

Christ voluntarily took the wages of death into His own body. Sin worked death in Christ's body as He lay down His life for humanity. The Father, abiding by the 'counsel of peace which was made between them both' did not intervene with this natural law. Sin brings forth death. Christ's death was not a ritualistic, divine killing.

Christ suffered the wages of the law of sin which resulted in death because His divinity was housed within a mortal human body.

Hebrews 10:5

“A body Thou hast prepared for Me.”

The Son of God was slain from the foundation of the world because He knew that coming as a human being would mean that He would submit to death that comes to all humanity. The body was prepared for Him so that He could live a loving life as a human being, but it would also be the reason He would die as a human being. Corruptible human flesh needs to be changed into incorruptible flesh in order for that human being to live an immortal life.

1 Thessalonians 5:51-57

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ did give His life for the human race, but it was not in some pagan, blood sacrifice to appease an angry, wrathful divine being who required a whipping boy – a victim – to bear the suffering and pain to appease His anger over sin and disobedience.

It was though developing a sinless character Himself, in corruptible human flesh (a body) that Jesus saved humanity. It was also that corruptible, human flesh that was the vehicle by which Christ died. Christ loved humanity, in His corruptible (mortal) flesh, until it was impossible for His human body to maintain life. That was how Christ voluntarily laid down His life on behalf of sinful humanity. The laying down of His human life didn't save humanity. It was His act of developing a loving character in corruptible flesh, every moment that body kept the Saviour alive. The failure of the human body to provide life to the Saviour was when the test was over. It was finished because the mortal, corruptible human body could no longer sustain the Saviour's life.

Christ could have prevented His human death, IF He went outside the realm of humanity and tapped into His divine attributes – one of which was immortality.

Christ could have left humanity to battle on their own against Satan, but He had compassion on the human race and 'while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us' (Romans 5:8).

Once again it is necessary to ask the question, What saves humanity? The blood of sacrifices or the Life – the Character of Christ – which was developed in a mortal, human body? Certainly it was the latter.