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## The Power and Ramifications of Christ's Death

*Rev 1:18 "Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."*



As we remember the death of our Saviour this week, **we need to know that Christianity rise or fall with the vicarious death and victorious resurrection of Christ for upon these two pillars hangs the very bedrock and touchstone of the entire Christian religion.**

The Apostle Paul said while we were still sinners, Christ died for our sins, and we were reconciled to God through Christ's death on our behalf. (Rom 5:7-9) It was the historic death of the Son of God, a fact that we could hardly grasp and understand

There are 5 important aspects of the atoning death of Christ that we should be cognisant as a believer. Note the following:

### 1. It is a Vicarious Death.

It is a death that takes our place that fulfil God's demand for perfect justice. It is not something that anyone can do for us. If a sinful person will die himself, he is not worthy to die for even his own sins. He cannot solve his own sin problem and that of death, how can he help others? Hence no angel or religious leaders can stand in the stead of others. This is the problem of true religion. How can a person in sin saved others who are in sin? **Only the perfect sinless Christ, the Son of God can do that. And he did it on our behalf (Rom 5:12). It is a substitutionary death for the sake of some whom God has chosen before the foundation of the world.** (Matt 1:2, Eph 1:4,5)

### 2. It is a Salvific & Particular Death.

The death of our Lord is an exchange of infinite value. He bought us with a heavy price, through His blood and His life. So, the redeemed ought to serve and glorify God with our lives totally. Before we are saved, we were in the hands of Satan under the bondage and slavery of sin. But He pay His blood and His life to redeem

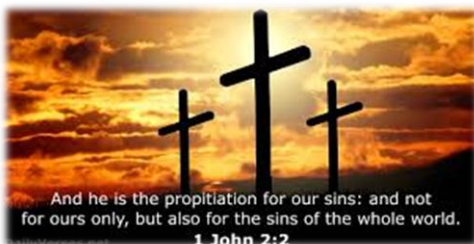
us. The church in the first few centuries struggled with this truth maybe even today. This is related to justice. When we sin against God, there is a price tag to it as someone will have to pay the penalty for sins. We have fallen short of God's glory. We owe God His glory. Jesus Christ paid the price of sin to God (2Cor 5:21) for some people. His death is efficient for the elect though hypothetically speaking it is sufficient for all. Matt 1:21 says "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." **The doctrine of particular atonement (not universal redemption) is clearly taught in scripture to the glory of God. Note that His death is potentially able to save the whole world if He wants to but that is not the design and purpose of the atonement; He came to die for the sheep not for the goats or wolves or hirelings.** (Eph 5:25)

Jesus in Jn 10:11 clearly says, "*I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*"

The devil is not the owner of my soul. Jesus Christ paid the price to God and He salvaged the elect from death and the devil's hand. (Heb 2:14,15) We belong to Him totally; so, let us live as a joyful redeemed slave of Christ. He is the sole Saviour of the world by the triune plan of God.

### 3. It is a Propitiatory or Expiatory Death.

**It is a required death by heaven to placate the righteous wrath of God and to pacify His holy anger.** (1Jn 2:2, Rom 5:9-10) We should have been punished. Nothing could stop His anger. Only the holiness of Christ could satisfy the justice of God. He propitiates the wrath of God and that He is no longer an adversary to us. Because of Christ, He saves and forgives us, and we are now free and we can have peace with God. Rom 3:25, 26 says, "*Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.*"



### 4. It is a Reconciliatory Death.

It is a death that is necessary to make peace between some guilty sinners and the righteous God. **Not only have our debts been paid, not only have we become God's, not only have God's wrath stopped, even our relationship with God is reconciled for forever. We are now beneficiaries of the sovereign mercy of God.** Rom 5:10,11 says, "*For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.*"

God is more proactive in His redemption plan. Paul said we should be reconciled to God. Note that we are to be reconciled to God, not God reconcile to us. It is because it is the sinful human being who first damaged the relationship, and our Lord paid a hefty price to bring us back to God together (1Tim2:5).

## 5. It is the Death of Death

**The phrase above is the title of a book by John Owen, the famous puritan. It is by far the best book ever written on the impact and implications of the particular atonement of Christ.** Salvation to depraved sinners like us came because Christ died for us. In His physical body, He bled, suffered and died for us. But because He was divine, when He died, the power of God is manifested. He purchased us by His own blood, and it is designed by some sinners as the Lord has predestinated. (Jn 10:11) His blood is divine and becomes the medium for the New Testament. The Old Testament was based on the blood of lamb, but the New Testament was based on the blood of the matchless Lamb of God for his people. It was the day that death died, when Christ died on the cross for our sins and He resurrected the third day to prove that He is truly God.



