

I believe in Jesus Christ (His work)

Intro: The very centre

1. Jesus' sufferings in life

- Self-humiliation in taking on flesh (*Phil 2:5-8a; 2 Cor 8:9*)
- Innocent suffering before Pilate (*Matt 27:4, 24; Luke 23:47*)

Implication: God with us

2. Jesus' death on the Cross

A sacrificial work

- i) *Expiation* - *Lev 17:11; 1 Sa 3:14; Rom 3:25; Heb 2:17*
- ii) *Propitiation* - *Rom 3:25; 1 Jn 2:1-2, 4:10 (cf Gal 3:13; 1 Thess 1:10)*

A legal work

- iii) *Justification* - *Rom 3:24-26, 8:33-34; Gal 2:15-16, 20-21; 1Pt 3:18*

A liberating work

- iv) *Redemption and Ransom* - *Rom 3:24; Eph 1:7; Heb 9:12; 1 Cor 6:18-20; Rev 5:9-10*

A relational work

- v) *Reconciliation*
 - With God - *Rom 5:8-11; 2 Cor 5:18-21; Col 1:20-22*
 - With one another - *Eph 2:14-16*
- vi) *Adoption* - *Gal 4:4-7; Rom 8:15; Ephesians 1:4*

A conquering work

vii) Victory - Lk 11:21; Jn 12:31; 1 Cor 15:56-57 Col 1:13; 1 Jn 3:8; Rev 12:7-9, 20:1-3

"And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him."

Colossians 2:13-15

A revealing work

viii) Revelation - John 3:14, 12:23, 17:1; Rom 3:25-26, 5:8; 1 John 4:10

Implications: Worship

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain...And they sang a new song, saying,

*"Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth."*

Revelation 5:6-9

- A cross shaped life - *Philippians 2:1-11*
- A cross-centred word - *1 Cor 1:18-2:5*