

# Basic Christianity - The Great Purpose of Jesus Christ – Part 1 | 6/19/16

- Introduction
  - While the topic of today may seem to be “elementary” because as Christians we all know why Jesus came into the world, we know all about sin and the cross.
  - But just because we “know” these things it doesn’t mean that we don’t need to re-examine these truths periodically since they are the core to our beliefs.
  - Also we are all called to share this very truth with others. In the upcoming weeks we will focus on being a witness for Christ, so by revisiting these core truths we will be refreshed to share the Gospel with others.
- Jesus’s purpose was realized after sin entered the world through man’s disobedience.
  - While Jesus Christ has come into the world to do many things, the most important reason as to the “why” was because humanity was condemned because of sin.
    - This sin wasn’t something that God wanted for us (and it wasn’t something that we asked for), but because of a fateful decision and a choice of disobedience to God long ago. We pay the price for that mistake to this very day.
  - The reason why it was necessary for Jesus (God the Son) to take on flesh (humanity) and to suffer and die was because of this sin. Only God could save us from this disease that brings eternal death.
    - Jesus came to destroy the devil’s works
      - 1 John 3:8
        - “The one who commits sin is of the Devil, for the Devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the Devil’s works.”
  - Sin entered the world during the fall when Adam sinned against God by his disobedience.
    - Genesis 2:16
      - “And the Lord God commanded the man, you are free to eat from any tree from the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.”
      - Not a maybe you will die but certainly.
      - This death was not just a physical death, but it was an eternal death for the soul.
    - Genesis 3:1-11
      - Adam listened to the lies of Satan and disobeyed God.
  - This sin did not just affect Adam and Eve, but all of humanity.
    - Not only did sin enter the world, but it spread to all of humanity. Every person born has been affected by Adam’s decision.
    - This one fateful decision, this one act of obedience set humanity on a course of misery instead of a life of walking in the presence of God.
    - Romans 12:1
      - “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death spread to all men, because all sinned.”
    - Romans 5:19
      - “For just as through one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so also through the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous”
    - We learn two important truths from these passages. We learn that we are sinners and that the punishment for this sin is death.
      - We are all sinners
        - A sin by definition is to break the holy laws and commands of God.

- God reveals His character to us in Scripture and He has given us a type of moral law that we are to abide by.
- So when we break these laws we sin against God.
- 1 John 3:4
  - “Everyone who commits sin also breaks the law; sin is the breaking of law.”
- To sin is any deviation from the divine will of God, **it is our disobedience.**
- Sin is the source of all evil, corruption and death.
- To sin is to offend God.
- Adam’s “original sin”
  - This sin of Adam from the beginning that is passed down to the entire world is known as original sin.
  - That is something that everyone possess it is not something we can get rid of.
  - When we come into this world we are not born righteous and then at some point in our lives we sin, instead we are born sinners.
    - Psalms 51:5
      - “Indeed, I was guilty when I was born; I was sinful when my mother conceived me.”
  - There are no exceptions, no one can escape being a sinner.
    - Romans 3:23
      - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
  - We refer to this original sin that we inherit has our sinful nature or simply the “flesh”.
    - This sinful “flesh” is what causes us to sin against God and when we let it take over we cannot please God.
    - Romans 8:7-8
      - “For the mind-set of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit itself to God’s law, for it is unable to do so. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”
- The penalty for sin is spiritual death
  - The punishment for our sins is death, God has made that very clear.
  - Which makes since when we look at the most memorable verse for salvation from Scripture.
    - John 3:16
      - “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”
  - The word “perish” by definition means to suffer and die, but in Scripture is has a spiritual meaning for our souls and not our physical bodies.
    - When our souls perish we go to eternal punishment in Hell.
      - Matthew 25:46
        - “And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”
    - It is eternal suffering by fire.
      - Matthew 13:42
        - “They will throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

- To perish is eternal separation from God.
        - 2 Thessalonians 1:9
          - “They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His might.”
          - This is the death that is spoken of in the Scriptures.
      - This sin must be removed because it has created a barrier between us and God.
        - Isaiah 59:2
          - “But your iniquities have built barriers between you and your God, and your sins have made Him hide His face from you so that He does not listen.”
  - **How important is our obedience to God?**
  - **Do you think that your sins can affect others just as Adam’s sin did?**
  - **Being a Christian do you find it difficult to determine what is or is not a sin? Why?**
- The grace and mercy of God seen through the work of Christ on the cross.
  - Jesus came to resolve the condemnation of sin.
    - The love that God has for His creation was shown quite clearly through His Son Jesus Christ.
    - Because God did not have to forgive us, this was not something that He had to do.
    - In fact, God would be completely just to not have forgiven anyone death is what we deserve.
    - However, because of His love for us He showed us great mercy and provided us a way to forgiveness for our sins through Jesus Christ.
      - Romans 5:8
        - “But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
      - Romans 8:1
        - “Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus, because the Spirit’s law of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”
      - Spiritual death to spend an eternity suffering in Hell is what we rightly deserve, but God has set us free through Jesus Christ.
    - Jesus came to set us free from sins.
      - 1 John 3:5
        - “You know that He was revealed so that He might take away sins, and there is no sin in Him.
    - God did not appoint us for eternal death.
      - 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10
        - “For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we will live together with Him.”
      - God did not create us with the intention on us spending an eternity in Hell. God did not create us in His image to just send us to Hell.
      - God desires that we live together with Him in Heaven.
      - **Sin however prevents this. Without its removal we will be eternally separated from the Father.**
    - Jesus came into the world not to condemn it but to save it.
      - We deserve condemnation, it’s the punishment for our sins. But God’s everlasting grace and mercy has provided us redemption through His Son.

- John 3:17
  - “For God did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.
- **If we were appointed to obtain salvation by God, what does this say about His perspective on humanity?**