

CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS TO BRING US TO GOD!

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For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

(1 Peter 3:18 NASB95)

OUTLINE ... (1 Peter 3:18-22 ESV)

1) **VICTORY WON:** Christ died for our sins to bring us to God, 3:18.

- (1 Peter 3:18 ESV) For Christ also **suffered once** for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,
- (Romans 6:10 ESV) For the death he died he died to sin, **once for all**, but the life he lives he lives to God.
- (Hebrews 7:27 ESV) He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this **once for all** when he offered up himself.
- (Hebrews 9:26 ESV) For then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared **once for all** at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.
- (Hebrews 10:10 ESV) And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**.

2) **VICTORY PROCLAIMED:** Christ proclaimed his victory to provide confident assurance in and strong testimony to his decisive, sufficient, total and final victory over sin and death, 3:19-20.

- (1 Peter 3:19-20 ESV) In which he went and **proclaimed to the spirits in prison**, 20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.
- (John 19:30 ESV) When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "**It is finished**," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
- (Hebrews 4:3 ESV) For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said, "As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest,' " **although his works were finished from the foundation of the world**.
- (Colossians 2:14-15 ESV) By canceling

the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 **He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him**.

- (1 Corinthians 15:54-57 ESV) When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 55 "**O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?**" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

3) **VICTORY FULFILLED:** Jesus Christ himself is the ark that will bring us safely to God, 3:20-22.

- (1 Peter 3:20-22 ESV) Because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

A) **The meaning of baptism.**

NOTES ON BAPTISM ... What we generally think of concerning baptism is our act of obedience upon which after confessing our sins and professing our faith in Christ—having been born again by the Holy Spirit unto a new life—we identify publicly with the fellowship of Christ and the church and are immersed in water.

However the word is broader in scope than only the act of water baptism. The word baptism is a transliteration of the Greek word βάπτισμα. The verb means literally to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge; to cleanse by dipping or submerging, to wash, to make clean with water, to wash one's self, bathe; to

immerse in water or sprinkle or pour water on in the Christian rite of baptism.

THE BAPTISM OF THE

SPIRIT: Another possibly more important concept of baptism is when **we are immersed “into Christ”** by the Holy Spirit. We are **now identified as those who are “in Christ.”** The following verse speaks of those who were identified—*baptized into*—Moses.

- (1 Corinthians 10:1–2 ESV) For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2 and all were **baptized into Moses** in the cloud and in the sea.

B) We have been delivered for transport: We were brought into the ark—“into Christ”—when we sincerely believed in Christ.

When we believed in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and received eternal life, we were immersed “into Christ.”

- (Colossians 1:13–14 ESV) He has **delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us** to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- (Romans 6:3 ESV) Do you not know that all of us who have been **baptized into Christ Jesus** were baptized into his death?
- (Galatians 3:27 ESV) For as many of you as were **baptized into Christ** have put on Christ.
- (1 Corinthians 12:13 ESV) For in one Spirit we were all **baptized into one body**—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

C) Christ is our transport and God is our guaranteed destination: We are now in the ark—in Christ—for all eternity.

- (Romans 8:1 ESV) There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are **in Christ Jesus**.

WHERE HE GOES, WE GO BAPTIZED “INTO CHRIST” WE ARE NOW “IN CHRIST”

- (2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV) Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

- (Ephesians 1:3 ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us **in Christ** with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

- (Ephesians 2:13 ESV) But now **in Christ Jesus** you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- (Ephesians 3:6 ESV) This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise **in Christ Jesus** through the gospel.
- (Hebrews 3:14 ESV) For we have come to share **in Christ**, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.
- (1 Peter 5:14 ESV) Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are **in Christ**.

MACARTHUR COMMENTARY ...

- Scripture teaches that God has sovereignly chosen to incarcerate certain demons in that pit of punishment. ... The demons incarcerated in the abyss are undoubtedly the most wicked, vile, and perverted of all the fallen angels.
- The “spirits now in prison” in the abyss are those “who once were disobedient ... in the days of Noah.” They are the demons who cohabited with human women in Satan’s failed attempt to corrupt the human race ... [MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2004). *1 Peter* (p. 257–58). Chicago: Moody Publishers.]
- What seals this interpretation is the text here by Peter. The Lord proclaimed His triumph over Satan, sin, death and hell to the very worst of demons, who disobeyed God in the worst manner in the days of Noah before the Flood. The fallen angels’ long effort to demonize people, hinder the redemptive purpose of God, and prevent the “seed” of the woman (Gen. 3:15) from

crushing Satan's head and sending the demons into the lake of fire was ultimately foiled at the Cross. [Ibid. (p. 215).]

- Those wicked spirits were sent to the abyss because they overstepped the boundaries of God's tolerance. They filled the earth with their wretchedness to such an extent that not even 120 years of Noah's preaching convinced anyone beyond his family to

repent, believe in God, and escape His judgment. Since that time, the demons who committed such heinous sins had been bound and imprisoned when Jesus died at Calvary. Perhaps by then they thought He had lost the upper hand over them, but such was not the case. Instead He appeared in their midst and proclaimed His triumph. [Ibid. (p. 216).]



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BUT THANKS BE TO GOD, WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

- (Colossians 2:13–15 NLT) You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. ¹⁴ He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.
- (1 Corinthians 15:54–58 ESV) When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." ⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

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