

What You Really need is.... A Vision of the Cross

Zechariah 12:10

¹⁰“I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

How will you and I know when the Spirit of God has been poured out on us?

The Spirit brings intervening grace and strength for supplication, but the Spirit also brings painful revelation.

Jesus, Heaven’s Perfect Lamb, has been killed by humanity (of which I am part), because of sins in which I have taken part

And it breaks us.

Philippians 3:3

³for we are the *true* circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh

In the flesh, I crucified the Son of God. In this new life in the Spirit, I worship the one I put on the Cross.

We all need a vision of the Cross; to sit there for a while and forget for the time being there is a resurrection coming.

Re-state to yourself what you believe, then do away with as much of it as possible, and get back to the bedrock of the Cross of Christ. In external history the Cross is an infinitesimal thing; from the Bible point of view it is of more importance than all the empires of the world. One reason for [our] feebleness is that ... we have not brooded enough on the tragedy of Calvary or on the meaning of Redemption. -Oswald Chambers

“The Look” by Isaac Watts

VERSE 1

I saw one hanging on a tree In agony and blood
Who fixed His loving eyes on me As near His cross I stood
And never till my dying breath Will I forget that look
It seemed to charge me with His death Though not a word He spoke

VERSE 2

My conscience felt and owned the guilt And plunged me in despair
I saw my sins His blood had spilt And helped to nail Him there
But with a second look He said “I freely all forgive
This blood is for your ransom paid I died that you might live”

VERSE 3

Thus while His death my sin displays For all the world to view
Such is the mystery of grace It seals my pardon too
With pleasing grief and mournful joy My spirit now is filled
That I should such a life destroy Yet live by Him I killed

1 Corinthians 2:2

²For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

1 Corinthians 1:22-24

²²For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; ²³but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

To the culture that is spiritual and looks for manifestations of power, Christ will be the power of God. He will put their idols on their faces in the dust, and He will be all that remains.

To the Culture that relies heavily on reason and knowledge, He will be Christ the Wisdom of God. He will expose as foolishness all the wisdom of the world, and Christ will be all in all.

How much does God hate sin? Consider the vicious cruelty of the cross.

How much does God love sinners? Consider the Beloved Son who was dying there for our redemption.

How can I overcome sin? Consider that you died with Christ, and your death to sin is as real as His was.

How can I know that I will dwell with God forever in heaven? Consider where your trust is placed. Is it placed anywhere else but His Cross?

What was the victory of the cross? Consider the words of Jesus: "It is Finished."

What is finished? Everything you could ever need.

2 Peter 1:2-3

²Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

Commission:

Application: to begin to consider and never cease to consider the work done for you by Jesus on the cross