The Jews crucified Christ because He was seen as a threat to their political aims. Christ had declared two things that were most offensive to them. First, He said it was because He told them the truth and that He would rebuild the “temple” which was referring to Himself and His death and resurrection and so they wanted to kill Him. They prided themselves for having the law the God above other people, yet they resisted the truth. Not only did they not repent, but they were also against others who were seeking the truth. People who are self-righteous are those who are most daring in committing sin. **The second most offensive statement Jesus said to them was Jesus is equal with God and that is absolute truth, but they could not accept it as they were blinded by their sinful depravity and hatred of God.**

**They hated Him so much that they killed Him on the cross. But the truth is they failed to kill the Lord of Life, who is the Source of Life as He gave up his life on his own accord. No one can kill the Master of Life. The Giver of Life cannot be murdered without his consent.** We cannot use a knife to cut water. No matter how sharp the knife is, the water is still one. The Lord of Life is the Foundation of Eternal Life Himself, the Creator of all life. Hence, He resurrected from the dead on the third day. When He resurrected some men, He saved others too with Him. Jesus Christ beyond doubt commanded the son of the widow, the daughter of Jairus and Lazarus to come to life again after they died. He is the Author of Life. . His resurrection proved that He had power over death and the grave, and He is alive forevermore for all who repent of their sins and believe him today as Jn 11:25,26 says, *“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?”*

## Conclusion

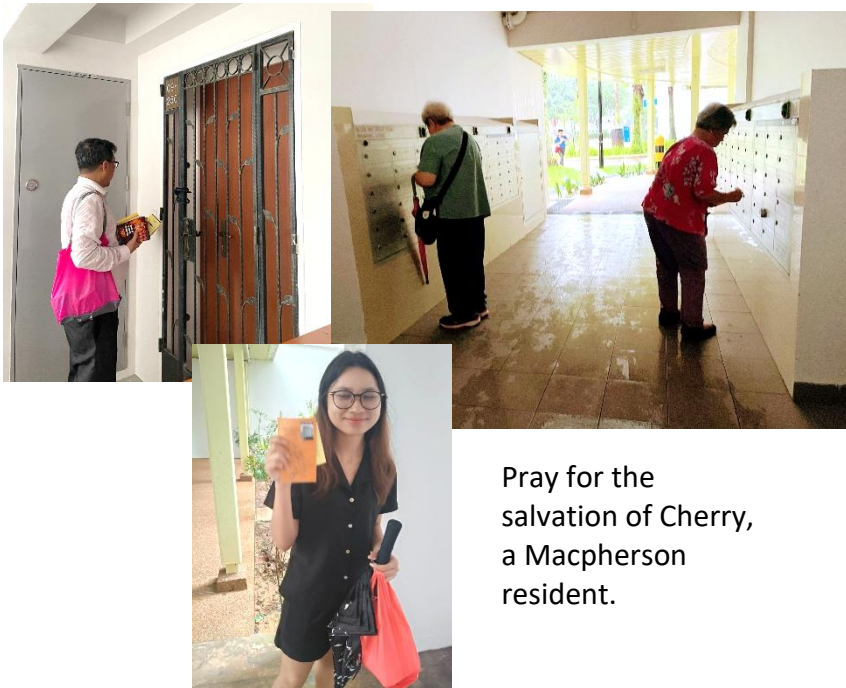
It is a sobering thought the Son of God became the Son of Man so that the sons of man can become the sons of God (John Calvin). What can we more say as guilty sinners depraved and yet saved from sin and damnation by a gracious God through his Son our Lord Jesus Christ? Let us reconsecrate our lives to Christ afresh and live for eternity with death and resurrection and His soon coming in view of 2Cor 5:21 which says, *“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”*

Will you also confess Christ as Lord and repent and surrender your all to Him today before it is too late? Something to think about and act upon soon while we have breath!

*Jack Sin*

*(Read John MacArthur, The Murder of Jesus, 2000 and John Owen, The Death of Death, 1889)*

## ***Evangelism @ Macpherson on 13 Apr 2025***



Pray for the  
salvation of Cherry,  
a Macpherson  
resident.

# Myanmar Quake Christian Relief Efforts

## - A Report by Eld Habakkuk -

I am excited to write this update that we (the team - Myanmar Discipleship Ministries) have just returned home last night at 10:30 pm from our relief trip to Sagain- Mandalay- Naypidaw on April 8-11.



