

Easter 2008, part 2

THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CROSS

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“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” ~ 1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV)

What is the SIGNIFICANCE of the cross?

- 1. THE CROSS IS A SYMBOL OF _____.
 - A. The cross is a form of _____ punishment.
- II. JESUS WAS _____ ON A CROSS.
 - A. Crucifixion was the most _____ way to die.
Deut. 21:23 “You must not leave his body on the tree overnight. Be sure to bury him that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God’s curse.”
 - B. Crucifixion was considered a _____.
Galatians 3:13 “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.”
 - C. Crucifixion was reserved for the worst _____.
1 Peter 2:22 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”
Luke 23:13-14

What was the PURPOSE of the cross?

- I. THE PROBLEM: _____.
 - A. Sin means: _____.
Romans 3:23 (NIV) “for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God.”
1 John 1:8 (NIV) “If we claim to be **without sin**, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”
- II. THE PENALTY: _____ FROM GOD.
 - A. Sin _____ us from God.
Isaiah 59:2 (NIV) “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.”
2 Thessalonians 1:8 (NIV) “He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.”

III. THE SOLUTION: JESUS TOOK YOUR _____.

- A. Jesus was _____ in the flesh!
Colossians 2:9 (NIV) “For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.”
- B. Jesus took _____ on Himself.
Isaiah 53:5 (NIV) “But he was pierced for **our** transgressions, he was crushed for **our** iniquities; the punishment that brought **us** peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.”
1 Peter 3:18 “For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.”

What are the CONSEQUENCES of the cross?

- I. YOU CAN BE _____.
 - A. You get a second _____!
John 3:17 “I didn’t come to condemn the world, I came to save it.”
 - B. Your debt can be “_____!”
Col 3:14 “He has forgiven **all** our sins and canceled **every** record of the debt we owed. Christ has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.”
Romans 8:1 “There is no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ.”
- II. YOU CAN GO TO _____!
 - A. Universal problem: _____.
 - B. _____ ways the Bible says you get to heaven.
 - 1. “Plan A” is to _____ it.
 - 2. “Plan B”: _____ Jesus Christ (“by grace through faith”)
Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.”
- III. YOU CAN HAVE _____.
 - A. Hope means you don’t fear _____.
 - B. How? Make _____ with God... right now.
Romans 5:1 “Therefore, having been justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”