Section: Doctrine of Christ (Christology)

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Scott Waterman

**TEACHING NOTES**

**Q71. How is Jesus our reconciliation?**

By satisfying God’s wrath due our sin, He restores our relationship with God.

**Q72. How is Jesus our victory?**

He has defeated Satan, sin, and death for us; therefore, we are no longer enslaved to these.

# Question 71

# **Introduction**

Welcome to midweek. To start, we’re going to read our catechism question and answer. Tonight, we’ll be covering two separate questions.

First, we will look at Question 71. Let’s read it together: How is Jesus our reconciliation? By satisfying God’s wrath due our sin, He restores our relationship with God.

Tonight - we will talk about the doctrine of reconciliation.

As we’ve spoken of many times, we are born with a sin nature because of Adam’s federal headship. Federal headship teaches us that Adam was selected by God to be a representative for all of humanity. When he fell, we all fell.

The 2nd London Baptist Confession of Faith says to this, “3. By God’s appointment, they [Adam & Eve] were the root and the representatives of the whole human race. Because of this, the guilt of their sin was accounted, and their corrupt nature passed on, to all their offspring who descended from them by ordinary procreation.6 Their descendants are now conceived in sin7 and are by nature children of wrath,8 the servants of sin, and partakers of death9 and all other miseries—spiritual, temporal, and eternal—unless the Lord Jesus sets them free.”

Because we are born with a spiritually dead nature, and because of our total inability to do any true God-glorifying good in that fallen state, we are in great need. We have a great debt. There is a terrible separation between God and fallen man.

Again, the 2LBCF says, “4. All actual transgressions arise from this first corruption.11 By it we are thoroughly biased against, and disabled and antagonistic toward all that is good, and we are completely inclined toward all that is evil.”

Now, let’s think about this for a moment. What does a hungry person need? What does a sick person need? What does a spiritually dead sinner need?

Last week we spoke of our need of justification. We spoke of righteousness and how Jesus declares us as righteous before God the Father. He is able to do this by His perfect life, atonement, and resurrection—His work, His perfect record is accounted to those who trust in Jesus alone.

So - what do we need next? Once we’ve been reborn, and then, justified through faith alone, *what about our relationship with God*? Being free from punishment is not the final goal—that’s not the ultimate prize. Amazing as a pardon is, if we’re **not** brought into unending right relationship with God then we’re still missing the prize of prizes. Simply said: We need to be reconciled to God.

Let’s take a look at the answer to our catechism question. It says, “By satisfying God’s wrath due our sin, He [Jesus] restores our relationship with God.”

This sparks a few questions for us:

1. What is the wrath of God?
2. What is sin?
3. Why does God’s wrath need to be satisfied?
4. How does Christ’s work reconcile us to God?
5. What does a reconciled relationship with God look like?

Let’s look at each of these points individually.

# **What is the wrath of God?**

In order to fully understand our need for reconciliation with God, we must have a biblical understanding of the wrath of God.

The wrath of God is God’s righteous anger. “The wrath of God is His eternal detestation of all unrighteousness. God has justice against all evil and decreed eternal punishment against unredeemed sinners.” -WOTC

According to Paul in Romans 2:5, “because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.” The wrath of God is inextricably tied to God’s justice. Sinners are due wrath and because of sin, fallen man is “storing up wrath.” God will, in the future judgement, reveal to us His wrath by executing His righteous judgement toward unrepentant sinners.

God’s divine wrath is part of His being. It is the right outpouring of judgement to condemn anything that derides or diminishes His holiness.

Of mankind’s natural (unbiblical) thoughts of God’s wrath, AW Pink says, “Yes, many there are who turn away from a vision of God’s wrath as though they were called to look upon some blotch in the Divine character, or some blot upon the Divine government. But what saith the Scriptures? As we turn to them we find that God has made no attempt to conceal the fact of His wrath. He is not ashamed to make it known that vengeance and fury belong unto Him.

