

- Boasting in the Cross: Galatians 6:14

## When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

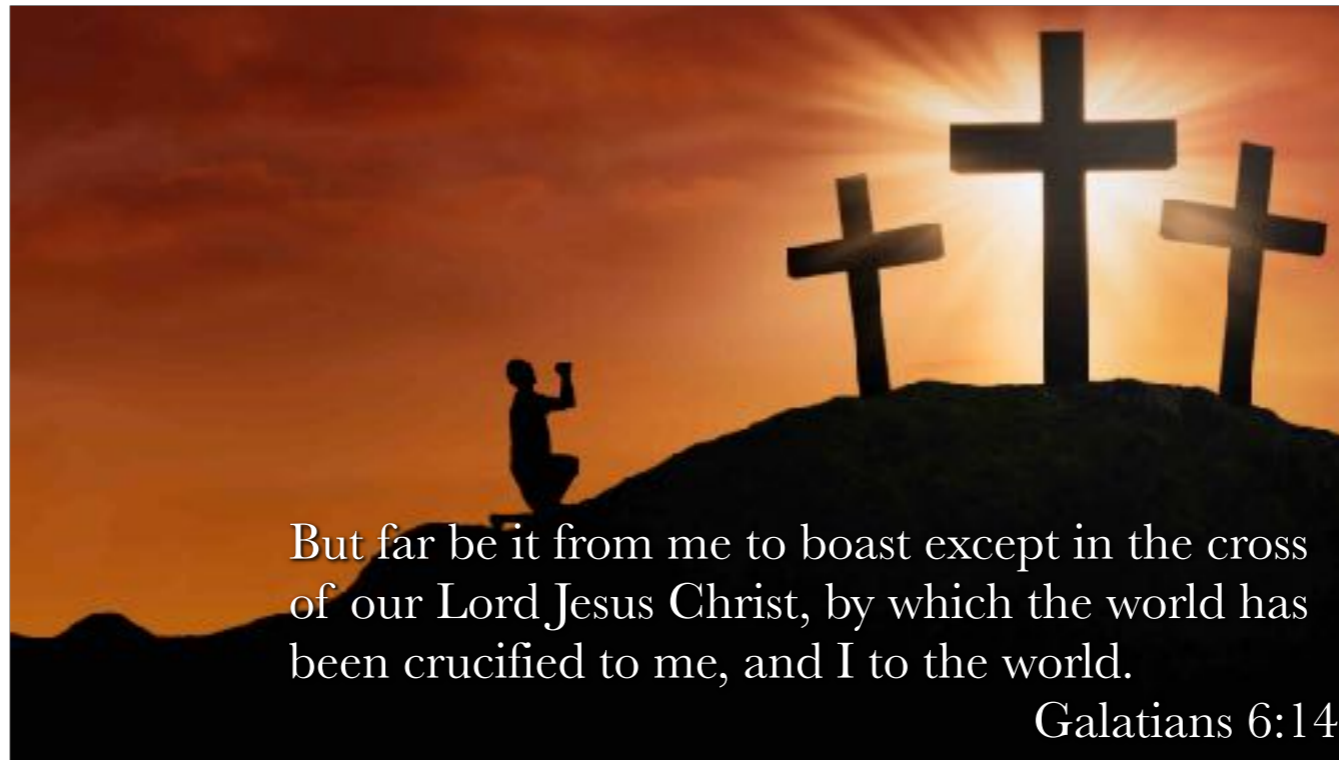
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,  
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;  
Then I am dead to all the globe,  
And all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

- When I Survey the Wondrous Cross — Isaac Watts
- Note especially verses 2 and 4
  - Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
  - Save in the death of Christ my God!
  - All the vain things that charm me most,
  - I sacrifice them to His blood.
- His dying crimson, like a robe,
- Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
- Then I am dead to all the globe,
- And all the globe is dead to me.



- 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.



- Why I Boast in the Cross
  - Why did Paul boast in the cross?
    - Consider what he had previously had confidence in
  - Philippians 3:4-7 (ESV)

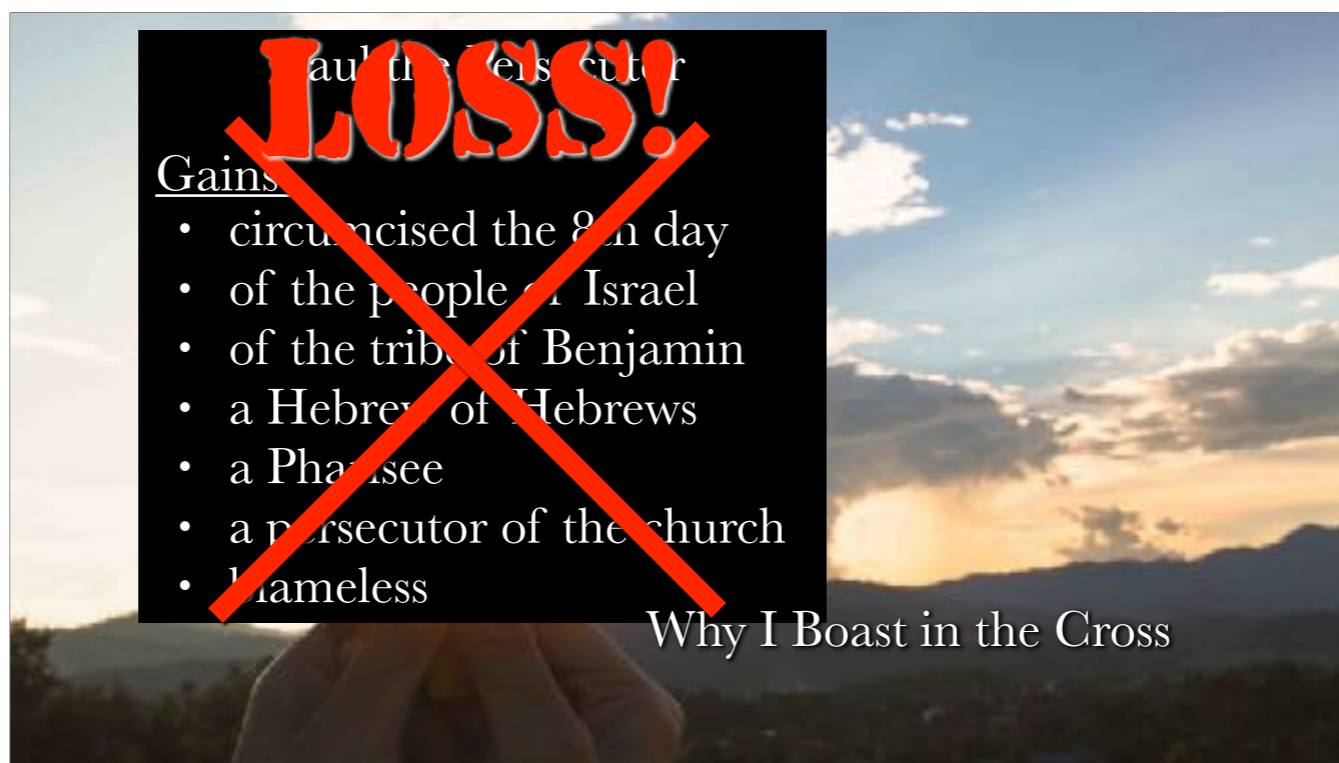
## Saul the Persecutor

### Gains:

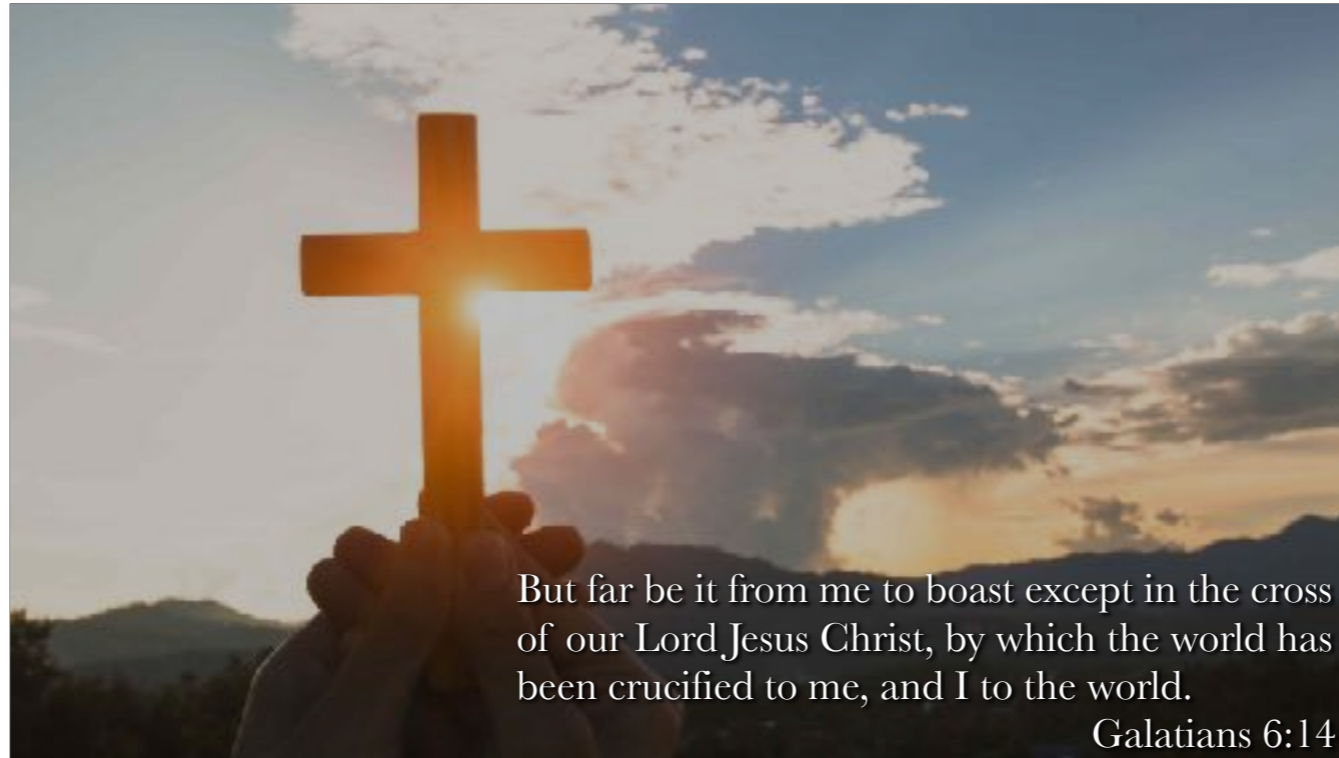
- circumcised the 8th day
- of the people of Israel
- of the tribe of Benjamin
- a Hebrew of Hebrews
- a Pharisee
- a persecutor of the church
- blameless

Why I Boast in the Cross

- 4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
  - 5 circumcised on the eighth day,
  - of the people of Israel,
  - of the tribe of Benjamin,
  - a Hebrew of Hebrews;
  - as to the law, a Pharisee;
  - 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church;
  - as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
- 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.



