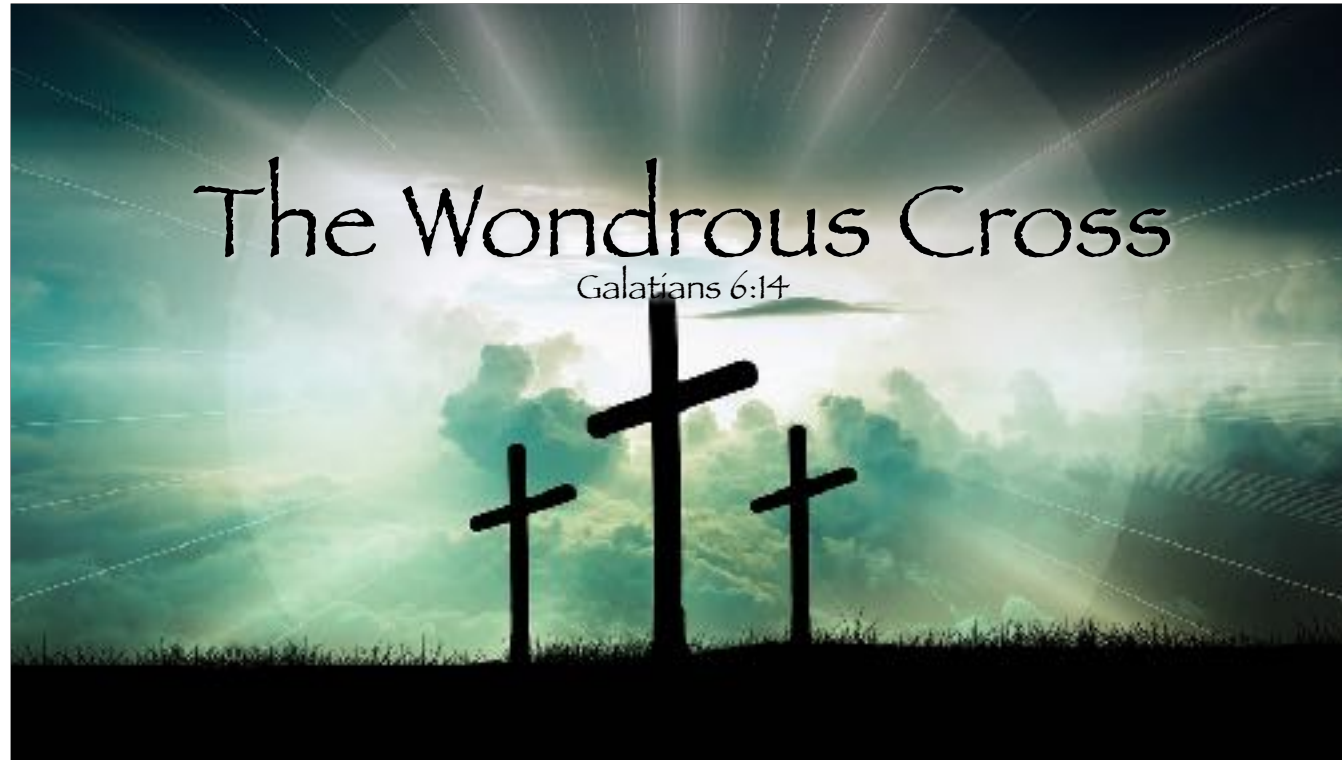
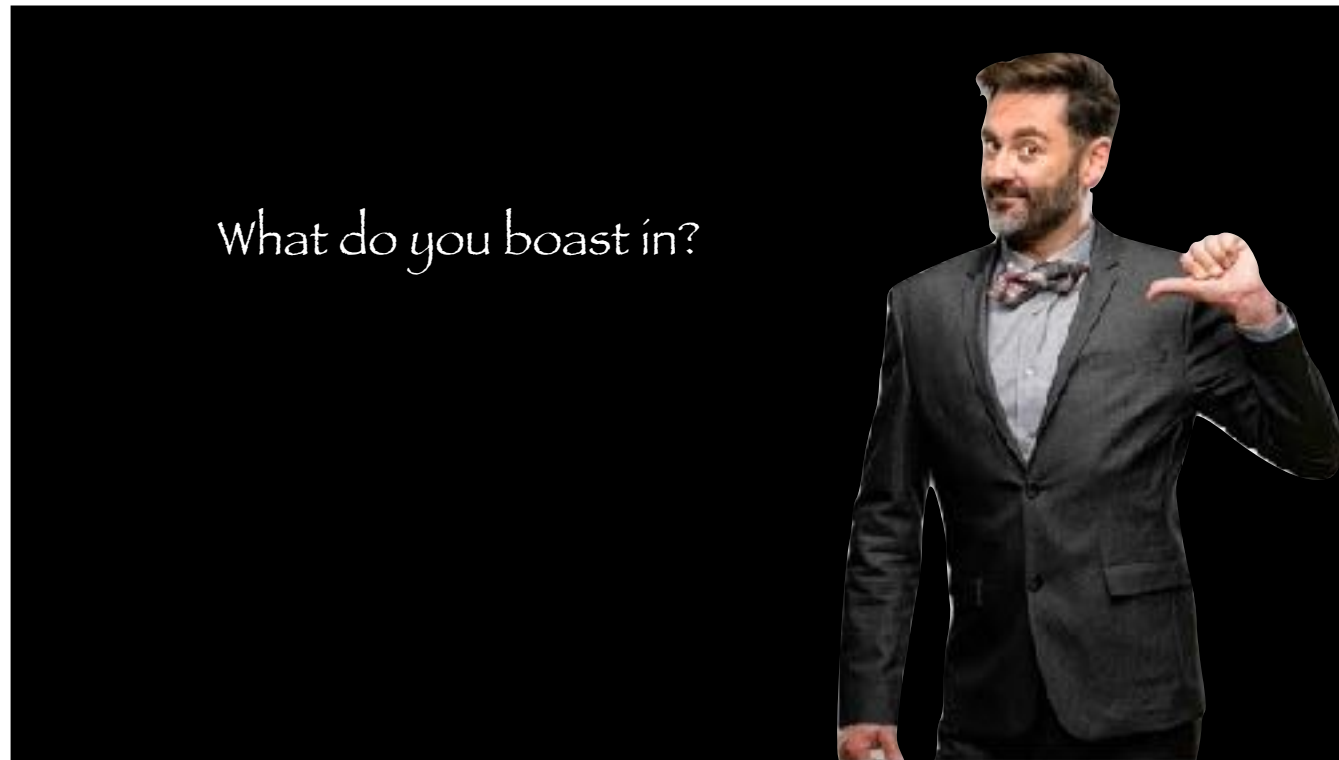


