

WHAT DOES THE DEATH OF JESUS ACCOMPLISH?

The death of Jesus makes atonement for us, allowing God to declare us pure, innocent, righteous, acceptable, and forgiven.

He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2)

We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus once for all. (Hebrews 10:10)

The death of Jesus gives us access to God.

we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body (Hebrews 10:19-20)

we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens...Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence (Hebrews 4:14, 16)

The death of Jesus breaks the power of law. It throws a wrench into the gears of justice/karma/retribution.

He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. (Colossians 2:13-14)

The death of Jesus satisfies and extinguishes the accuser's demand for punishment.

The accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony... (Revelation 12:10-11)

without blemish and free from accusation. (Colossians 1:22)

The death of Jesus ministers to our guilty consciences.

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ...cleanse our consciences from useless rituals, so that we may serve the living God! (Hebrews 9:14)

The death of Jesus sets us free from the rule of evil powers.

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption... (Colossians 1:13-14)

He too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. (Hebrews 2:14-15)

With your blood you purchased people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. (Rev 5:9)

You know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-19)

The death of Jesus absorbs the stain of evil on the cosmos.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29)

The death and resurrection of Jesus blazes a trail of victory over the world, the powers, and death itself, which is now available for human beings to walk on.

If any would come after me, they must deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. (Mark 8:34)

Since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:21-22)

we see Jesus...now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him (2 Ti 2:11)

if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory (Romans 8:17)

you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world (Colossians 2:20)

you died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. (Colossians 3:3)

The death and resurrection of Jesus make available an objective power for the transformation of sinful human nature.

I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live but Christ lives in me. (Galatians 2:20)

Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:3-4)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature (Colossians 2:11)

The death of Jesus demonstrates the high calling of the way of self-giving love.

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children, and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. (1 John 3:16)

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus... (Philippians 2:5ff)

The death of Jesus exposes what the world really is in relation to God.

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (Colossians 2:15)

The death of Jesus makes visible the extent to which God's love will go in pursuing and welcoming us.

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

The death of Jesus makes peace between people.

But now in Christ Jesus, you who were once far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two [kinds of people] one and destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His

purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. (Ephesians 2:13-16)

The death of Jesus reconciles us to God, drawing us out of primal enmity into fellowship and union.

Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. (1 Peter 3:18)

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your mind because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death (Colossians 1:21-22)

when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son (Romans 5:10)

This List was part of a Sunday School Curriculum developed by Chris Friesen while he was on the pastoral staff at Lendrum Mennonite Brethren Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Chris wrote one of the chapters in *Proclaiming the Scandal of the Cross*.

This material is found under "atonement resources" on www.mbseminary.edu/baker

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