

① The Passion of Christ

We ~~we~~ need tonight ^{to} come to a basic understanding of the extent of the suffering which Christ had to undergo — it does affect other lives and has application to our own lives

In (Phil. 2:5-10)

"Christ emptied Himself"

Let's try to comprehend this fact — here is where Christ's humiliation + suffering began

Let's try to imagine an accident in which we become deaf, blind, unable to speak — and a quadraplegic — neck broken, paralyzed

How anxious would you be to keep living? (Greg Know)

I But when Christ voluntarily laid aside his majesty + glory + took on a human body with all the finite limitations this was infinitely worse for Him than the accident I described — this was intense suffering for God to experience — we can't imagine what that would be like

II Then in addition Christ voluntarily laid aside the use of His divine Power — omniscience — Christ's miracles + insight + knowledge came as a result of His total dependence on the H.S., not because He was God. Christ Himself said this repeatedly (Heb. 2:17) "he became like a man in all things"

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of the extent of the suffering which Christ has suffered for us

" (10 - 2:5) completed "

renunciation of self and world

voluntarily gave up his life for us

in order to redeem us from all iniquity

I

II

the way of divine love - compassion

4.2.1 that is the essence of the gospel

②

III Christ was without sin - not because He's God but because He refused to sin - He was tempted by Satan & could not use His own attribute of HOLINESS to resist sin - but rather He was tempted in "all points like we are yet He didn't sin". ~~He was still~~ Heb. 9:18

IV The environment that Christ lived in was great suffering for Him. In Titus we read that "God dwells in unapproachable light - in Whom there is no darkness at all" But Christ came down into a miserable environment, even by human standards - Born in a stable, grew up in poverty, disease, in a country under the heel of the ruthless Roman empire, an era of violence, hate, sin & all of these results of our sinful rebellious planet - These things that God doesn't enjoy - He hates sin & its results. But Christ came & lived in the sinful environment of human existence - that was suffering for God. Like He said in (Jo. 17) - He longs for His natural environment of glory (mk. 9:19) - "O Wicked & perverse generation How long shall I put up w you" Christ knew who He was & could have presented Himself as Satan tempted Him to do falling down from the pinnacle of the temple

③ Satan wanted Him to use His divine attributes + thus disqualify Himself as a human being who was going to sacrifice Himself up for us.

So the incarnation - where God put Himself in a human body on our earth was suffering for Christ

IV As He begins His ministry, He now begins to experience the hatred & rejection of fallen man. (a) rejection by his enemies - increasing hostility & hate from the religious ~~and~~ rulers, and even the multitudes

(b) his own family taunted him & did not believe

(c) now He's got the 11 disciples, but even they will scatter + leave Him

(Jo. 16:32) but at least His Father was with Him, Christ says

He was grieved as He knows that they will all leave Him - now could they even stay awake while He prayed.

(d) In (Lu. 22:39-46) we read that Christ's agony was so great that His capillaries were breaking & He was sweating blood.

He was under intense suffering as He faced 3 more terrors - each one more intense than the previous one

use the phrase
responsibly
in character

to experience
the
rejection
of
the
principles

own family
not believe
in

leave
the
country

stay awake
at
night

to read
the
book

to read
the
book
to
learn
the
principles