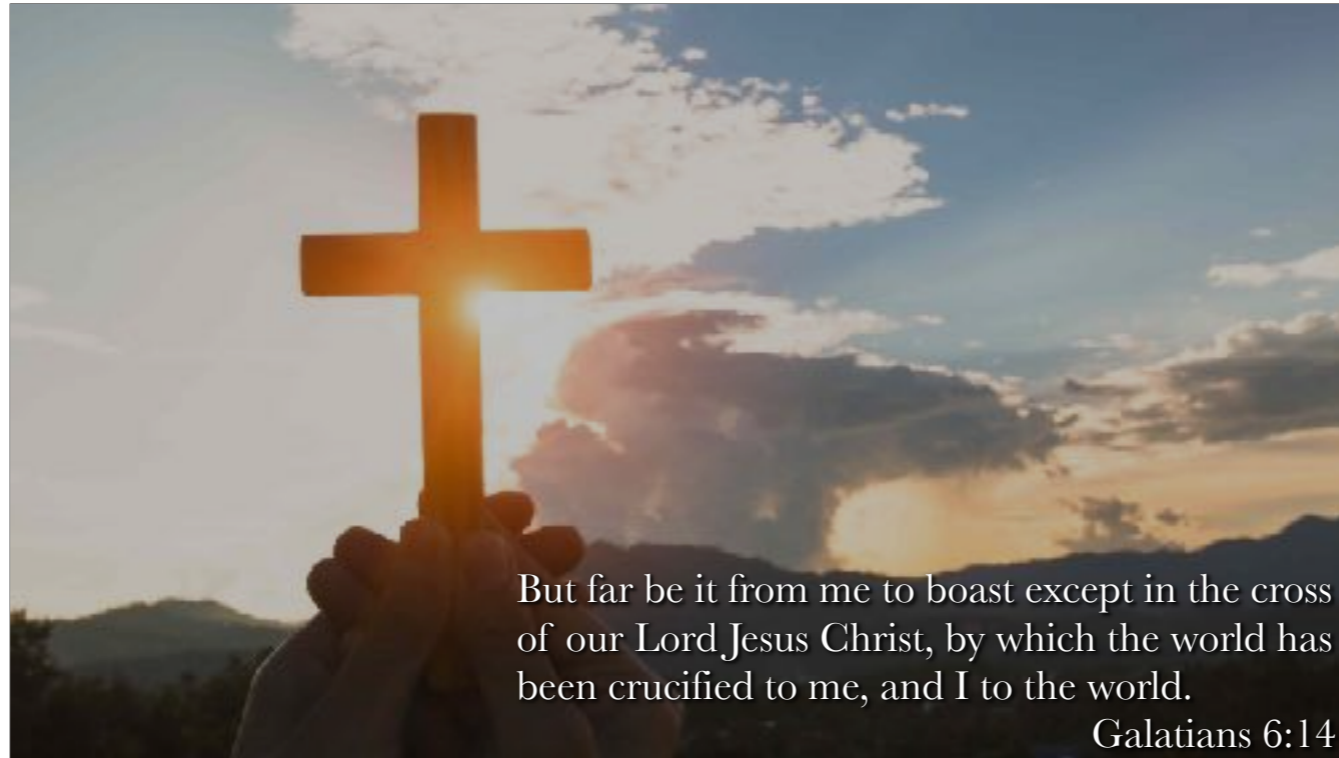
- 4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
  - 5 circumcised on the eighth day,
  - of the people of Israel,
  - of the tribe of Benjamin,
  - a Hebrew of Hebrews;
  - as to the law, a Pharisee;
  - 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church;
  - as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
- 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.



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.

Galatians 6:14

- 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.

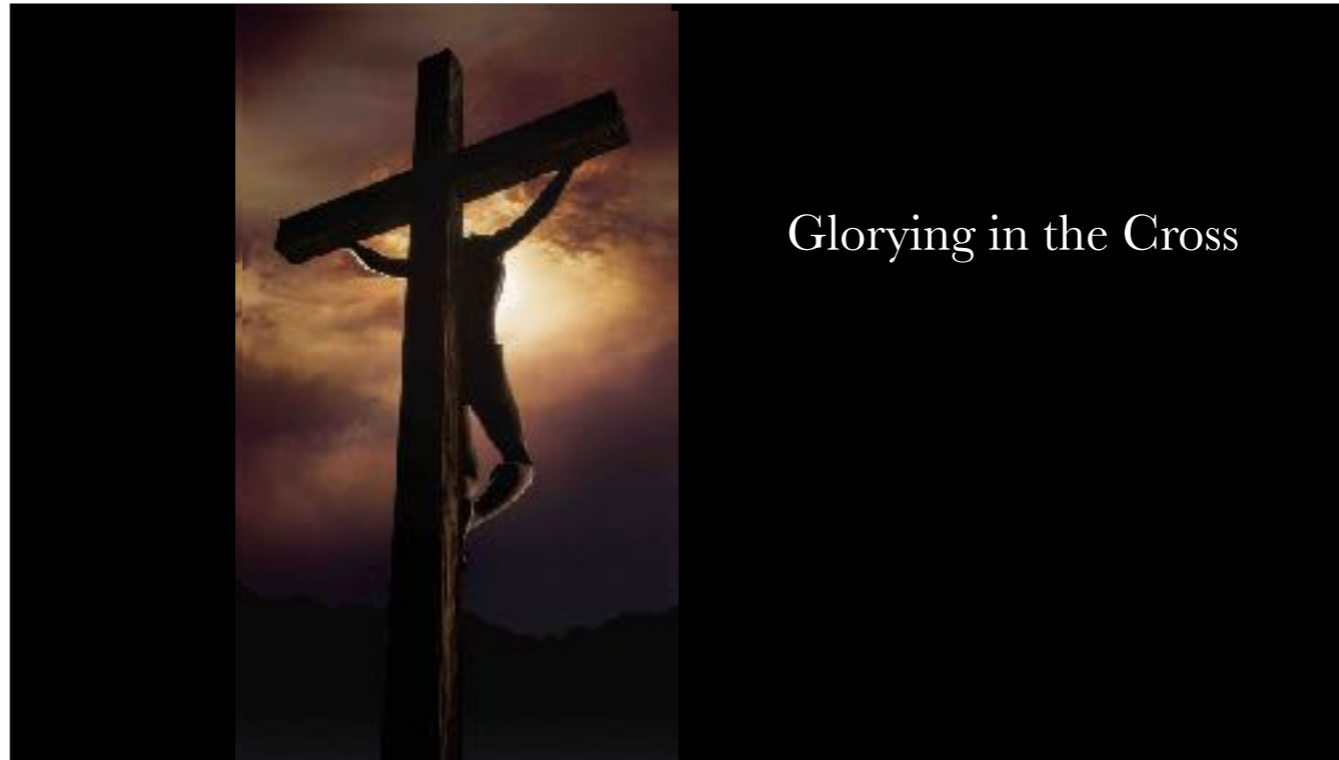


But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Galatians 6:14

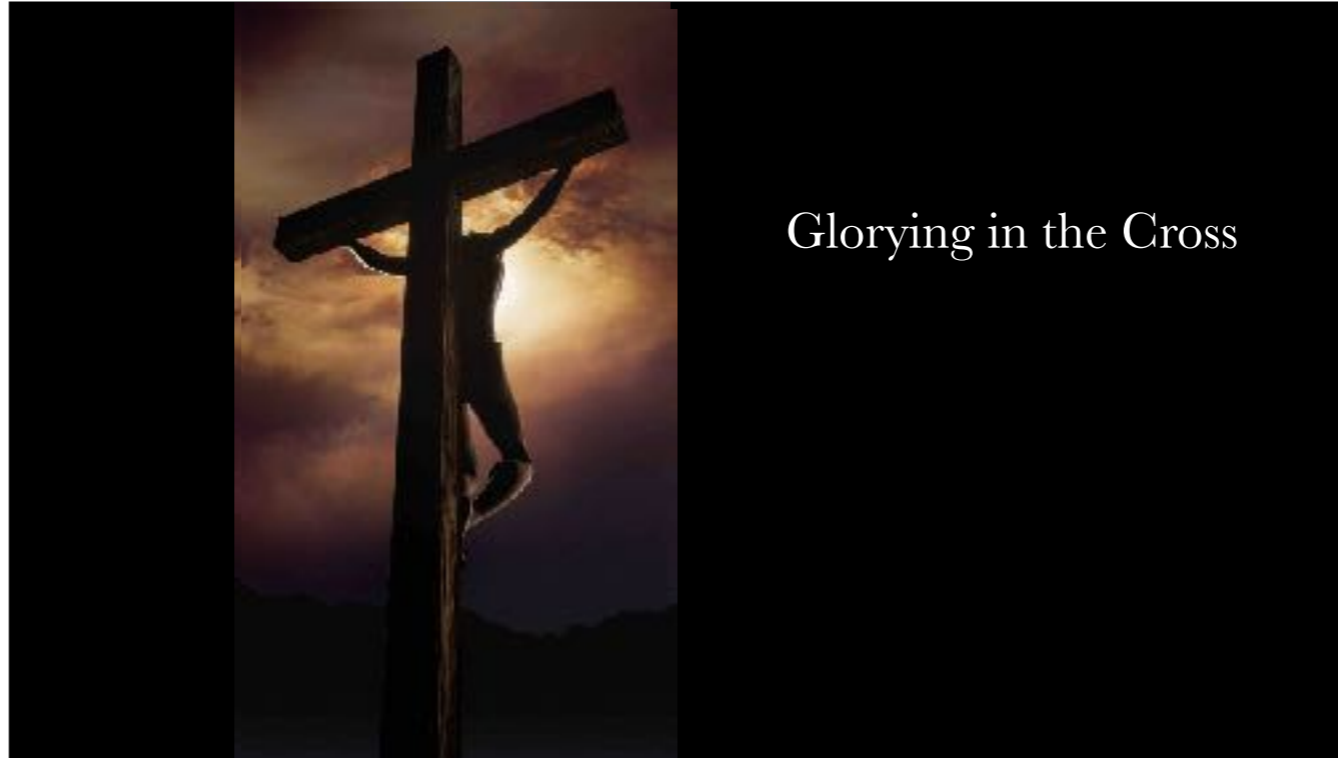
- Death on the cross was not an accident nor greatest of all tragedies.
- Not something to be regretted, nor explained away, nor be ashamed of, nor to keep out of sight
- It is not something to be used as a mere decoration, or as an image.
- Don't forget it, or idealize it, or philosophize about it, or turn it into something beautiful
- Don't trivialize it.





