paul writes, we stick to the gospel, the part that says Christ died.

By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 1 Cor. 15:2-3

I commend no gospel that suggests anything less than what the above expressions of His death teach, “*Christ died*”.

Feel free to call or write or visit the following websites.

Countryside Bible Church, 217 S. State J, Peculiar, MO

Church 816-779-4445; Cell Ph. 816-529-2940

Send correspondence to: 500 S Aspen Drive, Raymore, MO 64083

www.countrysidebiblechurch.org

www.mindspring.com/~anthonybuzzard/articles.htm

