

TWO DEATHS  
OF  
CHRIST

Jesus suffered two types of death when He was on the cross: physical and spiritual.

Both before and during His crucifixion He suffered great physical pain. This was great anguish, but it was not death.

Isaiah 53:3: He suffered great anguish, extreme mental and physical pain, because He bore a heavy burden.

The first death Jesus suffered on the cross was spiritual. God the Father laid on Jesus Christ the sins of the whole world (Isaiah 53:6).

He bore our sins: 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Colossians 2:14; Hebrews 9:27, 28; Revelation 1:5; Isaiah 53:6, 8-12; Romans 8:3; Galatians 3:13.

Isaiah 53:9 has a unique expression with “deaths” in the plural in the Hebrew but with a singular pronoun – “His deaths”.

He dies spiritually: (humanity, not deity) in bearing our sins - no fellowship with God during the time He was bearing our sins. He was separated from God.

## SPIRITUAL DEATH

1. Psalms 22:1: “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”
2. Note also Matt 27:46; Mark 15:34. Jesus Christ addressed the Father as “God” while He was bearing our sins. But once it was completed and spiritual death was paid for (John 19:30) and salvation was accomplished, He again called Him “Father.”

3. John 19:30: "It is finished." This is a reference to His spiritual death for the sins of the world. He is still alive when He said this. Everything had been accomplished as far as spiritual death, bearing our sins.

Rom 6:10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Heb 9:28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many.

## PHYSICAL DEATH

His physical death is also unique: it was an act of His own volition, not because wicked men took it from Him.

Luke 23:46: “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit, and having said this He expired.” [entrust, set before; *to deposit what belongs to one* into another's hands].

Mat 27:50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. [release, send away, cause to separate].

But Christ died twice that we might be born twice. Even as Adam in his fall became spiritually dead, and later died physically, so the Last Adam, Christ, identified with our sins in spiritual death, and also died physically, that He might be resurrected physically, in order to provide for us also a resurrection life.

4. His physical death and resurrection guarantee us a new resurrection body. He had to die physically in order to be resurrected.

His physical death signified that the penalty of sin (spiritual death) was paid for, and salvation was an accomplished fact.

# The Great Riddle

If you are born once you die twice.

If you are born twice you die once.

If you are born twice (physical and spiritual) you die but once (physically).

But if you are born only once, you die twice:

- a. Physical death
- b. Spiritual death
- c. Second death (spiritual death perpetuated into eternity following the Great White Throne).