

Everyday FAITH Family Page

3 in 1: Discovering Our Triune God

Key Point

Jesus has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person.

Bible Words

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

Law/Gospel

For my sin, I deserve to be forsaken and condemned; yet when I suffer, I protest and blame God. Jesus was arrested, beaten, and tortured to death on the cross for my sin, not His. **When He is reviled, He does not revile in return. Instead, Jesus prays for me from the cross, asking His Father to forgive me. Through the evil of His death, He works the good of my salvation.**

A Delivery System

The Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts through His Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. The Word and Sacraments are the Means of Grace, the system through which God delivers His grace to us.

Jesus Is Our Savior: Jesus Suffers, Dies, and Rises

Matthew 27:27–54; 28:5–6

Soldiers placed a scarlet robe on Jesus' back to mock Him as King. Scarlet blood poured from Jesus' wounds as He was flogged, beaten, and crucified.

Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor, washed his hands in front of the people to abdicate responsibility for Jesus' death. In response, the Israelite crowd loudly proclaimed, "His blood be on us and on our children!" (Matthew 27:25).

The people did not understand the true meaning of what they said. Their sinfulness, and ours, sent Jesus to the cross. We are all responsible for His crucifixion; we are the ones who deserve death.

But when the people called for Jesus' blood to be upon them, they also did not realize the saving grace it provided. Christ willingly gave up His life, like a lamb to the slaughter. As true man, Jesus died. As true God, Jesus was a worthy substitute, taking our place on the cross and paying for our sins so that we might live.

Life in Christ

Jesus' story does not end with the cross, but with an empty tomb. Three days after Jesus' death and burial, He rose from the dead. When the women went to the tomb to tend to His body, they encountered an angel who told them the joyful news: "He is risen!"

Because Christ defeated death, we have the hope of eternal life, received by grace through faith in Jesus. We also enjoy the gift of abundant life on earth as God continually cares for His creation.

In this sinful world, we also suffer. But instead of trusting in God for help, we sometimes blame Him for our troubles. How blessed we are that God does not reject us when we doubt Him. Instead, He offers mercy, forgiveness, comfort, and strength for living through Christ our Savior.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, by Your great mercy and love, You have redeemed me. Please grant me forgiveness and help me to trust You in times of suffering. In Your holy name. Amen.

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