The Wondrous Cross

Galatians 6:14

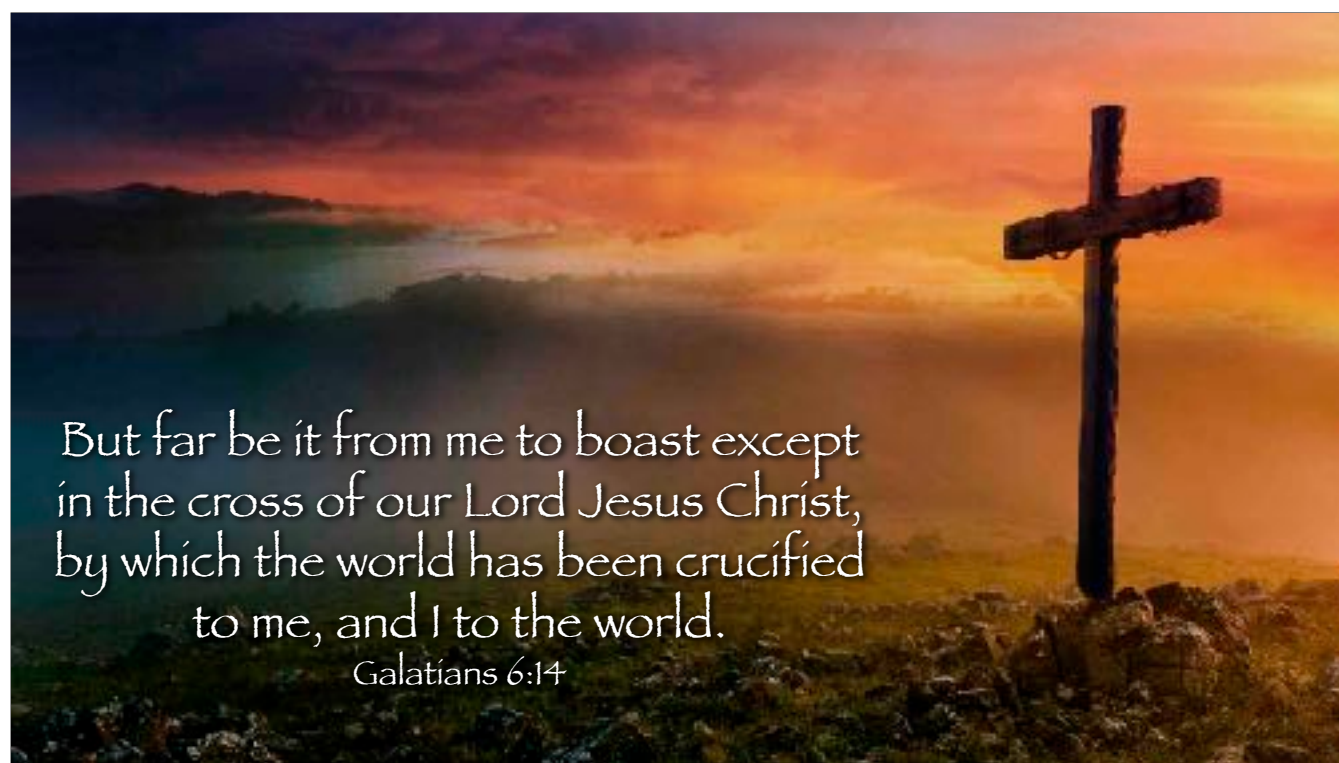




- What we boast in...
 - What do you talk about when you are with your friends and family? Complete stranger?
 - Accomplishments, Sports team, Wealth, Status
 - How we introduce ourselves
 - Give name
 - “What do you do?” (We define ourselves by what we do)
 - Dr. (Family Practitioner) vs. Dr. Head of Department of Neurology at the Mayo Clinic.
 - Sanitation Engineer = garbage man.
- Sometimes it’s not about me ... kids, grandkids



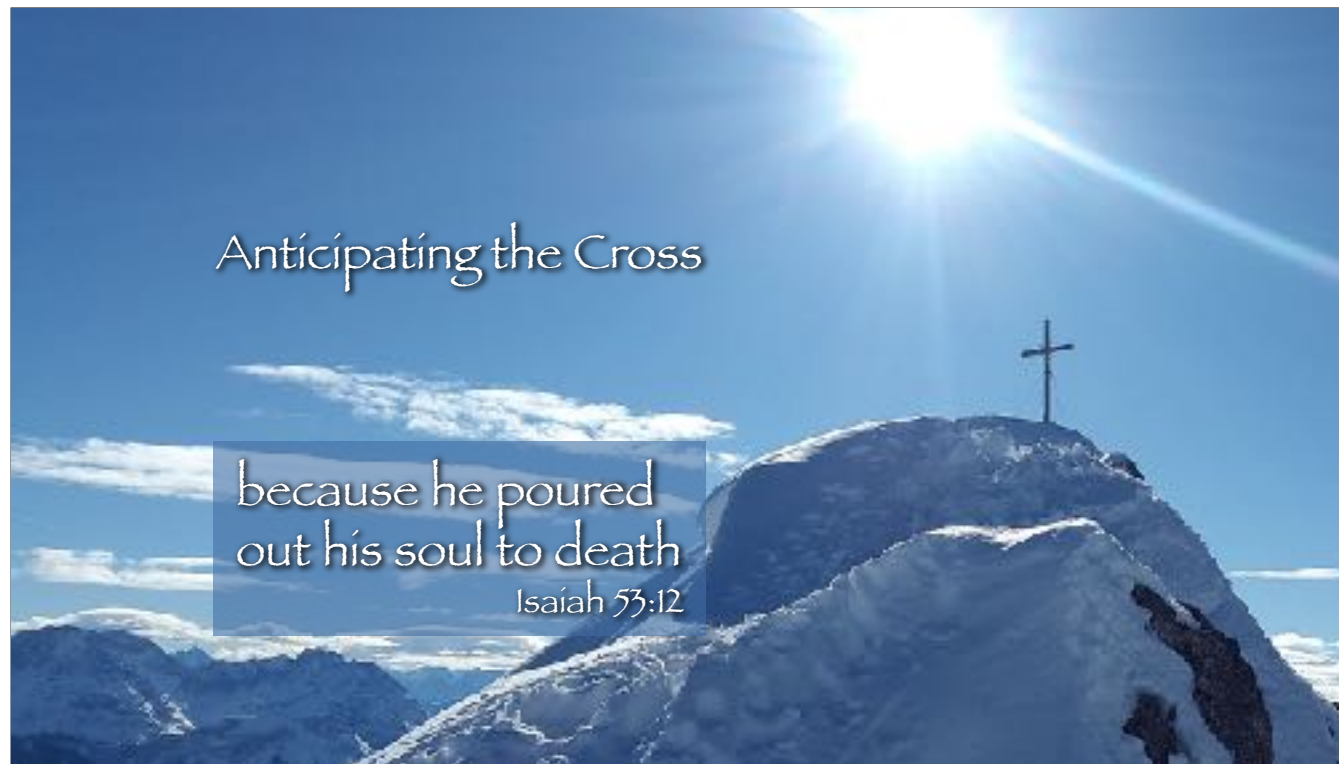
- Sometimes we boast in those who have passed before
 - It's often important to us to consider those who have passed before us.



