The Power of the Cross

3. Transformation
The Position of Christ

Colossians 1:18-20

Christ, because of the Cross:
- has the first place in everything
- is the first-born from the dead
- has the fullness of God dwelling in Him
- has reconciled all things to Himself
- is head of the Body, the Church

The Church as His Body:
- should therefore experience a fullness of power
The Cross – Only A Partial Gift to Many

- Like being satisfied with only the first gift in a "deep" Christmas Stocking

- Most Christians are content with merely the partial power of the Cross in their lives

- I Corinthians 1:17-18
  - making the cross of Christ **void**!
  - OR
  - experiencing the **complete** power of God
In the Cross of Christ...

God empowers His Church through:

- Justification
- Authority
- Transformation
1. Friendship with God

2. Freedom from all things

3. A Permanent Advocate
Authority Through the Cross (Review)

1. Over World and Self
2. Over All Evil Spirits
3. Over All Other Powers
1. Transformation – Healing

- **Physical (Isaiah 53:5)**
  “Lord, please either heal or accomplish something better!” (II Corinthians 12:7-10)

- **Emotional (Isaiah 53:4)**
  The Lord restores and fills the soul! (Psalm 23:3, Lamentations 3:24)

- **Relational (Ephesians 2:14)**
  If He can bring the biggest opposites (Jew/Gentile) together, how much more us!

- **Financial (Mark 10:23-34)**
  The only “bank” that gives you a 100-times interest guarantee!!

*True healing comes only through the cross!*
2. Transformation – Freedom from Death

- Acts 2:24
  “Certainty? In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes.” (Ben Franklin)

- Hebrews 2:15
  Are you still in slavery? Have you heard the emancipation declaration?

- Revelation 1:17-18
  Because He overcame death, Jesus determines when we die, not Satan!

The only way to be freed from death is to die!
3. Transformation – Conformed into Christ’s Image

- Philippians 3:20-21
  The Father gave Jesus power to subject all things to Himself; Jesus exerts the same power to transform our lowly body into conformity with His glorious body.

- Romans 8:28-29
  God uses the cross to work all things to good, so that we reach our destination.

The cross is our journey, Christ our destination!
Transformation Through the Cross

1. Healing
2. Freedom from Death
3. Conformed into Christ’s Image
A Powerful Cross

Is the cross of Christ void in any area of your life?

- Have you experienced complete Justification?
- Do you have Authority in all areas of your life?
- Are you experiencing Transformation in your life?

God can only make the cross powerful in us by filling us with His Holy Spirit