

GLORY IN THE CROSS

APRIL 19, 2019

INTRODUCTION:

Israel's Seven Feasts reveal the plan of God for man. There are four Spring Feasts: Passover, Unleavened bread, First-fruits and Pentecost. All of which were fulfilled by Jesus. The time between the Spring and Fall Feasts is harvest time. The three Fall Feasts are: Trumpets, Atonement and Tabernacles. Atonement has been fulfilled by Jesus, except for orthodox Jews who will accept His atoning Blood when He comes again at His Second Coming. Tonight, we are here to remember the crucifixion. When the true Lamb of God was slain to reconcile the world back to God.

GALATIANS 6:14

- Paul could've gloried in many things: Being a Pharisee, his education, seeing Jesus, being a great preacher, writing over half the New Testament, being a powerful missionary and witness. Yet, Paul chose to glory in the cross, not his achievements. Remember **JEREMIAH 9:23-24 (NLT)**.
- In Paul's day, the cross was nothing to boast about. It was an instrument of death for murderers, thieves and insurrectionists. **GALATIANS 3:13** The crucified were considered cursed by God. **DEUTERONOMY 21:23**

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25 – ATTITUDES TOWARD THE CROSS

- Offensive: Stumbling block in **V23** means a trap or snare that trips up or causes to fall. Jews stumble over the cross.
- Foolishness: In **V23** comes from the Greek word "moria". It's where we get our word moron. To sophisticated Greeks, the cross is moronic foolishness. **ACTS 17:16-18**
- Called: **V24** An object of power and wisdom. Power to destroy the works of darkness, and wisdom to legally redeem mankind. **1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-8**

Becoming too familiar with something can cause it to lose its influence over a life. Today, many have become desensitized to the true meaning of the cross. Other views include:

- Jewelry: That adorns the neck or ear.
- Religious icon: That some bow to in worship.
- Amulet: Having supernatural powers that protect.
- A woman on Oprah: Separates personal from religious life. The topic "having affairs with married men." She was in a longstanding affair. Someone asked about morality. She took offense saying "I'm a Christian, but my personal life and my religion don't interfere. I believe in a God who wants me to be happy. And if this man makes me happy, then God approves of the relationship."

THE VIEWS THAT MATTER

- Satan: A place of defeat. **HEBREWS 2:14, COLOSSIANS 2:13-14**
- God: A place of substitution. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4, 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21, ISAIAH 53:4-6**
- Humans: Redemption, **HEBREWS 9:12**; reconciliation, **COLOSSIANS 1:20-22**; we're loved, **JOHN 3:16, 15:13**; speaks of our value and worth, **1 PETER 1:18-21**; justification, **ROMANS 3:23-27**; commitment and surrender, **MATTHEW 16:24-26, GALATIANS 2:20**

CONCLUSION: ROMANS 1:16-17

We all must choose: We can glory in our accomplishments or we can glory in the cross of Christ.