- Galatians 6:14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

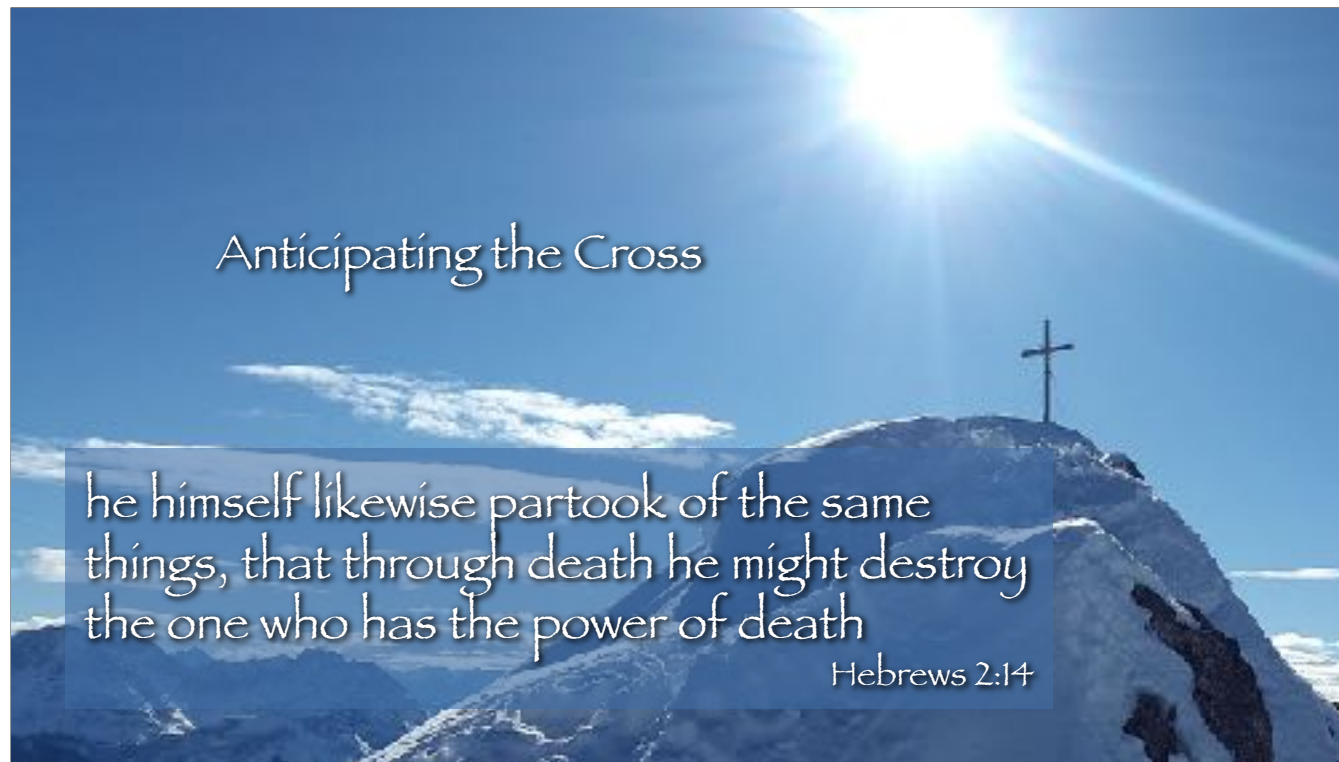


- Anticipating the Cross



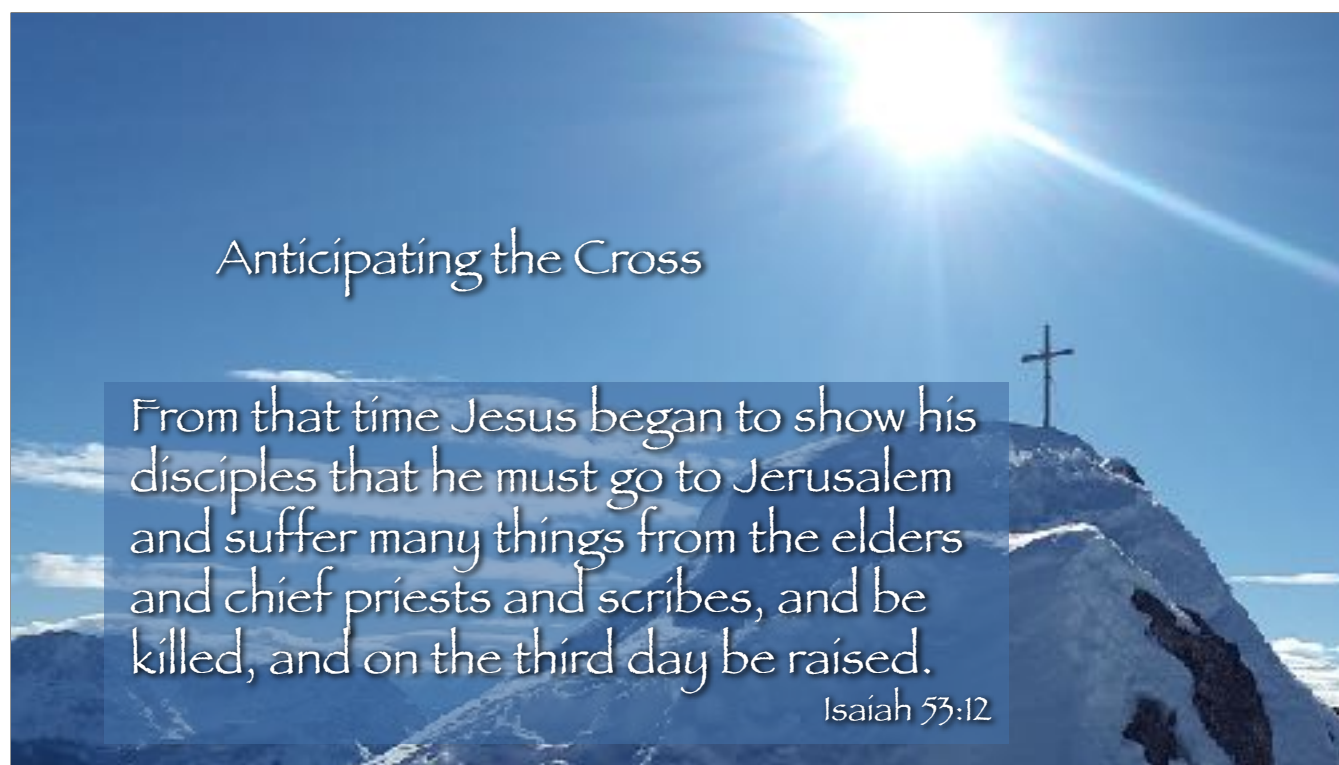
- Prophets Prophesied of the Cross

- Isaiah 53:12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.



- Jesus Prepared for the Cross

- Hebrews 2:14-15 (ESV) 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

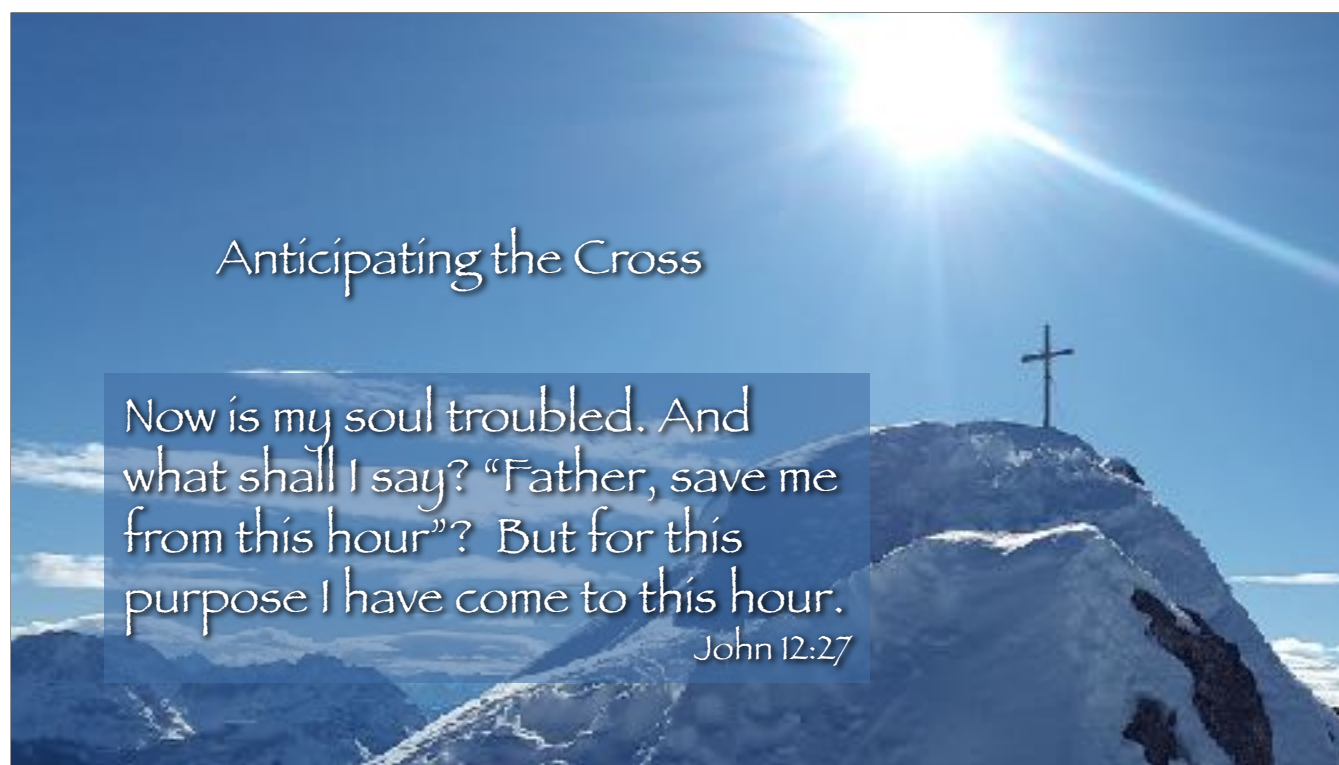


Anticipating the Cross

From that time Jesus 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 on the third day be raised.

Isaiah 53:12

- Disciples
 - Matthew 16:21 From that time Jesus 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 on the third day be raised.

