

Why did Jesus die?

Why did Jesus die? That is the question we will explore further in this study. We will see from the Scriptures how Jesus's life of perfect obedience to the Father culminated in His death for us on the cross. The perfect Lamb of God bore our sins, so that through faith in Him we might be healed, new creations freed from the condemnation and control of sin, who now live to glorify and follow Jesus.

1st Peter 2:24-25

²⁴ He [JESUS] himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

John 10:11;14;17-18

¹¹ I [JESUS] am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.

1st John 4:10

¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son [JESUS] to be the propitiation for our sins.

2nd Corinthians 5:21

²¹ For our sake he [GOD] made him [Jesus] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

BORE OUR SINS

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who bore our guilt. Taking the punishment we deserved as sheep that have gone astray.

READ 1st PETER 2:24-25. Mark every reference to JESUS (including pronouns & synonyms) with a †, and underline the phrases BORE OUR SINS, DIE TO SIN and LIVE TO RIGHTEOUSNESS.

V24 Why did Jesus bear our sins?

V25 What sickness does Jesus's wounds heal?

Who are those that have been healed?

READ JOHN 10:11,14;17-18. Mark every reference to I (referring to Jesus) with a †, and KNOW with a □.

'KNOW' - to know someone personally, not just about them.

V11,14 Why is Jesus the Good Shepherd? Who are His sheep?

V17-18 Why does the Father love His Son?

READ 1st JOHN 4:10 and 2nd CORINTHIANS 5:21. Mark every reference to GOD (including pronouns) with a △, and to JESUS (including synonyms & pronouns) with a †.

4V10 How did God love us?

5V21 What did God do? Why?

Isaiah 53:5-6;10-11

⁵ But he [JESUS] was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

John 19:30

³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished", and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Romans 3:23-26

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

PROPITIATION — Christ enduring the wrath of God that we deserved, so we don't have to.

BE SIN — "Christ was not guilty, and could not be made guilty; but he was treated as if he were guilty, because he willed to stand in the place of the guilty. Yea, he was not only treated as a sinner, but he was treated as if he had been sin itself in the abstract. This is an amazing utterance. The sinless one was made to be sin." (Spurgeon)

READ ISAIAH 53:5-6;10-11. Mark every reference to **JESUS** (including pronouns) with a **†**, and **underline CRUSHED / CRUSH**.

'**CRUSHED**' - cruel agonies ending in death.

'**INIQUITY**' - our natural bent to go our own way, rather than God's way i.e. trusting & obeying Him.

V5 Why was Jesus crushed?

V6 What was laid on Jesus?

V10-11 Why did the LORD crush His Son?

READ JOHN 19:30. Mark every reference to **JESUS** (including pronouns) with a **†**, and **underline IT IS FINISHED**.

V30 What do you think was now finished?

'**IT IS FINISHED**' (Greek: TETELASTAI) — To pay in full. Jesus declares that by bearing our sins He has paid the penalty for them in full.

DIE TO SIN

Jesus paid for our sins that we might die to sin—it's power to CONDEMN and CONTROL us.

READ ROMANS 3:23-26. Mark every reference to **GOD** (including pronouns) with a **△**, and to **JESUS** (including pronouns) with a **†**.

'**JUSTIFIED**' - seen by God as if we had never gone astray and always obeyed Him.

'**FAITH**' - putting full confidence in someone.

V23 What have we all done, without exception?

V24-25 What did God do that we might be made right with Him (justified)?

V26 How are we justified?

Romans 6:6-7;11

⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him [JESUS] in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

1st Peter 2:9;11

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. ¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

1st Peter 2:18-25

¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Those who have been justified through faith in Jesus are no longer slaves to sin—set free from its power to control how they live.

READ ROMANS 6:6-7;11. Mark every reference to **WE / YOU** with a , and to **JESUS** with a †.
'OLD SELF' - old nature that loved sin and hated God.

'BODY OF SIN' - our body controlled by sin.

V6-7 What was crucified with Jesus? Why?

V11 What truth are we to know, believe and live in light of?

LIVE TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

We are dead to sin and alive to righteousness, a holy nation indwelt by the Holy Spirit who enables us to follow Jesus. Our purpose is to proclaim the excellencies of Him who lived and died that we might be healed.

READ 1st PETER 2:9;11. Mark every reference to the **YOU** (including synonyms) with a , and to **JESUS** with a †.

V9 Who are we now? What is our purpose?

V11 How are we to live? Why?

FURTHER READING—'Passions of the flesh' vs 'Fruit of the Spirit' — see Galatians 5:16-26

READ 1st PETER 2:18-25. Mark every reference to **YOU** with a , **CHRIST JESUS** (including pronouns) with a †, and underline **GRACIOUS THING**.

V18-20 What is a gracious thing (commendable) in God's eyes?

V21 What is our calling?

V22-23 What is Jesus's example?

V24-25 How can we now live like Christ?

Have you returned to Jesus, the Good Shepherd?

Are you following Him?

About this study...

This resource has been designed to allow you to jump into God's Word and study it closely. It requires no preparation, and provides you with a structure to study a passage, with questions to help you think and reflect on it.

This study gives you a small insight into the world of inductive Bible study through three key parts:

Observe - What does the text say?

Understand - What does the text mean?

Apply - What does this mean for me?

By using this approach, we can study the Bible in a way that allows us to know God deeply, and to live differently.

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