

October 20, 1940

Sunday Radio Service

Gal. 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."

It is a testimony to the sublime wisdom that God imparted to Paul that throughout the long life God let him live and through the many trials he passed, many times scourged even unto death; a night and day in the deep; his life destroyed by the powers of the enemy, and yet as he comes to the close of that wonderful life he tells the Galatians, "God forbid that I should glory in anything save the death of our Lord Jesus Christ."

It might be hard for some to understand that kind of speech and phraseology but when the divine revelations come to our heart the first thing the Lord Jesus Christ does is to reveal the glories and graciousness of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. When we speak of the cross of Jesus we speak not only of that cross which was built out of the lumber of that time -- that straight, ominous looking stem and those straight arms to which His body was nailed. We are not thinking of the physical aspects of the cross nor did Paul waste any time in speaking of these physical aspects, but of the word that the Lord said, "If I be lifted up I will draw all men unto me" and Christ Jesus was lifted up on that cross and from the moment Jesus said, "It is finished" the power of the resurrection came on the Son of God and His ascension again into the glory world. In the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church, God has given unto mankind the provision of understanding some of the vast issues that are contemplated in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We might think there would be many other things in the gospel message that we would need to glory in and exalt and make manifest to the people. That would be of no avail whatever unless every word we speak in our preaching is built into and based on the foundation of the cross of Jesus Christ, for the cross signifies and means the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Between the beginnings of life and death of anyone who has been in this world of ours is understood everything that can happen to the human body, soul, and spirit. Individually that is the extent and boundary of our horizons but it was not so in the case of the Lord Jesus Christ. He tasted death for every man and the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in its deepest aspects means the salvation of every one who will believe in it.

The Apostle says many times, "I am determined to know nothing save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." Why? Because the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ has become the foundation of every spiritual truth, every spiritual power and blessing. The power to forgive sin and to touch the body of those being destroyed by sickness and disease all proceed from the cross.

If you will read in Matt. 7:37-39 you will find that all the salvation of God is built on that same cross, even the Gift of God's Holy Spirit, for on that last great day of the feast Jesus stood among the worshipping multitudes in the temple and cried "If any man thirst let him come to me and drink, for out of the depths of your soul life and spirit nature shall flow rivers of the living water of Almighty God."

Whether it be pardon for sin or healing of the body or the mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, or the truth of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ -- the foundation is always the same.

WHO:MH

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