

## THE GLORY OF THE CROSS

Gal. 6:10-18

In these words Paul is painting a picture of the cross. To him it was ever central. It captured his thinking and stirred the depths of his feeling, it seems, as nothing else could.

It must have been his morning meditation and his evening prayer. Concentrated there was the sin of the world but meeting that sin was the glowing and everlasting love of God. Looking at the cross he could never glory in any thing that did or could do but it was always, "GOD FORBID THAT I SHOULD GLORY SAVE IN THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST."

The actual material cross was a rugged rough thing but that which developed there spiritually atoning for our sins hides the wooden beams and to Paul became the most radiant fact in his life. It must have been that the light he saw on the road to Damascus was ever associated with the cross vision. To him there loomed up behind the cross a dark, dismal, and sinful background. To him the cross stood out from that in definite relief.

What was the background?

World on fire  
Hope threatened  
Civilization on the rocks  
Society bankrupt  
Credit gone  
The treasurer empty

We get a picture of this in Romans first chapter  
Romans 1:21-25 ( READ )

But somehow to Paul the darker the world the brighter the cross.

When you went to buy a jewel at the jewelry store did you notice that the clerk laid the jewel on a piece of black velvet cloth?

The world in which we live is little different to the one paul faced. Most any where we look there is:

Darkness... Most everywhere there is suffering, starvation walks in many parts of the world.. death with its long bony hands reaches out and takes the fairest and the finest from among us. So our world is not so much different from the one paul faced. *It has its bright spots*

Added to paul's world we have atheistic communism. Russia has a long ranged program to break down our pure races. They know that the negro race if kept pure will be a strong race. They know that the white race kept pure will be a strong race as it has already proved to be. So what Russia is trying to do is to use Communism as an instrument to break down our pure races by mixing them. History proves that a mixed race is a weak race. The best way to get a mixed race is to put all races in school together, get them to associating together then naturally intermarriage will come and as soon as a white person and a negro person marries their children will be an end to a strong white race and a strong negro race. Try ing if you please to change God's plan about integrity of the races.

The brightest thing that stands out in strong relief from that back ground is the CROSS of Jesus in its spiritual significane.

At a flower show in one of our cities some time ago the flower that won first prize was a new creation in carnations called star dust. people came back again and again to see the white flowers draped upon black velvet. So is the cross with background of sin to day.

The sin of today creeps intot the church and people use the church for their own interests or popularity. When the church finds them out and ceases to be gipped those same persons begin to tear down the church.

## M-Y-D-R-E-A-M

The cross is bright because God is in it. There is no brightness where God is not.

In one of David Grayson's books, "Adventures in contentment" He meets an old scientist in the field. The scientist holding a flower in his hand said, "once I said there is no God, but now I say there is nothing but God."

Some such thought is revealed in the cross. In the spiritual meaning of the cross we find that God is real and AVAILABLE.

A woman with cancer told her doctor that she was going to end it all. He called her pastor. He told her the story of the cross and showed how the plans of Jesus were shattered but as he saw the cruel cross coming he was not bitter but met it all with courage. Meditating upon the story she decided to meet death as He did.

One can not stand by the cross without recognizing that the heart of God is there.

Dr. Felden tells of a monk who was going to preach on the love of God. The congregation waited from middle afternoon till dark began to come. Then the monk appeared with a candle went to statue of Christ and revealed one by one the wounds in His hands, feet, and side. They wept as they realized they had gazed upon the love of God.

We need to see God, Christ, the cross and ourselves in comparison..see our unworthiness...but we need to see more...the CURE.

I know not how that Calvary's cross  
A world from sin could free  
I only know its matchless love  
Has brought God's love to me.

A man sat on the porch of a little cabin in Tenn  
 As dark came he went in and lighted the lamps  
 For the family that would soon return from the  
 little village....saw power line by house;; but  
 it would take a transformer to bring it in. Jesus  
 is God's transformer.

In poor section of Washington a minister was  
 called to baptize a boy before dying. A transfusion  
 saved ~~the~~ boy...at next communion the boy was there  
 and as the minister said, "Take this in memory  
 of His blood shed for thee preserve thee soul  
 and body to everlasting life." the boy realized as  
 never before what the blood meant....meant life.

we must be examples of this faith in God that  
 our boys who have to go in service or leave  
 home for ~~any~~ cause may not be swept away by  
 atheistic communism as the soldier boy in Italy  
 liked to have been. Here is a poem found on his  
 body

To this dear Cross the eyes of men  
 are turning, to day as in ages  
 last to sight.

And so for thee, O Christ men's hearts  
 are yearning as shipwrecked seamen  
 yearn for morning light

