

We Believe in Jesus' Work (*Various Texts*)

EFCA Statement of Faith, Article 5

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

Our Representative & Substitute

- Because Jesus is fully human, He is our perfect representative
 - Just as in Adam all humans found their original identity, in Jesus, the second Adam, we can find our new identity (1 Cor 15:45, 47; Gen. 2:15-17)
- This means that Jesus can serve as our perfect substitute (Rom 5:18-19; Mark 1:45; Heb 2:16-17; 1 Pet 3:18)

Our Sacrifice

- God tells us that blood must be shed for sin (Lev. 17:11)
- Jesus does this for us through His blood on the Cross (Mat 26:28; Heb. 9:14, 22; 10:19; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Rev. 12:10-11)
 - And His sacrifice for us was perfect & all-sufficient (Heb 9:24-28)

Our Salvation

- Jesus' death brought atonement
 - Paid the penalty of our sins (1 Jn. 2:2; Rom. 3:25; Heb. 2:17; 1 Jn. 4:10)
- And His resurrection assured our victory over death (Col 2:13-15; 1 Cor. 15:54-55; Col. 1:13; Heb. 2:14-15)
- Thus, it is only Jesus' work, not ours, that saves us from sin, death, and ourselves (Act 4:12; Rom. 4:25; 6:4, 11, 14; 1 Cor. 6:14; 15:20; 2 Cor. 4:14; Eph. 1:19-20; 2:5-6; 1 Pet. 1:3)

So What?

- It is only through the work of Jesus that we can have real life both now and into eternity
- Do we know Jesus and have this life?