

# THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS

## 1 CORINTHIANS 1:17-25

Text: 1 Cor. 1:18

Introduction:

Every generation has always recognized the death of Christ. Our problem today is that we have people wearing a cross but are not willing to bear a cross.

Notice three things about the cross in these verses:

1. To the Jews it was a stumbling block. They wanted religion.
2. To the Greeks it was foolishness. They wanted knowledge.
3. To us that are saved, it is the power of God. It's our means of salvation.

### **1. THE CAUSE OF THE CROSS**

A. The predicament of man (Rom 3:23; 5:12)

(Romans 3:23) "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

(Romans 5:12) "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

B. The penalty of sin (Rom 3:23)

(Romans 3:23) "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

C. The providence of God (Acts 2:22-23)

(Acts 2:22-23) "Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: {23} Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:"

## **2. THE CHRIST AND THE CROSS**

Note who Christ is:

A. Accepted Sacrifice (Isa 53)

B. Atoning Saviour (Heb 9:26, 10:16-18)

(Hebrews 9:26) "For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the

end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself."

(Hebrews 10:16-18) "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; {17} And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. {18} Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin."

### C. Abiding Shepherd (Ps 23 1 Pet 2:25)

(Psalms 23) "A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. {2} He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. {3} He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. {4} Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. {5} Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. {6} Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

(1 Peter 2:25) "For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."

D. Almighty Sovereign (Phil 2:9-11)

(Philippians 2:9-11) "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: {10} That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; {11} And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

### **3. THE CRUELTY OF THE CROSS**

A. He was stripped (Matt 27:28)

(Matthew 27:28) "And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe."

B. He was scourged (Luke 18:33)

(Luke 18:33) "And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again."

C. He was smitten (John 19:3)

(John 19:3) "And said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands."

D. He was spit upon (Matt 27:30)

(Matthew 27:30) "And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head."

## **4. THE CRIES FROM THE CROSS**

### **A. A forgiving cry (Lk 23:34)**

(Luke 23:34) "Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots."

### **B. A favoring cry (Lk 23:42-43)**

(Luke 23:42-43) "And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. {43} And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."

### **C. A family cry (John 19:25-26)**

(John 19:25-26) "Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. {26} When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!"

### **D. A forsaking cry (Matt 27:46)**

(Matthew 27:46) "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

E. A fervent cry (John 19:28)

(John 19:28) "After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst."

F. A finishing cry (John 19:30)

(John 19:30) "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

G. A farewell cry (Luke 23:46)

(Luke 23:46) "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost."

## **5. THE CONSOLATION OF THE CROSS (COL 1:20)**

(Colossians 1:20) "And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven."

- A. Mercy now available
- B. Mediator established
- C. Met the demands of God.

Close:

The cross of Jesus was defeating to Satan, delightful to the sovereign, delivering to the sinner, and declared in the Scripture.