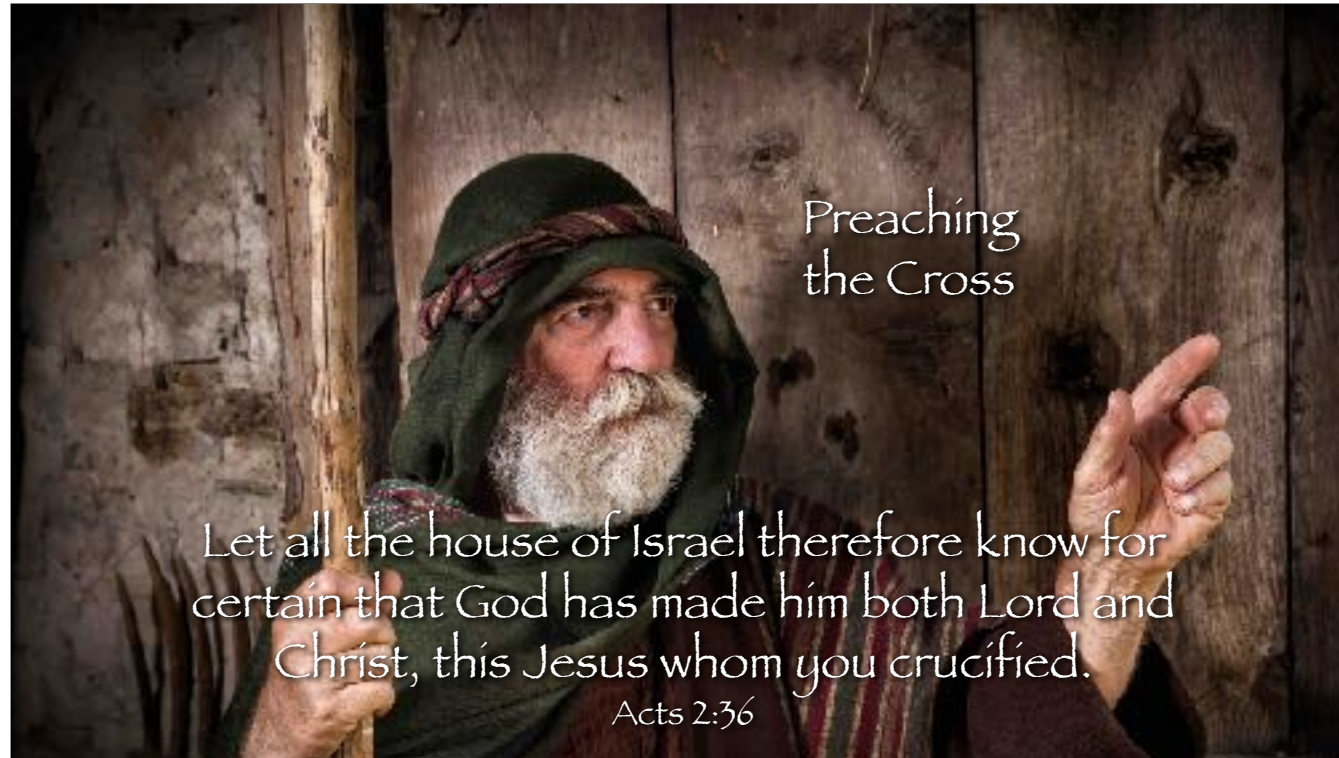


- John 12:27 (ESV) 27 "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.



- Preaching the Cross

-

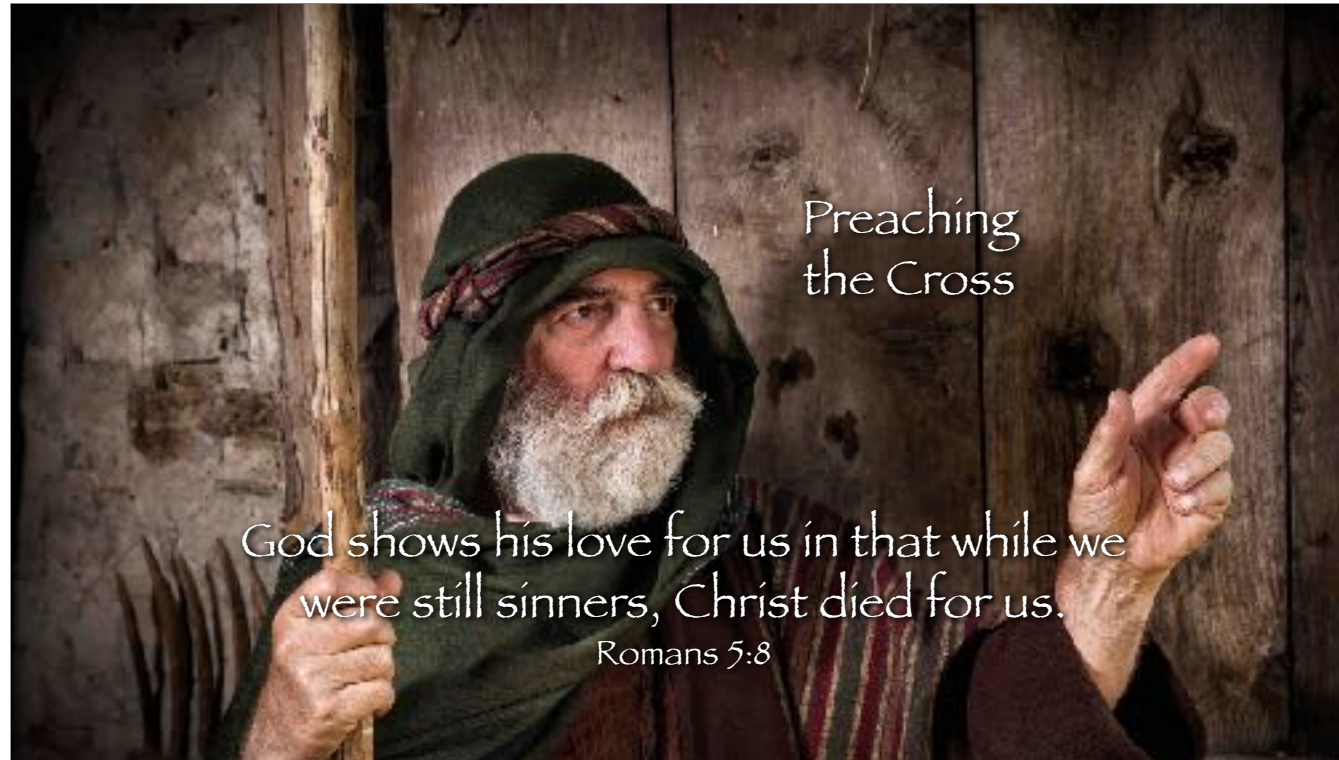


- Peter on Pentecost

- Acts 2:22-23 (ESV) 22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.
- Acts 2:36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”



- 1 Corinthians 1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,



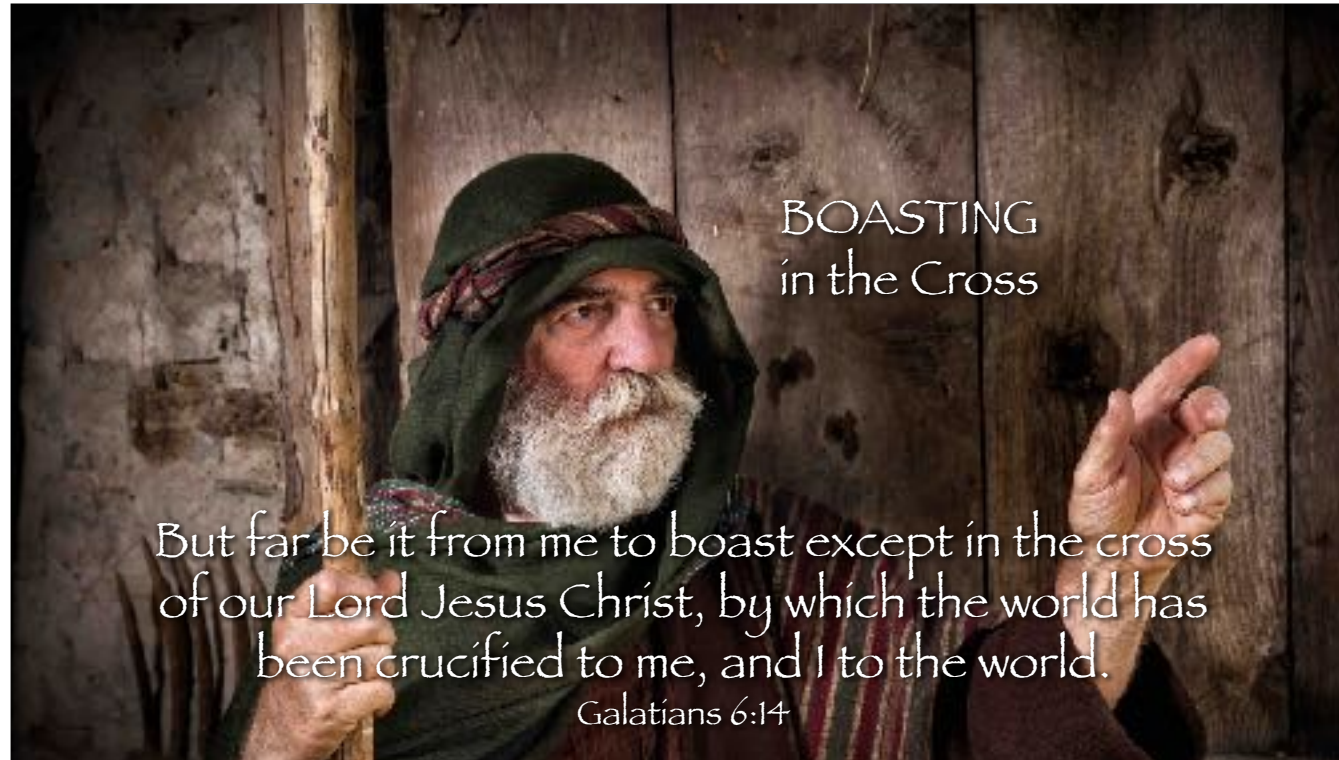
Preaching
the Cross

God shows his love for us in that while we
were still sinners, Christ died for us.