We were really tired but deeply satisfied with the donations we were able to bring to those truly affected by the earthquake when the devastation of buildings and many lives were seen.

In Mandalay and Naypidaw, we handed over to the missionaries and pastors as they do the rescue works by themselves.





But in Sagaing town, we saw the real situation first and had the opportunity to go house to house, sharing with those in need. We distributed basic necessities like rice, oil, beans, and gospel tracts to 250 families and 150 families in Mandalay.

Even though our contribution felt small, we believe it was a truly blessed trip for the local people. We're more than grateful to have been part of sharing what the Lord has provided us—through the generous hearts of His people in SHBPC as we received from you



Your donation means a lot to those bereaved and suffering ones of His creation.

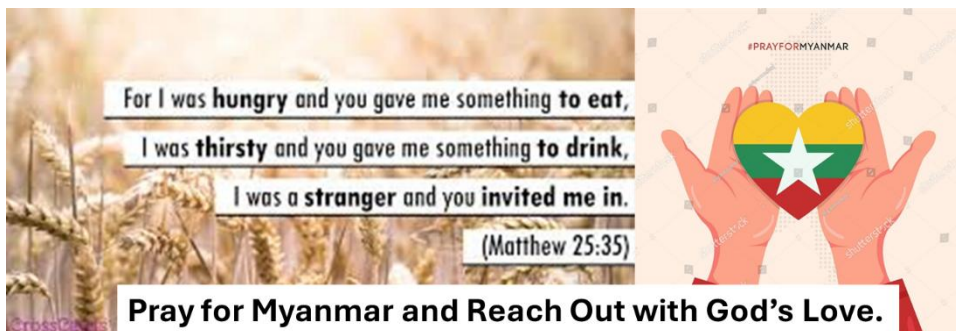
May the Lord richly bless all those who extended their hands to help the helpless!

What we could do is just like some drops of water in the lake.

Please continue upholding with us in prayer that we might work more for the glory of God and for the extension of His Kingdom.

***Eld Habakkuk***

***Gilead Balm Home, Yangon***



## ***Words of Encouragement from....***

Dear Jack

Thank you for what you very kindly tell me. I have been praying for those who have been struck by the earthquake in Myanmar. May God be gracious to them in this sad event.

My word to the dear people who have been helping those struck by the earthquake is:

***May God richly bless you for very kindly helping those in need.  
May they seek salvation in Jesus Christ.***



Kind regards

***Rev Maurice Roberts  
Inverness, Scotland***  
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Good morning, Brother Sin.

Excellent article on health, diet, exercise, etc. I really enjoyed it. Very Biblical and practical. May God bless you, your family and ministry as we look forward to celebrating the death, burial and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Bible Presbyterian Church of  
Collingswood, New Jersey, USA.

Looking for the Blessed Hope,

***Rev Dr Christian Spencer  
Retired Pastor, Collingswood BPC  
New Jersey, USA***

## Memory Verse

*Rom 5:11* And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Good Friday Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Pastor brings us God's Word tonight on "***The Darkest Day for the Son of God (Luke 23:37-56)***". The Lord's Supper will be served.
3. On **Resurrection Sunday**, Pastor will preach on "***The Power of the Risen Christ (1Pet 1:1-13)***".
4. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on New Testament Foundations and the Psalms. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178].
5. Outreach at **All Saints Home (Tampines)** will be held on **Sat 19 Apr at 3pm**. If you have registered, we will meet at the Home directly.
6. Pastor & Angie will be on sabbatical leave from Apr 23 to Jun 5. Rev Nathan and Bro Joseph will be available to provide pastoral support during this period. Do contact the session members for assistance when needed.
7. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551].
8. Pray for:
  - **2025 Annual Church Camp**, Jun 10-13 at Forest City Marina Hotel, Johor, Malaysia on the theme "*Wise or Foolish Living in a Smartphone Era*" by Rev Tan Eng Boo.
  - **Travels: John W** (10-21/4 China), **Albert & Janet** (14-19/4 Indonesia), **Pastor & Angie** (23/4-5/6 Sabbatical)
  - **Medical: Mrs Philip Heng** [brain aneurysm], **Poh Suan** [fractured right ankle], **John W's sister Angeline** [lung Cancer], **John W's daughter** [dialysis treatment].
  - **Myanmar Earthquake Victims & Relief Ministry Teams.**
9. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
  - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
  - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
  - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.