

06. Why Christ Has to Die

Sin separates man from God. This is the first problem that needs to be dealt with, before man can come back into fellowship with God.

God is a holy God. He is a loving Father and He is a God full of goodness and love. But however loving He may be, He cannot overlook our rebellion and our sin, because He is holy as well. Now, it is this balance between the holiness and the love of God that many people do not seem to have understood. Many people's idea is this: that if they just go to God and say, 'Well, God I am sorry for what I have done,' He will forgive them. But on what basis can He forgive them? If you were to commit a crime against the laws of the land and you were taken to court by the police, and if the one sitting as a judge was your own earthly father, who loves you intensely, could he say, 'Well I love you my son, I declare you to be free?' He may love you intensely, but as long as he is sitting there as a judge it would be unjust for him to let you go.

Now if a human being can be so just and fair and righteous, can you imagine how much more just and righteous God is? But what can that father do for you? He can punish you with the full penalty of the law. Let us say it is a 100,000 rupees fine that he imposes upon you as a judge. And then, he can step down from his judge's chair, take off his robes and come to you as your father, and write out a check from his own hard-earned money for those 100,000 rupees and give it to you to pay the fine. Then there would be no injustice, because he has punished you with the full penalty of the law, and then paid that punishment himself.

This is the only way in which God can forgive our

06. 为什么基督一定得死

罪使人与神隔绝。这个问题需要首先得到解决，人才可能重新回到与神相交的状态。

神是圣洁的神。祂是位慈爱的父亲，充满了良善与爱。但是无论有多么的慈爱，祂都不能无视我们的叛逆和我们的罪，因为祂是圣洁的神。很多人似乎都不明白，神圣洁与慈爱之间的平衡。很多人的概念都是：如果他们对神说“那么好吧，神，很抱歉我所做的。”尔后神就会原谅他了。然而，基于什么原因，神可以原谅他们？如果你犯了世间的罪，被警察带到了法庭，假设法官是你爸爸，他非常非常爱你，他能说“儿子，我爱你，所以我宣判你无罪”？他可能深爱着你，可是只要他还坐在法官座位上，就不能无视公正而放你走。

如果连人都能如此公正、公平和正直，你能想象出神多么更加的公平和正直吗？然而作为父亲，他可能为你做什么？他可以按照法律来裁断你该受的全部惩罚。好比说，作为法官，他裁决你付十万卢比的罚款。然而这时，他从法官的座位走下来，褪去他的袍并以父亲的身份来到你身边，写给你一张十万卢比的支票，都是他自己辛苦赚来的。这样，就没有任何的不公正。因为他给了你法律界定的全部惩罚，尔后由他自己承担了这个罚款。

这就是能让神原谅我们罪的唯一途径。不是单靠着我

sin. It is not by our feeling sorry for our sins alone; it is by God having provided a way in His justice for the price of our sins being paid.

This is the whole message of the Bible. That is what Jesus Christ did. God came down to earth in the person of Jesus Christ, and paid that price. He punished us with a full penalty of the law; the punishment for sin is death. You and I need to get that death whether our sins are many or few. A man who commits one murder is hanged and a man who commits a thousand murders is also hanged. The number of sins doesn't make a difference. If we are guilty, we deserve death whether our sins are one or many. But God, in His love, made this way by which our sins can be forgiven: Jesus Christ came to earth and took our punishment when He died upon the cross. God had to become a man, just like us. He had to live through the temptations and struggles that we face as human beings. He died as a sacrifice in our stead, taking the punishment of our sins upon Himself.

Now, remember this: the punishment for sin is not physical suffering, or sickness, or poverty, or coming back into the world on a lower social scale, or any such thing. The punishment for sin is eternal death. It means being separated from God forever. Also our sin is like a debt that we owe to God. Jesus Christ, when He died, paid that debt for us. Our good works, the Bible says, are like filthy rags in God's sight. We think of certain works as good works and certain works as bad works. But that is because we compare ourselves with other people who are more evil than us. To take an illustration from a classroom, a student who got 25% in mathematics may consider himself a very bright student compared to the other student who got 5%. That may be true, but he has failed, just like the

们自己后悔于自己的罪；更是神给人提供了公平的方式，来偿还我们犯罪所需付出的代价。

这是整个《圣经》所传达的信息。这是耶稣基督所作的。神以耶稣基督的人身，降到这个世上，付清了全部的惩罚。祂按照完全的律法判了我们的罪；罪恶的代价是死亡。不管你觉得自己是犯了很多的罪还是比较少，这罪的代价都是死亡。如同谋杀一个人或者谋杀一千个人，结果都是要被处死。犯罪的数量不会使判决产生区别。如果我们有罪，不管是一件还是很多件，死都是应得的。但是神，因为祂的爱，用这样的方式使我们的罪可以被饶恕：耶稣基督来到世上，死在十字架上承担了我们该受的惩罚。神必须要成为像我们一样有肉身的人。祂需要经历诱惑和挣扎，就像我们人所面对的一样。祂却替我们死了，承担了我们罪恶该受的惩罚。