[God’s] own challenge is, “See now that I, even I, am he, ​​​​​​​and there is no god beside me; ​​​​​​​I kill and I make alive; ​​​​​​​I wound and I heal; ​​​​​​​and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. ​​For I lift up my hand to heaven ​​​​​​​and swear, As I live forever, ​​​if I sharpen my flashing sword ​​​​​​​and my hand takes hold on judgment, ​​​​​​​I will take vengeance on my adversaries ​​​​​​​and will repay those who hate me.” (Deut. 32:39-41). A study of the concordance will show that there are more references in Scripture to the anger, fury, and wrath of God, than there are to His love and tenderness. Because God is holy, He hates all sin; And because He hates all sin, His anger burns against the sinner.”

This can be a difficult pill to swallow for our culture. Why?

Where we have minimized the sovereignty, holiness, and reverence of God, we ultimately maximize the so-called sovereignty, holiness, and reverence of man.

Our culture is so steeped in wickedness (particularly self-esteem) that we have great trouble understanding that there is any extrinsic authority over our own personhood. In this, fallen man thinks of himself much higher than he actually is. Fallen man lifts up himself and diminishes God.

Where there is a humble, faith-filled, God-fearing man, there is not the wrath of God outpoured on him. The problem is that by nature, there is no humble, faithful, God-fearing men in existence, which is why we need to be reconciled to God.

This brings me to the next point.

# What is sin?

We understand wrath. But why would God pour out His wrath on us? We’ve taught on sin at Disciples Church many times, so these truths should not come as a surprise:

R.C. Sproul writes, “In the least (or smallest) transgression I set myself above the authority of God, doing insult to His majesty, His holiness, and His sovereign right to govern me. Sin is a revolutionary act in which the sinner seeks to depose God from His throne. Sin is a presumption of supreme arrogance in that the creature vaunts his own wisdom above that of the Creator, challenges divine omnipotence with human impotence, and seeks to usurp the rightful authority of the cosmic Lord."

"Sin is any lack of conformity, active or passive, to the [law] of God. This may be a matter of act, of thought, or of inner disposition or state."

“Sin is disobeying God; sin is any disobedience in heart or deed to God’s perfect law and commands.” - WOTC

Romans 3:23 says, “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” There is no exception in all people who descended from Adam & Eve by ordinary procreation. Because of this, because of our sin guilt, we are deserving God’s full and unbridled wrath.

# Why does God’s wrath need to be satisfied?

For this, let’s take a look at Romans 1:18-23:

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world,7 in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

These verses clearly state that God’s wrath is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. This an all-encompassing statement; this is not just a few men and women but, because of the fall of Adam, all of humanity.

And because God has communicated to all people His invisible attributes, and because He has written the moral law on each person’s heart (as we have also studied), we all have an innate understanding of right and wrong and of who God is; we all are without excuse.

Have you ever wondered why all the unreached people groups have a way to understand their sin and payment of that sin? They often have created complex and intricate systems to attempt to absolve their perception sin. Whether they could articulate it fully/correctly, *They know they are condemned and in need of redemption, but because they have not heard the Gospel of Christ, they sit justly in their sin waiting for condemnation.*

These truths should compel us, myself included, to share the Gospel with a multitude by which God may sovereignly open their ears and bring them into His fold!

If God sees our sin and does nothing, he is not a perfectly just God. He is no different than you or I. In order for God to be our perfect standard and just judge, He must punish sin.

Because of our sin, we *need* to be reconciled. By nature, we sit condemned, and unless we are reconciled with God through Christ, we will rightly suffer for eternity in Hell.

# How does Christ’s work reconcile us to God?

As we studied in our covenant theology lessons, in Genesis, God made a covenant of works with Adam. This is called the Adamic Covenant (or commonly *The Covenant of Works*).

Gen 2:15-17 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Remember from Pastor Matt’s covenant theology lessons that, “a covenant of works is a type of covenant that requires obedience to the law/commands in order to receive the rewards it promises.”

Prior to the fall, Adam was being tested. God required prefect obedience of Him. The outcome of the test was to determine Adam’s (and those who would naturally come from him) standing before God.

Again, Pastor Matt says, *“The reward available was eternal righteousness (being secured sinless by God), eternal blessing, and eternal life (everlasting life with/in the presence of God).*

*The eternal state of blessedness offered as an earned reward in this covenant included being kept in righteousness forever entirely free from sin, eternal life in the blessed presence of God, and countless other blessings.*

*The Covenant of Works God initiated with Adam offered rewards that were eschatological in nature. This means the promised benefits/rewards offered to Adam wasn’t continued status quo in Eden, but an elevated estate of eternal life.”*

But - we all know the result of this test: Adam failed to satisfy the terms of the covenant. Adam and Eve violated God’s command on them to abstain from eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

As a result, God fulfilled his word and brought upon them the penalty of death and condemnation. Because Adam was our federal head/representative, we all are condemned because of Adam’s sin.

Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—

The flip side of the Covenant of Works was the promise of eternal life. Adam was forbidden to eat from “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil,” but he was not forbidden to eat from the “tree of life.” The tree of life represented the reward of eternal life with God.

We see this plainly stated by Paul in Rom 5:18, “Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.”

The Covenant of Works was instituted by God, knowing the outcome of Adam’s action, in order to fulfill the Covenant of Redemption.

As a point of review, The Word of Truth Catechism defines the Covenant of Redemption as, “the plan and decree made before creation between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit to graciously redeem the chosen ones from sin and punishment based on the work required of Jesus. All of creation is set in the context of this divine plan.”

The redemptive work required of Jesus, per the terms of the Covenant of Redemption, to make the New Covenant or a Covenant of Grace with His eternally chosen people. The Bible teaches that the perfect obedience of Christ results in eternal life and restoration to God for all of the elect.

It is right to understand that if Adam had rightly been obedient, *the need for restoration to God* would not be needed. But Adam failed this test and mankind was in fact separated from God—the relationship was broken and turn ill.

Yet, Romans 5:14 teaches us that Adam was a type of Him who was to come. The eternal Jesus entered into time as the second Adam. His role was not that fundamentally different than that of Adam. He was to fulfill a Covenant of Works. By His work, Jesus Christ was to earn eternal blessing and prove God to be just in imputing His righteousness to the chosen ones. No fallen man could ever do that.

Christ fully, in mind, heart and deed, fulfilled all of God’s moral and positive law requirements. This also includes the work that Christ had to come and give Himself as a ransom for the elect. He had to die; He had to be marred for other’s transgressions. Why? Because He made the Covenant of Redemption with God prior to the foundation of the world to redeem the elect!

*But why does the work of Christ actually reconcile us?*

Remember, the New Covenant is established by the Covenant of Redemption being accomplished within human history.

Again, Pastor Matt says, “We learned that the Covenant of Redemption was made before time, in eternity past, but was based on things to happen in this creation, for eternal results. So, the Covenant of Redemption breaks into time and creation, and through the execution of the decree—the plan—the assigned work—the New Covenant is formally established, and its benefits justified.”

He goes on, “When Jesus completed His work on this earth, He met the terms—the conditions—of His covenant of works (that is the Covenant of Redemption), so that He could covenant to and be a Covenant of Grace to the people of God’s choosing.”

Jesus perfectly obeyed every aspect of the covenantal obligations for the New Covenant. Because of His work on our behalf, He is able to satisfy the terms of the covenant and ransom His sheep. His eventual bodily death and resurrection, as revealed in Scripture, is the atonement and victory that enables His righteousness to address the sin of the elect and pay our ransom for past, present, and future. This is how we are reconciled. It is by Christ alone—what He accomplished and how God applies it to us. This is awesome!

Now that we understand *how* Christ is able to reconcile us to God, let’s ask the next question.

# What does a reconciled relationship with God look like?

At the most basic view, to be reconciled with God means that we have peace with God. We are loved, brought near, and kept forever. We are no longer are battling with God. We are united with God. We are not enemies. We have peace with God.

Reconciliation deals with our condition with God.

In the creation account, God made everything good. But because of the effects of sin, the world has become fractured and marred. God will ultimately reconcile creation back to Him.

Col 1:19-20 For in him [Jesus] all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

But it’s not just the earth that God aims to reconcile; as we just read, it’s much more than that.

Paul continues: 21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him. God reconciles believers to Himself! And, He is making all things new! He is bringing us back to an Eden-like existence with Jesus Christ as the prize and preeminent centerpiece!

Revelation 21:4-5 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” 5a And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

Let us praise God for sending Christ to reconcile us to Him!

Believers are brought back to God; our relationship with Him is restored! We are no longer His enemy, no longer hostile towards Him, and no longer alienated and estranged! This is the great doctrine of reconciliation!

This good news should overcome us with joy and humility! Praise God for His plan and power to do this once so underserving, such as us!