## Glorying in the Cross

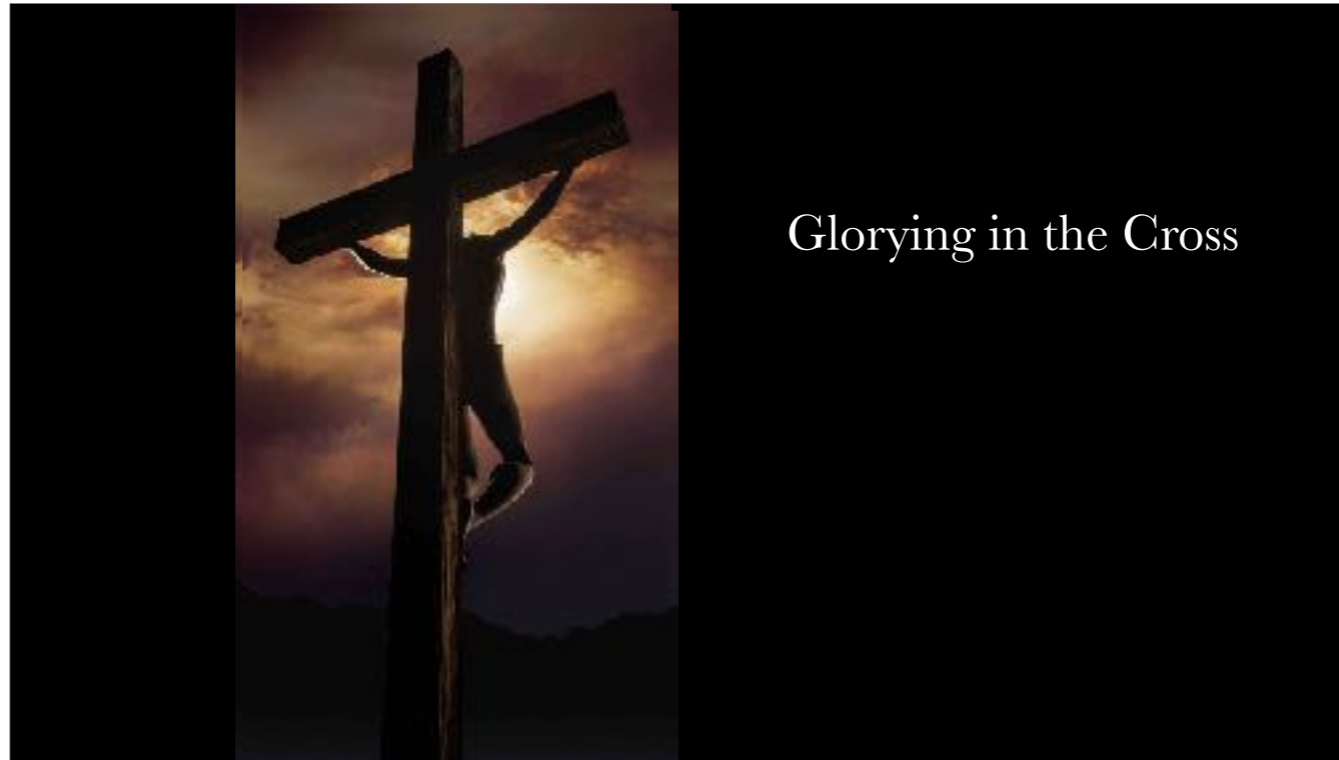
- “by which” (some translations: by whom”)
- Who is on the Cross? My Savior
  - Look closely at the cross, who is dying there, on the middle one?



## Glorying in the Cross

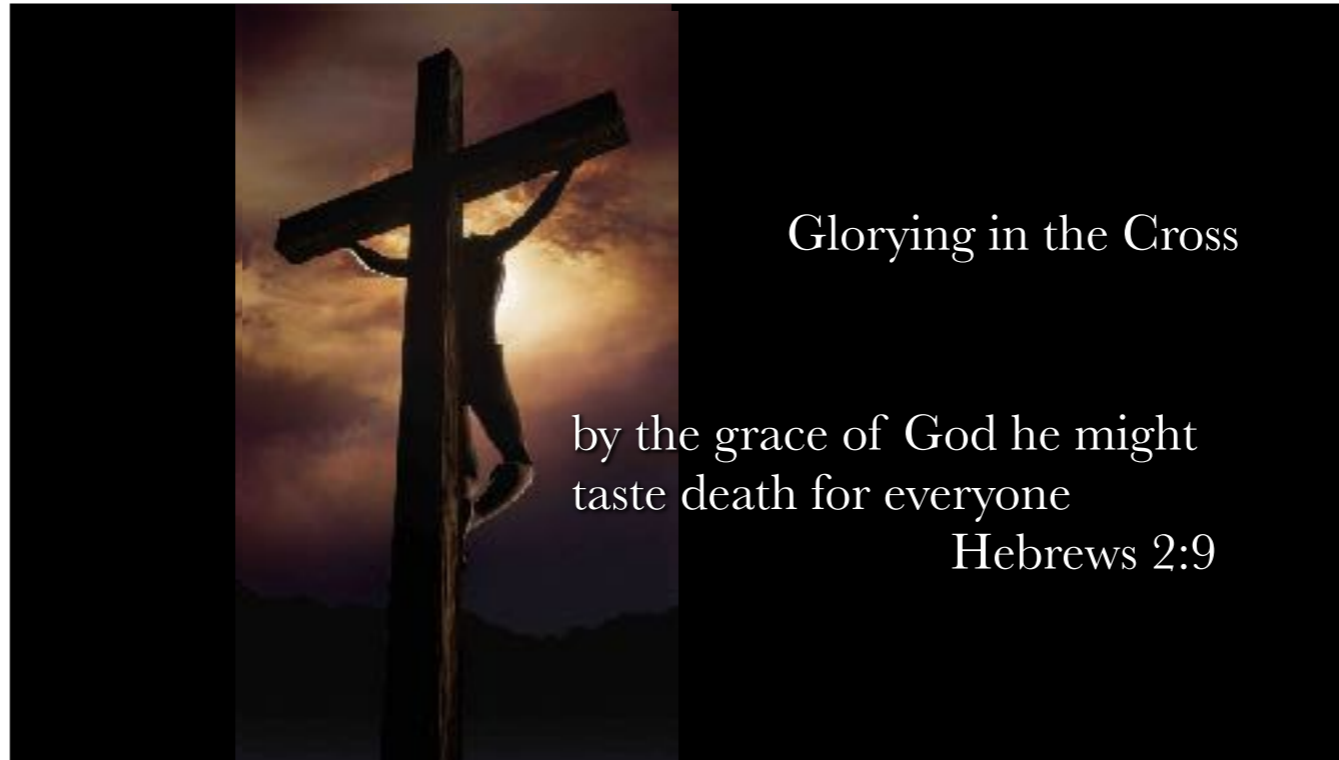
- Our Lord Jesus Christ

- Jesus is a man... see that physically, just like other two men: suffering
- 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.
  - Matthew 16:16-17 — Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

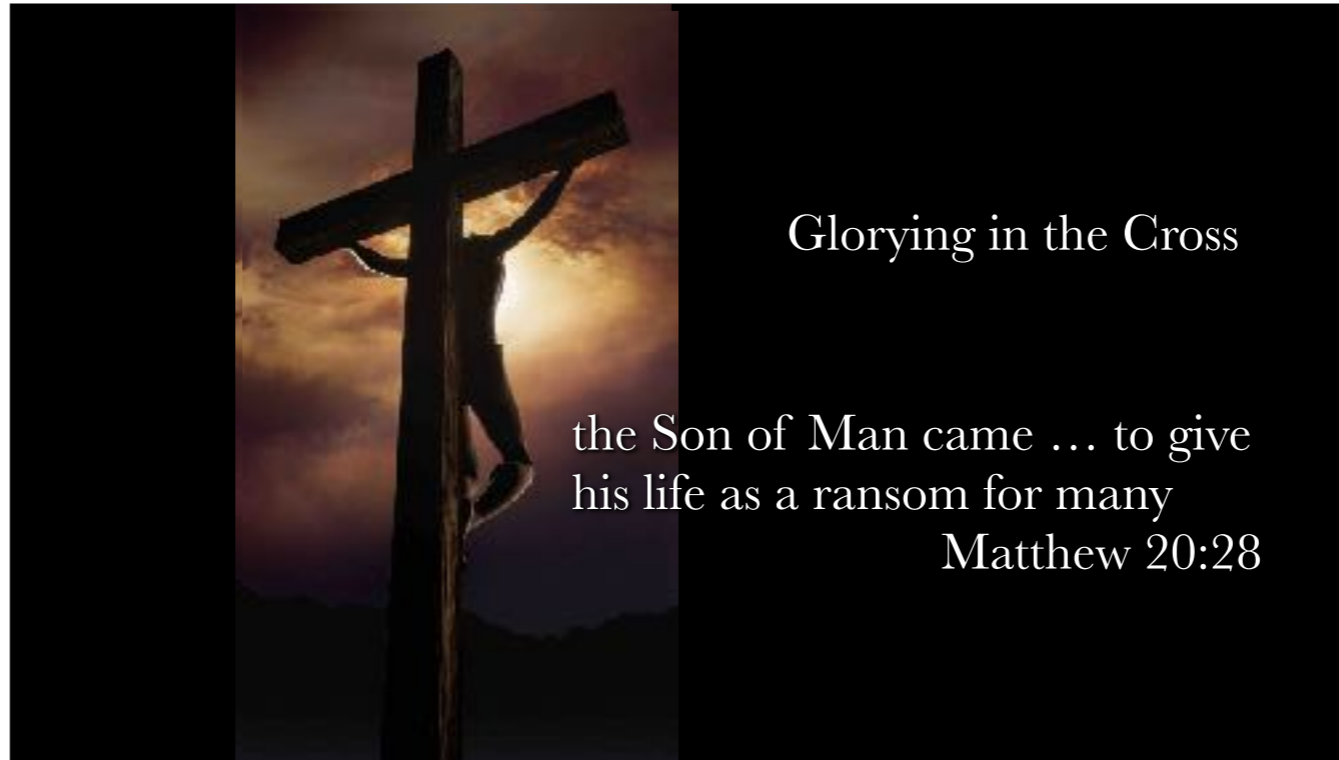


## Glorying in the Cross

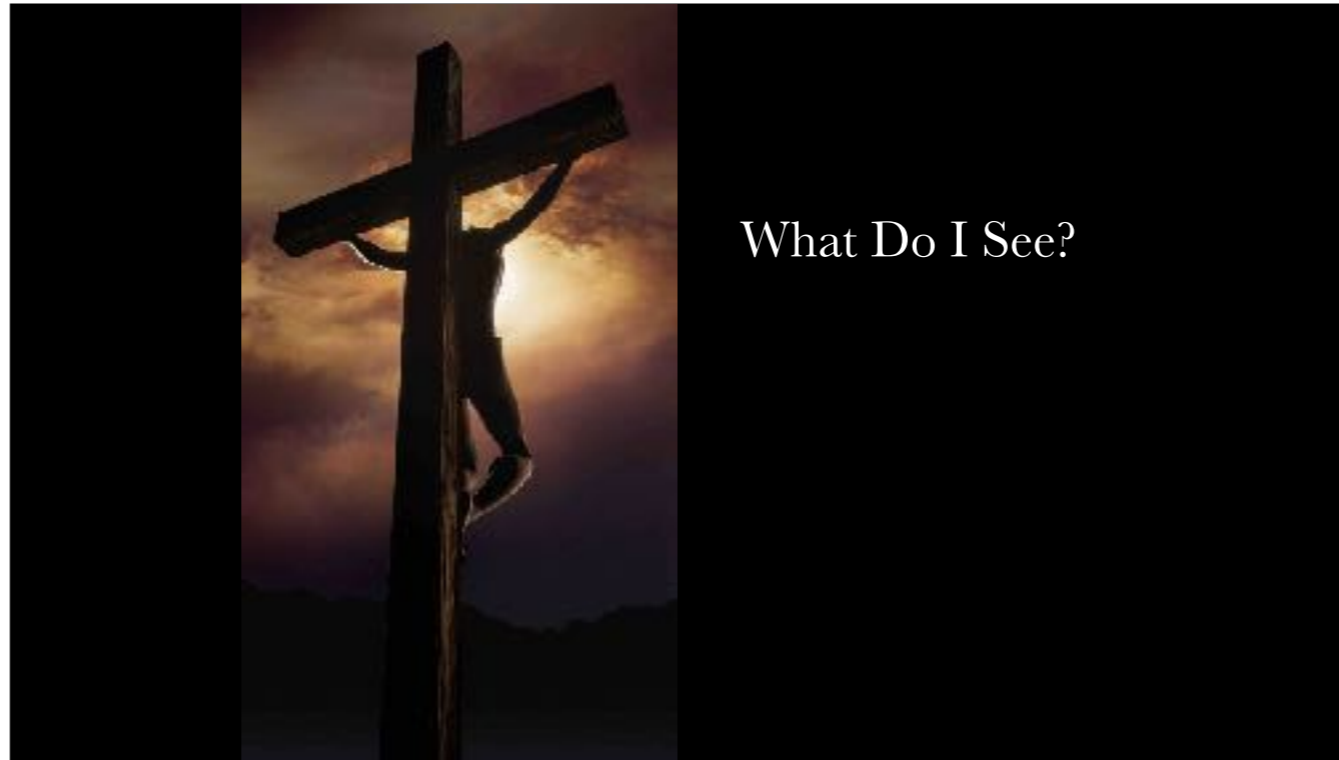
- What is He doing on the Cross?
  - Why is God dying?
  - Not a criminal
  - Not a pacifist
  - Not political rebel:
    - Jn 18.36 “My kingdom is not of this world...my kingdom is not from here”
  - Not a merely misunderstood good man



