



# ASKING FOR A FRIEND

*Tough Questions, Honest Answers*

## DID JESUS REALLY TAKE OUR PLACE?

April 19 & 20, 2025 | Easter Weekend

### **Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)**

But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.

### **Galatians 3:13 (NLT)**

But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

### **Luke 23:18-19 (NLT)**

Then a mighty roar rose from the crowd, and with one voice they shouted, "Kill him, and release Barabbas to us!" (Barabbas was in prison for taking part in an insurrection in Jerusalem against the government, and for murder.)

### **I Am Barabbas Because:**

- **He was the son of a \_\_\_\_\_ and so am I.**

**Barabbas in Aramaic means *Son of the Father* or *Son of the Rabbi***

### **Matthew 27:16b (NLT)**

"...a man named Barabbas."

- **He was a \_\_\_\_\_ and so am I.**

### **John 8:34 (NLT)**

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin."

- **He was \_\_\_\_\_ to die for his crime and so am I.**

### **John 3:18 (TPT)**

So now there is no longer any condemnation for those who believe in him, but the unbeliever already lives under condemnation because they do not believe in the name of the only Son of God.

## **I Am Barabbas Because:** *(continued)*

- **He was \_\_\_\_\_ from punishment and so am I.**

### **Luke 23:24-25 (NLT)**

So Pilate sentenced Jesus to die as they demanded. As they had requested, he released Barabbas, the man in prison for insurrection and murder. But he turned Jesus over to them to do as they wished.

### **Romans 5: 8-9 (NLT)**

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.)

## **SINCE JESUS TOOK MY PLACE I AM:**

**1**

**Truly \_\_\_\_\_ from sin and have a purpose for living.**

### **John 8:36 (NLT)**

So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

### **Romans 6:22 (TPT)**

But now, as God's loving servants, you live in joyous freedom from the power of sin. So consider the benefits you now enjoy—you are brought deeper into the experience of true holiness that ends with eternal life!

### **Colossians 1:16 (MSG)**

For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels – everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him.

## **GRACE:**

- \_\_\_\_ – **Glorify God through worship**
- \_\_\_\_ – **Relate to everyone through fellowship**
- \_\_\_\_ – **Act like Jesus through discipleship**
- \_\_\_\_ – **Care for others through ministry**
- \_\_\_\_ – **Express God's love through evangelism**

**2**

**\_\_\_\_\_ by trials, but always victorious.**

### **1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)**

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

### **Romans 8:37 (NIV)**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

### **1 John 5:4-5 (NIV)**

... for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

**3**

\_\_\_\_\_ over life and death because  
**Jesus conquered death.**

### **Philippians 1:21 (NLT)**

For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better.

## **6 FACTS THAT PROVE JESUS TRULY ROSE FROM THE DEAD:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ was undeniably \_\_\_\_\_ from Roman crucifixion.

### **Mark 15:44-45 (NLT)**

Pilate couldn't believe that Jesus was already dead, so he called for the Roman officer and asked if he had died yet. The officer confirmed that Jesus was dead, so Pilate told Joseph he could have the body.

**Jesus was crucified... and He died, without a doubt.**

- The \_\_\_\_\_ were convinced they saw Jesus after His resurrection and were willing to be tortured and killed for this belief.

### **1 Corinthians 15:3-6 (NLT)**

I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

- \_\_\_\_\_ the persecutor was transformed by the resurrected Christ.

### **Acts 9:4-6, 15-16 (NLT)**

[Saul] fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." ... the Lord said [to Ananias], "Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake."

- **The skeptic \_\_\_\_\_, half-brother of Jesus, was converted to a devout follower and martyr of his brother Jesus.**

**John 7:5 (NLT)**

For even his brothers didn't believe in him.

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When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take him away. "He's out of his mind," they said.

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Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles.

- **Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ was completely empty.**

**Luke 24:2-3 (NLT)**

They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus.

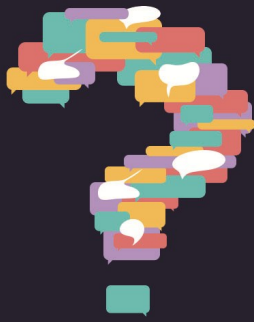
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Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying."

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