

# The Work of the Cross pt. 2

Isaiah 53:1-12, Romans 3:20-26,  
Romans 6:6-11 | Corinthians 1:18-25, 30-31

John E. Brown

April 17, 2011

Jesus became the greatest liar, perjurer, thief, adulterer and murderer that mankind has ever known – not because He committed these sins but because He was actually made sin for us. ~Martin Luther

If Christ, by dying, has made full satisfaction, then God can consistently pardon the greatest of sinners that believe in Jesus. ~John Flavel

The righteous One upon the cross is the sinner's only point of contact with the saving power of God. ~Lewis Sperry Chafer

Freed to draw by its own power, the cross remains the magnet of the souls of men. ~Kenneth Cragg

The wonder of the cross is not the blood, but whose blood, and to what purpose. ~Donald English

The cross is the centre of the world's history. The incarnation of Christ and the crucifixion of our Lord are the pivot round which all the events of the ages revolve. ~Alexander Maclaren

In the cross, sin is cursed and cancelled. In the cross, grace is victorious and available. ~G. Campbell Morgan

The saving power of the cross does not depend on faith being added to it; its saving power is such that faith flows from it. ~J.I. Packer

*<sup>1</sup>Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup>For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; He has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. <sup>3</sup>He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. <sup>4</sup>Surely our grief's He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. <sup>6</sup>All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. <sup>7</sup>He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth. <sup>8</sup>By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due? <sup>9</sup>His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth. <sup>10</sup>But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. <sup>11</sup>As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities. <sup>12</sup>Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors. Isaiah 53: 1-12 (NASB)*

- The Word of the cross is the Power of God made manifest to us. (I Corinthians 1:18)
  - I Corinthians 1:18 (Williams) For the message of the cross is nonsense to those who are in the process of being destroyed, but it is the power of God to those who are in the process of being saved.
  - It seems foolish to others.
  - It is wisdom and power to us. (Romans 1:16)

*<sup>30</sup>But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, <sup>31</sup>so that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."*

I Corinthians 1:30-31 (NASB)

*<sup>30</sup>But you – and it is all God's doing – are in Christ, Jesus: He has become for us a wisdom which is from God, consisting of righteousness and sanctification and deliverance; <sup>31</sup>in order that it may be as Scripture says, "He who boasts – let His boast be in the Lord." I Corinthians 1:30-31 (Weymouth NT)*

*By His doing we are in Him and He is our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. "He has made Him who knew nothing of sin to be sin for us, in order that in Him we may become the righteousness of God. II Corinthians 5:21 (Weymouth NT)*

Why, then, are you afraid to take up your cross, which leads to the kingdom? In the Cross is salvation; in the Cross is life; in the Cross is protection from enemies. In the Cross is infusion of heavenly sweetness; in the Cross is strength of mind; in the Cross is joy of Spirit. In the Cross is height of virtue; in the Cross is perfection of sanctity, There is no...hope of eternal life, but in the Cross. ~Thomas a Kempis

- The Cross means justification and redemption to us. Romans 3:20-26
  - ... "being declared righteous as a gift of His grace through the redemption in Christ Jesus." Romans 3:24 (Transline NT)
  - Jesus paid our ransom on the cross (See Ephesians 1:7)
  - Propitiation means "the satisfying sacrifice", propitiation is the removal or satisfaction of wrath. We are acquitted of our sin-guiltiness and declared righteous (justified) by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross.
  - See Romans 5:6-10
  - See Hebrews 10:10-14
  - See Colossians 1:9-23
  - The Cross is our emancipation proclamation. Romans 6:6-11
    - Note the tense of these statements:
      - Our old self was crucified with Him. Romans 6:6
      - He who has died is freed from sin. Romans 6:7
      - Consider yourselves to be dead to sin (now!) but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*<sup>11</sup>But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; <sup>12</sup>and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews 9:11-14*

You rest in the forgiveness of sin when the thought of God does not remind you of the sin but that it is forgiven, when the past is not a memory of how much you trespassed but of how much you have been forgiven. ~Soren Kierkegaard