

Why was the Sinless Life of Jesus Necessary?

To prove that the Law of God could be kept in human flesh, by total dependence upon Divine power.

To provide a sinless Substitute who could die in the place of guilty man.

To make it possible for Christ to live His life of perfect obedience in men today.

If Christ had once yielded to temptation He Himself would have become a sinner, standing under the condemnation of God's Law, needing a Saviour. He would have had to die for His own sins; the plan of salvation would have failed; and mankind would have been hopelessly lost.

3.—THE CRUCIFIXION — Rom. 5 : 8

(See Chart No. 3—Christ our Sin-Bearer)

The death of Christ as our Sin-Bearer is the central provision—the very heart—of the Gospel. Without the Cross, His sinless life, as an example of perfect obedience, would have only served to increase our condemnation, and would have stood as an eternal barrier between us and acceptance with God.

Why was the Death of Jesus Necessary?

To answer this question we must first realise the nature and consequences of sin.
1 John 3 : 4: "Sin is the transgression of the law."

God's law is the reflection of His character. Sin is deliberate rebellion against God. The broken law of God condemns every soul in the world to death, because everyone has transgressed God's commandments.

Rom. 6 : 23: "The wages of sin is death."

This crisis could be dealt with in only one of three ways.

God could consign guilty man to eternal death for his transgressions.

He could abolish or change His law.

He could provide a sinless Substitute to take the responsibility for man's sin and die in his stead.

Because His nature is love, God could not abandon man to perish without hope. Nor could He relax or abolish His law. This would make God contradict Himself, and His government would be a farce. Since the divine law is as sacred as God Himself, only One who was equal with God could make amends for its transgression. Such was the love of Christ for guilty men that He said: "I cannot stand back and see them perish. I will take the full responsibility for their sin and its penalty. I will die for them."

Heb. 2 : 9: Christ tasted death for every man.

Isa. 53 : 6: "The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

4.—THE RESURRECTION — 1 Cor. 15 : 3, 4

After Christ had lived for us and died for us, He must conquer death for us, and rise triumphantly from the grave.

Why was the Resurrection of Jesus Necessary?

By His own resurrection Jesus demonstrated His right to forgive the sins of His people and to bring them forth in triumph from the grave.

John 14 : 19: "Because I live, ye shall live also."

If Christ had not risen from the dead we would still be eternally lost, in spite of His Incarnation, Sinless life, and Crucifixion. Imprisoned for ever in a sin-cursed world, burdened with diseased and dying bodies, we would have no prospect whatever of life