

Surveying The Wondrous Cross

(Part 19)

Galatians 6:14 **But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.**

The problem with man is that he sees himself morally good. But morality is fluid and is conditioned by the immoral. Religious or not, no one can be righteous enough.

Romans 3:10 **There is none righteous, no, not one.**

The Law says that stealing is a sin.
Maybe we've lacked courage to steal.
But the Law says we should not covet either.
This fact, amongst others, condemns us.
The sin nature drags us down and enslaves.
That spells doom if there is no one to deliver us.
This is where Christ steps in.

Romans 5:6,8 **For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly ... But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

Religious people might think they are serving God.
But the Cross reveals the truth of the matter.
All of self must be put to death at the Cross.
Until then all are spiritually dead.
Until then it is impossible to know God.

John 17:3 **And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**

The Living God made it possible for us to know Him.

Man was created to know God.

But we are not born in fellowship with Him.

So we needed to be born again.

There's no point in the Cross if man can be righteous.

Christ give us the power to be righteous and moral.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 **What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.**

Instead of being Satan's slaves, we belong to God.

Everything from the old life must die.

Galatians 2:20 **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**

Isn't this speaking of a brand new life?

This implies a new lifestyle, worldview and condition.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 **For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which**

live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

Those who see this glory in the Cross.

They don't worry about what the world and religion thinks.

No more striving to live morally.

No more pretending to be righteous.

No more good deeds to be seen of men.

Now we live according to the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:1-4 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

The Cross condemned sin.

The Cross provided the means to live righteously.

It shows that sin is our greatest enemy.

It shows that the Satan blinds and dazzles us.

It shows that the world glories in false riches.

There's nothing wonderful about this lost world.

The Cross strips away it's gaudy colours.

The Cross reveals the vileness and foulness of it all.

The Means to be free is to be **crucified with Christ**.

Then all that is put behind us forever.

Titus 2:11-14 **For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**

There is no other way to be free from the world.
If there were, Christ had no need to die on the Cross.
This new life inspires us to truly serve God His way.

Titus 2:14 **Purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**

Living a self-centred life is to deny these truths.
It's a refusal to survey the wondrous Cross.
It is a way of self-righteousness and hypocrisy.
It is a doomed life.
But it need not be that way.

Hebrews 12:2 **Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.**