

THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST

Al Brown

Jesus went through the mockery of a trial; then, a beating by the Jewish leaders and their soldiers. He endured a terrible scourging, public scorn, ridicule, and finally the excruciating pain, humiliation, and shame of being crucified. We are at a loss for words to adequately describe that horror. We all know He did it to pay the price divine justice demanded for our sins. He literally took our place. How often do we think of His gift? How often, and how much time do we spend thinking that we—you and me—should have been under that whip and nailed to the cross instead of Him? Isaiah wrote: **“By oppression and judgment he was taken away, and as for his generation, who among them considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due?”** (Isa. 53:8). Indeed, do we stop to consider that He was cut off (killed) for us to whom the stroke was due? Paul said: **“Him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf; that we might become the righteousness of God in him”** (2 Cor. 5:21). Paul asked the Corinthians how they would respond to Christ’s love (2 Cor. 8:7-9; 5:14-15). He said their response should be the offering of their lives (see also Rom. 12:1). How will we respond? No one will force us to do anything, but we prove our love for Him by what we give (2 Cor. 8:8). Will you give your time, energy and money for the salvation of souls?~

Deceased