



I. Through the Cross

A. Divinely Ordered Exchange

Isaiah 53:3-5 (NIV®)

³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV®)

²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Galatians 3:13-14 (NASB®)

¹³ Christ 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"—¹⁴ in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles

Galatians 2:20 (NIV®)

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

1. Jesus was punished that I might be forgiven.
2. Jesus suffered physically that I might be healed.
3. Jesus was made sin with my sinfulness that I might be made righteous with His righteousness.
4. Jesus died my death that I might share His life.
5. Jesus was made a curse that I might receive the blessing.
6. Jesus endured my poverty that I might share His abundance.
7. Jesus bore my shame that I might share His glory.
8. Jesus endured my rejection that I might have His acceptance.
9. My adamic nature was crucified in Him that the new man might come to life in me.

B. A Perfect Work

Hebrews 10:11-14 (NIV®)

¹¹ Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. ¹³ Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, ¹⁴ because **by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.**

- ❖ Through the cross Jesus administered to Satan a total, eternal & irreversible defeat.

By one sacrifice he has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

- ❖ The work of the cross is a perfect work.
- ❖ Perfect in every respect.
- ❖ Perfect in every aspect.

II. The Cross Redefines Our Future

A. Redefines Boundaries

John 2:3-5 (NIV®)

³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." ⁴ "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "**Do whatever he tells you.**"

1. A new kind of faith in God ("whatever" faith)

Mark 5:27-28 (NIV®)

²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

Luke 18:40-43 (NIV®)

⁴⁰ Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹ "What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord, I want to see," he replied. ⁴² Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you." ⁴³ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

B. A New Authority — Spiritual Authority

Matthew 12:22-24 (NIV®)

²² Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. ²³ All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons."

1. Authority over demons/supernatural authority

2. A new kind of freedom

C. Acceptance

Matthew 15:22-28 (NIV®)

²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession." ²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." ²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said. ²⁶ He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs." ²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she said, "but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

1. Rejection swept away

2. Faith & persistence acknowledged & rewarded

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your great provision for my life. Open my heart and soul to what Jesus has done for me. Holy Spirit grant me a revelation of my Lord and redeemer. I believe that through Jesus' sacrifice I have been redeemed out of an empty way of life, delivered from satanic bondage and welcomed into the eternal kingdom of God. I rejoice today in my Lord and the great liberty He has brought to my life. In Jesus' name, amen.

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