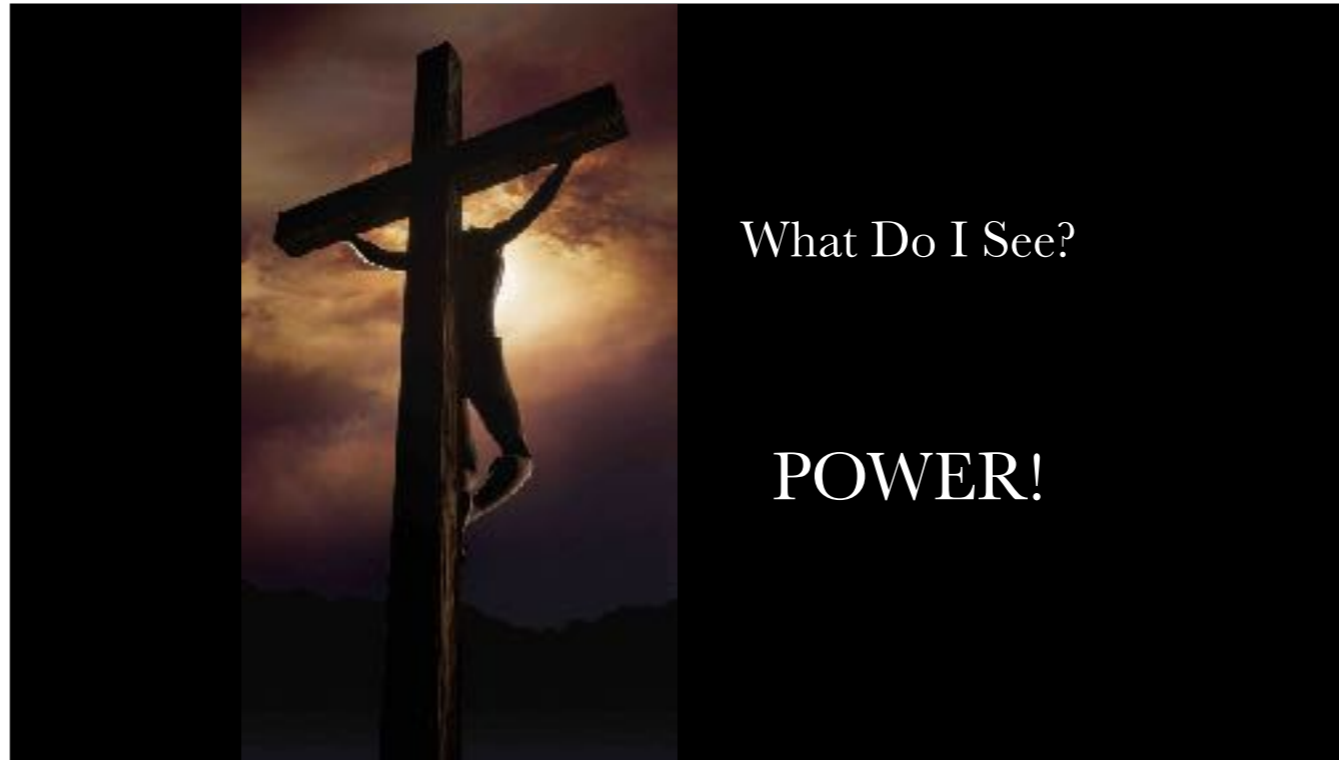
- Hebrews 2:9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.



- Matthew 20:28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



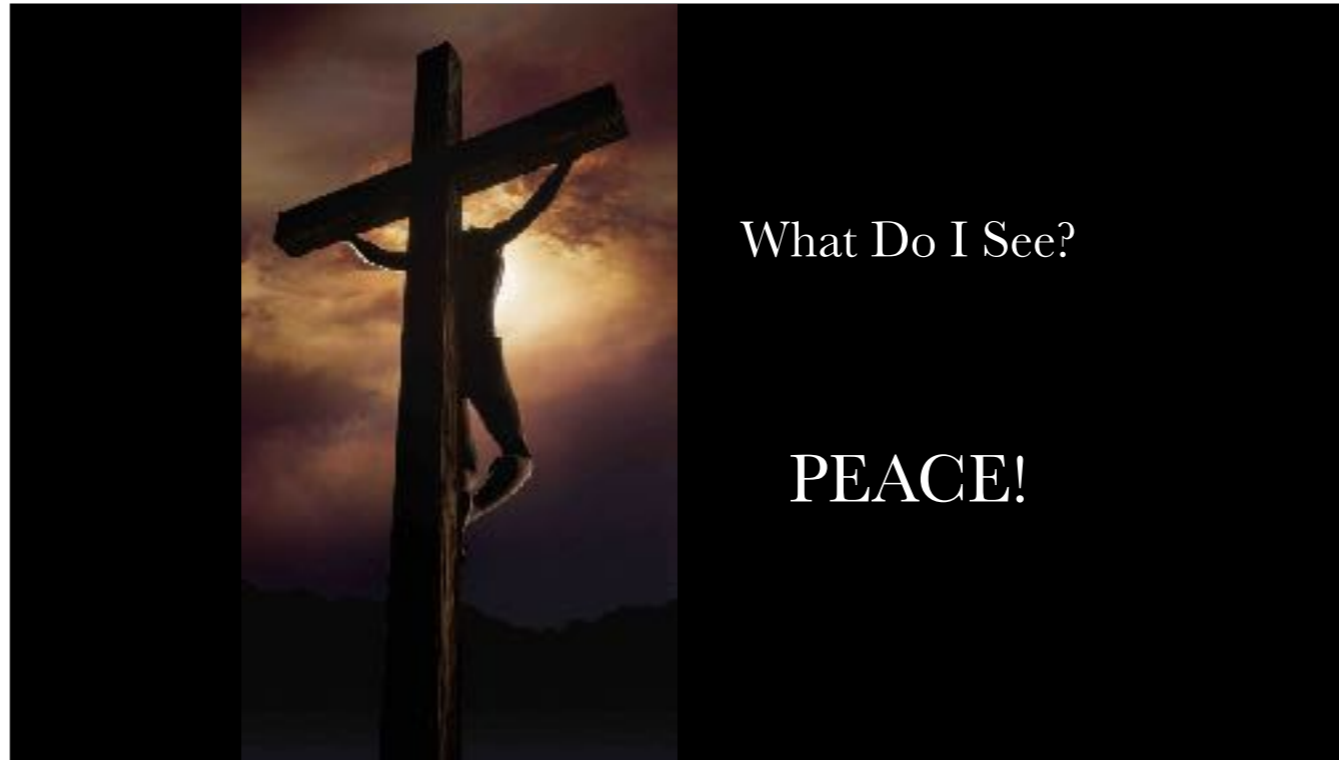
- When we look up at the cross, what are we seeing? And why?



What Do I See?

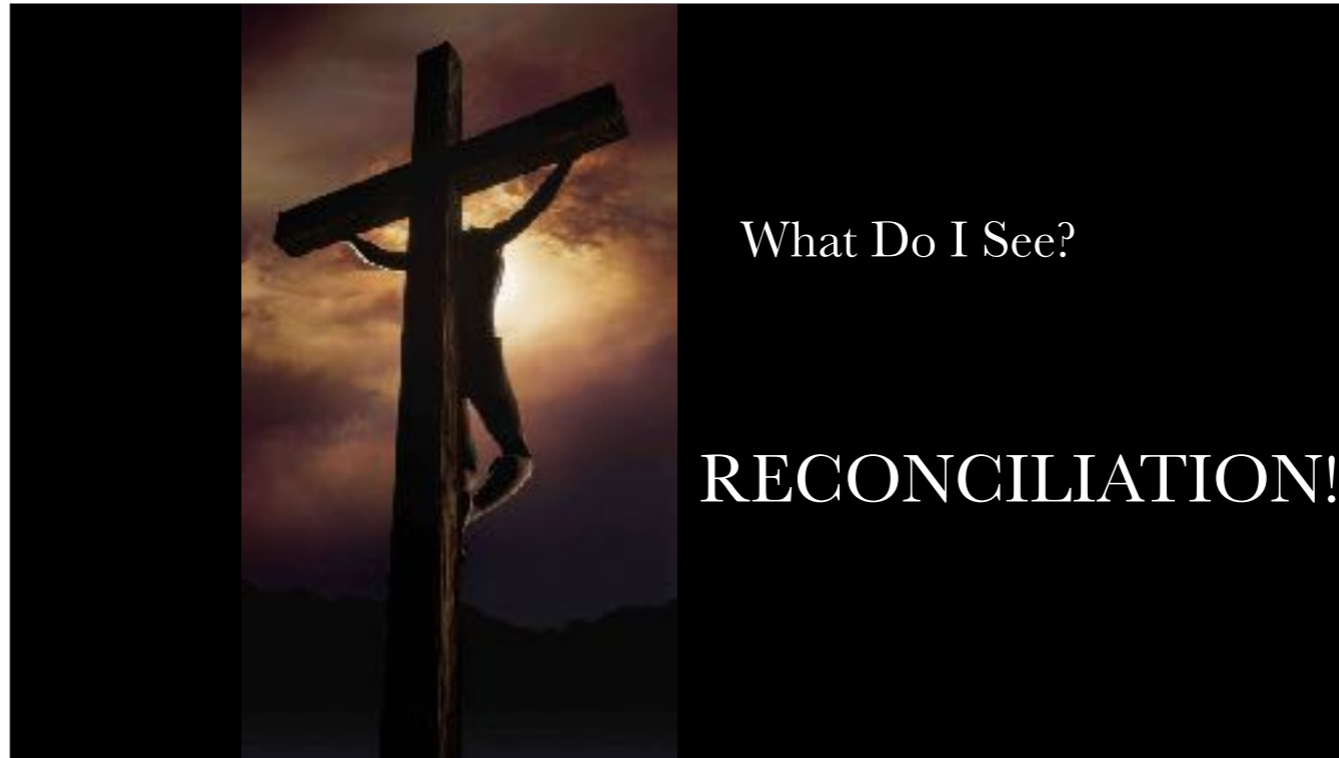
**POWER!**

- Power: 1 Corinthians 1:17-18
  - For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel,
    - and not with words of eloquent wisdom,
    - lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its **power**.
  - 18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,
    - but to us who are being **saved** it is the **power of God**.



