

# What is the Message of the Cross?



## Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

**1 CORINTHIANS V.18** For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, **but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.** 19 For it is written:

**“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.”**

The way of salvation through the Cross of Christ is a stumbling block to many who desire to be justified through their own self righteousness, carnality & works!!! This is why Jesus when addressing the little children said...“such is the Kingdom of God!” So simple .....So many miss it!





# THE SERPENT ON THE POLE



## NUMBERS 21 VERSE 8,9

8 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

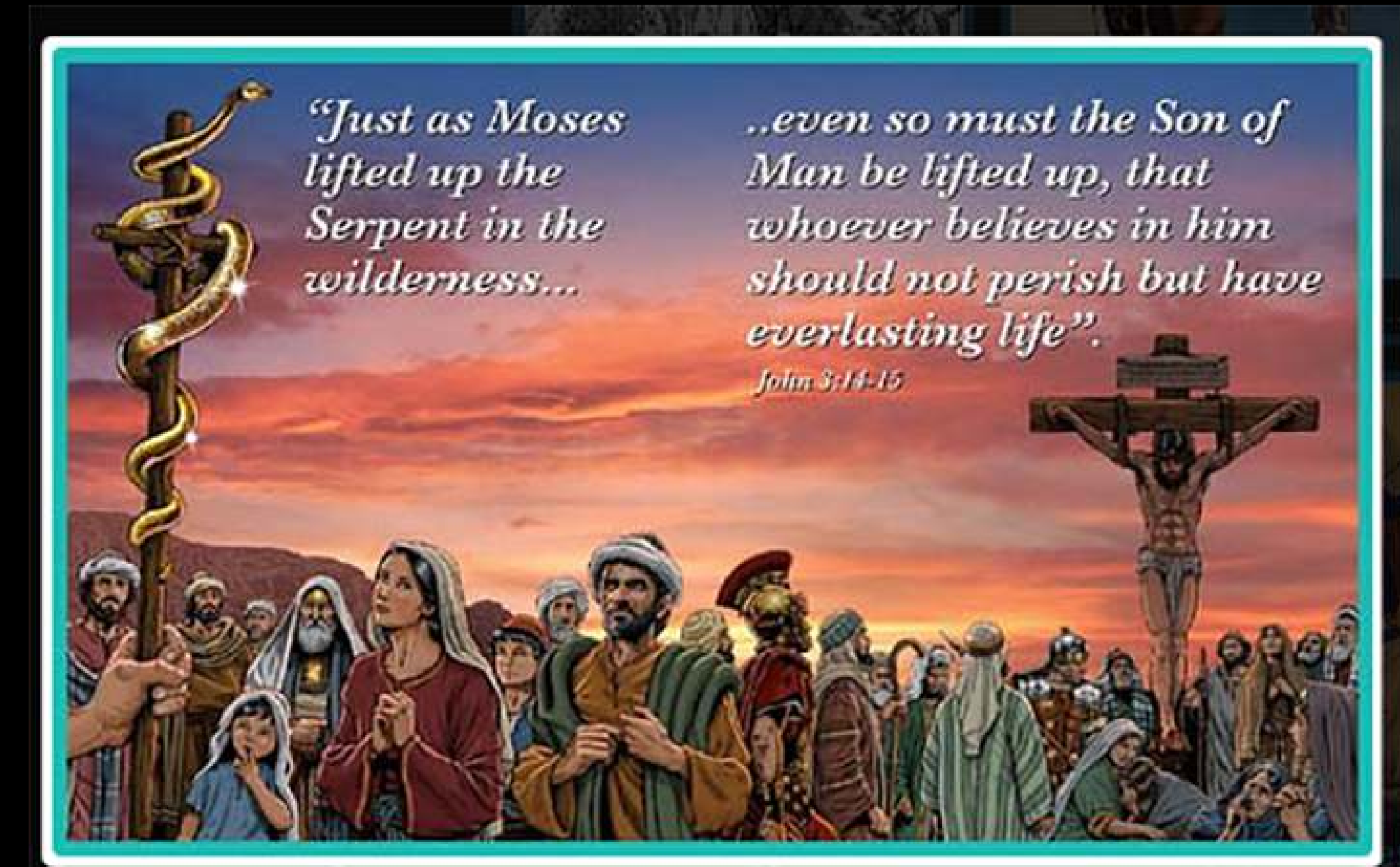
## JOHN 3 VERSE 14,15

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

## JOHN 12 VERSE 32

30 Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. 32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself." 33 This He said, signifying by what death He would die.