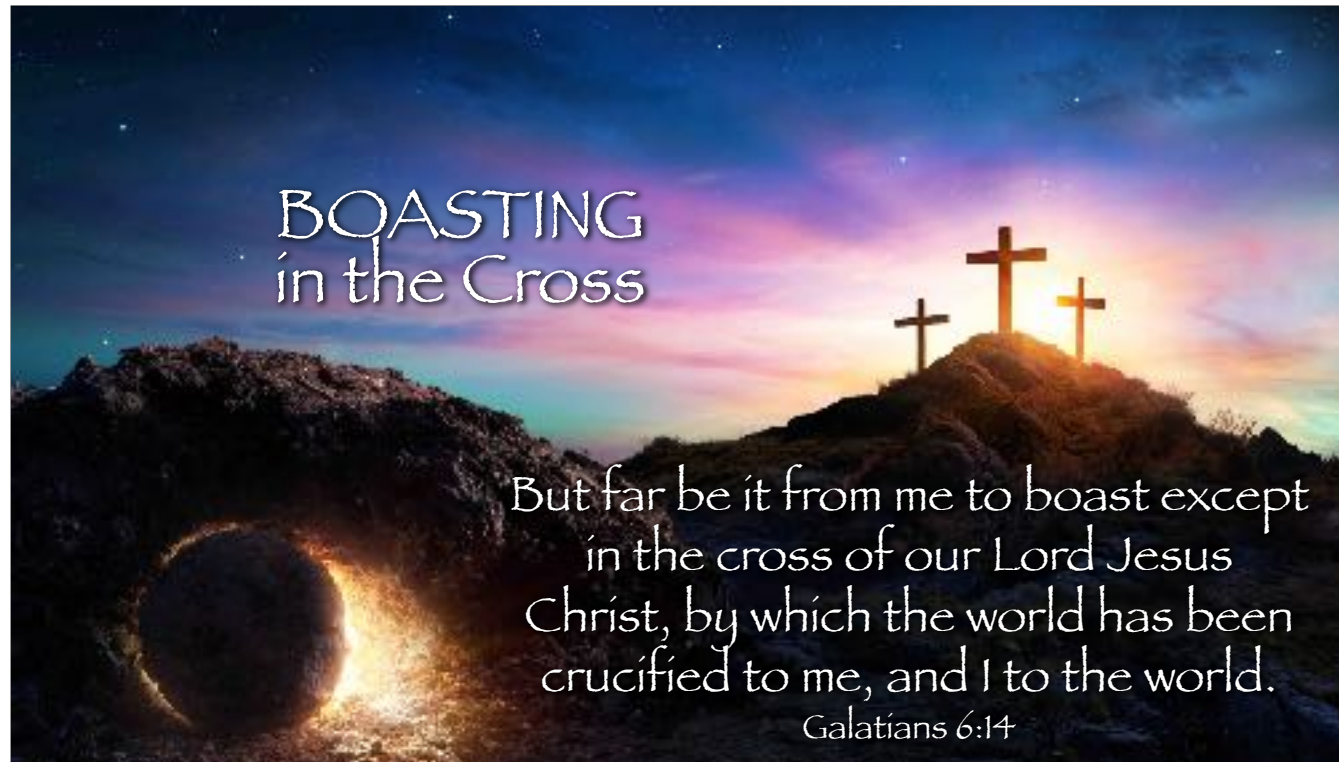
Romans 5:8

- Wrote about it

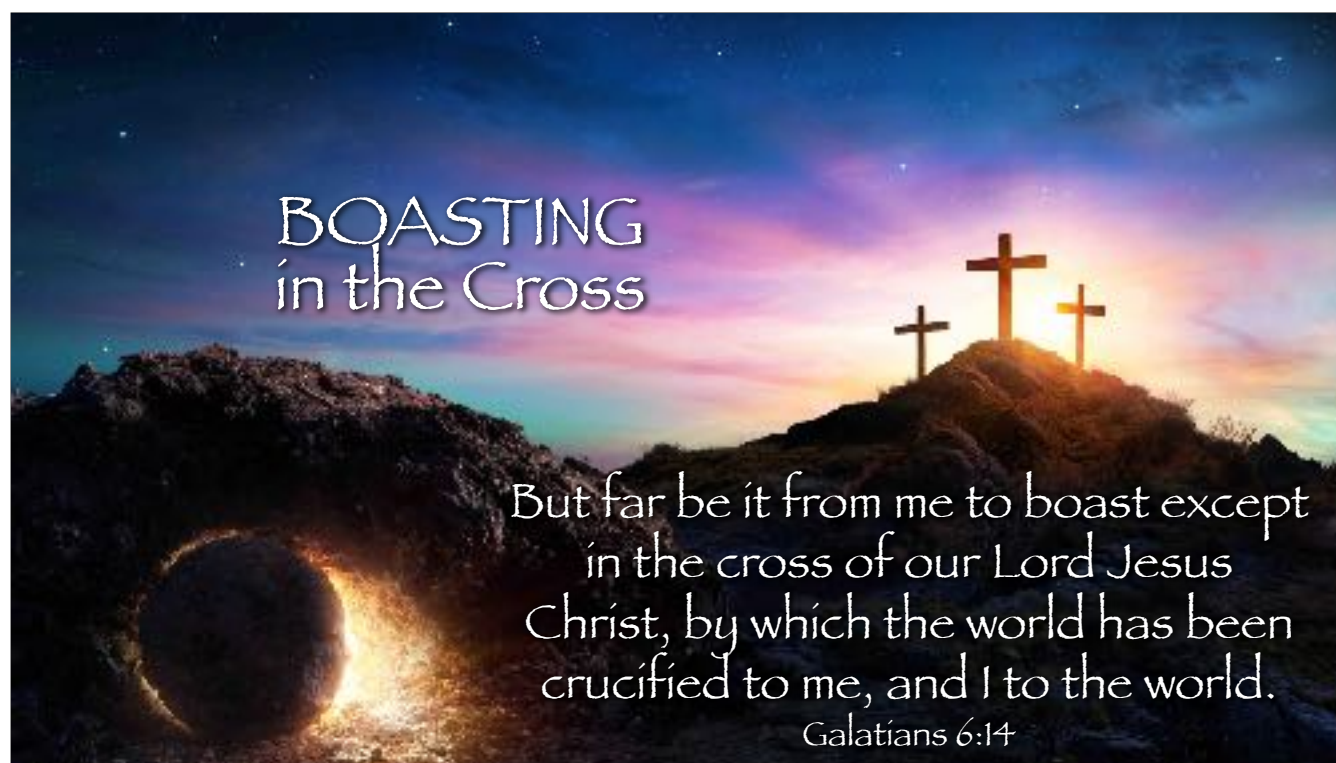
- Romans 5:7-8 (ESV) 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



