

Take away the death of Christ from your creed and you destroy Christianity. He draws all men unto himself because He was lifted up on the cross. Deny the significance of the crucifixion and the whole New Testament becomes a scrap of paper, for it is no New Testament, no new covenant *except in his blood*. Without that blood there is no hope for the sinner and no joy for the believer.

Paul therefore points out, in the third place, *the supreme significance of the death of Christ*. He died for our sins according to the Scriptures. There is no other way to explain the death of Christ than from the Scriptures. It is inexplicable that God did *not* deliver Him from such death, that He did *not* make his escape, as Moslems aver, unless there was a necessity and high moral purpose, a divine purpose, in his death. When Paul said that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures he referred to the Old Testament, its types and symbols, its promises and prophecies, its portraiture of the suffering Messiah, without the shedding of whose blood there could be no remission of sins. Whatever Paul's interpretation is of the doctrine of the atonement, he himself claims that it is based on the Scriptures,—that which he had received he delivered. Pauline Christianity is rooted in the Old Testament. His Good News was the fulfillment of the promise made unto the fathers.

It is impossible to eliminate certain phrases from the Synoptic Gospels which are just as clear