



The Reality of Suffering and Persecution

The Power of the Death of Christ

1 Peter 3:18

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1115.
In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.
Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email: Joe@southreno.com

Christ himself suffered for sins once. He was not guilty, but he suffered for those who are guilty to bring you to God. His body was killed, but he was made alive in the spirit. - 1 Peter 3:18, NCV

Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit. - 1 Peter 3:18, NLT

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit... - 1 Peter 3:18, NKJV

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1. Christ died for our sins.

STUDY VERSE SECTION - 1 Peter 3:18, NASB95 - ¹⁸ For Christ also [the conjunctions "for" and "also" point the readers back to the previous passage (3:13-17) and remind us that we should not be surprised or discouraged by suffering because Christ suffered] died [Eng: excruciating, ex = out of or from; cruciare = to crucify; -ate makes it a verb; lit., (Christ died for us; He suffered) the pain that comes from being crucified] for sins....

2. Christ died once for our sins.

STUDY VERSE SECTION - 1 Peter 3:18, NASB95 - ¹⁸ For Christ also died for sins once [He died one time and one time only; it never happened again],

3. Christ died in our place.

STUDY VERSE SECTION - 1 Peter 3:18, NASB95 - ¹⁸ For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just [that Christ] for the unjust [that's all of us]...

4. Christ died to bring us to God.

STUDY VERSE SECTION - 1 Peter 3:18, NASB95 - ¹⁸ For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, [the phrase "bring us to God" is a technical term that means "to gain audience before a judge in court"; it references our complete access to and before God] having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in [lit., by] the Spirit;



Christ death was horrible, sacrificial, unrepeatable, substitutionary and it reconciled us to Holy God!

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

The Story of Two Men

Peter

Luke 22:60–62, NASB95 - ⁶⁰ But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, "Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times." ⁶² And he went out and wept bitterly.

Judas

Matthew 27:3–5, NIV84 - ³ When Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. ⁴ "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." ... ⁵ So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

Both men failed Jesus in the same evening. One went to hell, the other went on to great things. What was the difference? They each chose a tree. Judas chose a tree from which to hang himself. Peter chose a tree upon which to look.

[Cf., Numbers 21:4-8 and 2 Corinthians 5:20-21]