



## The Main Thing

### I. Survival Essentials

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup> But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.

<sup>2</sup> **People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money**, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good,

<sup>4</sup> treacherous, rash, conceited, **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God--** <sup>5</sup> **having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.**

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV®)

<sup>18</sup> 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.

1 Corinthians 1:23-24 (NASB®)

<sup>23</sup> but **we preach Christ crucified**, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ **the power of God and the wisdom of God.**

Romans 1:16 (NIV®)

<sup>16</sup> **I am not ashamed of the gospel**, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

### II. Through the Cross

#### A. Divinely Ordered Exchange

Isaiah 53:3-5 (NIV®)

<sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> 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.

1. Jesus was punished that I might be forgiven.

v.5 "the punishment that brought us peace was upon him"

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV®)

<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

2. Jesus suffered physically that I might be healed.

v.5 "by his wounds we are healed"

Matthew 8:16-17 (NIV®)

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. <sup>17</sup> This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."

3. Jesus was made sin with my sinfulness that I might be made righteous with His righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV®)

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

Isaiah 53:10 (NIV®)

<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

4. Jesus died my death that I might share His life.

John 10:10 (NIV®)

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Romans 6:22-23 (NIV®)

<sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

5. Jesus was made a curse that I might receive the blessing.

Galatians 3:13-14 (NASB®)

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

6. Jesus endured my poverty that I might share His abundance.

2 Corinthians 8: 9 (NIV®)

<sup>9</sup> For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

7. Jesus bore my shame that I might share His glory.

Hebrews 12:2 (NIV®)

<sup>2</sup> Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

God if there is shame in my heart or my life that hinders, I want to be free that I can be unashamed. I believe that Jesus bore my shame that I might share His glory.

8. Jesus endured my rejection that I might have His acceptance.

v.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."

1 John 4:19 (NIV®)

<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us.

9. My Adamic nature was crucified in Him that the new man might come to life in me.

Galatians 2:20 (NIV®)

<sup>20</sup> 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.

## 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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