

Session 5

I. Question—What did God do about the problem?

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

—Isaiah 53:4-6

II. Survey of Key Passages

Genesis 12:1-3

The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

²"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Big Idea: God's plan from the beginning was to reverse the curse of sin through the family of Abraham (Israel).

INCARNATION

Matthew 1:18

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

John 1:14

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Philippians 2:5-7

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Big Idea: The eternal God and second person of the Trinity took on flesh and became a man when born of the Virgin Mary.

Hebrews 2:17-18

For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Big Idea: Jesus was human in every way except that He never sinned.

DEATH

Matthew 20:28

"...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Isaiah 53:4-5; 10

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

¹⁰ Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

Hebrews 9:27-28

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Big Idea: Jesus' death was a substitute sacrifice for our sins.

Colossians 2:15

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Big Idea: Jesus' substitutionary death secured victory for us over our enemies.

RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:3-5; 20-22

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve.

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

Big Idea: The resurrection of Christ is the beginning of God making all things new.

ASCENSION

Acts 1:9-11

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Hebrews 1:3

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Big Idea: Christ has ascended to Heaven where He reigns as King and works on our behalf.

III. Summary of Biblical Truth

1. Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully man forever.
2. Jesus knows what it is to be human, but He never sinned.
3. By dying on the Cross, Jesus freely offered Himself as a substitute for sinners.
4. By Jesus' resurrection from the dead, God showed Him to be victorious over death and sin.
5. By Jesus' ascension to Heaven He was glorified as Lord and ruler over our lives.

Doctrinal Statement of Fellowship Bible Church of Northwest Arkansas

The Son... The second person of the Trinity is both the eternal Son of God and virgin-born Son of man. Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, surrendered nothing of His deity during His earthly life. Having led a sinless life, He satisfied the Father's justice concerning sin by His substitutionary death. We believe in His bodily resurrection, His physical ascension, and His visible return to earth to establish His earthly kingdom.

—John 1:14-18; Acts 1:11; Romans 3:24-26; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8;
Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 2:17-18; Revelation 20:11-15

Salvation... We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins as the only sufficient, substitutionary sacrifice. All who believe in Him are declared justified by the Father on the grounds of Jesus' death and resurrection. All who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by grace through faith have been regenerated by and baptized in the Holy Spirit. They become, thereby, the children of God, forever, and members of the one true Church, the universal Body of Christ. This salvation will result in righteous living and good works as the believer submits his life to the control of the Holy Spirit who directs the life of the believer in harmony with the Word of God.

—John 1:12; 3:16; 5:24; 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:21-26; 5:8;
1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Galatians 3:26; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10;
Titus 3:4-7; Hebrews 10:10-12; 1 John 5:11-13

The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed

We believe in one God, the Father All-sovereign, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten not made, of one substance with the Father, through whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from the heavens, and was made flesh by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man, and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried, and rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures, and ascended into the heavens and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and cometh again with glory to judge the living and the dead, of whose kingdom there shall be no end;

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and the Life-giver, that proceedeth from the Father [and the Son], who with Father and Son is worshipped together and glorified together, who spake through the prophets;

In one holy catholic and apostolic church:

We acknowledge one baptism unto remission of sins.

We look for a resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.
Amen.

IV. Scripture to Memorize

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

—John 3:16

V. Difficult Questions and Objections

1. Could Jesus actually have sinned? Was He really tempted if He couldn't sin?
2. How is one person suffering for another fair?
3. How is Jesus both God and man? Didn't He quit being God to become a man?