# Question 72

With that, let’s move on to our next question.

# Introduction

In our previous question, we understood how Christ can be our reconciliation. Now, we focus on the accomplishment of Christ and the further effects of that accomplishment.

Let’s read the question and answer: Q72. How is Jesus our victory? He has defeated Satan, sin, and death for us; therefore, we are no longer enslaved to these.

# What does it mean for Jesus to defeat Satan?

Revelation 12:9a “And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world”

As we see in Revelation, Satan is the “ancient serpent” that we first see in Genesis 3. From the very beginning of his entry into Scripture, Satan was consumed with damning sin. John 8:44 says, “He was a murderer from the beginning.”

When Christ completed the work given to Him, He decisively defeated Satan. But he didn’t just defeat Satan, He also canceled our record of debt and its consequences.

Colossians 2:14-15 says, “by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.”

Jesus triumphed over all rulers and authorities! Who are the rulers and authorities mentioned here? Many Bible translations render these words as “principalities and powers.” Theologian John Gill calls them the “principalities of hell & the infernal powers of darkness.”

Basically, by Paul saying that Jesus disarmed the “rulers and authorities” he is speaking of the powers of Satan and Hell. They are without their armor and munitions. They have been and will be eternally doomed.

It follows logically to ask that, if Christ has defeated Satan, then what power does Satan have over Christians?

Romans 8:37-39 says, “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

As we see in Romans, death, rulers, and powers are unable to separate us from God. Because Jesus canceled our legal debt and stands in our place, He effectively removes the weapon of division that Satan yields. Satan has no decisive power over us.

We see this in James 4:7: “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” And again in 1st Peter 5:8-9: “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.”

Notice that while these passages ascribe a dangerous power to Satan (and therefore, his workers), we have the power, by God, to resist him. If you are a Christian, you WILL fight him, and you WILL be victorious. When Jesus becomes our victory, we triumph victoriously over Satan!

Now, it is important to understand that Christ did not condemn Satan immediately to the lake of fire when Jesus rose from the grave. Satan still has some measure of power, but his power is drastically limited. He has blinding power over the reprobate (non-elect), but for the elect, he has no ability to steal us away from God.

Satan will, in the future, be thrown into the lake of fire and be eternally tormented with the reprobate and other demons. So Satan is already defeated, and his defeat will be fully shown when Christ returns.

Romans 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Revelation 20:10 and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

# What does it mean for Jesus to defeat sin?

We know from our previous catechism teachings that sin is defined as, “Disobeying God. Sin is any disobedience in heart or deed to God’s perfect law and commands.”

Jesus, at Calvary, rose victoriously over sin.

1 Corinthians 15:56-57 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Because Jesus is victorious over sin, we are no longer bound to sin. This is evident in Scripture.

Romans 6:17-18 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

So why do we still sin? If Christ is victorious over sin, why are we still so harassed by sin?

To help answer this, I want to go to Romans 8:7-8: “For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

Paul here speaks of those who live according to the flesh. It is important to note that those who live according to the flesh are those who do not believe. They are the non-believers who are spiritually dead in sin, as we once were before being saved by God’s sovereign grace. There is language here in the passage that describes control or dominion. The non-believer’s soul is under the dominion of sin. Anything that cannot please God is under the dominion of sin.

Now, look back to Romans 6:18. We “have become slaves of righteousness.” This is dominion language. Indeed, we are longer submitting to sin in a way that shows that sin has ultimate control over us. We submit ourselves to Christ, and in doing so, we see that we have become slaves to righteousness through Christ. We are under the domain of Christ. God exercises gracious and righteous dominion over us.

It may be helpful to understand that sin has multiple layers. There is the act of committing sin and there is also the dominion of sin.

Rom 6:14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Paul here understands that Christians will still sin prior to *final glorification*.

Indeed, this truth is taught in John’s 1st epistle, verse 8: “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

Paul himself contended with this in Romans 7:15: “For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.”

We still commit sin. We are still living with a fallible nature in a corrupted/carnal world . We will exercise the act of sinning. But if we truly are saved, we cannot be under the dominion of sin. We are under God’s redeeming grace.

Rom 6:17-18 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Do you see the dominion language? We are slaves to righteousness. We may still sin, but the inability to not sin is absent and the control of sin unto eternal damnation is absent. Having been set free from sin, believers have become slaves of righteousness—so God increasingly causes sanctification in us.

