

Glory in the Cross

Galatians 6:11-18

Pastor Bill Young (bill@trc.life) / All verses from NIV84

Galatians 6:11-18 See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! ¹² Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast [glory] except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God. ¹⁷ Finally, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Part 1: What was the SIGNIFICANCE of the Cross?

I. THE CROSS WAS A SYMBOL OF _____.

A. The Cross was a form of _____ punishment.

II. THE CROSS WAS AN INSTRUMENT OF _____.

A. Crucifixion was considered a _____.

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."

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."

B. 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 [Pilate] "I find ... no basis for your charges against him."

Part 2: What was the PURPOSE of the Cross?

I. THE PROBLEM: _____.

A. Sin means: _____.

Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

1 John 1:8 "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 "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 "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 "For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form."

B. Jesus took _____ on Himself.

Isaiah 53:5 "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."

Part 3: What are the RESULTS of the Cross?

I. YOU CAN BE _____.

A. Your debt can be "_____."

Colossians 2:14 (NCV) "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."

John 12:47b "For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it."

Romans 8:1 "There is no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ."

II. YOU CAN GO TO _____.

A. Universal problem: _____.

Hebrews 9:27 "Just as man is destined to die once, and after that face judgement."

B. _____ ways the Bible says you get to Heaven:

1. "Plan A": _____ it.

2. "Plan B": _____ Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:8-9 "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."

C. Only _____ offers hope.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Discussion Questions:

1. What did Paul mean when he said, "I glory in the cross."?
2. How can we apply the idea of boasting in the Cross to our daily lives?
3. Some people see the Cross as simply a series of unfortunate events for Jesus. How does this perspective affect people's understanding of Christ's sacrifice and its significance?
4. In what ways is the Cross the greatest expression of God's love? Can you share personal experiences or examples that highlight this significance?
5. What do you think is the core message behind why Jesus died on the Cross? How do the ideas of sin and separation from God help us understand the necessity of His sacrifice?
6. How do the results of the Cross (forgiveness, hope, and the promise of eternal life) impact the way we live today? What practical steps can we take to share this message of hope with others?