

## **Redeemed and Restored** Lesson Scrip.: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

**1 Corinthians 15:1** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;  
<sup>2</sup>By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. <sup>3</sup>For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; <sup>4</sup>And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Our scripture today comes from the epistle or letter from the Apostle Paul to the church at Corinth.

-Its written to the saints at Corinth who were having all sorts of problems. They had everything from divisions, to inappropriate dress, to marriage issues, to use of spiritual gifts, to lawsuits, to sickness and deaths due to unworthy eating of the Lord's Supper. If there was a problem, they had it.

-But their biggest problems were the same as the biggest problems facing churches today, lack of knowledge of the Word of God and disobedience to the Word of God.

-The scripture in verses 3&4 are the God-given definition of the gospel according to the scriptures. Others have referred to the gospel as the "good news" or the "good news of Jesus Christ" or some other nice human definition. And, on the surface there is nothing wrong with these other definitions. But, in reality, it is a deviation from what the Scriptures and any deviation from the Word of God, especially on purpose, is bad. It is a conscience rejection of God's spiritual truth or God's righteousness. And that will never turn out good. In fact, it will only lead to more deviations and rejection.

-It is just so subtle that humans may not accept it as truth. But we need to remember that that is how Satan does his best and most effective work. Not with outright lies, but with subtle or slight deviations from the truth so we may not see we are going in the wrong direction.

-This was written to advise, correct, and call to their remembrance to what Paul had already taught them. At all times, we are commanded to seek God's righteous ways instead of leaning on human understanding.

Today we will search the Scriptures to provide the answer 2 questions:

1. *Why did Christ have to suffer spiritual death?*
2. *Why did Christ have to suffer physical death*
3. *Why did Christ have to get up out of the grave?*

First and foremost, “according to the Scriptures”, everything God has done and everything he does is for mankind’s benefit.

**1 John 4:9** In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

The book of **1 John** and all other account use the word love to substitute for the Greek word *agape*. We need to remember that the Bible was not written in English so we have to study to learn the meaning of Biblical words in their original language and in context.

- The word *agape*, Greek word #26 in your Strong’s Concordance means benevolence or charity (1 Cor.13:13). It means to act to do good or for the benefit someone else. There is no emotional or feeling connected to the word or the act. **Agape** is not given because it is deserved nor is it withheld because it is undeserved. Agape cannot be earned, it is a gift. Now, there are things from the Lord that can and must be earned, but agape is not one of them. For instance, blessings and rewards from God are earned.

Question #1

***Why did Jesus have to suffer spiritual death?***

The answer is given in verse 3: “how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures”.

“Died for us”, that is, to save/redeem us from the penalty for sin, spiritual death: which is eternal damnation or hell.

That answers the question but doesn’t tell us what God wants us to know.

-The phrase “according to the scriptures” tells us that we must search the scriptures to learn the specific truths that God wants us to know and except. It also leads to more questions.

1. Why do we need salvation/redemption? **BECAUSE WE SIN**

**Genesis 3:11** And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? **Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?** <sup>12</sup> And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, **and I did eat.**

**Genesis 5:1** This *is* the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; <sup>2</sup> Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when

they were created. <sup>3</sup> **And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image;** and called his name Seth:

-As a result of Adam's choice, we all (as the seed of man) are **born spiritually dark, mentally and emotionally corrupt, and physically mortal** (subject to pain, suffering and death). God wants us to know and accept the fact that we are born like this, we don't decide one day to become rebellious, and we are like this as a baby. Our only choice is whether to get worse as we grow older.

-God repeated this to Israel in Ezek. 18:20 and again to the Church in John 3:16-17, that He is a God of love, not of hate and malice.

-In Ezek. 18:20, God reminds us that it was the action of Adam that is the cause of our corrupt and rebellious minds. He tells us (again) that He does not blame a person for their wanting or desiring to sin, but for their choosing to sin James 1:14-15.

