

2. Barabbas was released because Christ was his substitute (Mark 15:6-15).

**Explanation:** Barabbas deserved what was coming—he was a murderer who deserved to die. Pilate’s custom was to release one prisoner. He gave the crowds a choice. You can either have Barabbas, the murderer, or Jesus Christ, the King of the Jews. The crowd chose Barabbas and Christ was offered as a substitute.

**Conclusion:** Throughout the pages of Scripture Christ is pictured as a substitute. But is Christ *your* substitute? Paul tells us in Romans 5 that in Adam all die because of Adam’s sin (Rom. 5:17). But in Christ, many are made righteous because of His righteousness (Rom. 5:15).

# Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

## Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Matthew 26:1-75

Song #199 ~ How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:1-66

Song #252 ~ See, What a Morning!

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:1-20

Prayer

Sermon ~ Christ offered Himself as our substitute!

Prayer

Lord’s Supper

Song #196 ~ His Robes for Mine

Psalm 89:4

I will establish your seed forever  
And build up your throne to all generations.

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**Theme:** Christ offered Himself as our substitute.

**Introduction:** Why did Christ have to die? Couldn't God have rescued sinners some other way? Christ's death was necessary to save sinners because God is both just and a justifier (Rom. 3:26). For God to declare sinners to be righteous (justify sinners) and to continue to be just, Christ needed to die for our sins. In fact, the idea of a substitute can be found throughout the pages of scripture.

- I. Christ offered Himself as our substitute.
  - A. Old Testament examples of Christ as a substitute.
    1. The ram that was substituted for Isaac is a picture of Christ as a substitute (Gen. 22).

**Explanation:** When God told Abraham to offer Isaac on the altar, Abraham concluded that God must raise him from the dead (Heb. 11:17-19). As he journeyed 3 days (Gen. 22:4), Isaac was as good as dead to Abraham. God told Abraham to offer Isaac on a mountain in the land of Moriah (Gen. 22:2) where the temple would later be built (2 Chron. 3:1). As Abraham stretched out his hand to kill his son, God offered a substitute—a ram in the thicket (Gen. 22:12-13). In this story, Abraham's son was spared, but the Father willingly offered up His son (Rom. 8:32).

2. The goat that was slain in the sin offering is a picture of Christ as a substitute (Lev. 4:22-26).

**Explanation:** When a leader sinned unintentionally, he would bring an unblemished goat as a sin offering to the Lord (Lev. 4:22-23). He would lay his hands on the head of the goat. In essence, he would transfer his sin to the goat (Lev. 4:24). Then the goat would be slaughtered, and his blood would be put on the horns of

the altar and on the base of the altar. The goat whose blood was shed for the sins of another is a picture of Christ whose blood was shed for sinners like me.

3. The suffering servant whose stripes brought healing is picturing Christ as a substitute (Is. 53:5).

**Explanation:** Most Israelites interpret the suffering servant in the servant songs in Isaiah as referring to the nation of Israel (cf. Is. 41:8-9; 44:1, 21; 45:4; 49:3), but the NT interprets Christ as the true Israel. When Christ's parents left Egypt after Herod's death, Matthew tells us that this fulfilled the prophecy, "out of Egypt I called My Son" (Matt. 2:13-15). When Christ was tempted in the Wilderness for 40 days (Matt. 4:1-11), He accomplished what Israel failed to do in the Wilderness for 40 years. When Christ read from Isaiah 61:1-2 in the temple (Luke 4:16-22), He inserted Isaiah 42:7—"recovery of sight to the blind" (Luke 4:18). He then proclaimed that these words were fulfilled in their hearing and everyone was amazed because Christ was the suffering Servant in Isaiah (Luke 4:20-22).

- B. New Testament examples of Christ as a substitute.
  1. Caiaphas prophesied that Christ would die in place of the nation (John 11:47-52).

**Explanation:** After the resurrection of Lazarus many began to believe in Jesus Christ (John 11:38-46). This caused the chief priests and the Pharisees to be concerned. This man, Jesus, will cause an uproar in the city and cause the Romans to take away their privileges (John 11:47-48). Caiaphas, the High Priest, prophesied that Christ must die so that the nation would not perish (John 11:50-51). Although Caiaphas did not understand the full meaning, Christ would not only die to save Israelites, but also people from every tribe and tongue and nation (John 11:52).