

Do you Believe Jesus Died? Aug. 7/8, 2022

- What must I believe to follow Jesus?
- Your life moves in the direction of your strongest beliefs
- Jesus was sent by God and the proof is his miracles, wonders and signs.
- Acts 2:23: ²³ This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.
- ²³ This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge...
- Matthew 16:21 - ²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.
- ...and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.
- It was God's plan for Jesus to die on the cross.
- PIX
- Romans 3:25-26: ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.
- ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood...
- ...sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood.
- Leviticus 16 - ¹³ He is to put the incense on the fire before the LORD, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the tablets of the covenant law, so that he will not die. ¹⁴ He is to take some of the bull's blood and with his finger sprinkle it on the front of the atonement cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the atonement cover.
- Jesus is the one perfect sacrifice that covers our sins
- How high, how deep, how wide, how long, how great is Your love
- ...to be received by faith.
- He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished...
- ...he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Starter: Please share about a time you forgave someone. Did it cost you anything?

Dig Deeper:

1. Read Acts 2:23
2. It was God's plan all along for Jesus to die for the sins of the world. How do you think Jesus felt, carrying that knowledge?
3. Where did Peter get the courage to confront the crowd when he asserted "You, with the help of lawless men, put Jesus to death by nailing him to a cross?"
4. Read Romans 3:25-26.
5. The word atonement means to "cover," from a root that means "to be gracious," or "to be cheerful." In your opinion, how would a person feel if they knew their sins had been covered by Jesus? How would they live differently?
6. People often struggle to reconcile God's love and his justice. Paul does not separate them. How would you explain how God's love connects to his mercy?
7. Both Peter and Paul bring out the idea that faith is required to access the atoning power of Jesus' death. What does it mean to you to have faith or to live the faith of Jesus' atoning death for our sins?