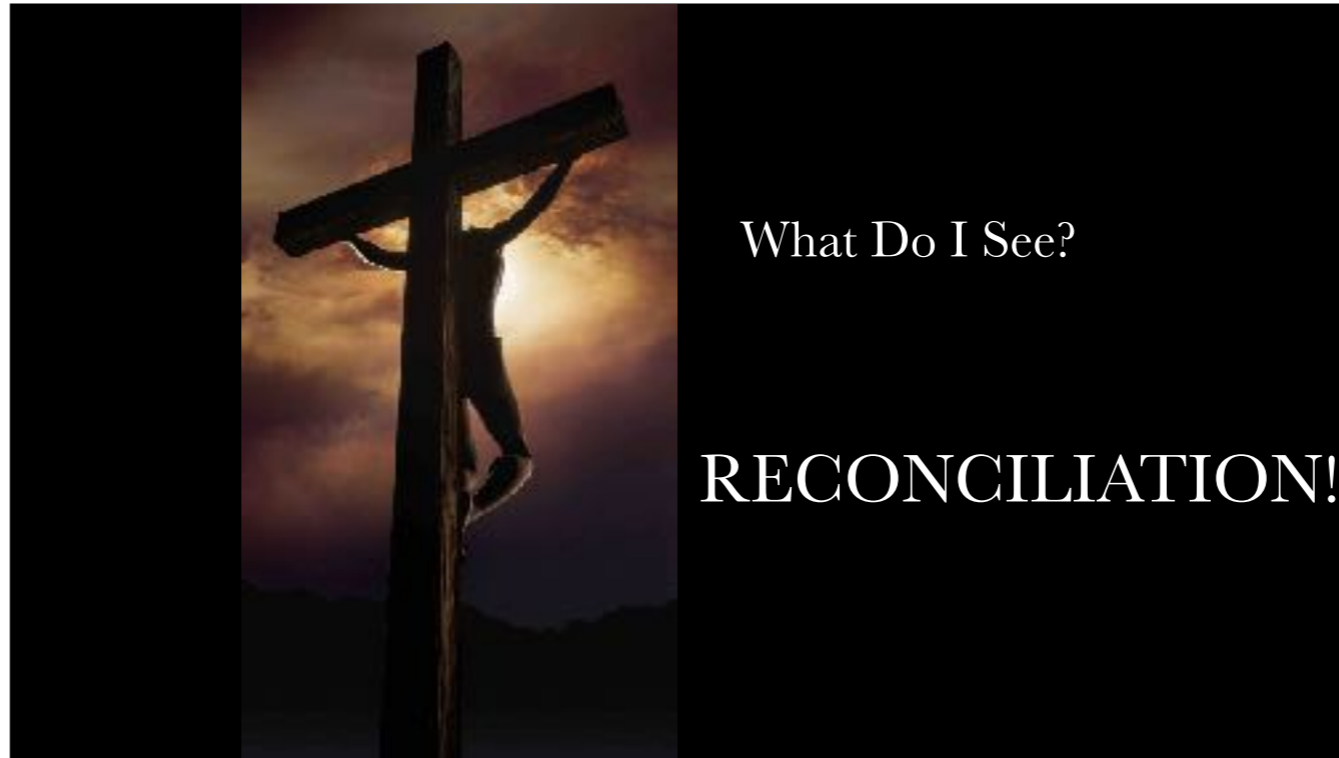
- Peace
  - Colossians 1:20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.



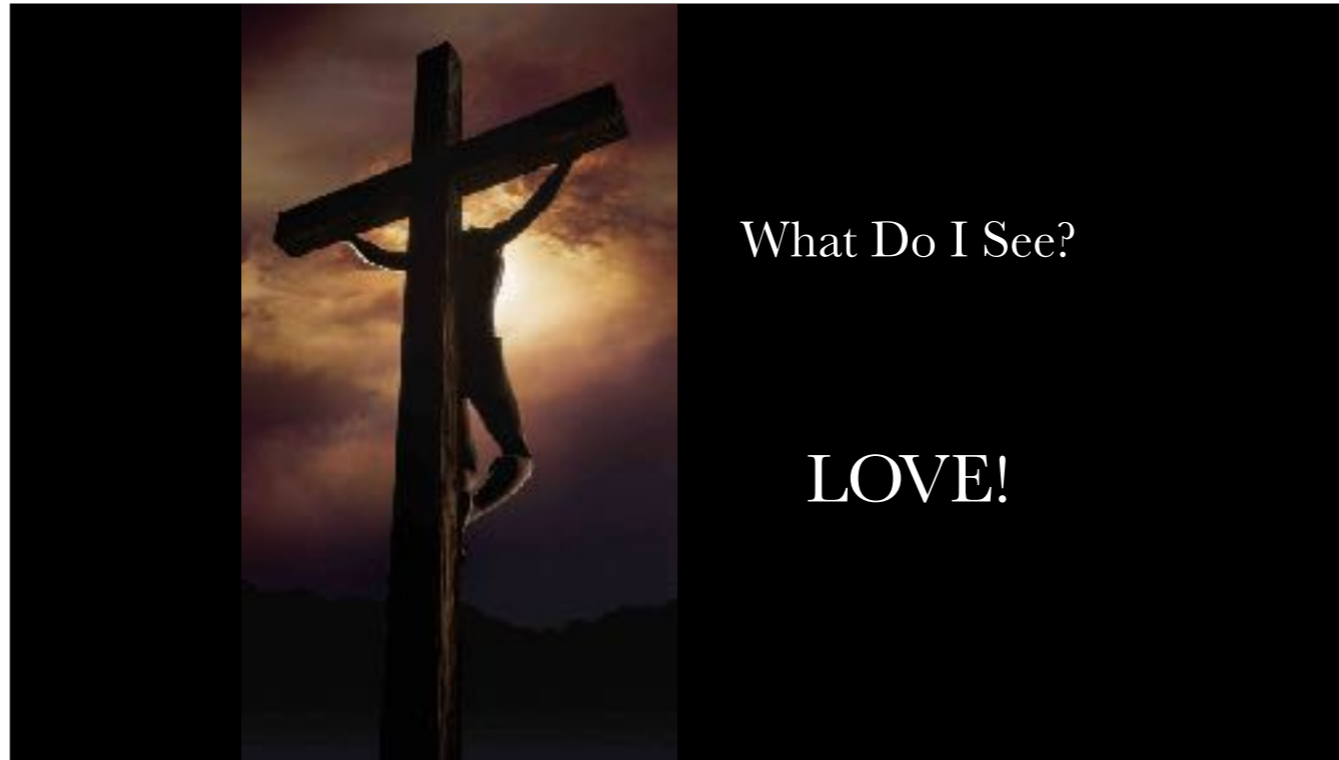


- Reconciliation, Household of God: Ephesians 2:13-19

- But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,

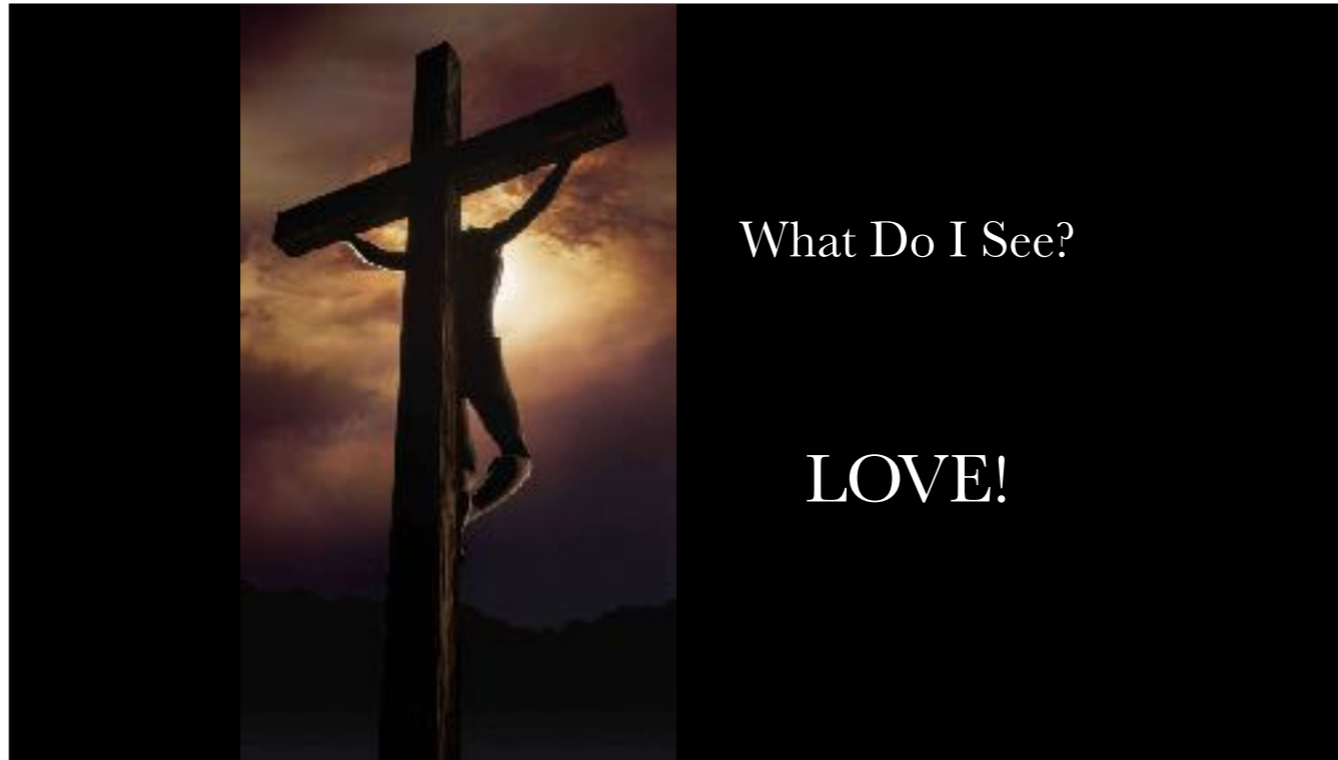


- 16 and might **reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross**, thereby killing the hostility.
- 17 And he came and preached **peace** to you who were far off and **peace** to those who were near.
- 18 For through him we both have **access** in one Spirit to the Father.
- 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
  - but you are **fellow citizens** with the saints and **members of the household of God**,



- LOVE: Romans 5:6-11 (ESV)

