

THE VICTORY OF CHRIST

Understanding The Cross Through The Eyes of Jesus (Handout 1)

"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*.

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

Genesis 1.26—Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." (NRSV)

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.

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

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 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. [see Genesis 1.26]

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

John 14.30—I will not say much more to you, for the prince [ruler - NRSV] of this world is coming. He has no hold [power / claim] over me.

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

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

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father"— John 14.9

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2 Corinthians 5.19—God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them.

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

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 reach my goal.’” [finish my work - NRSV; complete my mission - WEB]

Matthew 26.42—He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup [in the Old Testament scriptures the “cup” referred to being handed over to one’s enemies.] to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”

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 2.6—Who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

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

holds the power of death—that is, the devil.

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. (cf. Genesis 3:1-6)

John 10.30—“I and the Father are one.”

John 14:9—Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father.”

John 14.10 (NIV)—“Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work.”

John 12.27,28—“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.”

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

John 14.30—I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming . . . (see Luke 4.13; Luke 13.32)

John 16.17-22—At this, some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean by saying, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,’ and ‘Because I am going to the Father’?” . . . Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, “Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me’? Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

John 17.1-5—After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you . . . I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. (see Matthew 26.42; Mark 10.45; Genesis 3.15)



THE VICTORY OF CHRIST

Understanding The Cross Through The Eyes of Jesus (Handout 2)

Psalms 22.1—My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? . . . (vs. 24)
He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Nor has He hidden His face from him; But when he cried to Him for help, He heard . . .

Ephesians 6.12—For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Matthew 27.46—About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”)

Matthew 27.45—From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

Luke 23.44—It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

Acts 26.17-18—To [the Gentiles] I am sending you, to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God.

2Corinthians 4.6—For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (See John 17.1-5 again.)

John 1.5—The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Psalms 22.1—My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Psalms 22.4—In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

Psalms 22.12-13—Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

Psalms 22.16-21— For dogs are all around me . . . Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion!

Psalms 22.21-24—From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me. . . For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

John 19.30—When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.”

Revelation 12.10—Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “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 brothers and sisters, who accuses them

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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 . . .

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

Romans 3.21-25—But now apart from the law the justice of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This justice is revealed through the faith of Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God [have the wrong picture of God, see Exodus 33.18-20] and all are **acquitted** freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a *sacrifice of atonement* [see Leviticus 16; Hilasterion], through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had **left the sins committed beforehand unpunished**— he did it [the cross] to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who **acquits** those who have faith in Jesus.

before our God day and night, has been hurled down.”

Revelation 11.15—“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.” (See also Daniel 7.13-14, 22)

John 12.31—NOW is the TIME OF JUDGEMENT on THIS WORLD; now the prince of this world will be driven out.

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.

2 Corinthians 5.19—God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, **not** counting their trespasses against them.

Colossians 1.13—For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. (see Philippians 2.8-11; 1 Peter 3.21,22; Ephesians 2.6-7)

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.

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.

Psalms 88.4-5—“ . . . I am reckoned among those who go down to the pit; I have become like a man without strength, forsaken among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom You remember no more, and they are cut off from Your hand . . .”

