

# The Paradoxes of the Cross

022518AM

## 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

- A “paradox” is something that is contrary to common expectation, or that seems contradictory.
- The paradoxes of cross of Christ...
- 1 Cor. 1:22-24 – Declare the wisdom of God...
- 1 Cor. 1:25-29 – Show foolishness of man...
- 2 Cor. 5:18-20 – And confirm our faith that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself.

### Injustice vs. Mercy

- 1 Pet. 2:22-24 – Who committed no sin, but bore our sins in His body on the tree.
- Acts 8:33 (Isa. 53:7-8) – Deprived of justice.
- Jn. 18:29-38; 19:4, 6; Lk. 23:21-25 – No fault and no cause of death in Him!
- Lk. 23:34, 43 – Mercy of Jesus toward sinners.
- Rom. 5:10-11 – Reconciled sinners, who are worthy of death, to God by His death.

### Sin vs. Righteousness

- Mat. 27:24-25; Lk. 23:39-41 – Men denied responsibility for the sins for which Jesus was crucified; Jn. 15:22-25 (Psa. 35:19) – He was hated without cause; Isa. 53:3.
- 1 Jn. 1:8 – All who deny sin, deceive themselves!
- Rom. 5:8-9 God commended his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us... now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
- Jn. 15:13; 1 Jn. 3:16 – Love defined at the cross!

### Curse vs. Blessing

- Gal. 3:10-14; Deu. 21:22-23 – He that is hanged on a tree is accursed of God.
- Rom. 6:23 – Wages of sin is death...

- 1 Pet. 2:21-25 – Suffered our curse of sin.
- Gal. 3:14-29 – The Blessing of Abraham (Gen. 22:12) through Jesus Christ – Justification, life, children of God!
- 2 Cor. 5:21 – Made to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we could be made the righteousness of God in him.

### Death vs. Life

- Jn. 19:30-35 – Indescribable suffering and death.
- Heb. 9:27-28 “ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”
- Rom. 6:3-9, 23 – From death to sin to eternal life!

### Defeat vs. Victory

- Mat. 26:56 – disciples fled, 69-74 – Peter denied; 27:39-44 – people blasphemed, 50 – Jesus died – Apparent defeat in His death.
- 1 Cor. 15:54-57 – Victory over Sin and Death!
- Heb. 2:14-15 – His death defeated the devil!
- Rom. 8:31-39 – His death assured our victory!
- Mat. 27:29; Mk. 15:17; Jn. 19:2 – The thorns were the victor's crown!

### Decision...

- Acts 2:23-24, 34-36 – Every opposition and rejection of Jesus was used by which God to accomplished His eternal purpose for redeeming sinners.
- 1 Cor. 1:18 “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”
- Fact... no one will ever love you more than Jesus.
- What does the cross mean to you?

1Pe 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

1Pe 2:22 "WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH";

1Pe 2:23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

1Pe 2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

1Pe 2:25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Heb 2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

Heb 2:15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Act 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

Act 2:24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

Act 2:34 "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: "THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

Act 2:35 TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL." '

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."