**QUESTION- WHY A SERPENT? READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5 VERSE 21**



**GALATIANS V.13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree")**



# THE VEIL WAS HIS FLESH!



The Veil speaks of the Body of Jesus Christ as testified in the Writings of the New Testament which says that we can enter by the Blood of Jesus "THROUGH THE VEIL, that is , HIS FLESH," right into THE HOLY OF HOLIES. The veil was torn in two as the spear was thrust into Christ's side & His Body was broken. Jesus suffered to the point of death (A Roman Cross) so that we might have access. Hebrews 12 v.2 tells us that He did for the Joy set before him. He betrothed (engaged to be married) us and only by dying could he take us as his Bride & have us for eternity!!!

The veil being torn in two speaks of the Body of Jesus Christ being broken on our behalf to make access to him possible.

The veil was torn. Jesus is now our Intercessor. We don't have to go through a person to reach God anymore. We don't have to go through rituals anymore. Instead, Jesus made a new and living way for us to reach God.

## HEBREWS 10

**19** Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, **20** by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, **21** and having a High Priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

...WE HAVE CONFIDENCE TO  
ENTER THE MOST HOLY PLACE  
BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS, BY A  
NEW AND LIVING WAY OPENED  
FOR US THROUGH THE CURTAIN,  
THAT IS, HIS BODY...  
HEBREWS 10:19,20

# DELIVERANCE FROM THE OLD MAN!!!



**"The old cross is a symbol of death. God salvages the individual by liquidating him and then raising him again in newness of life. God offers life, but not an improved old life. The life He offers is life out of death. It stands on the other side of the cross."**

**LIQUIDATE=To pay off a dept, claim, or obligation - To settle**

**"Why do we build our churches upon human flesh? If I see aright, the cross of popular evangelicalism is not the cross of the New Testament. It is, rather, a new bright ornament upon the bosom of a self-assured and carnal Christianity. **The old cross slew men**; the new cross entertains them. **The old cross condemned the Flesh**; the new cross amuses it. **The old cross destroyed confidence in the flesh**; the new cross encourages it."**

**Whenever God manifests himself to sinful man through the Holy Spirit, it means condemnation for the flesh. If we will quit squirming off the alter, there is new life offered...after death. The only way the Spirit can come alive in us...is through us agreeing with God's "death sentence" (what *condemnation* means) on our sinful nature now, rather than later.**



