

Eight Essential Elements of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series
Element 5: Jesus Christ the Only Mediator / Introduction to Christology
Element 5V: Ministry of Jesus: The Necessity & the Beauty of the Atonement

Bible Study Prepared by: Gregory A. Weis – Sunday February 21, 2016 (42nd Lesson in 8 Essential Elements of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series)

I. Eight Essential Elements: Outline & Overview

0. Intro: Proclamation / Pre-Evangelism / Disciples / Pole Fishing / Diagnostic Tools / 7 Missing Elements
1. God: Essential Biblical Attributes: (Non-Communicable & Communicable)
2. Man: Essential Biblical Attributes: (3 Issues / Culpability / Empowerment)
3. The 10 Commandments: (Exodus 20:1-17) & (Deuteronomy 5:1-21)
4. Historical Narrative of Israel & Warning(s) of Eternal Judgment Day: Gospel Presentations in Acts
5. **Jesus Christ: Only Mediator: Intro to Christology**: Bridge / Solution / Ministry / Atonement / Reign
6. Receiving Jesus Christ: (John 1:12-13) Responding: Key Components & Exchanges of Soteriology
7. The First 5 Steps Into the Kingdom of Christ: Acts 2:37-47 (See Pt. I, E, 3 Above)
8. Maturing in Jesus Christ: 3 Tools of Grace - Vital Growth Ingredients / Necessity of Discipleship

II. Messages 1 - 20: Elements 1 - 4: Defining Bad News (Gap): God, Man, Decalogue & Christ as Israel (Telos)

III. Last 21 Messages: Element 5: Bridging the Gap: Christology / Jesus: Only Solution, Mediator, Ministry
(1 Timothy 2:3-6) "... one mediator ... Christ Jesus" (Matthew 16:13-18) "But who do you say that I am?"

5A to 5H: Elemental Christology: (A & B) Logos & "I am" Statements; (C) Crucial Role of Christology; (D & E) Deity & Humanity of Jesus; (F) Conceived by Holy Spirit & Born of Virgin Mary; (G) Growth in Grace & Baptisms of Christ; (H) Wilderness Temptation; **5I to 5U: Ministry of Jesus:** (I) Pattern & Proclamations; (J) Disciple-Making Models; (K) Building His Covenant Community; (L) Miraculous Salvation: Practical Enemies; (M) Cessationism vs. Continuationism; (N) Continuation to Completion of Conquest By Holy Spirit; (O) Continuation to Kingdom City Dominion; (P) Fulfilled All Law & Prophets; (Q) Quintessential Christ: Prototypes; (R, S & T) Prophetic Prosecutor;

IV. Last Week (5U): The Atonement in Practical Perspective: Entering Into 8 Exchanges Procured by Christ

A. The Eight Exchanges: Sin (Iniquity); Sins (Iniquities); Alienation from God; Alienation from Mankind; Alienation from Ourselves; Sickness (Sicknesses); Poverty (2 Cor. 8:9) & Death

(1 Peter 3:18) For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; (1 Corinthians 6:20; 7:23) (Psalm 22:1ff)

(Isaiah 53:4-6, 10a) Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶ All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. ¹⁰ But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering, ...

B. Entering Into the Eight Exchanges: Receiving Jesus Necessitates Dying: Daily / Today & Living Anew (2 Corinthians 5: 14-15; 21) ¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, **so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.** ... ²¹ He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (Substitution) (Discuss 1 John 4:19)

(Galatians 2:20) I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

(Matt. 16:24-26) ²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he **must** deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

(1 Peter 2:24-25) and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. ²⁵ For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls. (See also Romans 3:21-26; 5:6-21) Etc.

V. Today: The Necessity and Beauty of the Atonement:

A. Preliminary Concept #1: The Absurdity of the Cross. Foolish, Ugly, Antithesis of Greco-Roman Beauty. **(1 Corinthians 1:18, 21-24)** For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ... ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²² For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **(Explain)** (See Gal. 5:11 "... the stumbling block of the cross ...")

Jews: A Scandal, a Contradiction in Terms. "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE" (Gal. 3:13 quoted from ...) **(Deuteronomy 21:23-23)** "If a man has committed a sin worthy of death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, ²³ his corpse shall not hang all night on the tree, but you shall surely bury him on the same day (for he who is hanged is accursed of God), so that you do not defile your land which the LORD your God gives you as an inheritance. (Cf)

Greeks, Romans & Barbarians: Crucifixion was a symbol of social shame in the Greco-Roman world. The idea of a crucified God elicited scorn & scandal. A crucified Savior seemed like nonsense. Unsophisticated. Cf ...

B. "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer?" (See Luke 24:36-49) (Acts 1:3; 2:31; 3:18; 17:3; 26:23) **(Luke 24:13-27)** ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him. ¹⁷ And He said to them, "What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?" ¹⁹ And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to Him, "The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, ²⁰ and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him. ²¹ But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. ... ²⁵ **And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"** ²⁷ **Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.** (Explain Matt. 16:21-23; 17:12; Etc.)

C. "Oh the Beauty of this Man"
(Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-12) Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted. ¹⁴ Just as many were astonished at you, My people, So His appearance was marred more than any man And His form more than the sons of men. ¹⁵ Thus He will sprinkle many nations, Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; ^{53:2c} He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. ³ He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ ... Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. ¹⁰ ... the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting Him to grief; **(Romans 5:6-21)** ⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. **(Cf. Rom. 3:10-11; Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3)** (Cf. Rom. 3:21-26)

(1 John 4:9-10; 19) By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the **propitiation** (ἱλασμός / hilasmós) for our sins. ... ¹⁹ **We love, because He first loved us.**

VI. Next: More on Ministry of Jesus: The Atonement: Penal Substitution; The Last Supper (Eucharist), Etc.



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