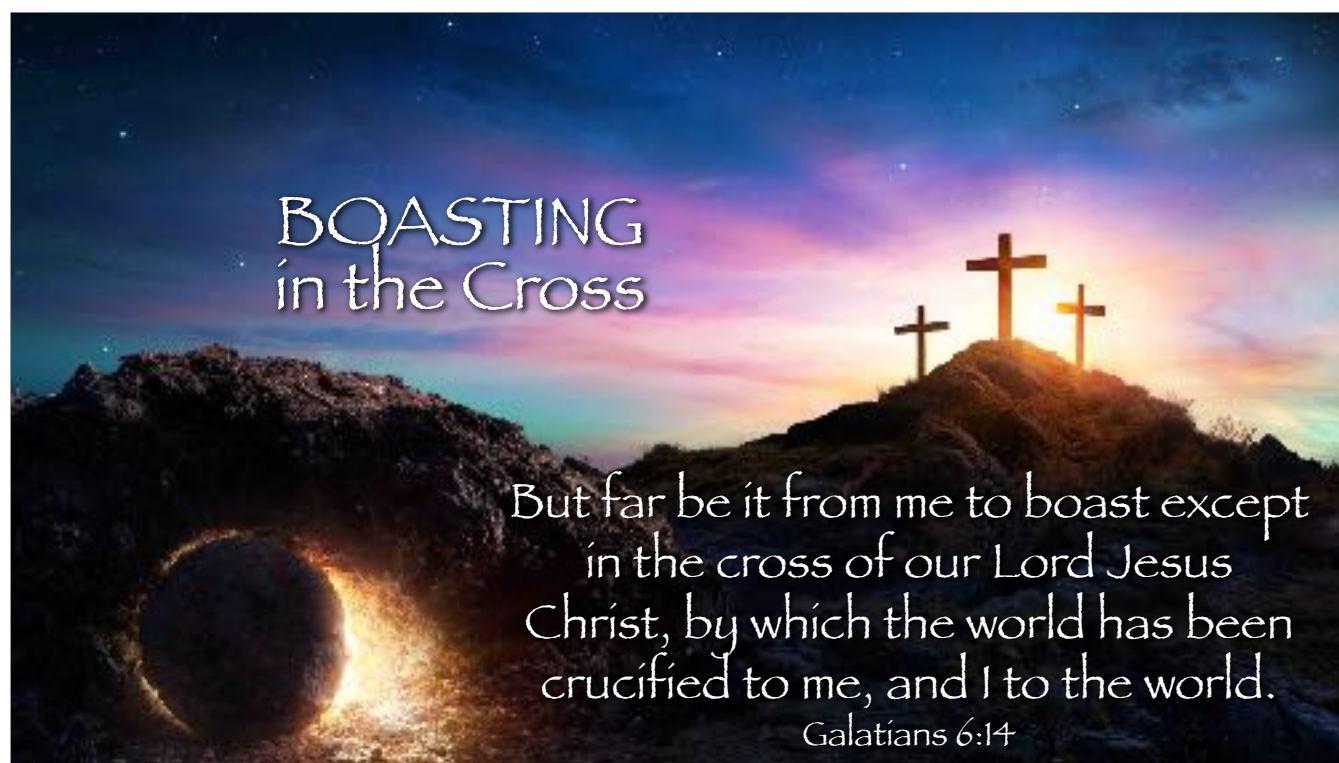
- Boasting
 - Galatians 6:14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.



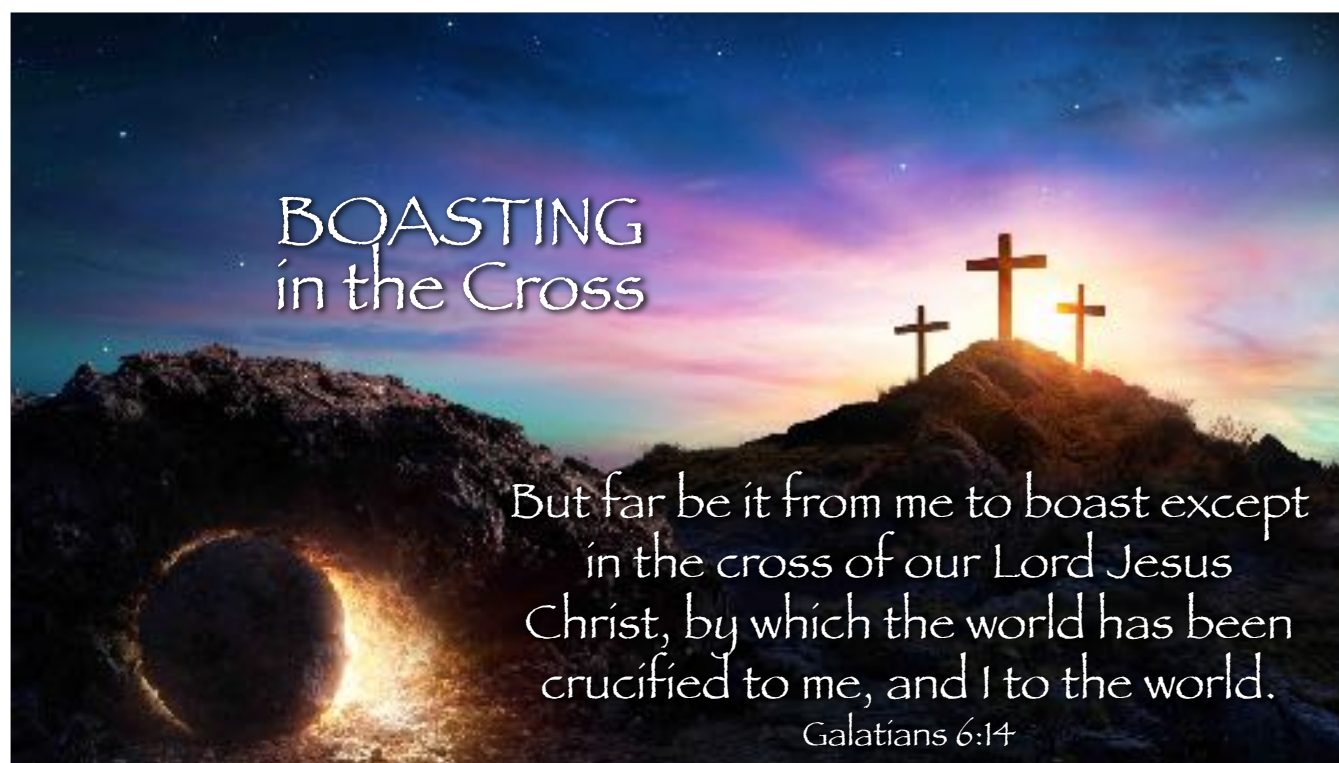
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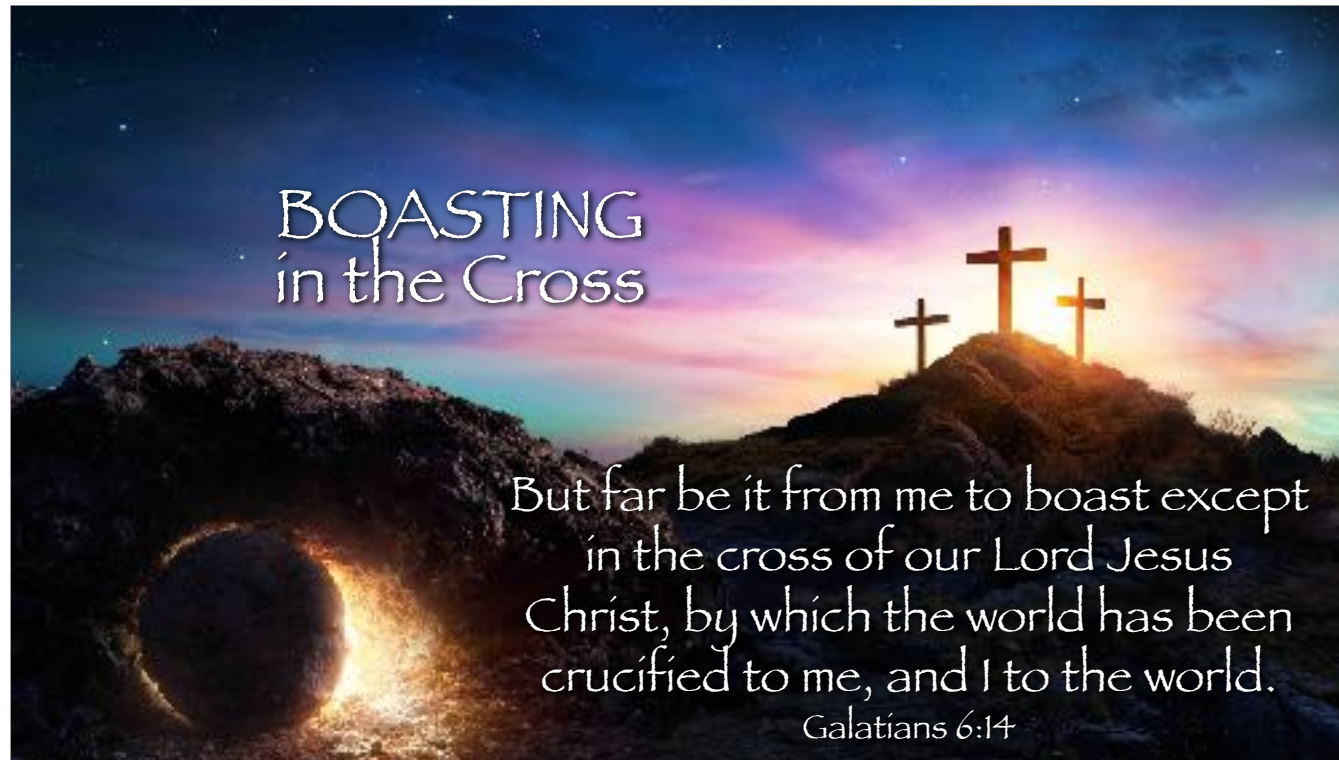
- Boasting
 - Galatians 6:14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- Death on the cross was not an accident
 - It was much more than just a tragic moment
- Not something to be regretted, nor explained away, nor be ashamed of, nor to keep out of sight
- It is much more than a mere decoration, or as an image.
- Don't forget, or idealize it, or philosophize about it, or turn it into something beautiful
- Don't trivialize it.
- Glory in it!