# **GODS SOLUTION: A NEW WAY.....A NEW LAW!**



**There are x2 very real laws God has revealed to us**

**The law of Liberty in Christ Jesus and the Law of sin and death.**

**Romans 8 verse 2** For the law of the Spirit of Life has made me Free from the Law of sin and death!

**the Law of Liberty in Christ Jesus is a LAW!!!!**

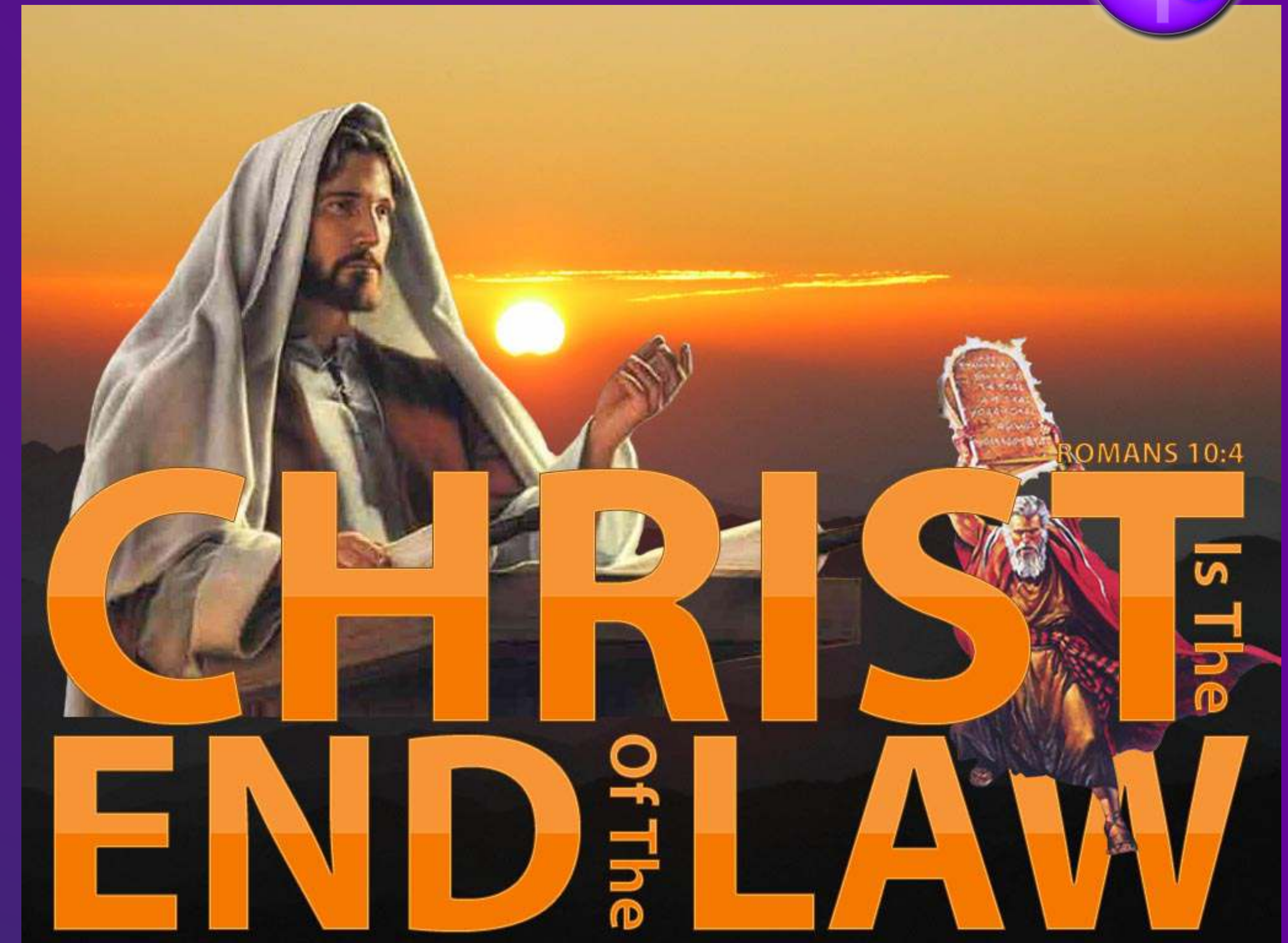
**It is more powerful than the Law of sin and death**

**There are principles to make this law effective, we must enter in by FAITH in the Cross, not the actual cross itself but what Christ accomplished on that cross.**

**Galatians 6 Read vs 14 & 15 v.16 says this** And as many as walk according to this rule , peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

## **Glory Only in the Cross**

**GALATIANS 6 V.11** See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! 12 As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. 13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom[a] the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.





# THE WORKS OF THE FLESH OR THE WAY OF THE CROSS?



## **PLACING YOUR FAITH IN ANYTHING ELSE, BUT CHRIST CRUCIFIED!**

### **1 CORINTHIANS 2 V:1-2**

**1** And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. **2** For I determined **not to know anything** among you **except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.**

### **GALATIANS 5 V:1-2**

**1:** Stand fast therefore in **the liberty by which Christ has made us free,** and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

**2** Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised (**WORK OF THE FLESH**), **Christ will profit you nothing.**

**Let me say it again, and because it is so very, very important! Any way other than "Christ and Him Crucified" is, in the eyes of God, "heresy." Once one begins to understand these "works of the flesh," these things become more obvious.**

