

8 REASONS JESUS DIED FOR YOU

This Sunday is Easter. Does anyone here know why we are celebrating Easter? Many people think that Easter is all about getting candy and buying stuff. Easter is about Christ. He came and died for you. Eight reasons why Christ came to die:

Reason one. He absorbed the wrath of God.

God's law demanded, "You shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy might." Deuteronomy 8:5. But we have all loved other things more. We've broken the Ten Commandments. God has said, "Thou shall have no other god before me." This is what sin is. Sin is missing the mark, dishonoring God or preferring other things above Him. And that cannot...(your own premises?) Every day we sin. Whether in thought, word, or deed. One reason why God came is to absorb the wrath of God.

Reason two, why Jesus came to die for you and why Easter is so important. So that we could escape the curse of the law.

The law, (reveal?) the Ten Commandments show you are a sinner. There is no escape from the curse of God's law. "The soul that sins, it shall not rise." Ezekiel 18:4. And where do those go who are sinners and have not repented? The lake of fire. Revelation 22 says, "If anyone's name is not found written in the Book of Life, he is cast in the lake of fire." The law demands, having been fulfilled by Christ's perfect law keeping, it's penalty fully paid by His death and His atonement. This is why the Bible teaches that getting right with God is not based on law keeping. You cannot save yourself by your works. All other false religions have works as the central emphasis. Christianity (? _____?), because our works do not save us. Our works show that we are saved, but they in themselves do not save you.

Reason three, why Jesus came to die, is to reconcile us to God.

The reconciliation that needs to happen between man and God goes both ways. God's first act in reconciling us to Himself was to remove the obstacles that separated from us. That is sin. The second act is that we accept Christ as our savior. Repent and turn to God.

Reason four, why Jesus came to die, was to show God's love for sinners.

The measure of God's love is shown by the degree of His sacrifice in saving us from the penalty of our sins. He gave His only son. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten ... life, whosoever believeth shall not parish but have everlasting life."

The next reason why Jesus came to die, is to show His own love for us.

The death of Christ is also the supreme expression that He loved me and gave Himself for me, Galatians 2:20. It is my sin, (not you. I do okay?) It is your sin. All have sinned. That cuts me off from God. All sinners are separated from God. In Psalms it says that though in the womb, you were born speaking lies. Just as you were born, you spoke lies. All, everyone is born in a sinful nature. They can't help that. And the sinful nature, you need a savior.

The next reason why Jesus came to die, is to take away our condemnation.

As I mentioned before, Ezekiel 18 says a soul that sins, that soul shall die. In Revelations 22 it says, "Whosoever was not found in the Book of Life was cast in the lake of fire." In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus tells the story of a rich man named Lazarus...a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus. The rich man, when he died, went to hell. And in hell, he asked Father Abraham to raise up from the dead so that his brothers may believe upon...Jesus and not go to this place of torment. But Abraham said that they had Moses and the prophets. If they did not believe the all-sufficient word of God, they would not repent even if someone rises from the dead. Many people are headed to hell. They are headed to the place where the fire does not stop, where the darkness never ends. Torment forever. None of us want that. And that's why He came to die for you, so that you don't have to go there.

The next reason why Jesus came to die, is to bring us to God.

Do you know what the word gospel means? Gospel means good news. The gospel is the good news at the cost of His son's life, Jesus. God has done everything necessary to (concentrate?) us with what will make us eternally and ever increasingly happy, namely Christ. Christ is...(?)3:18, Christ suffered once for sin, the righteous from the unrighteous, so that He might bring us to God.

The next reason, and there are many reasons why Jesus came to die, I'm just giving you a few of them here. The next reason why Jesus came to die is to give us eternal life to all who believe upon him.

As I mentioned John 3:16 earlier, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"...that might be in Romans, but John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believes upon Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Jesus made it plain that rejecting eternal life He offered, and John 14:6 says, he says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except through me." By that statement He is condemning all who came before Him and all who came after Him as liars. Yes, all religions that do not acknowledge Christ are wrong. Actually all religions are wrong besides the gospel message. Those who trust Christ will not, may not be put to shame. He (?) to redeem mankind. First John 2:2, it says that He is the atoning sacrifice, not only for our sins but for the sins of the whole world.

So what is your reason for celebrating Easter? Jesus came to die for you. There are many in this area who think they are saved because they go to church. Many just completely ignore me, but there is no such thing as culture Christianity. You must have a relationship with Jesus. You must have repented and turned from your sins. He knows you, who the elect is. He knows who will call upon Him and who is truly saved. There are many false converts. Many false converts will come to Him on that day and say, "Lord, Lord, did I not prophesy in your name? Lord, Lord, did I do any miracles and perform any works?" And He will tell them plainly, and He will tell the false converts, "I never knew you. Depart from me you who practice lawlessness." You must have a relationship with God. Culture Christianity will not save you. Going to church will not save you. Reading your Bible will not save you. These are things done in response to salvation. James says, "Faith without works is dead." So if you say you are saved but have no evidence that you are actually saved...I don't know everyone. I can't say who's saved and who's not saved. But I will say that Easter is the reason why Christ came to die. I have mentioned a few reasons here why He came to die but there are many others.

John Piper has a book called *Fifty Reasons Why Jesus Came to Die*. It is a good book to check out to those who are interested.