## What is the TRUE REASON Christ died on the cross?



All of us humans

**CAN** have that answer <u>and the proof</u>.

The Bible, God's Word, records the scene in the Garden of Eden. Several thousand years ago God created all of the entire universe, including our beautiful



including our beautiful Earth and all its inhabitants. (Genesis 1:1-31: 2:1-9)

He created Adam and Eve in a beautiful and perfect environment. And He gave them a very simple test for their trust and obedience. God said they could eat of every tree EXCEPT the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil." He warned



them that in the day they ate of that tree, "THOU SHALT SHURELY DIE." God clearly put a DEATH PENALTY on their DISOBEDIENCE. (Genesis 2:15-17)

Then the test came... Satan, in the form of a serpent, deceived Eve. He tempted her to eat of the forbidden tree and said, "You shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." (Genesis 3:1-5)

Satan mixed truth with LIE. It was true they would gain the knowledge of good and evil. Satan LIED when he said they would not die. Eve fell for that LIE. She ate the forbidden fruit, gave some to Adam and he chose to also eat the fruit. (Genesis 3:6)

Their disobedience brought the knowledge of good and evil. They were aware of their nakedness and performed the first human efforts to hide their sin. They tried to hide the nakedness with fig leaves. Knowing they had disobeyed God, they HID from Him when He came to visit them. Their relationship with God was broken by their **unbelief** in His warning about **death** for their **act of disobedience**. (Genesis 3:7-13)

## The Judgments came and REMAIN for <u>ALL</u> to see <u>TO THIS VERY DAY!</u>

The serpent must crawl on his belly in the dust of the earth. The ground must grow thorns and thistles. Women must now suffer in childbirth. Men must now *WORK* (and often sweat, just to exist.) Plus... we humans must physically DIE and return to the dust of the earth. (Genesis 3:14-19)

THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE IS BORN WITH ADAM'S SIN NATURE. We, sinful humans could no longer fellowship with the Holy God. Our sin has become a GREAT GULF separating us from God. We could never come into the presence of the Holy God in His perfect, holy, sinless Heaven.

ARE YOU READY FOR GOOD NEWS?
GOD NOW OFFERS HIS GIFT OF
FORGIVENESS AND SALVATION
TO ALL OF US HUMAN BEINGS.

God demonstrated His **PLAN** of forgiveness and salvation in the Garden of Eden. He shed an animal's blood and made coats of skins. Adam and Eve accepted the coats instead of the fig leaves. (Genesis 3:21) They accepted God's GIFT of GRACE (which they did NOT deserve) instead of His JUSTICE (which they DID deserve). In the Bible Old Testament, God's forgiveness of people's sin was through the blood sacrifice of innocent and perfect animals.

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul." (Leviticus 17:11)

For many years, under the "Law of Moses" those innocent, perfect animal sacrifices were a temporary covering for people's sins. When



John the Baptist saw Jesus, John introduced Him... "Behold the LAMB OF GOD that TAKETH AWAY the sin of the world." (John 1:29)

Peter wrote to the Christians, "Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." (1st Peter 1:18, 19)

WHY DID CHRIST DIE?

To BE the INNOCENT, PERFECT and FINAL SACRIFICE for OUR sins.

God's Word confirms this concerning Christ. "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, HAVING OBTAINED ETERNAL REDEMPTION FOR US." (Hebrews 9:12)

Note: All past tense. Done!

Because of **GOD'S LOVE FOR US**, His plan was for Christ to die on the cross **TO PAY FOR OUR SINS.** 



Christ's last words on the cross were...
"IT IS FINISHED." (John 19:30)

The innocent and perfect shed blood of Christ <u>SATISFIED</u> God 100% to pay sin's death penalty <u>FOR US</u>. **GOD PROVED THAT <u>BY RAISING CHRIST FROM THE DEAD</u>. (1 Corinthians 15:3, 4)** 

PICTURE THIS... You are being tried in Court. The judge is your father. The jury gives the verdict: GUILTY! Your Penalty: DEATH or a One Million Dollar Fine.
Stunned at the penalty, you plead, "I don't want to die, I want to live but it's impossible for me to pay a One Million Dollar Fine."
Then something astounding happens...

The judge says, "Son, I love you, but you are guilty and justice must be satisfied."

The judge steps down from his bench. He goes to the court clerk and pays the one million dollar fine **FOR YOU.** Holding the payment, the clerk turns to you and says...

"Will you accept his payment on your behalf? Will you accept **GRACE** offered by the judge or do you **choose DEATH?** 

That's what GOD did for **us**, when He sent Jesus to die to pay for <u>our</u> sins.

## In your own Bible check these truths:

"For ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

"For the wages of sin is <u>DEATH</u>; but the <u>GIFT</u> of God is <u>eternal LIFE</u>, through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

"For by **GRACE** are you saved through **faith**; and that **not** of yourselves: it is the **GIFT** of God: **NOT of works**, lest any man should boast." (*Ephesians 2:8, 9*)

Human efforts, good works, etc. (like Adam and Eve's fig leaves) will not help pay for our sins, not even 1%. (Isaiah 64:6)

>>> Which do you choose? <<< Eternal Death, <u>OR</u> God's GIFT of Eternal Life, paid by Christ's death?

- Do you agree we are ALL sinners against
   the Holy God and we deserve separation
   from Him forever?
   YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- Do you choose to accept God's GIFT of eternal life by trusting the shed blood of Christ 100%, as the total payment for your sins and salvation? YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_Your name:

If you chose **YES** for Christ, see **John 3:16** in <u>your Bible</u> and print what God promised you here:

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