The Point: Jesus came specifically to trade places with us so that He would absorbed God's punishment for the sins of all mankind.

> **Mark 10:34** "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom **for** many." (NIV)

"for" = Greek "anti" = "in place of"

> **2 Corinthians 5:21** "For God made Christ, who never sinned, **to be the offering for OUR sin**, so that we could be made right with God through Christ." (NLT)

> **2 Corinthians 5:21** "For God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. Then, in exchange, He poured God's goodness into us." (TLB)

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SACRIFICE

1. The sense that Human beings have a belonging to God by right,

2. The sense of alienation from God because of sin and guilt.

> **1 Peter 1:18-20** "18 For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from this empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. 19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless **Lamb of God**. 20 God chose Him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days He has been revealed for your sake." (NLT)

> **1 Peter 2:24** "He personally **carried our sins** in His body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By His wounds you are healed." (NLT)

> **Galatians 3:13** "But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When He was hung on the cross, **He took upon Himself the curse for OUR wrongdoing**. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."" (NLT)

TRADING PLACES

Mark 15:33-34 "33 At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o'clock. 34 Then at three o'clock Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (NIV)

Isaiah 53:5-6 "5 … He was pierced for OUR rebellion, crushed for OUR sins. He was beaten so WE could be whole. He was whipped so WE could be healed. 6 All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid ON HIM the sins of us all." (NLT)

HOW DO YOU RESPOND

1. ACCEPT CHRIST!

Acts 2:36-39 "36 Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, **whom you crucified**, both Lord and Messiah." 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, **what shall we do?**" 38 Peter replied, "**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." (NIV)

2. STOP SINNING!

Hebrews 6:4-6 "4 For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5 who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come—6 and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are **nailing Him to the cross once again** and holding Him up to public shame." (NLT)

3. LIVE WITH GRATITUDE!

Colossians 3:15-16 "15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And **be thankful**. 16 Let **the message of Christ** dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one

another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with **gratitude** in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** to God the Father through Him." (NLT)

COMMUNION

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NLT)

"23 … On the night when He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread 24 and gave thanks to God for it. Then He broke it in pieces and said, "This is **MY BODY**, which is given **FOR YOU**. Do this in remembrance of me."

25 In the same way, He took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and His people—an agreement confirmed with **MY BLOOD.** Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.

26 For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until He comes again.