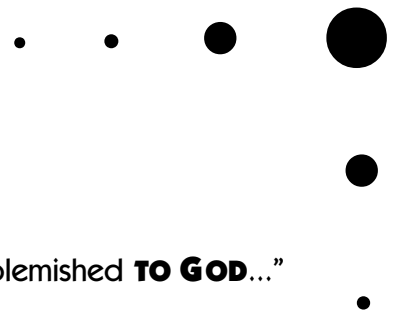


CHRIST DIED FOR GOD



Hebrews 9:14

“...**CHRIST**, who through the eternal Spirit **OFFERED HIMSELF** unblemished **TO GOD...**”

Romans 3:25

“**GOD PRESENTED HIM AS A SACRIFICE** of atonement, through faith in his blood.
HE DID THIS TO DEMONSTRATE HIS JUSTICE...”

Ephesians 5:2

“**CHRIST** loved us and **GAVE HIMSELF** up for us **AS A FRAGRANT OFFERING AND SACRIFICE TO GOD.**”

2 Corinthians 5:21

“**GOD MADE HIM** who had no sin **TO BE SIN...**”

John 1:26

“When he [John the baptizer] saw Jesus passing by, he said, ‘Look, **THE LAMB OF GOD!**’”

Isaiah 53:4,6

“yet we considered him **STRICKEN BY GOD...**

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;
and **THE LORD HAS LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL.**”



“Though we are the recipients of God’s blessed election (Eph 1:4), the beneficiaries of our Lord Jesus’ redemption (Eph 1:7), and heirs of the bounty of inheritance in the Spirit of God (Eph 1:13-14), we must always remember that Christ Jesus came to satisfy the wrath of the Father against all sin, and that this satisfaction was to the praise of His glory! Christ died for God! And because of His offering on the cross of Calvary, we have peace with God. (Rom 5:1-2; 8:35-39)”

- Steve Camp, Mercy in the Wilderness song book, commentary on his song “Christ died for God”, 1994

This truth shakes the foundation of the “me” centered gospel which is so popular and prominent today.

John Owen, in his 1647 treatise on the redemption and reconciliation that is in the blood of Christ, wrote in Book 2: Chapter 1 of the supreme, or ultimate, end of the death of Christ. The chief end of God is not man, but Himself and His own glory. Anything else would be idolatry (See John Piper’s Desiring God). Christ effectively accomplished the purpose of the Father,

otherwise we would have to “blasphemously ascribe want of wisdom, power, perfection, and sufficiency in” the work of Christ That is to say that “the death and intercession of Christ was not suitable and proportioned for the attaining of the end proposed by it to be effected.” He goes on to write that God’s foremost purpose

is the glory of God, or the manifestation of his glorious attributes, especially of His justice, and mercy tempered with justice, unto us. The Lord doth necessarily aim at Himself in the first place, as the chiefest good, yea, indeed, that alone which is good; that is absolutely and simply so, and not by virtue of communication from another: and therefore in all His works, especially in this which we have in hand, the chiefest of all [Christ’s death], He first intends the manifestation of His own glory; which also He fully accomplisheth in the close, to every point and degree by Him intended. He “maketh all things for Himself,” Prov 16:4; and every thing in the end must “rebound to the glory of God,” 2 Cor 4:15; wherein Christ Himself is said to be “God’s,” 1 Cor 3:23, serving to His glory in that whole administration that was committed to Him. So, Eph 1:6, the whole end of all this dispensation, both of choosing us from eternity, redeeming us by Christ, blessing us with all spiritual blessings in Him, is affirmed to be “the praise of the glory of His grace,” and verse 12, “That we should be to the praise of His glory.” This is the end of all the benefits we receive by the death of Christ; for “we are filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God,” Phil 1:11; –which also is fully asserted, chap. 2:11, “That every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” This the apostle fully clears in the ninth of Romans, where he asserts the supreme dominion and independency of God in all His actions, His absolute freedom from taking rise, cause, or occasion in His purposes, from any thing among us sons of men, doing all things for His own sake, and aiming only at His own glory. And this is that which in the close of all shall be accomplished, when every creature shall say, “Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever,” Rev 5:13.

The end, or intention, which is secondary to the above was thus also accomplished. Jesus, in order to glorify God and satisfy His justice, actually atoned for sins and successfully justified, sanctified, reconciled and adopted all those for whom he died. Every one for whom Christ died and offered up Himself have, by virtue of His death or oblation, been purchased. In due time, the triune God shall certainly and infallibly enjoy all the fruits of this purchase, which includes the faith of His chosen, by which we are saved. The Lord is sovereign over all creation. He does not fail.

But you know I know better, I'm not gonna worry 'bout nothing
'Cause if the birds and the flowers survive than I'll make it OK
And given a chance and a rock see which one breaks a window
And see which one keeps me up all night and into the day

This day's been crazy but everything's happened on schedule,
From the rain and the cold to the drink that I spilled on my shirt
'Cause You knew how You'd save me before I fell dead in the garden
And You knew this day long before you made me outta dirt
And You know the plans that You have for me
And You can't plan the ends and not plan the means

- Caedmon's Call, 40 Acres, "Table for Two," 1999