

Why Jesus Had to Die

Matt. 26:36-42

Introduction:

- A. Only a heart of stone could be untouched by the story of our Lord's death.
 - 1. His betrayal by Judas.
 - 2. His humiliating trial.
 - 3. His torturous treatment by soldiers.
 - 4. His bearing his own cross.
 - 5. His agony on the cross.
- B. Christians often wonder, "Why?"
 - 1. Why did He have to die?
 - 2. Why must His blood be shed?
- C. Romans Chapter 3 supplies two reasons for the death of Christ:

Discussion:

I. Jesus Had to Die Because of the *Divine Nature* (vv. 24-26)

- A. God is perfectly in holy (Psalm 111:9; Rev. 15:4) — Must condemn sin.
- B. God is perfectly just (v. 26; cf. 2 Thess 1:6-8) — Must punish sin.
- C. God is perfectly merciful (2 Cor. 1:3; Psa. 136) — Must provide redemption.
- D. The death of Jesus answers all the demands of God's nature.
 - 1. Made it possible for God to be longsuffering in the past (v. 25).
 - 2. Made it possible for God be both just and justifier (v. 26).

II. Jesus Had to Die Because of the *Human Need* (vv. 10-23).

- A. Because of sin all men needed redemption.
 - 1. Man is unfit and unable to redeem himself.
 - 2. Only the Sinless Jesus fit to atone for sin.
- B. Because man needed things made possible by the blood of Christ.
 - 1. The New Covenant (Heb. 9:11-26).
 - 2. Redemption or remission (Col. 1:14; Matt. 26:28).
 - 3. Continual fellowship with God (1 John 1:6-10).

Conclusion:

- A. The Benefits of the death/blood of Christ are wonderful.
- B. The Benefits of the death/blood of Christ are conditional.
 - 1. In suffering became author of salvation to the obedient (Heb. 5:8, 9).
 - 2. Benefits of blood tied to acts of obedience (Rom 6:4; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 John 1:7-9).