以下是一系列(四篇)灵修笔记的第一篇,乃是关于主耶稣基督在十字架上面为我们这些罪人所做的事情. 也就是说,是用来教导我们明白基督受死的意义。这四篇灵修的课题乃是:为罪人替死,从罪中得救赎, 世人与上帝和好,以及神所得着的安抚。

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替代之死 Substitution

关于基督在十字架上面的死亡的那些基本的教导,对于基督徒来说是非常重要的,也是必须弄明白的。并且这些决不会是令人生厌的知识,请看提摩太后书4:3及下文。神自己,以耶稣基督的位格,照着哥林多后书

5:19所说的,为你死在了十字架上面,假如你对于这方面的真理不清楚或者不关心,就表明你是无知的,或者可以说是有罪的。这方面的真理就好像那些建造房子所用的砖瓦,是罪基要的,如同彼得前书2:2所说,可以被用来建造你做为基督徒的生活。也就是说,假如你不明白这些真理,你的属灵生命就不可能成长和成熟起来。上帝吩咐我们要来认识他的话语,正如约翰福音8:31及下文那里所说的。故此,如果我们不知道神的话语,又怎么能够成长呢?正如提摩太后书3:7所言,我们就不能够明白真道。

基督在十字架上面达成了什么,使得我们被救赎,得以脱离那个将会烧到永永远远的"火湖",正如启示录20:14所描述的?因为我们知道,所有的人类都犯了罪。并且所有的罪人,如果他们不信靠基督为救主,都会在那个火湖当中来度过永恒的。事态是如此之严重,所以这就促使你要来更好地认识神在十字架上面为你所做的,并且鼓励你去把这个道理告诉其他的罪人,使他们也知道基督为他们所成就的救恩。

马可福音 10:45; 马太福音 20:28; 约翰福音 11:50及下文; 罗马书5:6-8; 哥林多后书5:21; 加拉太书 3:13; **提摩太前书 2:6**; 提多书 2:14, 彼得前书 3:18, 出埃及记 11 章和 12章, 尤其是 12:1-14.

替代性的救赎,指的是基督代替罪人们来受苦和受死

本来,我们这些罪人必须因着罪的缘故接受死亡(永远的死亡),作为对我们的罪的惩罚,因为我们没有一个人能够为自己的罪付清赎价。然而基督耶稣为我们的罪提交了那份赎价。事实上,人类作为罪人,如果只是倚靠自己,乃是毫无指望的,因为我们都不能够为自己的罪来偿付那个代价,以便使得父神的愤怒得以止息。

只有当基督这位神的圣子在十字架上面死去的时候,他为全人类的罪恶付出了宝贵的赎价,使得他们过去的、现在的、乃至将来的罪恶都得着了救赎,并且父神对于这个赎价是完全满足了的。为什么呢?因为耶稣基督,那位道成肉身的神,这位神与人的完美结合体,乃是一份完全的祭物,一个替代物,他亲自地在自己的身上承受了罪的惩罚。

我们知道,开车的司机如果违犯了交通法规,就会收到罚单。通常这个司机需要上法庭,在那里,他违规的事实被人指证,于是法官就会宣读对于这个司机的判决。如果他被确定是犯法了,就需要交付罚金。如果这个罚金的数额很大,司机有可能无法交付,那么他就可能要进监狱去坐牢。

但是呢,刚好这位法官就是这位司机的朋友,于是法官就自己掏腰包,替这位司机交付了那份罚金,于是 这位犯法的司机就可以得着自由,当场释放了。这个故事当中的法官所支付的赔偿金,就是那个替代物, 是要来代替这位司机的偿付能力的,因为司机自己无力偿还。这个小小的例子,尽管是不完美的,是用来 帮助我们认识,基督在十字架上面的受死,为的是代替我们这些无法自救的罪人,来偿付那由罪恶所导致 的代价。

基督在十字架上面的代替性的死亡,这个历史事实,乃是上帝的公义和慈爱的完美结合。称之为公义,根据哥林多后书 5:21 和加拉太书

3:13,因为罪的工价得着了偿付,借助那位完美的替代物,基督耶稣;称之为慈爱,根据罗马书5:6-8,是因为神自己选择了继续向人类施展慈爱,替人类的罪牺牲了自己。上帝并不是一定要来爱世人的。就象当初,上帝并没有替那些背叛他的天使们去死。但是,神却诚然是选择了代替人类而牺牲,实在是表明了他对于犯罪之世人的无比大爱。