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

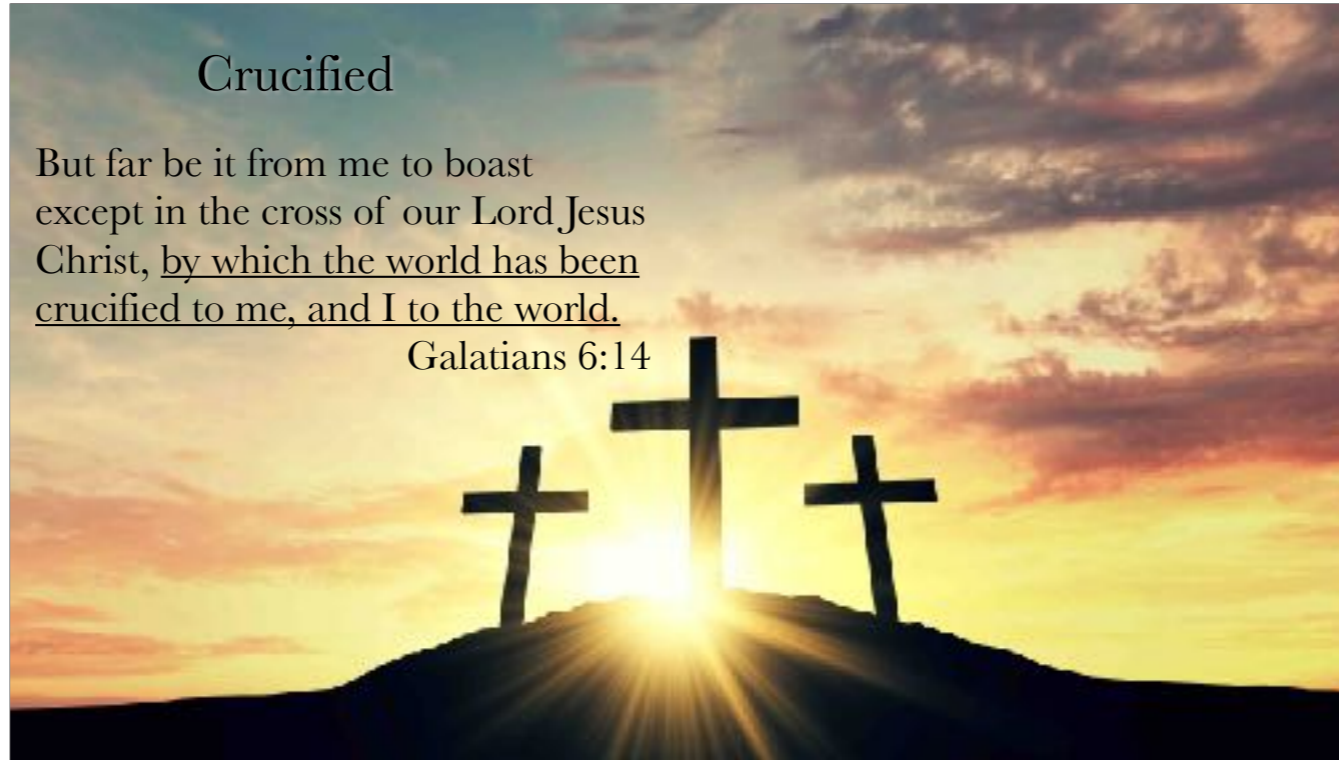


- 9 Since, therefore, we have now been **justified** by his blood,
  - much more shall we be **saved by him from the wrath of God**.
- 10 For if while we were enemies we were **reconciled** to God by the death of his Son,
  - much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be **saved** by his life.
- 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received **reconciliation**.

## Crucified

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.

Galatians 6:14

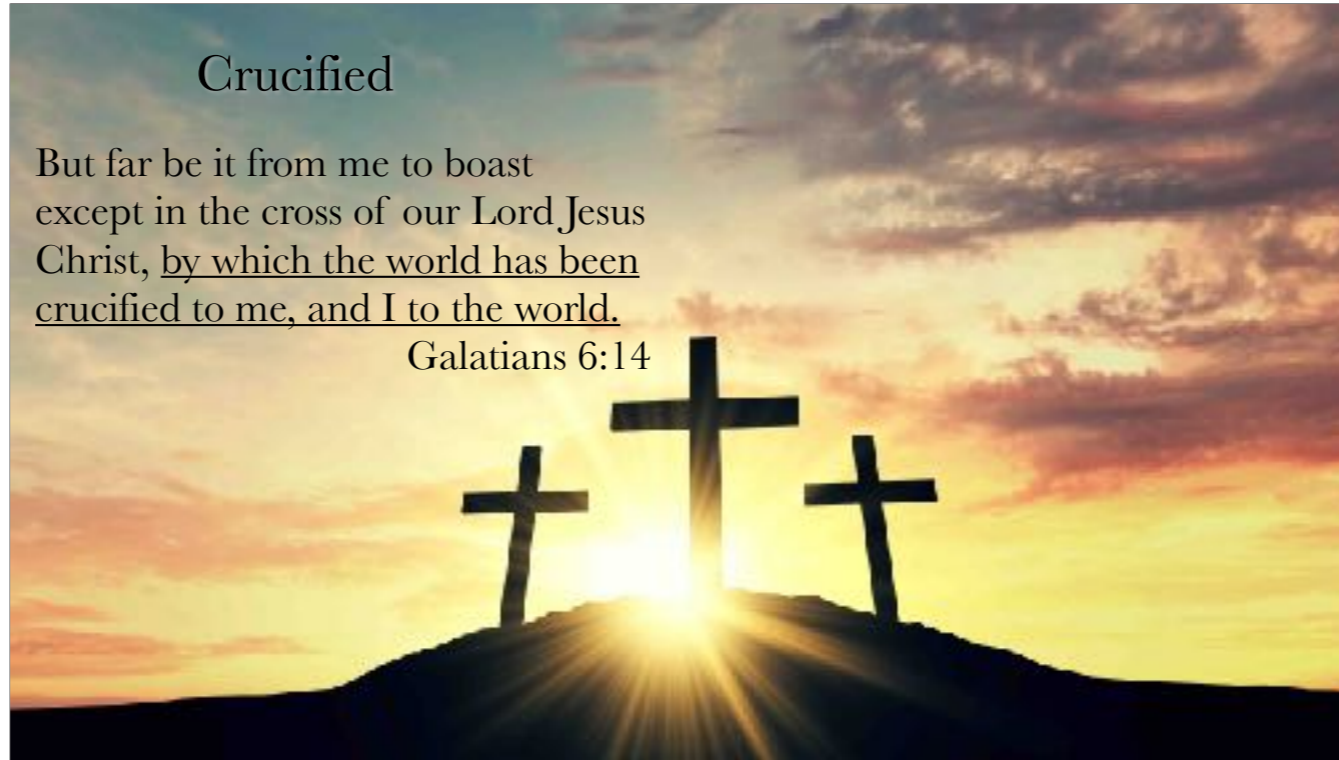


- Galatians 6:14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- In seeing the glory of the cross, and understanding why I boast in the cross there is a change that takes place in my heart

## Crucified

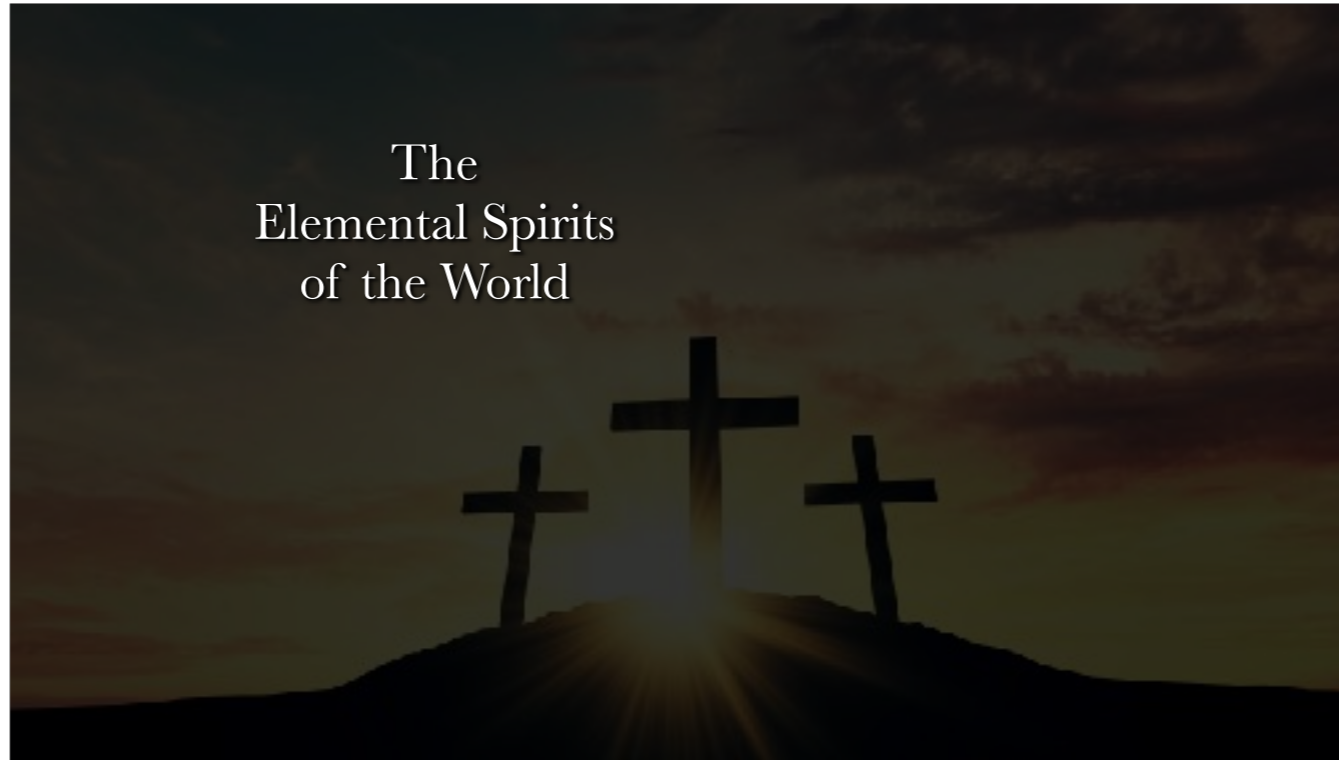
But far be it from me to boast  
except in the cross of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, by which the world has been  
crucified to me, and I to the world.