- Who is on the Cross? My Savior
 - Look closely at the cross, who is dying there, on the middle one?
 - Our Lord Jesus Christ
 - Jesus is a man... see that physically, just like other two men
 - Jesus is a carpenter, from Nazareth, until age 30
 - Jesus is a prophet: Went out as a preacher of the kingdom; a worker of miracles.
 - Jesus is the Son of God.
 - I also see my brother.

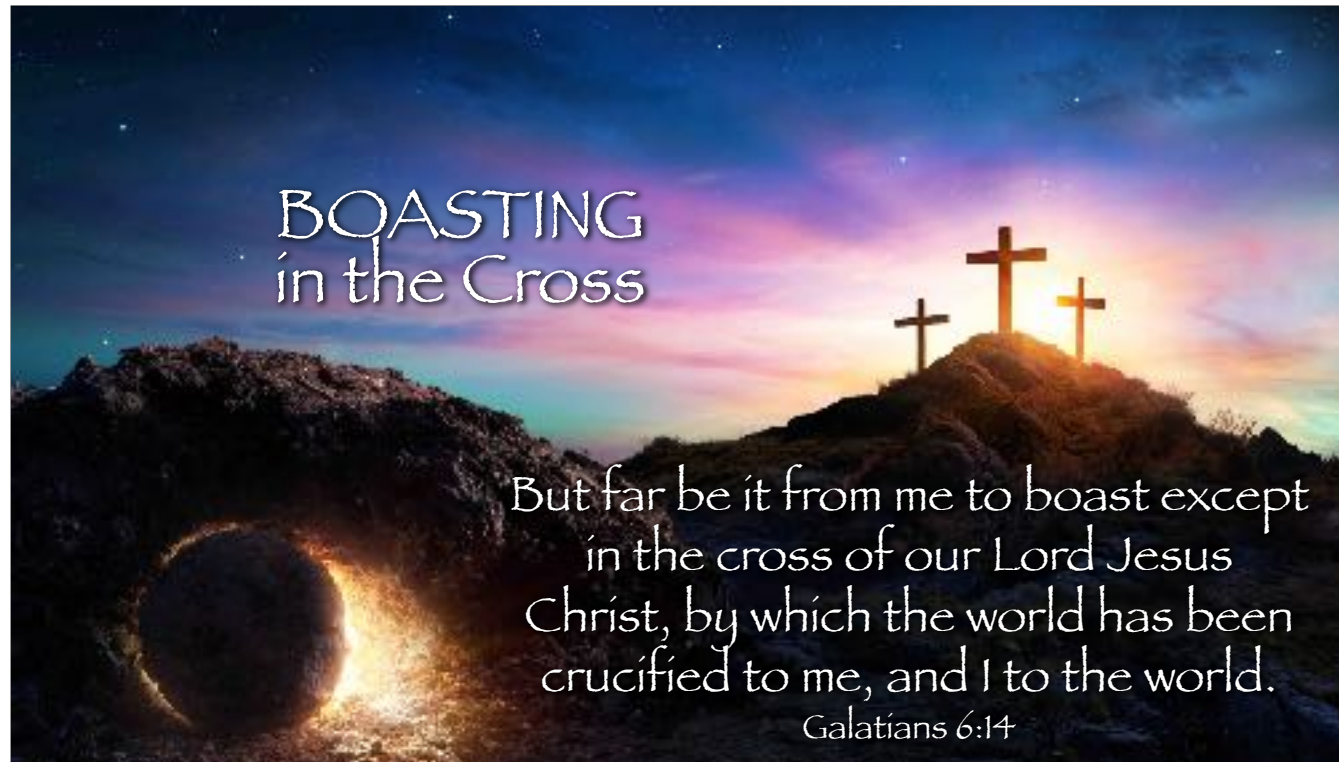


- What is He doing on the Cross?
 - Why is my brother dying?
 - Not a criminal
 - Pilates: Lk. 23:4 "I find no guilt in this man"
 - Not political rebel:
 - Jn 18.36 "My kingdom is not of this world...my kingdom is not from here"
 - Not a merely misunderstood good man



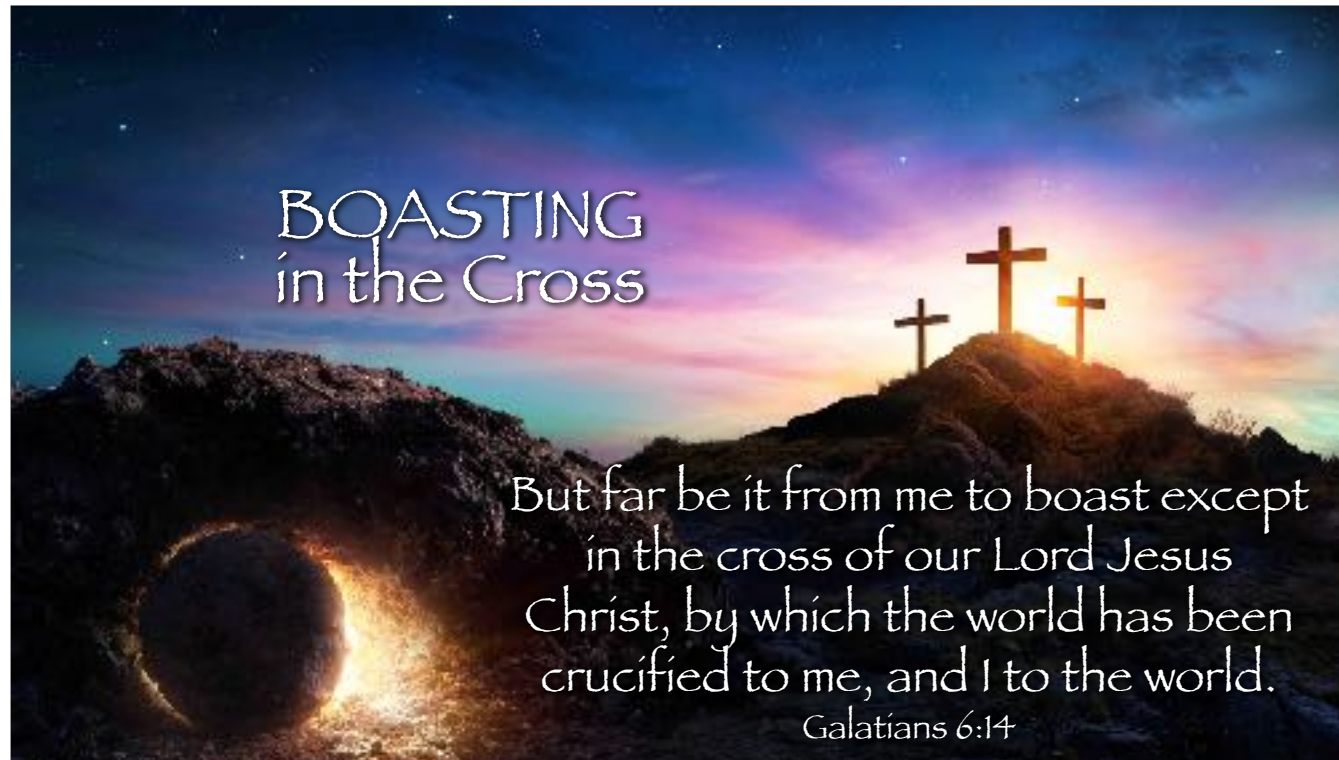
- He chose this!