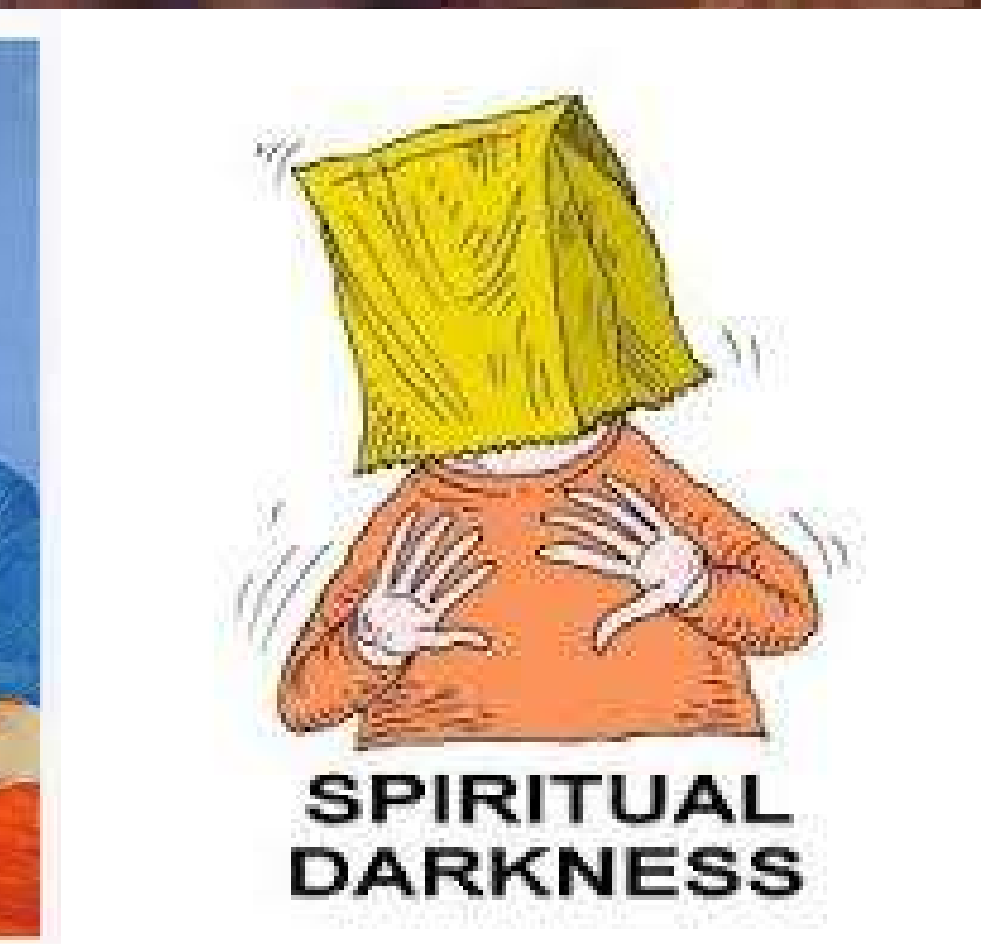


# THERE REMAINS A VEIL OVER THE MINDS AND HEARTS IN THE READING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT !!!



## 2 corinthians 3

**12** Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech— **13** unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. **14** But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. **15** But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. **16** Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. **17** Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. **18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.





# SUFFERING FOR CHRIST?



"The man who is crucified is facing only one direction... **He [cannot] look back. The crucified man on the cross is looking only one direction and that is the direction of God,** and Christ and the Holy Ghost... The man on the cross... **has no further plans of his own...** Somebody else made his plans for him, and when they nailed him up there all his plans disappeared... When you go out to die on the cross you bid good-bye ----- **you are not going back!**

**1 Peter 4 v.1:** Therefore, Since Christ suffered physical pain you must arm yourselves with the same inner conviction that he had. **To be free from sin means bodily suffering.**

**2:** that he no longer should live the rest of his time **in the flesh** for the lusts of men, **but for the will of God.**



**ANSWER:** Not without **FAITH** in the **MESSAGE** of the **CROSS!!...**

**For it is the POWER OF GOD!**

OTHERWISE IT WILL CRUSH YOU AND GRIND YOU AS POWDER!...

