

The Gospel According to John

“Withstanding the Accusations and Assaults of Satan”

John 11:45-57



Main Idea

A better understanding of Christ's death and what it accomplished will strengthen your faith and secure your hope against the accusations and assaults of Satan.

Hebrews 2:14-15

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood,
He Himself likewise also partook of the same,
that **through death** He might render powerless him
who had the power of death, that is, the devil,
and might free those who through fear of death
were subject to slavery all their lives.

Better Understanding Christ's Death

The means of Christ's death.



John 11:45-48

Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him.

But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.

Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying,

“What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

John 11:49-53

But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all, nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish.”

Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.

So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

John 11:54-57

Therefore Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim; and there He stayed with the disciples.

Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves. So they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?”

Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he was to report it, so that they might seize Him.

The means of Christ's death.

God used the fickle crowds.

John 11:45-47

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and saw what He had done, believed in Him.

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Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees
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The crowds were fickle...

John 7:12

There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some were saying, “He is a good man”; others were saying, “No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray.”

Matthew 21:11

And the crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee.””

Matthew 27:20

But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death.

The crowds had no anchor for their faith and were tossed about by the fickle winds of sentiment, but God used their instability to accomplish His good purposes in Christ's death.

The means of Christ's death.

God used the fickle crowds.

God used self-serving religious leaders.

John 11:47-48

Therefore **the chief priests and the Pharisees**
convened a council, and were saying,
“What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs.
If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him,
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John 11:49-50 and 53

Caiaphas, **who was high priest that year**,
said to them, “You know nothing at all, nor do you take
into account that it is expedient for you that one man
die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish.”
So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

God was using Caiaphas' wickedness!

John 11:51-52

Now [Caiaphas] did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.

The religious leaders were arrogant and self-serving, but God used their wickedness to accomplish His good purposes in Christ's death.

The means of Christ's death.

God used the fickle crowds.

God used self-serving religious leaders.

God used corrupt political systems.

John 11:47-57

Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees **convened a council...and** they planned together to kill Him.

Now the chief priests and the Pharisees **had given orders** that if anyone knew where He was, he was to report it, so that they might seize Him.

The chief priests and Pharisees used the corrupt political systems to accomplish their wicked purposes, but it was really God using these things to accomplish His good work.

Acts 2:23

“This Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.”

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Acts 4:27-28

“For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.”

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and the peoples of Israel, **to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.”**

Though wicked men acted wickedly
and were responsible for their acts,
yet ***God*** was in control.

We can take great comfort in knowing
that God is in control of all things, and
He will accomplish His good purposes.

Better Understanding Christ's Death

The means of Christ's death.

The nature of Christ's death.



John 11:51-52

Now [Caiaphas] did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

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Hebrews 2:14-15

Therefore, **since the children share in flesh and blood,**

He Himself likewise also partook of the same,
that through death He might render powerless him
who had the power of death, that is, the devil,
and might free those who through fear of death
were subject to slavery all their lives.

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What can we learn from all this?

The nature of Christ's death.

His death was *atonement* for sin.

1 John 2:1-2

If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous;

and **He Himself is the propitiation for our sins.**

Propitiation refers to the satisfaction of God's just wrath against sin and is best pictured by the sprinkling of blood on the *mercy seat* on the Day of Atonement.

“Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”

The nature of Christ's death.

His death was atonement for sin.

His death was *penal*.

Penal refers to punishment
or *penalty* for sins.

In His death, Christ took
upon Himself the curse of sin
and bore its full penalty.

Galatians 3:10

For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them.”

This curse is reminiscent of God’s curse in the garden and refers to the just wrath of God poured out in punishment for sin.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death.

But...

Galatians 3:13

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law,
having become a curse for us-- for it is written,
“Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.”

In His death, Christ took the penalty
of His people upon Himself.

The nature of Christ's death.

His death was atonement for sin.

His death was penal.

His death was substitutionary.

John 11:51-52

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2 Corinthians 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin **on our behalf**,
so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

In His death, Christ stood in the stead of His people and bore their sins in Himself.

1 Peter 2:24

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Because Christ stood in your stead and atoned for you sin, paying your penalty, you can be sure that your salvation is secure in Him!

Better Understanding Christ's Death

The means of Christ's death.

The nature of Christ's death.

The effects of Christ's death.



The effects of Christ's death.

Justification and a Just Advocacy

Romans 5:8-9

But God demonstrates His own love toward us,
in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
Much more then, having now been justified by His blood,
we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

Christ's death, and the death of
sinners, are the result of justification
and is accomplished

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Christ's death, and His death alone,
accomplished the work of justification;
and it is accomplished!

Christ's atonement on your behalf
is the ground of your justification,
and your justification by His atonement
is the ground of His advocacy for you.

1 John 2:1-2

Little children...if anyone sins,
we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ *the just*;
and **He Himself is the propitiation for our sins**;
and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

Jesus' advocacy is based on His atonement
that resulted in your justification.

If Christ has atoned for your sins,
then who can bring a charge against
you when you sin?

Romans 8:33

Who will bring a charge against God's elect?
God is the one who justifies.

The effects of Christ's death.

Justification and a Just Advocacy

A Definite Redemption

John 11:51-52

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Through His death, Christ accomplished the redemption of all the children given to Him by His Father.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses...

Titus 2:14

Christ Jesus...gave Himself for us **to redeem us** from every lawless deed, and **to purify for Himself a people** for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Did Jesus actually accomplish this redemption,
or did He simply make it potential?

Remember that Jesus' atonement
was substitutionary –
He stood in the stead of a particular
people and definitely accomplished
their redemption.

The effects of Christ's death.

Justification and a Just Advocacy

A Definite Redemption

A Sure Adoption

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fullness of the time came,
God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,
so **that He might redeem those who were under the Law,**
that we might receive the adoption as sons.

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God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,
so that He might redeem those who were under the Law,
that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Our adoption is made sure by Christ having
come into the world to redeem His brethren.

Hebrews 2:10 and 14

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, **in bringing many sons to glory,** to perfect the author of their salvation **through sufferings.**

Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, **that through death** He might render powerless him who had the power of death.

Adoption into God's eternal family and the "right to become children of God," was made sure when Christ was made like "His brethren" and then died on their behalf.

The effects of Christ's death.

Justification and a Just Advocacy

A Definite Redemption

A Sure Adoption

Effective Intercession

Isaiah 53:12

Because **He poured out Himself to death,**
And was numbered with the transgressors;
Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,
And interceded for the transgressors.

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Romans 8:33-34

Who will bring a charge against God's elect?
God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns?
Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised,
who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

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For whom does He intercede?

John 17:9

“I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours.”

For whom does He intercede?

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“I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world,

but **of those whom You have given Me**; for they are Yours.”

The Lord entered the Holy Place
“through His own blood”
where He intercedes on behalf
of those whom He redeemed.
And His intercession is effective!

What does all of this mean for you?

You can take great courage and have great hope!

God is in control of all things and is using all things to accomplish all His good purposes.

Your redemption is not based on you; it is based on God's mercy and Christ's work on your behalf!

Satan has nothing over you, because you have a faithful Advocate, One who is interceding for you, and He will not fail!