**Ezekiel 18:19** Yet say ye, Why? doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, *and* hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. <sup>20</sup> The soul that sinneth, it shall die. **The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.**

**Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

**James 1:14** But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

-From Gen. 3:11, 5:3, and Romans 5:12 we learn that we as the seed of Adam inherited a nature that makes us desire to sin, and to reject God.

-From James 1:14 -15 we learn that it is not a desire to sin but choosing to sin that brings on the penalty for sin. The wages of sin are earned.

**-This is why we need salvation/redemption.**

2. How do we gain salvation/redemption? How is redemption ordained? How are sins paid for?

**Colossians 1:13** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: <sup>14</sup> In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

-We gain salvation/redemption from the blood of Jesus Christ alone. No other blood is given to wash away sin so that we can gain the spiritual likeness of God again.

-This principle is Substitutional Atonement which means the blood of the innocent pays the price for the sins of the guilty.

Examples:

**Genesis 3:21** Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

-God used the skin of an innocent animal to make coverings for Adam and Eve's nakedness.

**Genesis 4:3** And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: <sup>5</sup> But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

-The blood sacrifice of Abel, an offering in obedience to God's command, was acceptable to the Lord, but Cain's sacrifice, an offering that was not what God commanded, was not.

**Genesis 8:20** And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

-Noah offered blood sacrifices unto the Lord.

-All the blood sacrifices in the Temple or on any altar constructed to the Lord. All these things throughout the Bible were given as a reminder that a blood sacrifice will be made for our sins.

3. By what method are we saved/redeemed from hell?

**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.

-John said it best, Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world. The blood of Jesus has washed away everyone's sins already. But we cannot receive the gift of spiritual life/light unless we accept it, through Jesus.

But God doesn't stop there.

Why you ask? Because the process was not yet complete. Man had not been restored to his original state where God walked with them in the Garden of Eden.

Question #2

***Why did Jesus Christ have suffer physical death?***

**Hebrews 9:15** And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. <sup>16</sup> For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. <sup>17</sup> For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.

1. Christ is the basis for the new covenant.
2. Covenants require the offering of blood to activate them. Ex. 24:8 is the old covenant. Matthew 26:28 is the new covenant.
3. The testator must die physically.
4. This is also why no human could enter heaven before Christ, Because the new covenant was not in force until Jesus died physically.

Question #3

***Why did Christ have to get up out of the grave?***

-The answer is given in verse 4: according to the scriptures means we must again search the scriptures for God's revealed truths.

1. Christ had to get up out of the grave to fulfill the scriptures and to show them to be fulfilled.

**Psalms 16:10** For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

**Isaiah 26:19** Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

**Daniel 12:2** And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

-Daniel 12:3 alludes to something to come. Some manner of life and existence we cannot even conceive of in our fleshly minds.

2. To reveal to man the image of our glorified bodies. Those spiritual bodies that we will have after the Resurrection. The apostles needed to see it in order to write about it.

**Luke 24:24** And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found *it* even so as the women had said: but him they saw not. <sup>25</sup> Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: <sup>26</sup> Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

**1 Corinthians 15:49** And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. <sup>50</sup> Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

3. Because flesh and blood is tainted by sin and death, it cannot inherit God's Kingdom and will have no part in it.

-Jesus became a physical body to die and establish the path that we might have a spiritual (glorified) body. He became the first fruits of the resurrection.

## Conclusion

Back to our 3 big Questions.

1. ***Why did Christ have suffer spiritual death?*** Because the **blood of the Jesus, Lamb of God was the price to redeem man** and someone had to **suffer eternal damnation or hell which is the wages of sin.**

2. ***Why did Jesus Christ have suffer physical death?*** To activate the new covenant and fulfill the Scriptures.

3. ***Why did Christ have to get up out of the grave?*** To set the path and example for all the redeemed to be resurrected into their spiritual bodies.