Religion proves this!



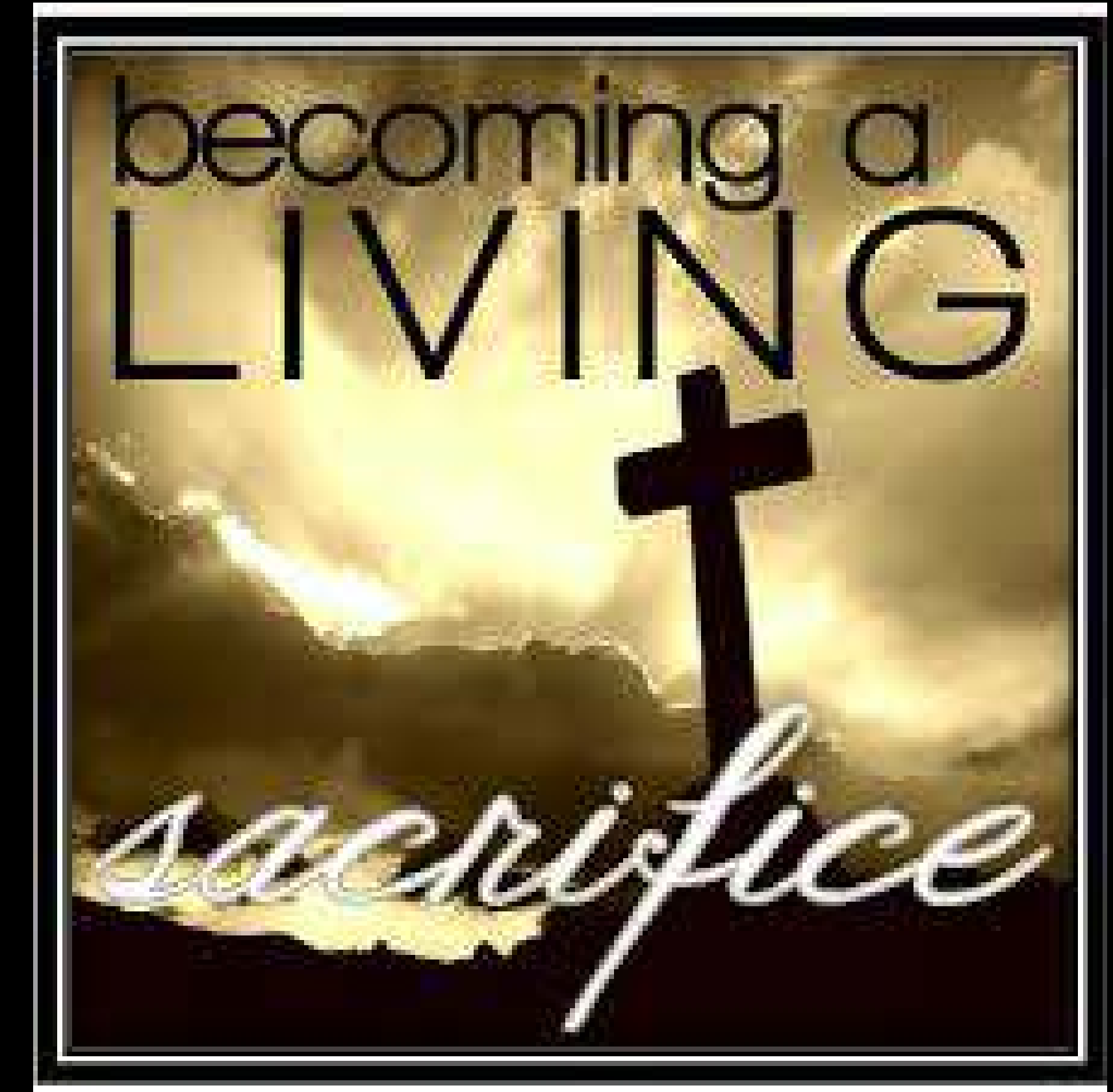
# LIVING SACRIFICES FOR GOD?



