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Section: Doctrine of Christ (Christology)

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q62. What did Christ accomplish by dying on the cross?**

Substitutionary Atonement.  On the cross, Christ fully satisfied God’s divine wrath as the perfect substitute in place of His elect.

* **Introduction**

**SUB'STITUTE**, *noun*

One person put in the place of another to answer the same purpose.

**ATO'NEMENT**, *noun*

Satisfaction or reparation made by giving an equivalent for an injury, or by doing or suffering that which is received in satisfaction for an offense or injury;

* **The Cross**

The Cross is the most widely known and popular symbol in the history of the world.

When we see the cross, we are reminded of Jesus; not just of His life but also of His death, specifically death by being hung on a cross, known as crucifixion.

Christ Jesus died.  Why is that good news?

The real issue is not simply the historical fact that He died or even how He died but for what and for whom did He die?

Christ fully satisfied God’s divine wrath as the perfect substitute in place of His elect.

**1 Corinthians 15:3** For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures.

* **Sin**

**Q33 WOTC:** What is sin?  Sin is disobeying God; sin is any disobedience in heart or deed to God’s perfect law and commands.

**Romans 3:23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

To understand the glory and power of the Cross, we must understand the weight and offense of our sin against God.

**1689 Confession of Faith:** “the wicked, who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, will be thrown into everlasting torments and punished with everlasting destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power.”

According to Jesus himself, *There absolutely will be a future day of reckoning and judgment and many will be rightly condemned to hell as the wrath of God will be poured out on them in hell.*

**Revelation 14:11** And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night,…

**Martin Luther:** “Since all of us, born in sin and God’s enemies, have earned nothing but eternal wrath and hell so that everything we are and can do is damned, and there is no help or way of getting out of this predicament… therefore another man had to step into our place, namely Jesus Christ, God and man, and had to render satisfaction and make payment for sin through his suffering and death.”

**1689 Confession of Faith:** “[Christ Jesus] experienced the punishment that we deserved and that we should have endured and suffered. He was made sin and a curse for us. He endured extremely heavy sorrows in his soul and extremely painful sufferings in his body. He was crucified…”

* **Expiation and Propitiation**
* *Propitiation*. The prefix *pro* means “for,” so propitiation satisfies God’s wrath due to the ones Jesus died for because it was taken on by Jesus. Christ stood in our place and took the wrath we deserved. Upon conversion, this work of Christ is made effectual for us, moving us out from under the penalty due us, and into right standing with God.

**Propitiation-** Jesus satisfies God’s wrath due the elect based on His substitutionary atonement.

* *Expiation*. The prefix *ex* means “out of” or “from,” so *expiation* is removing something or taking something away. In biblical terms, it has to do with taking away guilt through the payment of a penalty or the offering of an atonement.

**Expiation-** Jesus takes away the guilt of the elect based on His substitutionary atonement.

**Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**Q69. How is Jesus our sacrifice?**

Jesus is the spotless Lamb who took away our guilt from sin by having taken our place under the wrath of God.

**Leviticus 17:11** For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.

**Hebrews 10:1-10**

* **The Spotless Lamb**

**1 Peter 2:22-25** He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Sin is a matter of our actions and of the heart.

Sin is doing the wrong thing (commission) or not doing what you should do (omission) (disobedience of God’s perfect law).

Even deeper, sin is also doing the right thing (externally) for the wrong reasons (self-salvation or self-exultation).

Jesus never sinned!  He was PERFECT!

**Jesus was sinless!**

**1 Peter 1:19b** like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

No imperfections. Jesus is the spotless Lamb.  See the spotless Lamb!

See the fact that He is worthy of total pardon from any chastisement because of HIS PERFECTION!

**Romans 5:12-21**