现在，请记住一点：对罪的惩罚，不是肉体的痛苦或疾病、困苦，或是任何别的什么，例如重新来世上降生到低等的社会环境。罪恶的惩罚是在永恒里的死。这指的是，与神永远隔绝。我们的罪也类似我们欠神的债。耶稣基督，当祂死去的时候，为我们还清了债。《圣经》说，我们人类的善举，在神的眼里就如同肮脏的破布一样。我们感觉有些行为是非常好的慈善行为，有些是恶行。但那是因为我们把自己和其他的人类来比较，和那些比我们更邪恶的人来比较。比如一个班里，一个学生数学考了 25 分，就觉得自己比考了只有 5 分的学生聪明。可能他是稍聪明些，但他也同样是不及格。他们两个都需要在来年重新学，即使他比另一个多考了 20 分。所以，当我们说，我们很好或是某个人很好，那都是相对的条件——和 10 分的比起来，20 分是会稍高些。但当你和至善至美全能的神作比较时，祂是 100 分，每个人都差很多

other student has failed as well. And they both have to sit in the same class next year, even though one got 20 marks more than the other. So when we say we are good or somebody is good, it is a relative term; compared to somebody else he is good, he got 20%, whereas the other person got 10%. But compared to Almighty God's standard, of 100%, everybody has come short. That is why the Bible says, even the so-called good things that you have done are not valuable in God's eyes. They are like filthy rags in God's eyes; they cannot make you acceptable before Him. It is because we have such a low understanding of God's standards that we think the few good works that we do are going to make us acceptable to Him.

God's standard of holiness is infinite and none of us can ever reach it. We are all in a hopeless condition, every one of us. If even our good works, and the best works we can ever do, cannot measure up to God's standard, then what hope is there for us? We are hopelessly lost. That is why God made this way through sending His own Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins. And through Christ's death, every sin of every human being has been totally atoned for - that means, paid for. Your debt has been paid. But like the illustration I used in the beginning, of the father who comes down from the judge's seat and writes out a check and gives it to his son to pay the fine, that son is still not free until he takes the check from his father. It is not enough that the father has written the check. The son has to take it. And that is what God is waiting for man to do.

God has already paid the price for man's sin when Christ died 2,000 years ago on a cross. But that forgiveness can never be yours until you accept it. You have to take it, you have to say, 'thank you Lord, for dying for me.' And you see the foolishness

很多。这就是为什么《圣经》说，即使是你做的所谓好事，在神眼里都没有什么价值。在神看来就像肮脏的破布一样，是无法被祂所接受的。我们以为自己做的一点点“善事”可以使自己被神所接纳，那是因为我们在按自己的理解力去想象神的标准。

神圣洁的标准是无限高的（如同正无穷），所以没有一个人可能接近那个标准。那么这样的我们，每一个人都处在毫无指望的境地。如果我们的善举，我们最大最好的努力，也不配和神的标准做比较，那我们还有什么希望？我们完全没指望了。这就是为什么神必须送来祂自己的儿子，耶稣基督，来为我们的罪而死。通过基督的死，我们每个人的每条罪都全部被还清了（译者：耶稣基督的无限圣洁，来偿还所有人的所有债）。你欠的债也被还了。然而，就像我一开始用的比喻，就算这位父亲从法官席走下来，把支票交给儿子用来付罚金，但儿子仍然必须要签收父亲的支票才能生效。光是父亲写了支票是不够的。儿子需要接受它。这就是神在等待人去做的。

神在两千年前基督死在十字架上的时候，就已经把人犯罪必须付出的代价还清了。但你必须接受这份饶恕，它才能对你生效。你得接受它，并且说：“感谢主为我而死。”尔后你会发现，不接受这份白得的恩赐，是多么的傻。你觉得那个在法庭上的儿子，如果

of a man when he does not receive that which is offered freely. What would you think of that son in the courtroom, when his father writes out this check of 100,000 rupees, and he doesn't take it? That is the foolishness of man everywhere. If that son says, 'No, I will pay the fine myself,' well, he is going to spend years in the jail and still not be able to pay the fine.

That is the condition of man. Man is unable to pay for his sins. The only way we can have our sins forgiven is coming in simplicity, acknowledging our need, and saying, 'Lord, I am unable to meet my need of forgiveness. I want to receive it from you. I am never able to pay for my sins. Thank you, that Jesus died for me and that when He shed his blood on the cross and gave His body as a sacrifice; it took care of the punishment of all my sins.' Then the demands of God's justice have been met.

How do we know whether this sacrifice of Jesus Christ was accepted or not by the holy God? This is very important to know. The proof is that after three days, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead.