**ROMANS 12 V. 1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

**2:** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

...cross is a symbol of death. It stands for the abrupt, violent death of a human being. The man in Roman times who took up his cross and started down the road had already said good-bye to his friends. He was not coming back. He was going out to have it ended. The cross made no compromise, modified nothing, spared nothing; it slew all of the man, completely and for good. It did not try to keep on good terms with its victim. It struck cruel and hard, and when it had finished its work, the man was no more.



**GALATIANS 5 V.24** And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25.** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.



# MY BOAST IS IN THE CROSS!!!



## GALATIANS 6

**14** But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. **15** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

**16** **And as many as walk according to this rule** , peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

**It is the old sin nature most of us wrestle with, God's solution to this problem is the Cross!**

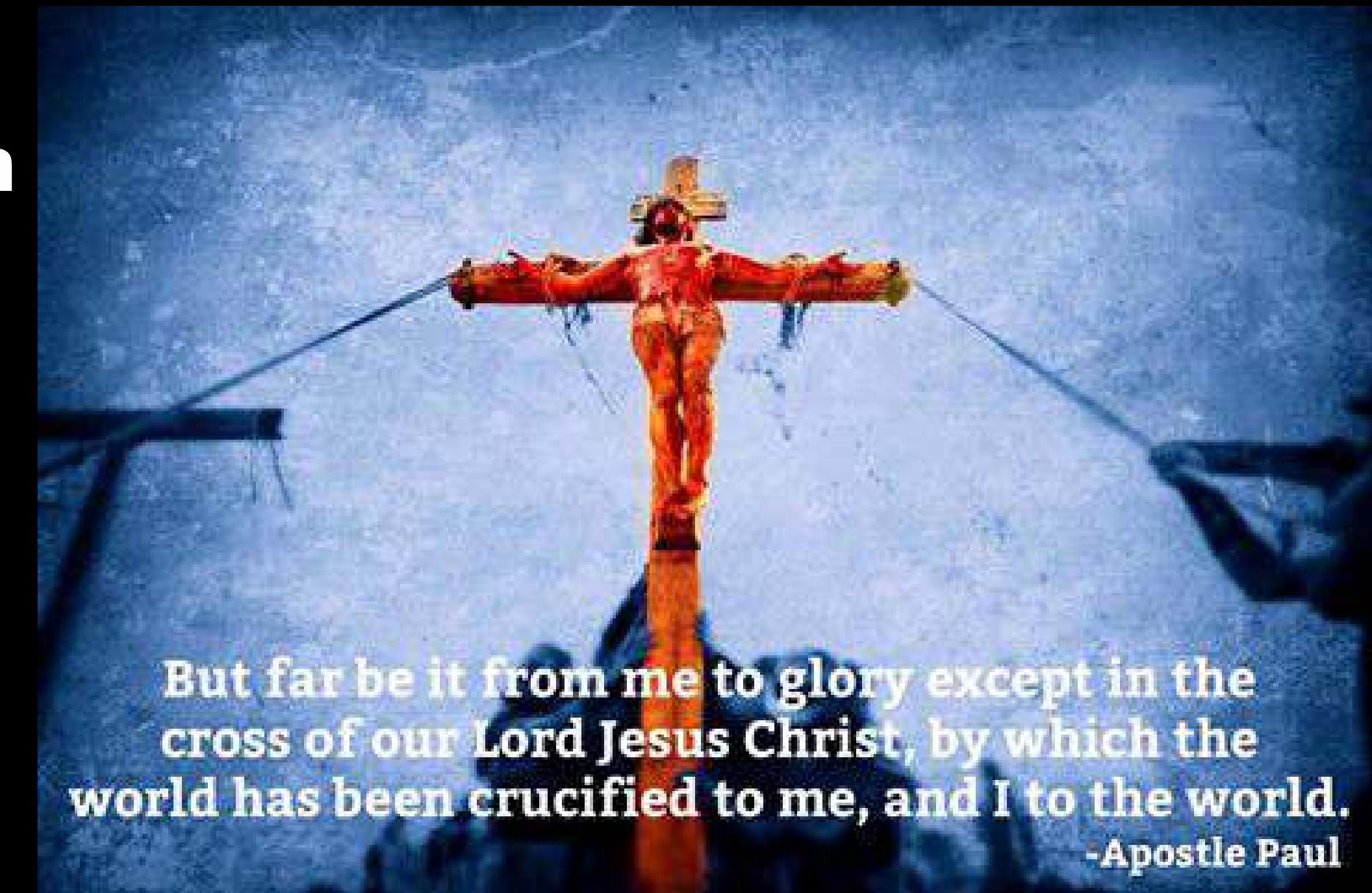
**Have you taken up your cross today and declared that you have been crucified with Christ and that it is no longer you that live but Christ in you!**

