

THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS.

6/14/2026 AM

INTRO.:

A. Read the text: 1 Corinthians 1:17-18.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Many have left the old message of salvation through the blood of Jesus.
2. The old message of the cross is being replaced by one that offers no hope.
3. Some leave the fact that we have hope only through Christ's sacrificial blood!
4. The message of the cross altered the destiny of mankind.

DISCUSSION: IN THIS LESSON WE WILL OBSERVE...

I. THE PROMISE OF THE CROSS.

A. The promise of the cross was first given in Genesis 3:15.

B. Other passages that promised the cross of Jesus.

1. **Isaiah 53:1-5.**
2. **Isaiah 53:9-10.**

C. The promises fulfilled:

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE CROSS.

A. The cross declared God's love for us (John 3:16; Romans 5:7-8).

B. Our salvation required the cross of Christ.

1. **Hebrews 9:22.**
2. Old Testament animal sacrifices (**Leviticus 17:11**). These blood sacrifices could not take away sins (**Hebrews 10:4**).
3. Christ is the sacrifice that made possible the forgiveness of sin (**Hebrews 9:11-14**).

C. The cross of Christ ushered in a new law.

1. **Colossians 2:14; Hebrews 9:15-17.**
2. Christ spoke of the new law (**Luke 24:46-47**).

D. The cross of Christ defeated Satan.

1. We can overcome the devil's influence (**Ephesians 2:1-7**).
2. **Note John 19:30** "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost."
 - 1) Satan must have thought, "I have won!"
 - 2) However, Jesus did not say *I* am finished. He said *IT* is finished! This event accomplished what He came to do (**Luke 19:10**).

E. The cruel cross shouts out, proclaiming the victory over sin.

III. THE PRODUCT OF THE CROSS.

A. When the power of the cross is appropriated, three great and wonderful things take place. Notice what they are:)

1. **Sin Is Destroyed** – The blood of Jesus Christ can change us! The chains of sin are broken, **Rom. 6:14**, and they are made into a new creature, **2 Cor. 5:17**. Now, the newborn believer does not have to live his life in bondage to sin, **Rom. 6:6**! Christ's blood has the power to change every life it touches! There really is "wonder-working power in the blood of the Lamb!")
2. **Hell Is Defeated** - One of the most comforting verses in the Bible is found in **John 5:24**! **Romans 8:1** confirms this for us! No condemnation to those who "WALK AFTER THE SPIRIT." Satan will not get his wish! That ought to cause us to rejoice this morning!

3. **Heaven Is Delivered** - The blood is the key that unlocks the gates of glory! When the blood is applied, the child of God is destined for an eternity in Heaven with the Lord! That is His promise to every saint, **John 14:1-3**. And, there is only one way to get to that glorious place, **John 3:3, 5, 7; John 14:6**.

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. What does the cross mean to you?

1. It must mean more than some silver or gold trinket worn around the neck!
2. It must mean everything to us. When it does, we will see a change in our lifestyle.

B. Has His blood been applied to your life?

1. Have you been washed clean from sin?
2. What can wash away our sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!