

The CruX of the Cross

BY HIS DESIGN | MARCH 29, 2026

Isaiah 53:4-10—*Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.*

1 Corinthians 15:3-8—*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also...*

John 1:29—*...Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!*

ZOOM OUT: THE CROSS WAS GOD'S PLAN FROM THE BEGINNING

1. The cross was planned before creation.

1 Peter 1:19-20 (ESV)—*...foreknown before the foundation of the world...*

Revelation 13:8 (KJV)—*...Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

2. The cross was prophesied in Scripture.

Genesis 3:15—*...He will crush your head...*

Isaiah 53:4-10—*...it was the Lord's will to crush Him...*

Psalm 22

3. Jesus willingly embraced the cross.

John 10:17-18—*...No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord...*

Mark 10:45—*...to give his life as a ransom for many.*

Luke 24:26 (ESV)—*Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer...*

4. The cross fulfilled God's predestined purpose.

Acts 2:23—*...by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge...*

Acts 4:27-28—*...decided beforehand should happen.*

Ephesians 1:7-10 (ESV)—*...according to His purpose...*

5. Paul teaches that the cross was God's eternal plan.

Ephesians 1:7-10 (ESV)—*...according to His purpose...*

Romans 3:25-26—*God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement...*

1 Corinthians 2:7-8—*...God's wisdom... hidden... destined... before time began...*

ZOOM IN: JESUS CHOSE TO GO TO THE CROSS FOR YOU

1 Corinthians 15:3—*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...*

> CHRIST—Son of God

Colossians 2:9—*For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form...*

> DIED—Gave His life

Romans 5:8—*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

> FOR—Substitution

Mark 10:45—*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

> OUR—Not just everyone else, but me

2 Corinthians 5:21—*God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.*

> SINS—Failures, disobedience

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

Revelation 5:12—*Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!*

ZOOM IN MORE: WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE FOR YOU?

C—Commit

2 Corinthians 5:14-15—*For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

R—Repent

Galatians 5:24—*Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*

O—Obey

1 Peter 2:24—*He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.*

S—Surrender

Matthew 16:24—*...Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.*

S—Serve

Galatians 2:20—*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

1 Corinthians 1:18,22-25—*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... Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.*

All verses quoted in New International Version unless otherwise noted.

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