

sermonnotes

Why the Cross?



The crisis of humanity is this—we have a problem we cannot solve. We are separated from God and have no _____ for our sin problem.

“The cross is the universal symbol of Christianity. One beam horizontal—the other vertical. One reaches out—like God’s love. The other reaches up—as does God’s holiness. One represents the width of his love; the other reflects the height of his holiness. The cross is the intersection. The cross is where God forgave his children without lowering his standards.” —Max Lucado

The cross is a paradox. What was a place of rejection, pain, and death has brought us acceptance, gain, and life. What appeared to be the _____ really became the _____.

Colossians 2:13–15

1. The cross is the place where God’s _____ is revealed. (Romans 5:8)
- “Love, not anger, brought Jesus to the cross...Jesus knew that by His vicarious suffering, he could actually absorb all the evil of humanity and so heal it, forgive it, and redeem it.” —Richard Foster

2. The cross is the place of substitution where sin is _____ for. (Colossians 2:14, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 1:18–19)
- To atone means to cover or resolve a debt so that reconciliation is possible.
 - “This is the mystery of the riches of divine grace for sinners; for by a wonderful exchange our sins are now not ours but Christ’s, and Christ’s righteousness is not Christ’s but ours.” —Martin Luther
3. The cross is the place where Satan and death were _____. (Colossians 2:15)
- “The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.”—1 John 3:8
4. The cross was a place of torment that brought us _____. (Colossians 2:13)
- Because of the cross you can be at peace with God (Romans 5:1), and you can live with the peace of God (Philippians 4:7).

Answers: solution; end, beginning; love; atoned; defeated; peace



Want to listen again or share with a friend?
Sermon podcasts are available at gracecovenant.org
or on our grace app.