

The Cross

part 2 The Road to the Cross

4/9/17

The Cross:

- **1 Corinthians 1:17** For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.
- ¹⁸ For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- **1 Corinthians 1:23** but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1. God's Eternal Plan

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

- ²³ this *Man*, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death.
- ²⁴ "And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

2. A Theme Throughout The Bible

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

Daniel 9:24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy *place*.

- ²⁵ "So you are to know and discern *that* from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince *there will be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.
- ²⁶ "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end *will come* with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.
- ²⁷ "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

3. The Direction of Jesus' Life From Birth

Luke 2:34 And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this *Child* is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed--

³⁵ and a sword will pierce even your own soul-- to the end that thoughts from many he

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

4. An Increasing Emphasis of Jesus' Teaching

John 2:13 And the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

- ¹⁴ And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers seated.
- ¹⁵ And He made a scourge of cords, and drove *them* all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the moneychangers, and overturned their tables;

- ¹⁶ and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a house of merchandise."
- ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Thy house will consume me."
- ¹⁸ The Jews therefore answered and said to Him, "What sign do You show to us, seeing that You do these things?"
- ¹⁹ Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."
- ²⁰ The Jews therefore said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?"
- ²¹ But He was speaking of the temple of His body.
- ²² When therefore He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture, and the word which Jesus had spoken.
- **John 3:14** "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;
- ¹⁵ that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life.
- ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.
- ¹⁷ "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.
- ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- **Matthew 12:38** Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."
- ³⁹ But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and *yet* no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet;
- ⁴⁰ for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

5. Jesus' Resolute Direction

Matthew 16:21 From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.

- ²² And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid *it*, Lord! This shall never happen to You."
- ²³ But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."
- ²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.
- ²⁵ "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it: but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it.
- ²⁶ "For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Matthew 17:22 And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men:

²³ and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day." And they were deeply grieved.

Matthew 20:17 And as Jesus was about to go up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve *disciples* aside by themselves, and on the way He said to them,

- ¹⁸ "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death,
- ¹⁹ and will deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify *Him*, and on the third day He will be raised up."

Matthew 20:26 ... whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant,

- ²⁷ and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave;
- ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

6. Happened on Schedule

John 11:55 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover, to purify themselves.

- ⁵⁶ Therefore they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another, as they stood in the temple, "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?"
- ⁵⁷ Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he should report it, that they might seize Him.
- **John 12:1** Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.
- ² So they made Him a supper there, and Martha was serving; but Lazarus was one of those reclining *at the table* with Him.
- ³ Mary therefore took a pound of very costly perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.
- ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said,
- ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii, and given to poor *people*?"
- ⁶ Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.
- ⁷ Jesus therefore said, "Let her alone, in order that she may keep it for the day of My burial.
- ⁸ "For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."
- ⁹ The great multitude therefore of the Jews learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead.
- ¹⁰ But the chief priests took counsel that they might put Lazarus to death also;
- ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away, and were believing in Jesus.
- ¹² On the next day the great multitude who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
- ¹³ took the branches of the palm trees, and went out to meet Him, and *began* to cry out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel."
- ¹⁴ And Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written,
- ¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, seated on a donkey's colt,"
- ¹⁶ These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.
- ¹⁷ And so the multitude who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb, and raised him from the dead, were bearing Him witness.
- ¹⁸ For this cause also the multitude went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign.
- ¹⁹ The Pharisees therefore said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him."

All Scripture: NASV