

When we look at Jesus, what do we discover about God? Through Jesus, we see two very important parts of God's nature. God is:

*Absolutely loving *Absolutely holy

You cannot get to know God unless you take both God's love and God's holiness into account. God's *love* reaches out to you. He wants you to be in close relationship with Him. But God's *holiness*, His purity and goodness, cannot turn a blind eye to anything impure.

What a problem God faced with you and me! Although God loves us all with all His heart, we were cut off from Him by our own actions and attitudes. God had to judge all that was impure in our lives or He would end up denying His own holiness. His holiness demanded that we be brought to trial.

But God is also *absolutely wise*. God set a plan into motion that would meet the demands of both His love and His holiness. That plan sent Jesus into the world — not just to tell you what to do, but *to take your place*. He was sentenced to die an agonising death on a Cross — *but it was all for you*.

The Death of Jesus

Jesus was arrested, beaten and flogged, put through a mock trial, then taken away and crucified, executed like a common criminal. People nailed Him hand and foot to a wooden cross. But the Bible tells us something happened there on that Cross. **An exchange took place.** Everything you have ever done wrong was placed on Jesus as He hung upon the Cross. Instead of judging you, God judged Jesus on the Cross. Jesus died in your place, and broke the barrier between you and God. His death was the ransom paid to set you free! (Hebrews 9:15).

Jesus is Alive Today

But death could not hold down the Son of God! Three days after His death, Jesus came back to life, the proof that everything that stood between you and God has been dealt with forever. Jesus took the punishment you deserved. God counted Jesus' death to be your death, so that now, in God's eyes, you can walk free! Jesus came to give you a fresh new start, but this time with God in your life. It's like crossing a bridge from death into life! (John 5:24).

"For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us." 2 Corinthians 5:21 (The Living Bible)..

Jesus took your old life with all its sin and failings



and gave you a brand new life and a new beginnng



Making the Truth Mine



Write in your own words what this lesson has meant to you and how it will effect your life.

You can make a difference!

For this study to have its full effect in your life, we encourage you to:

- * Read and digest the study meditate on the Word of God.
- * Put into action what you have learnt (James 1:22).
- * Share the Word of God with others.

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