

CatClub: Question 24



Recap: We have been learning why the Redeemer, Jesus, had to be truly human and truly God. Last week we focused on the power of Jesus which came from his divine nature ('divine' meaning that he is God the Son). We learnt that a mere man couldn't bear God the Father's anger against sin on the cross – so this person (Jesus) had to be God as well. We also saw that he had to be able to offer a sacrifice of such value that God would accept it.

Today's Catechism question (Q24) is: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die? **Answer:** **Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary, atoning death he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness and everlasting life.**

1. Investigation

So why did Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, have to die? Here's the answer:

(a) Please look up (in the New Testament) Romans chapter 6, verse 23. Here we see that **death is the penalty for sin**.

(b) Please look up (in the New Testament) John chapter 10, verse 11. Here we learn that **Jesus died willingly** in our place. See also (in the New Testament) 2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 21, where we learn that **he was our substitute**.

(c) Please now look up (in the New Testament) Romans chapter 7, verse 24 and the first sentence in verse 25, and (also in the New Testament) Colossians chapter 1, verses 22-23. The lesson for us here is that **he delivered (=rescued) us from the penalty and power of sin**.

(d) Now look up (in the Old Testament) Psalms 79, verse 9, which tells us that **Jesus' death was 'atoning'** (=it made amends for our sin).

(e) The result is (i) **rescue from hell**: see (in the New Testament) 2 Timothy 4:18.

(ii) **forgiveness**: see (in the New Testament) Acts 13:38.

(iii) **righteousness**: see (in the New Testament) 1 Corinthians 1:30.

(iv) **eternal life**: see (in the New Testament) John 3:16.

>>>Next week we find out whether Jesus' death means all our sins can be forgiven.

This week's songs: 'Because he lives':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LwBqG7uXbY>

'No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fpUvEKd91w>

Romans 6:23: ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 10:11: ¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

2 Corinthians 5:21: ²¹ For our sake he (=God the Father) made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Romans 7:24-25(a): ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Colossians 1:22-23: 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, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Psalms 79:9: ⁹ Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake!

2 Timothy 4:18: ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Acts 13:38: ³⁸ Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you...

1 Corinthians 1:30: ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption...

John 3:16: ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.