See, these two things make the message of The Bible and the Christian Gospel unique. It is different from any other message. We can say that every religion in the world teaches us that we must be good; we must be kind, etc. It is all true. But there is the foundation in the Christian Gospel which is unique, and what is that? Two things, basically: The Christian gospel does not start with, 'Be good, be kind, and don't tell lies, etc.,' that comes much later. It starts with, 'You cannot be good, you cannot be upright, and everything you do is unacceptable to God. First of all, you need the guilt of your past life to be removed. You got to clear your old account before we start on our new account. The old debt

他不接受父亲给他的十万卢比的支票，是怎样的情形？这样傻人到处都是。如果这个儿子说：“不，我要自己来付这笔钱。”尔后，他就只会在监狱里呆好多年而仍然付不起罚款。

人的情况就是这样。要知道人自己是无法还清这的罪的。唯一能让我们的罪被赦免的方式，是以纯朴的心，承认我们需要被赦免：“主，我没办法自己实现自己罪的赦免，我需要从你那里得到。我永远也没法偿还我的罪。感谢你，让耶稣为了我而死，当祂在十字架上流血的时候，献上了祂的身体作为祭品；承受了所有因我犯罪而来的惩罚。”尔后就达到了神公义的要求。

我们如何知道耶稣基督用自己的死作为祭品，是被神接受了的？知晓这是怎么回事是非常重要的。证据就是，三天之后，神使耶稣基督从死里复活。

你看，这两件事是《圣经》和基督信仰里非常独特的讯息。与其它任何的讯息都不同。我们可以说这个世界上各种宗教都在教人怎样做好人，我们要善良等等的。这些都是对的。但是基督信仰的基础是独特的，这个基础是什么？基本上这是两个方面：第一，基督信仰的教导不是一开始就说“做好人，要善良，不要说谎等等”，这些都是后面才提到的。而教导是开始于“你自己没办法做好人，没办法正直，你做的每件事都无法被神接受。你需要的第一件事，是把你过去人生的所有过犯，都免去。在你开始一个新帐户的时候，必须要把旧帐户销了。欠的旧账需要清了。”这旧账要怎么清呢？基督为了全世界的罪而死。就这样所有的旧账都销了。第二，所有的旧账都销了的证据是，神使基督从死里复活。人类历史上只有一个人从

has to be cleared.' How is that cleared? Christ died for the sins of the world. That is the way that old record is cleared, the debt is taken out of the way. Secondly, the proof is that Christ rose again from the dead. There is only one person in the history of the human race that came out from the grave and conquered man's greatest enemy: death. There is one thing man has never been able to conquer. Man has conquered space; man has conquered many sicknesses, but he has never been able to conquer death and he will never be able to conquer death. Jesus Christ is the only one who has conquered death. That is the proof to the entire human race that His sacrifice is accepted. Now all we have got to do is to believe, and receive. The Bible says that if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and if you confess with your mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord, you will be saved. Your sins will be forgiven - it is like receiving that check that the father gives and saying, 'Thank you dad for paying my fine. I can go out of this courtroom absolutely free.'

The Bible says that Jesus Christ is going to come back to this world to judge every human being that ever lived here. Before that time comes, we have to make sure that our life is right with God, that our sins are forgiven. This is the invitation that comes to you today. What do you have to do? Acknowledge that you are a sinner. Believe that Christ died for your sins and rose again. Receive Him into your life. Ask Him to forgive you. Confess Him as your Lord. That means, say it with your mouth: 'Jesus Christ is now my Lord.' It is that simple. May God help you to take that decision today.

坟墓里出来，并战胜了人类最大的敌人——死亡。这曾是人类从来无法战胜的。人类征服宇宙空间，征服许多疾病，但从来无法征服死亡，并且永远无法征服死亡。耶稣基督是唯一的一个征服了死亡。这是给整个人类的证明，耶稣把自己献祭，已经被神所接受了。现在我们唯一需要做的，就是相信和接受。《圣经》说**如果心中相信，神使耶稣从死里复活，如果你口中承认耶稣基督是主，那么你就得救了。你的罪就会得到赦免——就如同从父亲那里签收一张支票，并说：“爸爸，感谢您替我付清了罚款。我能够自由地离开法庭了。”**

《圣经》说耶稣基督会再次回到这个世界，来审判每一个曾在这里生活过的人。在那个日子来临以前，我们需要确定，自己的生命与神的关系被修复了，确定我们的罪被赦免了。这是今天对你的邀请。你需要做什么？只要承认自己是有罪之人。相信基督为了你的罪而死并复活。接受祂进入你的生命。求告祂的赦免。接受祂为你的主。也就是说，用你的口说出来：“耶稣基督，现在开始你是我的主。”就这么简单。愿神帮助你在今天做出这个决定。