**Take Up the Cross and Follow Him**

**24** Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. **25** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

**But we preach Christ Crucified (this is the foundation of the Word of God, and thereby of Salvation), unto the Jews a stumblingblock (the Cross was the stumblingblock), and unto the Greeks foolishness (both found it difficult to accept as God a dead Man hanging on a Cross, for such Christ was to them).**

**Don't let religion rob you, in false humility and legalism**



But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.  
-Apostle Paul



# DEAD TO SIN, ALIVE TO GOD



## ROMANS 6

**1** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? **2** Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? **3** Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? **4** Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

**5** For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, **6** knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. **7** For he who has died has been freed from sin. **8** Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, **9** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. **10** For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. **11** Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**12** Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. **13** And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. **14** For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.



# THE EXCHANGE AT THE CROSS



## I. Aspects Of The Exchange

A. Jesus was *punished* that we might be *forgiven* (Is. 53:4–5)

B. Jesus was *wounded* that we might be *healed* (Matt. 8:16–17)

C. Jesus was made *sin* with our *sinfulness* that we might be made *righteous* with His *righteousness, heirs with Christ*. (Is. 53:10; 2 Cor. 5:21)

D. Jesus tasted *death* for us that we might share His *life* (Heb. 2:9)

E. Jesus was made a *curse* that we might receive the *blessing* (Gal. 3:13–14).

Seven indications of a curse on one's life:

1. Mental and emotional breakdown

2. Repeated or chronic sicknesses (esp. hereditary)

3. Repeated miscarriages or related female problems

4. Breakdown of marriage—family alienation

5. Continuing financial insufficiency (esp. when income appears to be sufficient)

6. "Accident prone"

7. Suicides or unnatural deaths

F. Jesus endured our *poverty* that we might share His *abundance* (2 Cor. 8:9 [2 Cor. 9:8; Deut. 28:47–48])

G. Jesus endured our *shame* that we might share His *glory* (Matt. 27:35–36 [Heb. 2:10])

H. Jesus endured our *rejection* that we might have His *acceptance* (Matt. 27:45–51 [Eph. 1:3–6])

I: Exchanged our Fear & Weakness for His Faith, Hope, Strength, Courage & Love.

J: Exchanged our Failure & Defeat for His victory & All Authority over our enemy satan and the world.

K: Purchased us through his Blood and seated us in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

HE CAME TO SET



THE CAPTIVES FREE



# THE OLD COVENANT

**HEBREWS 10 V.1** For the law, **having a shadow** of the good things to come, which could **NEVER MAKE ANYONE PERFECT!!!**

THE BLOOD OF ANIMALS

THE LAW

THE LAW OF SIN  
& DEATH



NO GRACE

WORK OF THE FLESH

SLAVES TO SIN

BONDAGE TO THE FLESH

SEPARATION FROM GOD

VEIL OF SPIRITUAL DARKNESS

NO POWER OR AUTHORITY

# THE NEW COVENANT

**HEBREWS 8 V13** In that He says, "A new covenant," **He has made the first obsolete.** That means the old covenant passed away in **CHRIST.**

THE BLOOD OF JESUS

FAITH



THE LAW OF  
SPIRIT (FREEDOM)

GRACE

WORK OF THE SPIRIT

FREED FROM SIN

NO MORE BONDAGE

SEATED IN CHRIST

VEIL REMOVED

ALL POWER & AUTHORITY

**J E S U S**

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