

“Why Did Jesus Choose to Die?”

Matt. 26:55-60

Matt. 27:27-37

Open:

- Describe an Old Testament Sacrifice. (*State and restate that a sacrifice was a picture of what Jesus would one day do; no one has ever gone to heaven because of a sacrificed animal.*) **I Peter 1:18a-19** “*Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things...[19] But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*”
 - Spotless and blemish free male lamb was chosen. – A picture of Jesus the Lamb of God. **John 1:29** “*The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*”
 - It was placed on the altar and its blood was shed. – A Picture of Calvary. **Is. 53:7** “*He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.*”
- Restate the application of this illustration: *Jesus, the perfect sinless lamb, died to make salvation available to all mankind.*

I. Why did Jesus choose to die? – #1 Because man sinned.

- God intended for man to live on earth, in fellowship with Him forever. **Gen. 2:15-17**
 - God breathed into man the breath of life.
 - God created the world without sin.
 - God placed man in the best spot on a perfect earth.
- A. Man chose to do what he wanted to do instead of doing what God wanted him to do. **Gen. 3:6** “*And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*”
- B. Man’s natural response to sin is to cover it up and hide. **Gen. 3:7-8**. But man’s attempt to redeem himself was not enough.
 1. God killed an animal and made a covering for Adam & Eve to picture the one-day death of the Lamb of God. **Gen 3:21**
 2. God was not showing man that killing an animals would save him, He was showing man that one day the perfect lamb would come and pay for their sins. **Heb. 10:4** “*For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.*”

II. Why did Jesus choose to die? – #2 Because sin must be paid for.

- **Heb. 9:22b** “...and without shedding of blood is no remission.”
- A. God’s justice has always demanded a payment for sin, and that payment is death. **Rom. 6:23a**
 - 1. Physically – Gen. 2:17 states God’s required payment for sin. = Death
 - 2. Spiritually – Gen. 3:21 illustrates God’s required payment for sin eternally. = Second Death
- B. Those who die without the applied blood of Christ will be required to pay for their sin eternally in a place called Hell.
 - 1. The blood must be applied to the door post (your heart) **Ex. 12:13** “And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”
 - 2. The wrath of God is on all those who disobey and do not accept the acceptable payment for sin on their life. **John 3:36** “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

III. Why did Jesus choose to die? – #3 Because Jesus did not want man to pay for his sins.

- **Rev. 20:15** “And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”
- A. Jesus took on our sin, so we did not have to take on the punishment we deserve. **II Cor. 5:21** “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.”
- B. God gave His only begotten son to die. **John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

IV. Why did Jesus choose to die? – #4 Because Jesus wanted us to live a better quality of life.

- Jesus wanted us to live the best possible life. **Titus 2:14** “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”
- A. Jesus wanted to restore the Father’s relationship with His creation. **John 1:12** “But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:”
 - 1. Sin broke man’s direct communication with God.
 - 2. Salvation restored man’s ability to communicate directly with God.
- B. Jesus wanted us to have victory over sin and the results of sin. **1 John 4:4** “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”
- C. Jesus wanted us to be free from the results of man’s way of life. **Gal. 1:4** “Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:”
 - **Gal. 4:9** “But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?”
- D. Jesus wanted us to reap the rewards of living for Him. **Titus 2:14** “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”