

“WHAT DOES THE CROSS MEAN TO THE WORLD?”

1 CORINTHIANS 1:23

MARCH 24th, 2024

Introduction

1. The world is _____ by the cross.

a. The cross offends our _____.

1 Corinthians 1:19-20 - For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

b. The cross offends our _____.

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 - For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

c. The cross offends our _____.

1 Corinthians 1:28 - God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are.

2. The world is _____ and _____ by the cross.

1 Corinthians 1:22-23 - For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles.

1 Corinthians 1:24-25 - But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men

3. The cross reveals the _____ and the _____ of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18 - For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

John 3:14-16 - And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Conclusion – The Paradox of the Cross

³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.

The Paradox of the Cross:

- We see _____ things.
- We conquer by _____.
- We find _____ under a yoke.
- We are made great by becoming _____.
- We are exalted when we are _____.
- We become wise by being _____ for Christ’s sake.
- We gain strength when we are _____.
- We triumph through _____.
- We live by _____.
- We are made free by becoming _____.