

BASIC Christianity – Bible Outline

Week 2 - The Crucifixion

Review / Questions

Goal: teach true meaning of Christianity by looking into the life, teachings, and claims of Christ. Original Source? Why Mark? What does the Gospel Mean?

Last Week: Jesus' divine relationship to God and authority (1) as teacher, (2) over sickness and death, (3) over nature, (4) over evil spirits, (5) sin (6) people.

This Week: not only great teacher, miraculous healer and Son of God, but that death critical to basic understanding of Christian faith. Changed history forever.

Question: Any questions on Mark chapters 1-5?

Jesus' Crucifixion

Cross fundamental to Christianity. Changed history forever. Three legged stool.

Define Crucifixion & Sin

Before read account, define terms. Sin – an attitude of rebellion against God in thought, word or deed. Failure to conform to (omission), or transgress (commission) God's moral law. Crucifixion contemptible, humiliating method execution by Romans for worst criminals. Brutal, slow agonizing death – nailed to T-shaped beam.

Read Account, Darkness – Mark 15:33-39

What happened vs. 33? 6th hour is noon. Supernatural darkness. Symbolic of people rejecting the “light of the world”.

Jesus' Cry and Death– Mark 15:34-37

Jesus fulfilling purpose on earth – to die and serve as a *substitute*. To bear burden of our sin. OT law, blood sacrifice temporary, Jesus is the permanent atonement. He atoned, covered, made right our wrong and earned our salvation. Explain w/book analogy (next page). Christ came as saviour by taking sin himself and pay price we never could. “My God...why forsaken me?” sign of temporary separation b/c of sin.

Tearing of Temple Curtain – Mark 10:38-39

Temple-two rooms. Large outer, small inner called Most Holy of Holies, symbolic dwelling place of God. 1-yr. sacrifice for sin. Curtain separated rooms, symbolized separation God/man. Tearing symbolized new access God through death Christ, no longer sacrifice, permanent atonement made on cross.

Jesus Paid Our Ransom – Mark 10:45

Vs. 45 concept of ransom. Know term? Represents payment to claim something or someone who has been lost, captured or enslaved. Roman times, slaves ransomed. Bible speaks man, slaves to sin. In bondage, shackled before God hates sin. God purchased our freedom through death of his Son. That hope and joy of Christian. God purchased what we could never pay through the atoning death of his Son.

Summary

Cross crucial for it is on the cross that God punishes sin. Yet the penalty is not born by us, but Christ, our substitute. Not automatically conferred on anyone, but only if repent of sin, turn from it, and trust in Christ. If don't accept Christ done, saying to God, I'll bear my sin alone. And at our death, stand before God, receive the just punishment of our sin. Questions?? Stool. Next week resurrection.

Homework – Chs. 6-10

Book Analogy (pg. 46 guide) – Book represents your life story. Recorded every occasion that you've broken any of God's laws in deed, word, or thought. Contains many dark pages. Left hand out and facing up represents you. The ceiling God. Book between us and God as the unfavorable record of our debts (Col. 2:14). Our sins separate us from God. Problem – while God is both loving and a just judge. He hates evil, must punish sin. So we stand guilty, condemned before God. Right hand out represents Jesus. His book is a record of his perfect obedience toward God (Jesus w/out sin). On cross, Christ bore our sin as a substitute and became most sinful man world ever seen. God executed His Son! To the person who repents of their sin and believes in Christ, his/her sin is transferred upon Christ. And Christ's righteousness is accounted as theirs! They are now forgiven, reconciled before God.

FAQ

What about demons and evil spirits? Mk. 1:23-27. The Bible takes seriously the unseen spiritual world of good and evil. Satan is a personal and powerful being opposed to God His people. The evil spirits are Satan's agents. Despite their power, Jesus is Lord over all and has defeated him through his death and resurrection.

Why did Jesus perform miracles and yet ask that his identity not be revealed? Mk 1:44, 3:12. Jesus came to preach the message of salvation, not to serve as a miracle worker. Sensationalism detracts from the message, miracles meant to validate ministry only, not be the ministry.

Son of Man? I thought Jesus was the Son of God? Mk 2:10. He is both fully God and fully man. Also, in Daniel 7 the term “Son of Man” is used in reference to the Messiah. Christ referring to himself as the “Son of Man” would be a claim to his deity as the Savior. Son of God is a claim to Kingship and authority.

What is the meaning behind “new cloth, old coat, new wine, old wineskins? Mk. 2:21-22. Pharisees had taken the law and added human observances and regulations. The faith Christ requires is not one of human works but complete trust and dependence upon Him alone. This kind of living relationship does not fit within the legalistic code of the Pharisees.

What is the eternal sin? Mk 3:29. Context key. Scripture affirms that there is no sin to which Christ's death doesn't atone for if we repent and trust in Him. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is a denial of Jesus' claim to be the divine Savior and Son of God. For this there is no forgiveness (i.e. eternal sin) as they reject the only way of forgiveness in Christ.

Why teach parables? Mk 4:11. Parables illustrate spiritual truths. To those who have, more will be given. So for those who seek knowledge and draw close to God, they will find answers. To those who aren't genuinely interested in truth, they hear stories but are hardened to their meaning. People are either moths or bats, either attracted to or repelled by light.