

The Death of Christ

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 16

1. NOTHING ELSE: The death of Christ is the _____ path to being restored to _____ with our Creator.
 - a. God's justice and truth required the _____ of Christ for the sake of accomplishing _____.

³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. (Romans 8:3-4)
 - b. The death of Christ was a real _____ in real _____.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.... (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
 - c. The death and resurrection of Christ changes the character of our own death – the _____ of death has been _____.

2. THE BIG PICTURE: The Catechism explains the gospel in terms of the _____ of Christ's life and our _____ with him by faith.

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:1-4)

3. WHAT FRUIT WERE YOU GETTING?: Because we are _____ to Christ, the benefits of forgiveness and new life cannot be _____ from each other
 - a. In union with Christ, we have _____ to sin.
 - b. We are called to live in a manner consistent with _____ in Christ.
 - c. This requires _____.

²¹But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:21-23)
 - d. All of salvation – including new life in Christ – is a _____ of God.

LD 7, Q&A 20 “Only those are saved who through true faith are grafted into Christ and accept all his benefits.”

LD 12, Q&A 32 “by faith I am a member of Christ”

	Death (LD 16)	Resurrection (LD 17)	Ascension (LD 18)
<i>Justification</i>	nothing else could pay for our sins except the death of the Son of God (Q&A 40)	First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death. (Q&A 45)	First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. (Q&A 49)
<i>Sanctification</i>	By his power our old man is crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may offer ourselves as a sacrifice of thanksgiving to him. (Q&A 43)	Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life. (Q&A 45)	Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit’s power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand. (Q&A 49)
<i>Glorification</i>	Our death is not a payment for our sins, but only a dying to sins and an entering into eternal life. (Q&A 42)	Third, Christ’s resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection. (Q&A 45)	Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. (Q&A 49)

LD 20, Q&A 53 “[The Holy Spirit] is given also to me, so that, through true faith, he makes me share in Christ and all his benefits...”

LD 21, Q&A 55 “What do you understand by ‘the communion of saints’? First, that believers one and all, as members of Christ the Lord, have communion with him and share in all his treasures and gifts...”