



Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 4

Law/Gospel

The wages of sin is death. **Jesus Christ paid the price for the sin of the world by His suffering and death.**

Bible Words

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
John 1:29

Fun Facts

The word *passion* takes on many meanings. Some think of love; some think of anger. But the meaning for *passion* in this lesson involves suffering. When we speak of Jesus' passion, we are talking about everything that Jesus endured between the Lord's Supper and His death. That was a long time to suffer! Jesus bore it all in love so that we would not have to.

The Passion of Christ

Matthew 27:11–66

Righteousness is an important concept throughout Matthew's Gospel. Jesus begins His ministry by being baptized to "fulfill all righteousness" (3:15). He calls people to be perfect, as their heavenly Father is perfect (5:48). In His Passion, Jesus completes what He began at His Baptism: fulfilling all righteousness, which we could not do. We can see the importance of the Passion in the length and detail of Matthew's account (26:36–27:66). The tension of how sinners can be made righteous climaxes in this suffering of Christ and is resolved in Christ's resurrection from the dead.

Although Jesus is condemned for blasphemy, He is the one man who can truly claim to be God. Thus, He is falsely accused, while around Him other men go unpunished for betrayal (26:47–50), denial (26:69–75), false testimony (26:59–61), envy (27:18), cowardice (27:24), mockery (27:39–44), and murder (27:26, 35).

In the same way, Jesus is falsely accused for our crimes, but He takes our punishment in love so that we may walk away completely free. The Father forsakes Jesus—an event that is incomprehensible to us—so that the sin of the whole world is punished by the perfect, righteous judge of the universe through the perfect, righteous sacrifice, Jesus Christ.

Like the centurion, we see at the cross who Christ really is: the Righteous One who makes us righteous (27:54). For His sake, God does not hold our sins against us; neither does He maintain His demands forever upon us. God takes up our sins, demands, burdens, and sufferings so that, forgiven and clean, we rise to new life.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son to take on our sin and give us instead His righteousness. Keep us in Your Spirit, that we can come to Your throne with certainty that Jesus' righteousness is now our own. In His name we pray. Amen.