在旧约圣经当中最前面的五本书,摩西五经那里,记载有一整套的关乎献祭的系统,乃是教导以色列人有 关用动物献祭的诸多细节。那些被宰杀的动物,乃是用来代替那些献祭的人们,因为本来这些以色列人, 是要因着自己的罪而受到死亡的审判的。

请特别留意利未记16章,那里有提到为了罪而献上的、替代性的救赎这个概念。

旧约时代的这些献祭的礼仪,乃是为后来的人们提供了一幅图画,一个预表,预示的乃是那个本体,基督,他将会在新约时代自己来承受死亡和牺牲。

彼得前书3:18

教导我们,基督是没有罪的,却是替我们这些堕落的罪人来受苦。基督的死亡乃是一个替代物,是用来代替邪恶的人类和他们的罪的。

让我们都来相信这个事实,接受这份救赎,并且为之欢喜快乐吧!感谢神为我们所提供的代替性的牺牲,也让我们把这个真理和大好的信息,转告给其他的人,使他们同样得着这样宝贵的救恩。上帝已经是祝福了你,他还要继续祝福你!

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Substitution

The basic teaching on Christ's death on the cross is very important for Christians to know, it should not be boring to you, 2 Timothy 4:3f. God Himself in the Person of Jesus Christ, 2 Corinthians 5:19, died on the cross for you and for you to not know these truths or not care is ignorance and sin. These truths are some of the basic building blocks, 1 Peter 2:2, of your Christian life. That means, if you don't understand them you will not grow to maturity. God commands us to know His Word, John 8:31f, and if we don't know it, 2 Timothy 3:7, how can we grow? We can't.

What did Christ do on the cross to save you from an eternity in the Lake of Fire, Revelation 20:14? All mankind are sinners and all sinners who do not believe in Christ as Savior spend eternity in the Lake of Fire. That should encourage you to know what God did on the cross for you and what you can tell other sinners He did for them.

Mark 10:45; Matthew 20:28; John 11:50f; Romans 5:6-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; **1 Timothy 2:6**; Titus 2:14, 1 Peter 3:18, Exodus 11 & 12, esp. 12:1-14.

Substitutionary atonement means that Christ suffered as a substitute for sinners. Instead of us dying for our sins and paying the penalty for our sins, which is impossible for man to do, Christ Jesus paid the penalty for our sins. Man as a sinner was in a hopeless situation, man could not pay to God the Father the penalty of his own sins.

God the Father was satisfied when Christ the Son died on the cross for payment of all man's sins, past present and future. Why? Because Jesus Christ being God in the flesh, the God-man, was a perfect sacrifice, substitute, for the penalty of sin.

When a driver of a car disobeys the law of the road he receives a traffic fine. The driver goes to court, the evidence is given of the driver's wrong actions, the judge pronounces the driver guilty and to pay the fine. But the

fine is too large for the driver to pay and so he has to go to jail. But the judge is his friend, and the judge pays the fine for the driver and the driver is free to leave. The judge's payment was the substitution for the driver's inability to pay. This illustration is a small and imperfect illustration of what Christ did on the cross in dying a substitutionary death for us.

Christ's substitutionary death on the cross is a combination of justice and love. Justice, 2 Corinthians 5:21 & Galatians 3:13, because the penalty of sin was paid for by a perfect substitutute, Christ Jesus and love, Romans 5:6-8, because God chose to show love for man and died for man's sin. God did not have to love man. God did not die for the fallen angels who disobeyed Him. But God did choose to be a susbstitute and show love for sinful man.

The whole sacrificial system established in the Pentateuch, the first 5 books of the Old Testament, taught the animal's death took the place of the one who should die for their sin, the one offering the animal. Note Leviticus 16. This is substitutionary atonement for sin. The sacrificial system in the Old Testament is a picture, a type, of Christ, the anti-type, dying in the New Testament.

1 Peter 3:18 teaches that Christ was innocent and suffered for us, wicked man. Christ's death was the substitute for wicked man and his sin(s).

Believe it, accept it, rejoice in it, thank God for His substitutionary sacrifice and tell others of this truth. God has blessed you and will bless you!