**The Significance of Christ’s Crucifixion**

**Introduction**

1. Many people dwell only on the physical anguish Christ endured. There is certainly something to be said about the torture He went through, but is that paramount in significance?
2. Christ did not want us to simply dwell on His physical suffering, but on the significance of it. Why did He suffer? What role does that play in our salvation?
3. There is a place for remembering the physical pain He went through. But why did He have to experience that at all?
4. Proof of God.
5. Prophecies about Jesus’ betrayal, trial, and death were fulfilled. – (Dates: David, c. 1000 BC; Isaiah, 740-700 BC; Zechariah, 520 BC).
* At least 16 such prophecies fulfilled in one, 24 hr. period surrounding the death of Christ!
* Many fulfilled by His enemies.
* All written hundreds of years before the event - Without the possibility of manipulation or coincidence!
* Betrayal – 30 Pieces of silver (cf. Zechariah 11:12-13); Jesus was silent (cf. Isaiah 53:7; 50:6)
* Death – by crucifixion (cf. Psalm 22:15-18); scourged (cf. Isaiah 50:6); cast lots for clothes (cf. Psalm 22:18); numbered with transgressors (cf. Isaiah 53:12); cruelly mocked (cf. Psalm 22:6-8); bones not broken but side pierced (cf. Zechariah 12:10; Psalm 34:20)
	+ More, but you get the gist.
1. Immediately after He died. (Proof that Jesus is the Son of God.)
* Dead resurrected, earth quake, veil of temple torn. (cf. Matthew 27:50-54; Mark 15:37-39; Luke 23:44-47)
	+ Reaction – *“Truly this was the Son of God!”* – Matthew 27:54 (centurion and those with him)
1. Condemnation of sin.
2. Jesus died because of sin.
* 1 Corinthians 15:3; Isaiah 53:5-6
	+ If Christ did not die for our sins, His death was meaningless.
	+ In order that we might have the privilege of being righteous in the sight of God, our sin had to be dealt with. Christ died FOR us, in our stead.
1. He defeated sin.
* Romans 3:24-26 – God’s righteousness required a fulfillment of the consequence of sin – death (cf. Romans 6:23). His outpouring of wrath on unrighteousness is seen in 1:18-3:20. This was accomplished via the death of Jesus. – but only for those who have faith.
	+ Romans 8:3 – God sending His Son to die condemned sin. As a sinless man, Jesus dying on the cross condemned and defeated sin.
* Romans 6:3-6; Galatians 5:24
	+ Because of Christ’s death we can live as slaves to righteousness. We are to sin no longer!
1. Revelation of Love.
2. His death was motivated by love.
* John 3:16; Romans 5:8
	+ This truth of Christ’s death on account of sin was motivated purely by love. What does this say about love? 🡪
1. His death shows us what love entails.
* Ephesians 5:2 – It is active. Walk.
* 1 John 3:16 – It is sacrificial. Selfless.
* John 13:34-35 – It does not show partiality. Love all brethren.
1. Redemption of man.
2. His death was for everyone.
* Titus 2:11; 1 Timothy 2:3-6
	+ Christ did not die for a selected few individuals. His death bestows an opportunity to everyone.
* Romans 6:23 – This gift is made available for everyone.
1. Without it we have no hope.
* 2 Corinthians 5:18-6:2 – It is incumbent upon the individual to *“be reconciled to God.”* Christ has accomplished His part.
1. Example of sacrifice.
2. He is our example.
* Philippians 2:2-8
	+ Some look at Christ’s sacrifice as something He did so we don’t have to do anything. We are expected to follow His example.
1. We must follow.
* Romans 12:1-2
	+ Our lives on this earth are not for us. We are here to serve God, and others.

**Conclusion**

1. Jesus’ death had a purpose. Its significance transcends mere torture.
2. By it there is further proof of God, the condemnation of sin, revelation of love, redemption of man, and an example on how to live.