We see this again in Romans 6:6: “We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.”

# What does it mean for Jesus to defeat death?

1st Corinthians 54b-55 says, “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

Paul is quoting an Old Testament passage in Hosea 13:14. In this text, Paul takes a text about judgment against Israel and flips it into a text about salvation, which has been fulfilled through Christ.

G.K. Beale says in reference to this text, “Death’s dominion over the whole earth has been ended, it’s ‘sting’ drained of potency.”

How is this possible? How has the sting of death been drained of potency?

According to Jerry Bridges, “Christ died to sin, and…we died with Christ. That Christ died to sin is a rather startling but wonderful statement. Christ did not die to the dominion of sin, as He was never under it. However, when He was made sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21)—that is, when He was charged with our sin—He did come under its legal reign and was made subject to its penalty.”

What is the penalty of sin?

Rom 6:23a For the wages of sin is death

Gen 2:17 “but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

The penalty is death. “Death” in this case includes and summarizes things such as:

spiritual death, impending physical death,

total defilement in all the faculties and parts of soul and body,

suffering,

eternal punishment for those who won’t be redeemed,

and so on.

In Christ’s sacrifice, He was subjected to the penalty of physical death and suffering under the wrath of God. He was charged with our iniquities, took the wrath due us, and His body died. But we know he rose again to conquer the dominion of death for His sheep.

Indeed, Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:26, “The last enemy to be destroyed is death.”

# **Application**

So, what does it mean for us practically that Christ is victorious over death? In this closing, I will give us some simple thoughts about the implications of Christ’s victory followed by a quick Bible verse.

Drink deeply and see what we have gained through Jesus!

# **Satan**

What does it mean for us practically that Christ is victorious over Satan?

1. Satan can no longer blind us from the truth, as he does with unbelievers!
   1. 2nd Corinthians 4:4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
2. Satan can be resisted by Christians!
   1. Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.
3. Satan’s power is limited toward Christians!
   1. 1st John 4:3-4 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. 4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
4. Satan has been defeated and will be thrown into the lake of fire.
   1. Revelation 20:10 and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

# **Sin**

What does it mean for us practically that Christ is victorious over sin?

1. Sin no longer has dominion over us!
   1. Psalms 130:8 And he will redeem [spiritual] Israel from all his iniquities.
2. Sin will not damn us; it has been paid for!
   1. Hebrews 2:17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
3. We can resist and endure sin!
   1. 1st Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.
4. We can grow in holiness unto final glorification!
   1. 2nd Corinthians 7:1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

# **Death**

What does it mean for us practically that Christ is victorious over death?

1. We can look death in the eye and not be scared, for we will rise because Christ rose!
   1. Romans 6:5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.
2. We should not have a hopeless grief for Christians who have died!
   1. 1st Thessalonians 4:13-14 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
3. We will reign with God in Heaven forever!
   1. John 11:25-26 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”
4. Our death, as Christians, is never in vain!
   1. Psalms 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

# **Conclusion**

Christian, you have much to praise Christ for today.

How is Jesus our reconciliation? By satisfying God’s wrath due our sin, He restores our relationship with God.

How is Jesus our victory? He has defeated Satan, sin, and death for us; therefore, we are no longer enslaved to these.

You cannot be disarmed by the schemes of the devil. You cannot be damned from sin. You will not suffer in eternal torment. You will ultimately resist the devil and his workers, by the power of Christ. You will be glorified in heaven, by Christ. You will live in eternal glorification of our all satisfying Savior.

Revelation 22:1-5 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

If you’re sitting here today and this all seems foreign to you, if you are not a true believer, I implore you to listen to the words I’ve spoken. Sinner, you sit condemned before a holy God. You have committed treason against Him.

You are therefore justly condemned unless “you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead.”

If that is you today, if you see your sin and understand your trespass, if you see Christ as glorious, then pray and confess your sinfulness to Him, ask Him for forgiveness, and trust in Him as Lord and Savior! Praise God if this is you, because He has planned from eternity past to save you. All of the things we’ve spoken about tonight are for you.

Join us and walk with us. Seek the truth in Scripture and be obedient to your calling as a son of God.

Let’s pray.