Galatians 6:14

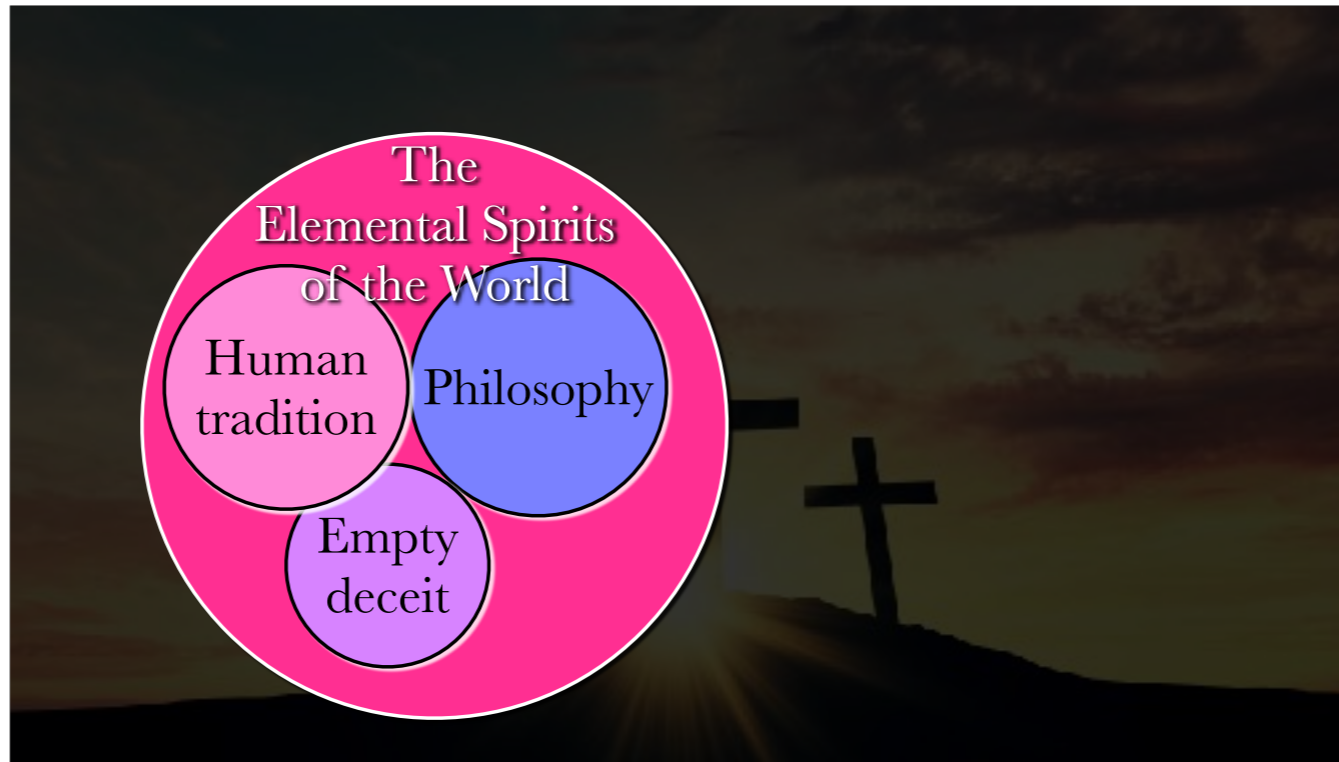


- The world is not talking about a physical place and physical things
  - This world was created by a loving God with things that we both need and enjoy.
- The World that Paul is referring to is a way of thinking about God and life that is opposed to God, opposed to righteousness.
  - It is the way of Satan: taught to Eve in the garden.
- Paul talks about this in Colossians 2:8

The  
Elemental Spirits  
of the World

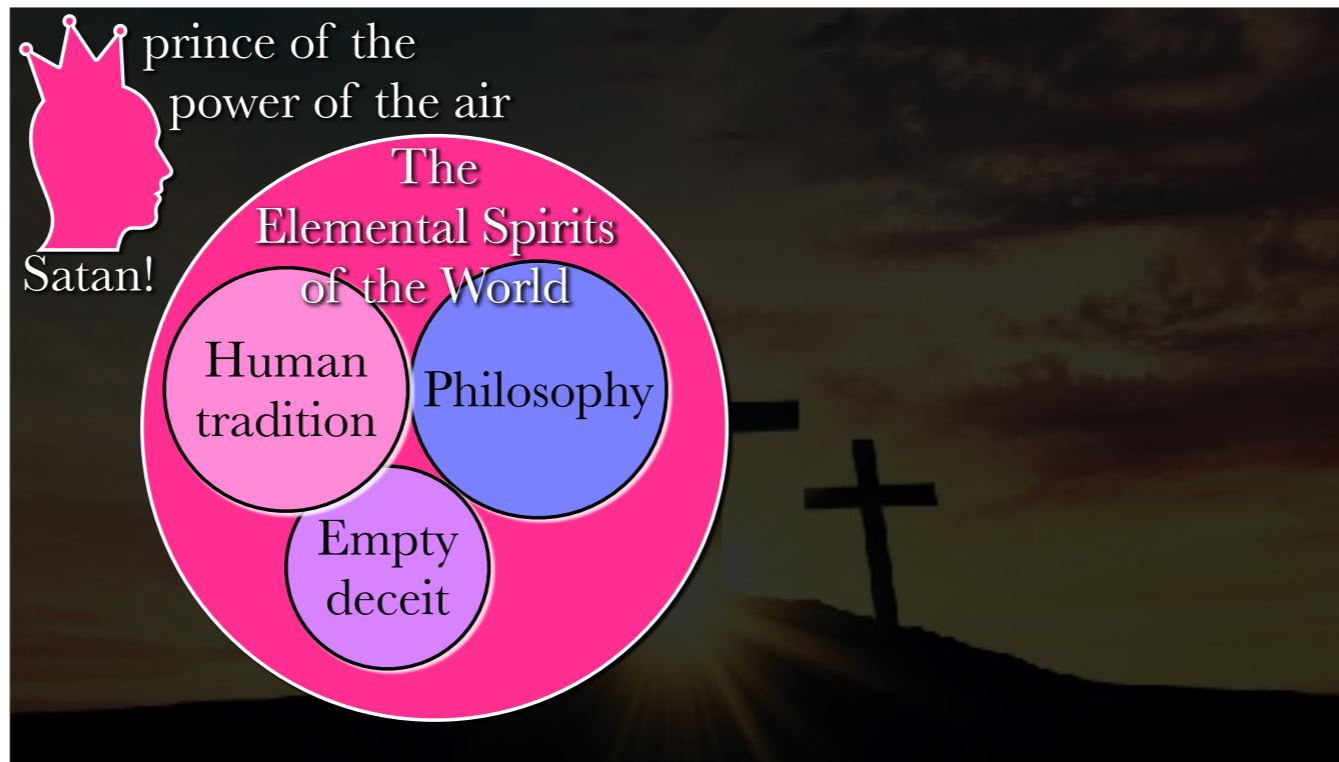


- Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.



- Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.





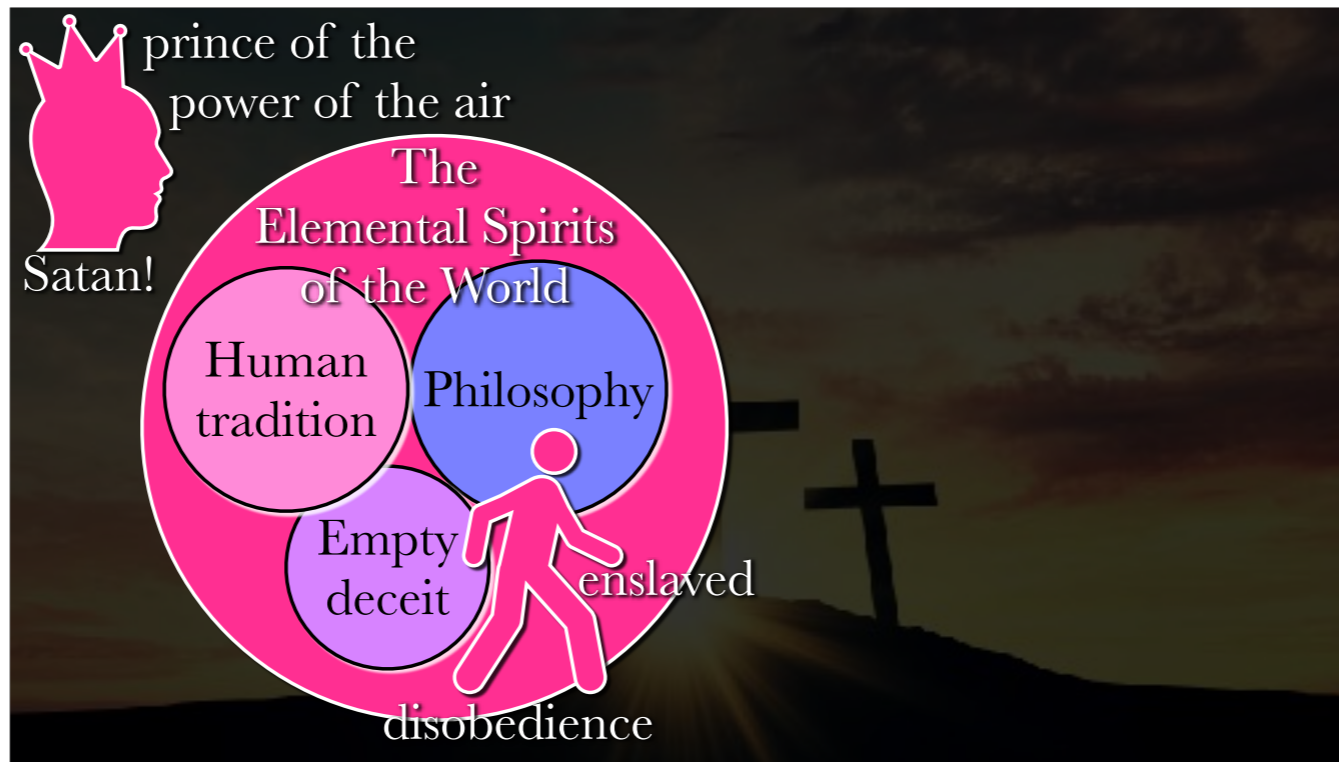
- Ephesians 2:2

- in which you once walked,
- following the course of this world,
- following the prince of the power of the air,
- the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—



• Ephesians 2:2

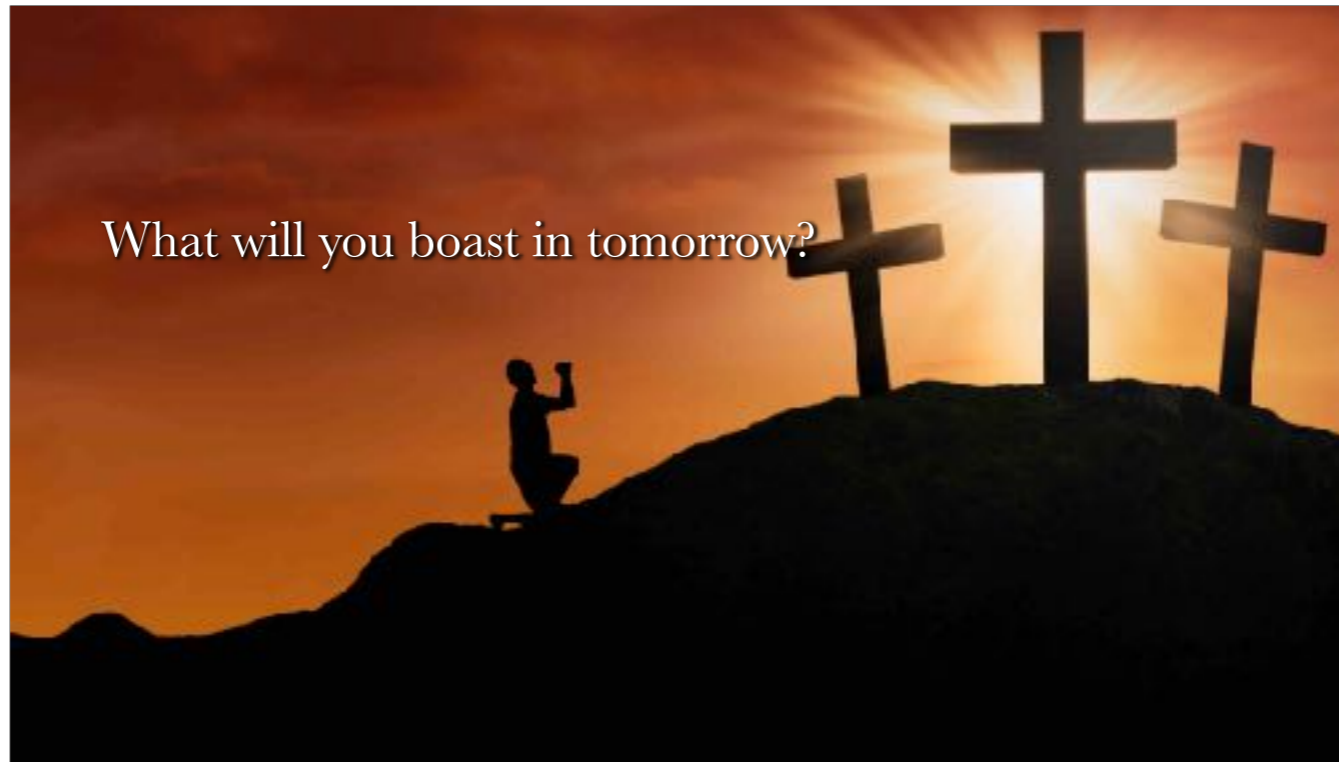
- in which you once walked,
- following the course of this world,
- following the prince of the power of the air,
- the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—



