

Good Friday ~ Friday, April 2, 2021
“Boasting in the Cross”

“He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Yet it was **our** weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him

: 4 BENEFITS OF THE CROSS

#1. _____ = **Jesus** _____

“God sent Christ Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to end all of God’s anger against us.” (Romans 3:25)

“Christ took away the curse the law put on us. He changed places with us.” (Galatians 3:13)

“God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. In exchange He poured God’s goodness into us.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

When we break God’s laws, we have to pay God’s _____.

“The wages of sin is death.” (Romans 6:23)

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“God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. In exchange He poured God’s goodness into us.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

“There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” (Romans 8:1)

#2. _____ = **Jesus** _____

“He gave His life to purchase freedom for everyone.” (1 Timothy 2:6)

The Greek word for redemption literally refers to _____ that were purchased in a marketplace. In a spiritual sense, we were all slaves to sin until Jesus _____ us and set us _____.

“You are a slave to whatever controls you.” (2 Peter 2:19)

“Don’t be a slave of your desires living like people who don’t know God.” (1 Thess. 4:5)

“God bought you for a price so do not become slaves to people.” (1 Corinthians 7:23)

We become slaves to other people when we live for the _____ of others.

“Freedom is what we have. Christ has set us free. So stand then as free people and do not allow yourselves to become slaves again.” (Galatians 5:1)

Without the on-going strength and support of the _____, it’s easy for us to fall back into slavery.

“We can never redeem ourselves. We cannot pay God the price for our lives because the payment for human life is too great.” (Psalm 49:7)

#3. _____ = **Jesus** _____
Reconciliation involves bringing _____ together who have been distanced by _____.

“We were God’s enemies but He made us His friends through the death of His Son.” (Rom.5:10)

“Christ changed us from enemies into His friends and gave us the task of making others His friends also...” (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)

Jesus is our _____—our high priest—who brings us into the light of God’s presence—and we can come _____ to the throne of grace.

#4. _____ = **Jesus** _____
Our identity is much deeper than that—who we are is an internal, _____ reality and not just an external, _____ reality. The change that Jesus offers us is so _____, so profound that Scripture likens it to rebirth—to becoming a _____ person.

“God saved us because of His mercy and not because of any good things that we have done. He washed us by the power of the Holy Spirit. He gave us new birth and a fresh beginning.” (Titus 3:5)

“Anyone who belongs to Christ becomes a new person. The past is forgotten and everything is new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The minute we come to Christ, we’re a new _____—everything old has passed away. We walk this spiritual reality out in partnership with the _____.

“Sin’s power over us was broken when we became Christians and were baptized to become a part of Jesus Christ. Through His death the power of your sinful nature was shattered. And when God, the Father, with glorious power, brought Him back to life again, you were given His wonderful new life to enjoy!” (Romans 6:3-4)



The cross isn't a _____ or a band-aid solution like the world offers,
but rather goes to the very _____ of the problem.

“Adam failed, Jesus nailed, Grace prevailed.”

**God's love most fully expressed in Jesus' death on the cross—a love so
amazing, so divine—demands our response.**

How will you respond?