

Sermon on 1 Peter 3:18
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Exposition of 1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit. *1 Pet. 3:18*

I. THE PROBLEM.

A. Sin. (the verse speaks of a death for *sins*)

B. Result of sin:

1. We became *unrighteous*.
2. Our unrighteousness separated us from the righteous God. (the verse speaks of a need to be brought back to God)

II. THE PENALTY.

A. Death. (the verse speaks of sin requiring the death penalty)

1. Man attempted to declare to the very King who created him that this King no longer had any right to rule that which belongs to Him.
2. This is cosmic treason, a capital crime.

III. THE PLAN.

A. The penalty must be paid. God's righteousness must be satisfied. The plan: a righteous substitute. (the verse speaks of the "righteous" for the "unrighteous")

B. The result: God's justice would be satisfied.

IV. THE PERSON.

A. Christ, the righteous Son of God.

V. THE PAYMENT.

A. He was "put to death in the body."

B. Due to His righteousness, His death need only be done "once for all", signifying His ability to fully and permanently satisfy God's justice.

VI. THE PROOF.

A. His resurrection---He was "made alive by the Spirit."

B. The proof that He had truly defeated sin was His own personal, bodily victory over the chief effect of sin: death.

VII. THE PARDON.

A. He is able to "bring us to God" through His payment for sin.

B. The satisfaction of God's justice through Christ's atoning death for our sins, allows God to "reckon" us righteous and justly reestablish fellowship with us.