- Matthew 26:52-54 Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. 53 Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?"



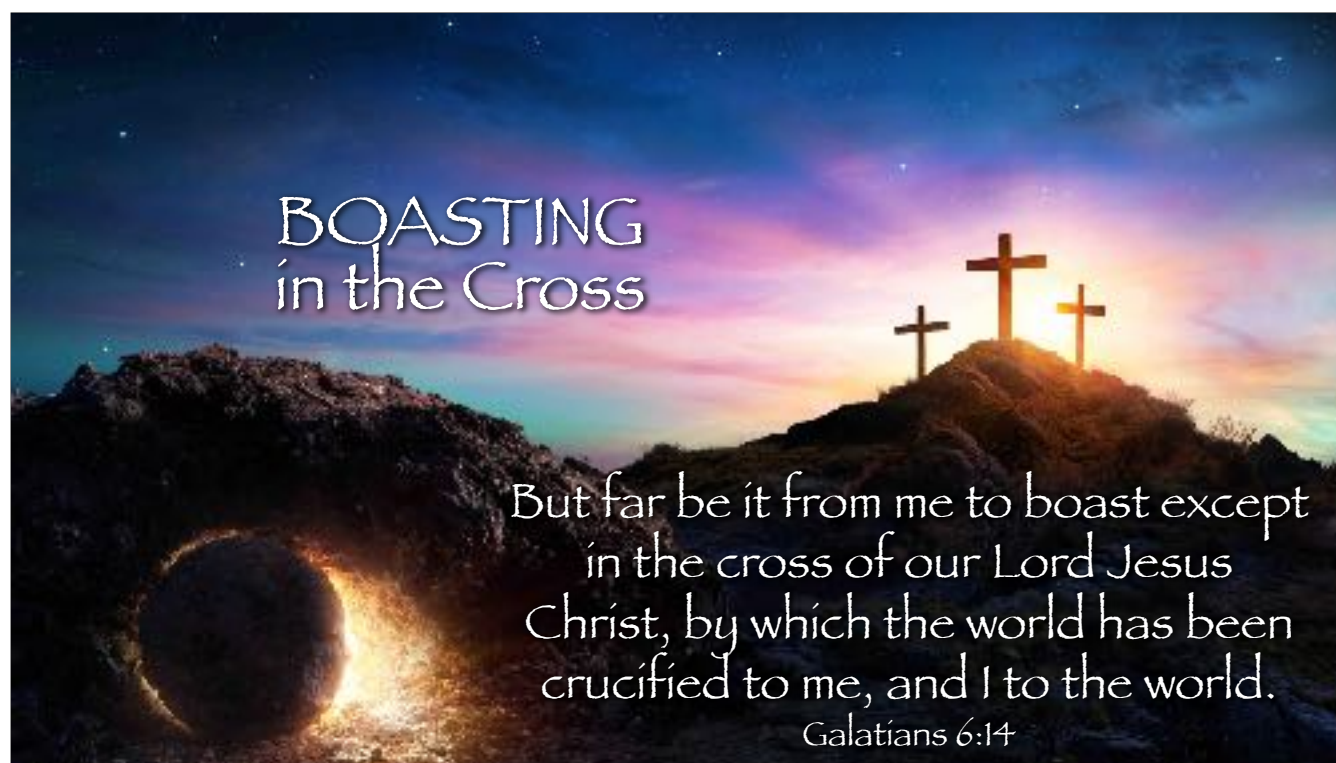
- Tasting Death

- Hebrews 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."

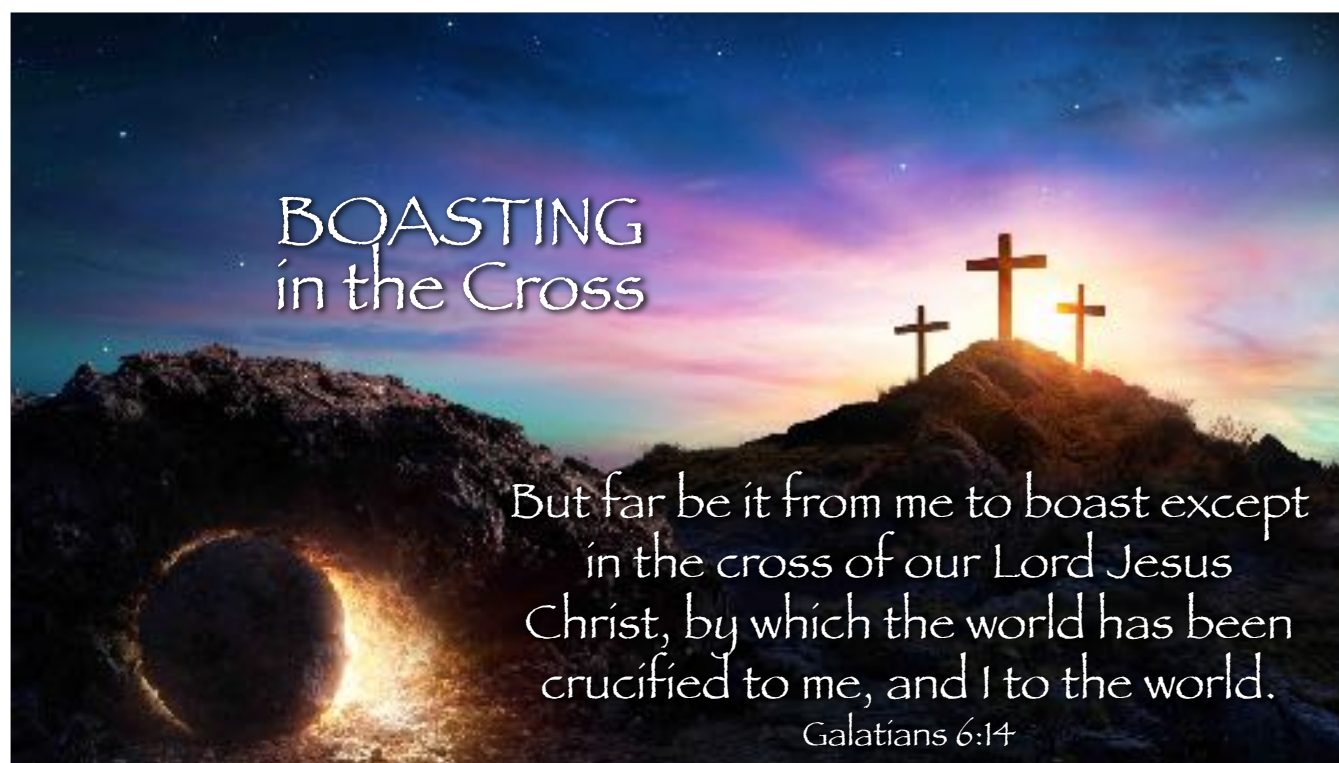


- Defeating the Devil

- Hebrews 2:14-15 (ESV) 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.



- the World has been crucified to me, and I to the world
 - Ephesians 1:4-10 (ESV) In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.



- the World has been crucified to me, and I to the world
 - Romans 8:15-17 (ESV) 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.



- Who will you boast in this week?
 - Will it be the cross? Or will it be the things of the world?
 - “Hello, My name is Dave and I’m a Christian because my brother Jesus died on the cross for my sins”
- Boast by living in faith
 - Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

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WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

*What things were gain to me,
those I counted loss for Christ.*

Philippians 3:7

Isaac Watts, 1707

Gregorian
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1824

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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The Wondrous Cross

Galatians 6:14

Synopsis: Jesus, as our brother, chose to go to the cross so that he could defeat the devil and death and so that we could be glorified in Him. Who will you boast in? (Adapted from "The Wondrous Cross," in The Cross by Martyn Lloyd-Jones)

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"Let all that you do be done with love."