

THE CROSS: Where Life Begins!

Lesson One • Romans 3:23-26

What The Cross Meant to God

The Cross Compels Us to Consider...

The gravity of SIN and the majesty of GOD!

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

What Did the Cross Mean to God?

I. God's WRATH Has Been Turned Away!

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth to be a propitiation by His blood, through faith... Romans 3:24-25

What is propitiation?

Propitiation means to TURN AWAY wrath by the offering of a gift.

Propitiation is the work of Jesus Christ on the cross by which He satisfied God's justice and turned away God's wrath so God could extend mercy and grace to sinners.

Two Facts to Consider:

- As magnificent as God's love is, it cannot CANCEL God's wrath toward sin and sinners.
- When we come to God through Christ, we come to a GRACIOUS Father, not to an ANGRY God.

2. God's JUSTICE Was Publicly Demonstrated!

...to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness... Romans 3:25-26

Why did Jesus have to die?

Because God's justice demands that sin must be PUNISHED.

3. Our JUSTIFICATION Is Made Possible!

...that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:26

Our Justification Is Made Possible Because...

- God is JUST—He doesn't overlook sin, He dealt with it through Christ's death.
- God is the JUSTIFIER—He declares righteous those who trust in Jesus Christ.

How do I get God's justification?

Through FAITH in Jesus Christ.

Even the righteousness of God which is through faith in Jesus Christ to all and on all who believe. Romans 3:22

...that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:26

The Cross: Are You Persuaded?

When you look at the Cross are you persuaded enough by the gravity of your sin and the majesty of God's holiness and grace to put your faith in Jesus Christ for salvation? If not, what more could God possibly do to persuade you?