

JESUS BECAME OUR SUBSTITUTE

**By SIR JAMES SIMPSON, M.D.
THE INVENTOR OF CHLOROFORM**

WHEN I was a boy at school, I saw a sight I can never forget - a man tied to a cart and dragged through the streets of my native town, his back torn and bleeding from the lash.

It was a shameful punishment.

For many offences? No; for one offence.

Did any of the townsmen offer to divide the lashes with him? No! He who committed the offence bore the penalty all alone. It was a penalty of a changing law, for it was the last instance of its infliction.

When I was a student at the university I saw another sight I can never forget - a man brought to die. His arms were pinned down; his face was pale as death - thousands of eager eyes were upon him as he came from the jail. Did any man ask to die in his place?

Did any friend come and loose the rope and say, "Put it around my neck; I will die instead"?

No! He underwent the sentence of the law.

For many offences? No!

It was for one offence of robbery. He broke the law at one point, and died for it. It was the penalty of a changing human law in this case also; it was the last instance of capital punishment being inflicted for that offence.

I saw another sight I shall never forget - myself a sinner, standing on the brink of eternal punishment in the lake of fire.

For one sin? No!

For many, many sins that I had committed against the unchanging laws of God. I looked again, and behold, Jesus Christ became my Substitute. He bore in His own body on the tree all the punishment for my sins.

He died on the cross that I might live in Heaven. He suffered - the Just for the unjust - that He might bring me to God. He redeemed me from the curse of the law. I sinned and was condemned to eternal punishment. But He bore the punishment and I am free.

The Law of God required a perfect righteousness which I never had. Again I looked unto Him and found that "Christ is the end of the law to everyone who believes." The Law required spotless purity, and I was defiled with sin. Again I looked unto Him who loved me and paid the penalty of my sins at Calvary.

DECISION PRAYER

Almighty God, I come to You, just as I am, a guilty sinner. I come with all my confusion, fears and burdens, and I lay them all down at Your feet, trusting for Your gracious work of salvation in me.

Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God, the Eternal One who paid the penalty of my sins when You died for me at Calvary.

I believe You rose from the dead, and that You are the living Saviour.

You know the deep need in my life, and I ask You to forgive my sins, and I trust You to save me this very day.

Make me a child of God, and do all that You need to do in my life. Master, I receive You as my own personal Saviour.

Thank You, Lord Jesus for Your love and salvation.

Thank You Father, for answering my prayer, for Your forgiveness, and reconciling me to Yourself.

Thank You for making me Your child.

Thank You. Amen.

Signed date

Please keep this prayer with you as a reminder of your spiritual birth day.

And we will be very happy to hear from you if you email us at one of our addresses below.

We will pray for you and send you a booklet to help you on The Way.

And may Yahweh bless you and keep you.