

"WHY ONE DIED FOR ALL"**Introduction**

1. The Christian's life is different from others.
2. The unbeliever lives relying on himself.
3. After conversion we look to Christ.

1. CHRIST DIED FOR ALL HIS PEOPLE

- 1) There are two men in history who have had a unique and special place: Adam & Christ.
- 2) We refer to them as "Covenant Heads" – they did not act for themselves only but for others:
 - (i) Adam acted for all, except Christ
 - (ii) Christ acted for all, except those who do not come to believe in Him (= reprobate).
- 3) This is not true of any others:
 - (i) my sins are not yours
 - (ii) nor yours mine

Q. How long did Adam act for us?
A. So long as he was Covenant Head = till he sinned. Then his headship ceased.
- 4) So Adam sinned for us all (Explain).
- 5) So also, Christ's life and death were for us all. **Explain.**
 Christ solved every problem which Adam brought on us by his one sin:
 - (i) the problem of sin
 - (ii) the problem of death
 - (iii) the problem of God's curse

APPLICATION: Paul here teaches us how to look at the work of Christ: "One died for all".
 Let us also "judge" this true. It is our joy, strength and comfort: "One – for us all"!

2. A CONSEQUENCE WHICH FLOWS FROM THIS TRUTH

- 1) "If – then": a logical consequence.
ILLUSTRATION: You owe money – someone pays it for you.
 The consequence: the debt is cleared away.
- 2) The point Paul makes: "all died".
 It is possible to understand this in two ways:
 - (i) all of us were dead in sin. This is true.
 - (ii) all of us died when Jesus died. The point.
OBSERVE: Paul means: When our Saviour died for us, we died in him.
- 3) Why does God not punish Christians?
ANSWER: Because they are punished by proxy.
 We say, vicarious punishment.
ILLUSTRATION: a boy punished for another, as the "whipping boy" used to be.
- 4) The enemy of your soul may say to you, "God saw your sin and will punish you". But you can answer: "I have been thoroughly punished – in Christ."
- 5) This is the wonder, glory and comfort of the cross of Christ: "I died there!"
APPLICATION: Absorb what Paul says here, "When Christ died we all died", i.e. all who believe in Christ as Saviour.
 Do you believe this?

3. THIS GREAT TRUTH CHANGES OUR WHOLE LIFE

- 1) "They which live – not unto themselves..."
 So there is a further effect of Christ's death.
- 2) Let me put it like this – a positive and a negative flow from this great truth:
 - (i) NEGATIVE – we do not live "unto ourselves"
 - (ii) POSITIVE – we live unto Christ our Lord.

- 3) How do you explain the Christian life?
- (i) look at Paul: what a life! "I die daily", he said. Life for Paul was life "under the cross".
 - (ii) so every real Christian: "deny himself – take up his cross – follow me".
- 4) This is the acid test:
- (i) **ILLUSTRATION**: Are we gold - or just brass?
- 5) Some professing Christians live very close to the world – seem to want to go as much as they dare into its questionable pleasures.
- Q.** Is that Paul's way? God's way?

CONCLUSION

The rich man who wanted a skilful coach-driver!

