



The Cross

part 4 The Confirmation of the Cross

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 Corinthians 15:1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

⁶ After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

⁷ then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

⁸ and last of all, as it were to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, who am not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

¹¹ Whether then *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

1 Corinthians 15:17 ... if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

¹⁹ If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

The Resurrection

Mark 16:1 And when the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.

² And very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

³ And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large.

⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed.

⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, *here is* the place where they laid Him.

⁷ "But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He said to you.'"

⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

⁹ *Now after He had risen early on the first day of the week, He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons.*

John 20:1 Now on the first *day* of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone *already* taken away from the tomb.

² And so she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."

³ Peter therefore went forth, and the other disciple, and they were going to the tomb.

⁴ And the two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter, and came to the tomb first;

⁵ and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying *there*; but he did not go in.

⁶ Simon Peter therefore also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he beheld the linen wrappings lying *there*,

⁷ and the face-cloth, which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.

⁸ So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb entered then also, and he saw and believed.

⁹ For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.

¹⁰ So the disciples went away again to their own homes.

¹¹ But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb;

¹² and she beheld two angels in white sitting, one at the head, and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying.

¹³ And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around, and beheld Jesus standing *there*, and did not know that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher).

¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren, and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and *that* He had said these things to her.

¹⁹ When therefore it was evening, on that day, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and said to them, "Peace *be* with you."

²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples therefore rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ "If you forgive the sins of any, *their sins* have been forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they have been retained."

²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵ The other disciples therefore were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I shall see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

²⁶ And after eight days again His disciples were inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace *be* with you."

²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving, but believing."

²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and *yet* believed."

³⁰ Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

³¹ but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

The Confirmation of peace

Romans 4:25 He who was delivered up because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

5:1 Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;
⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;
⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

¹⁰ For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

¹¹ And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

The Confirmation of victory

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

⁵³ For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

⁵⁴ But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory.

⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;

⁵⁷ but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not *in vain* in the Lord.

All Scripture: NASV