

A RANSOM FOR THE WORLD

How The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Saves Us From "The Satan"

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act. — Mahatma Gandhi

"I freely admit that real Christianity . . . goes much nearer to Dualism than people think . . . The difference is that Christianity thinks this Dark Power was created by God, and was good when he was created, and went wrong. Christianity agrees with Dualism that this universe is at war. But it does not think this is a war between independent powers. It thinks it is a civil war, a rebellion, and that we are living in a part of the universe occupied by the rebel."— C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity.

Genesis 1.26—Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have DOMINION . . ." (NRSV)

Genesis 3.1-6— Now the serpent was more crafty [cunning - REB; subtle - ASV] than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Luke 11.21-22—When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder.

Luke 4.5-6(NASB)— And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain [dominion - REB] and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

1John 5.19—We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

John 8.44— He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

1John 3.8—The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's works.

Hebrews 2.14—Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil.

John 16.11— . . . the ruler of this world . . . [magistrate]

John 14.30 (NRSV)—I will not say much more to you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim over me.

John 12.31—Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.

Genesis 3.15— . . . he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

Mark 10.45—For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

1 Timothy 2.5-6— . . . who gave himself a ransom for all.

Luke 13.32—He replied, "Go tell that fox [Herod], 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will finish my work - NRSV; complete my mission - WEB.

That the world might be healed . . . — John 3.17

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

2 Corinthians 5.19—God was in Christ . . . NOT counting their trespasses against them.

Acquit—free someone from a criminal charge by a verdict of not guilty. (A Verdict of Innocence)

Justify—To declare “not guilty”.

“With regard to ‘Satisfaction’, we will not allow the use of this word in our schools or on the lips of our preachers, but would rather send it back to the judges, advocates, and hangmen, from whom the Pope stole it.” - Martin Luther; Luther’s Works, 34, p.301

Luke 11.21,22 (The Message)—When a strong man, armed to the teeth, stands guard in his front yard, his property is safe and sound. But what if a stronger man comes along with superior weapons? Then he’s beaten at his own game, the arsenal that gave him such confidence hauled off, and his precious possessions plundered.

Acts 10.38—How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil . . .

John 14.30—I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming . . .

Luke 4.13—When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

John 1.5— . . . the darkness could not overcome it.

Colossians 2:14-15—He has **CANCELED** the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. There He disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (See Zechariah 3)

Romans 5.18 (REB)—It follows, then, that as the result of one misdeed was condemnation for all people, so the result of one righteous act is **ACQUITTAL** and life for all.

Revelation 12.10—Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

Luke 4.5-6— The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to . . .

Matthew 28.18-19— And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations . . .

Colossians 1.13—For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.

Romans 8.31-39 (REB)—With all this in mind, what are we to say? If God is on our side, who is against us? He did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all; how can he fail to lavish every other gift upon us? Who will bring a charge against those whom God has chosen? Not God, who **acquits!** Who will pronounce judgement? Not Christ, who died, or rather rose again; not Christ, who is at God’s right hand and pleads our cause!* Then what can separate us from the love of Christ? . . . I am convinced that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm of spirits or superhuman powers, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, in the forces of the universe, in heights or depths—nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.