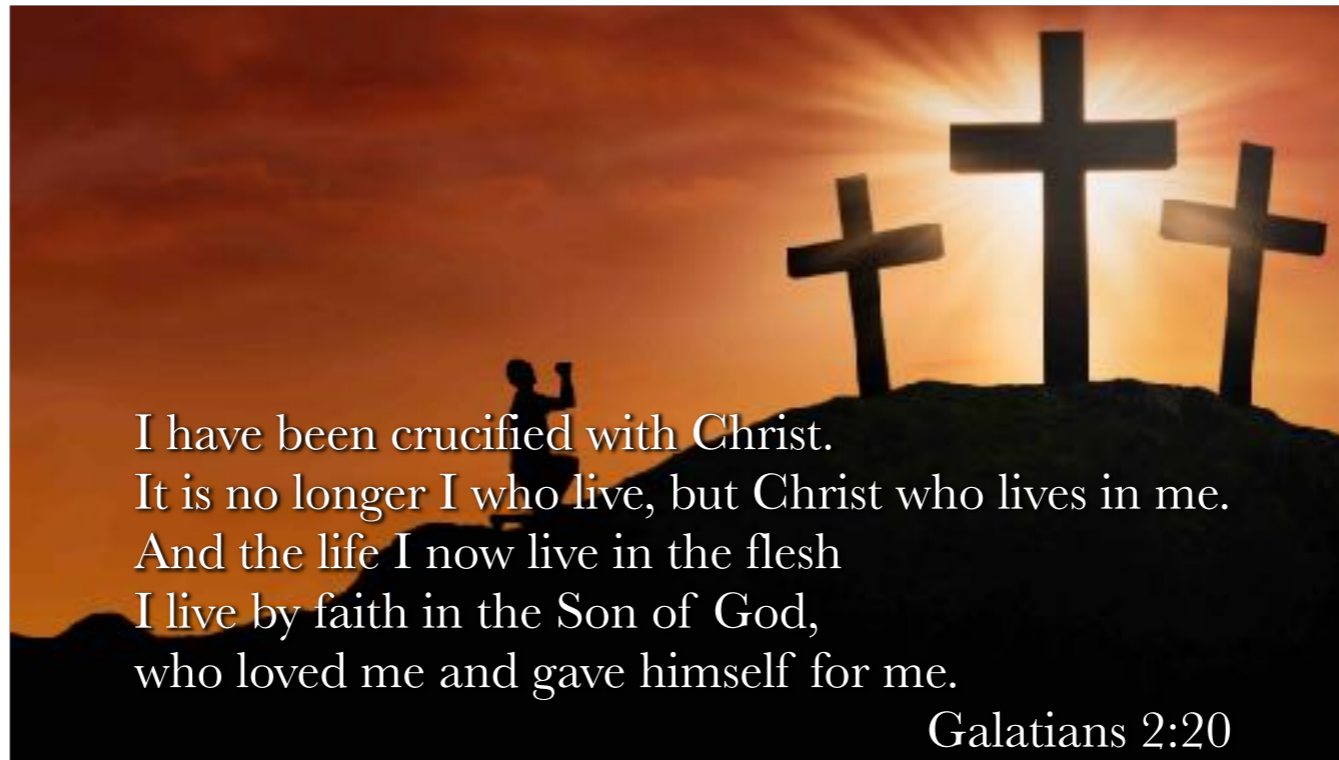
- Galatians 4:3-5 —
  - In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.
  - Colossians 2:8 according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.
- 4 But when the fullness of time had come,
  - God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,
  - 5 to redeem those who were under the law,
    - so that we might receive adoption as sons.



- Colossians 2:20 If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—
- 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.



- What will you boast in tomorrow?
  - Will it be the things of the world?
  - Will it be the cross?
    - Power!
    - Salvation
    - Peace
    - Reconciliation
    - Love.
- Live in Christ!



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.

Galatians 2:20

- Live in Christ!

- 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.

# When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts

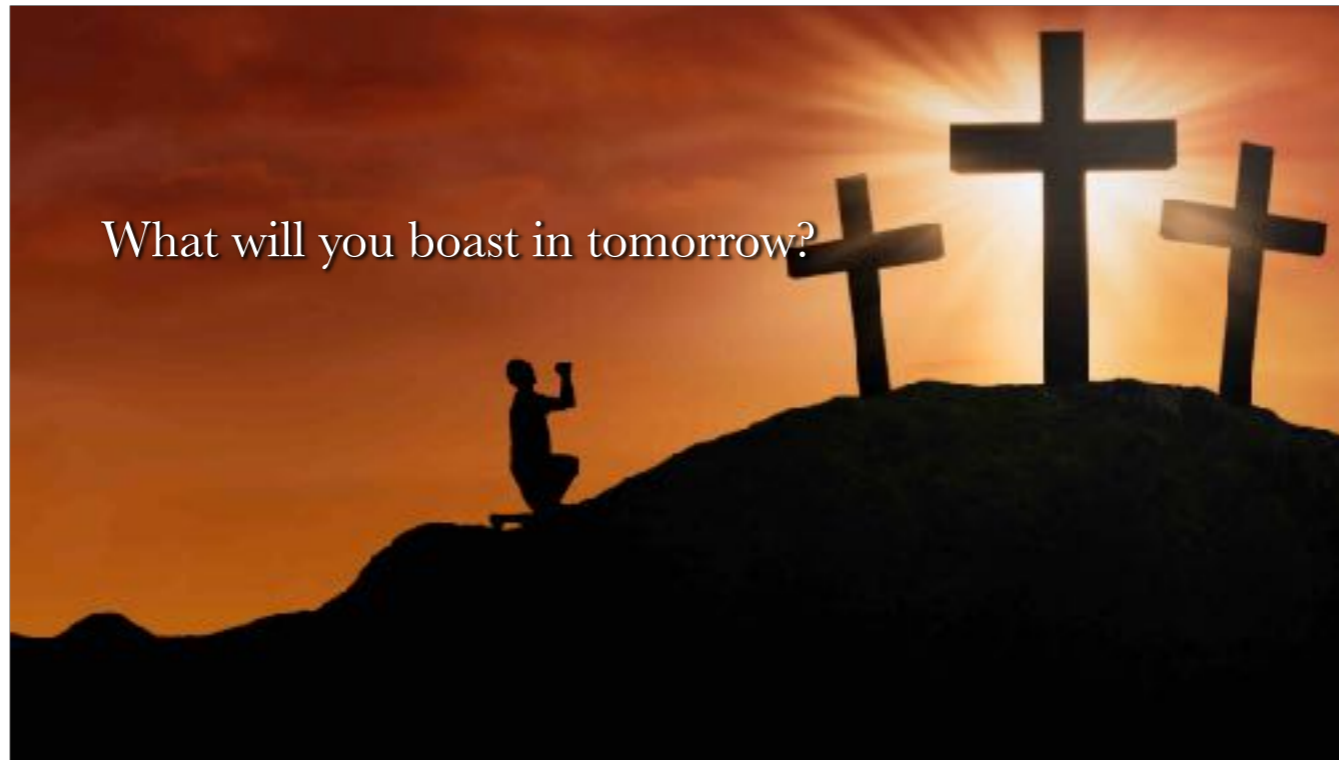
When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,  
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;  
Then I am dead to all the globe,  
And all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.



- What will you boast in tomorrow?
  - Will it be the things of the world?
  - Will it be the cross?
    - Power!
    - Salvation
    - Peace
    - Reconciliation
- Live in Christ!
  - 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.



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

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

## Photo Credits:

All photos from 123rf.com, istockphoto.com, crestock.com, bigstock.com, dreamstime.com, thinkstock.com, and shutterstock.com are copyright protected. They are used by permission. Please do not reuse without permission.

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_97926536\\_3d-rendering-digital-lens-flare-lens-flare-light-leaks-abstract-overlays-background.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_97926536_3d-rendering-digital-lens-flare-lens-flare-light-leaks-abstract-overlays-background.html)

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_52509330\\_rainbow-icon-in-realistic-style-on-a-white-background.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_52509330_rainbow-icon-in-realistic-style-on-a-white-background.html)

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_114221358\\_realistic-upper-portion-of-human-skull.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_114221358_realistic-upper-portion-of-human-skull.html)

<https://pixabay.com/vectors/anglican-catholic-christ-christian-149176/>

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_17892832\\_silhouette-of-a-man-begging-for-god-s-mercy-and-love-under-sunset-background.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_17892832_silhouette-of-a-man-begging-for-god-s-mercy-and-love-under-sunset-background.html)

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_115990773\\_christmas-concept-cross-of-christ-jesus.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_115990773_christmas-concept-cross-of-christ-jesus.html)

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_91708108\\_religious-cross-silhouette-against-a-bright-sunrise-sky-3d-rendering.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_91708108_religious-cross-silhouette-against-a-bright-sunrise-sky-3d-rendering.html)

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_108953263\\_silhouette-of-hands-holding-wooden-cross-on-sunrise-background-crucifix-symbol-of-faith.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_108953263_silhouette-of-hands-holding-wooden-cross-on-sunrise-background-crucifix-symbol-of-faith.html)

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_7038020\\_jesus-on-the-cross.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_7038020_jesus-on-the-cross.html)

## Boasting in the Cross

Galatians 6:14

Synopsis: Why would I boast in the cross? Paul helps us to remember to take time to really think deeply about what the cross means to my life so that I can glory in the salvation and reconciliation we have in Jesus Christ's death. In looking at the cross, we see the power of God, the hope of peace, the reconciliation and the love that saves us. Realizing these things we are crucified to the world and find life in Jesus. (Adapted from "The Wondrous Cross," in The Cross by Martyn Lloyd-Jones)

\*Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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