

God's Plan of Salvation:

1. Hear - Romans 10:17
2. Believe - Mark 16:16
3. Repent - Acts 2:38
4. Confess - Romans 10:10
5. Be baptized - Acts 22:16
6. Live faithfully - Revelation 2:10

Announcements:

Sick: Mr. Brown, Mr. Dowling, Mr. Hadley, Ms. Donna Law, Ms. Kim (Ashley Law's mother), Lamar Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Newsome, Mrs. Owens, Ms. Spell, Ms. Ward, Mr. Winns.

If you would be interested in any of the following ways to study the Bible, feel free to let us know:

- Home Bible Study - We will come into your home or other place you feel comfortable and study the Bible with you. Bible questions are welcome in these studies and we will seek to give a Bible answer.
- Correspondence courses - We will be glad to mail you a correspondence lesson that you can fill out and mail back to us and we will send you the next lesson.
- Call us with your Bible question - #503-707-6014.
- Visit our website: [www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com](http://www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com)
- Come and visit - We always strive to have good, practical Bible instruction at each of our assemblies.

## Oak Grove Church of Christ Bulletin

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### Things God Demonstrates in Christ's Death

By Derek Long

Our sin is so serious it took the death of Jesus, a perfectly innocent sacrifice (1 Peter 2:22), to take away our sins. God gave the Israelites under the Old Covenant sacrifices to offer for the forgiveness of sins and yet those sacrifices did not completely deal with such sins but had to be continually offered (Hebrews 10:1-4). God's plan was for His Son to die as a sacrifice for our sins (Hebrews 10:5-10). The New Testament is filled with passages pointing out the high price paid to redeem us from our sins. Here are just a few of those many passages:

- Mark 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (NKJV).
- Ephesians 1:7 - "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (NKJV).
- 1 Peter 1:18-21 - "Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God” (NKJV).

- Revelation 1:5 - “And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood” (NKJV).

I have been asked why would God set up a system where in order to save people from their sins He would have to sacrifice His own Son. Such is usually accompanied by questions like, “Would you have created man if you knew when they sin you would have to sacrifice your child to save them?” A couple of observations I have on this line of reasoning are: 1. Such demonstrates how much higher God’s ways and thoughts are than the ways and thoughts of man (Isaiah 55:8-9). 2. Such demonstrates no man would have come up on his own the story contained in the Bible of Jesus and Him crucified (1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16). God may not give us an explanation of all the reasons why His plan involved the sacrifice of His own Son for our sins but the Bible does tell us some things God demonstrates through His sacrifice of Christ.

The sacrifice of Jesus for our sins demonstrates the righteousness of God. Romans 3:21-26 says, “But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His

righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (NKJV). If God is to remain a righteous God and deal with the problem of man’s sin, it seems there would be two options available for Him. First, God could simply bring death which is the rightful punishment for sin upon every individual who has sinned (Romans 6:23). Second, God could require a sacrifice for sin which was so valuable it shows He does not minimize the seriousness of the sin but still would be just in forgiving the sins of man. God decided to take the second of these options.

The sacrifice of Jesus for our sins demonstrates the love of God. Romans 5:6-8 says, “For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (NKJV). God’s love for us who are sinners is demonstrated by the fact He did not just kill us when we sinned but provided us a way to be forgiven. John 3:16 and 1 John 3:1 point out how impressive God’s love toward us is. He was willing to send His Son to die for our sins and make us His children.

The sacrifice of Jesus demonstrates for us two sides of God. It demonstrates the righteousness as well as the love of God. Understanding both of these sides of God helps us to have a balanced view of His nature. We should be grateful to God for His willingness to go to such lengths in order to save us from our sins.