Why Jesus Had to Die  
Matt. 26:36-42

Introduction:
A. Only a heart of stone could be untouched by the story of our Lord’s death.
   1. His betrayal by Judas.
   2. His humiliating trial.
   3. His torturous treatment by soldiers.
   4. His bearing his own cross.
   5. His agony on the cross.
B. Christians often wonder, “Why?”
   1. Why did He have to die?
   2. Why must His blood be shed?
C. Romans Chapter 3 supplies two reasons for the death of Christ:

Discussion:
I. Jesus Had to Die Because of the Divine Nature (vv. 24-26)
   A. God is perfectly in holy (Psalm 111:9; Rev. 15:4) — Must condemn sin.
   B. God is perfectly just (v. 26; cf. 2 Thess 1:6-8) — Must punish sin.
   C. God is perfectly merciful (2 Cor. 1:3; Psa. 136) — Must provide redemption.
   D. The death of Jesus answers all the demands of God’s nature.
      1. Made it possible for God to be longsuffering in the past (v. 25).
      2. Made it possible for God be both just and justifier (v. 26).
II. Jesus Had to Die Because of the Human Need (vv. 10-23).
   A. Because of sin all men needed redemption.
      1. Man is unfit and unable to redeem himself.
      2. Only the Sinless Jesus fit to atone for sin.
   B. Because man needed things made possible by the blood of Christ.
      1. The New Covenant (Heb. 9:11-26).
      2. Redemption or remission (Col. 1:14; Matt. 26:28).
      3. Continual fellowship with God (1 John 1-6-10).

Conclusion:
A. The Benefits of the death/blood of Christ are wonderful.
B. The Benefits of the death/blood of Christ are conditional.
   1. In suffering became author of salvation to the obedient (Heb. 5:8, 9).